



Dear Community Member

## **Council's Resolution for tonight's BCO workshop is not being implemented.**

On 19th July Councilors voted to run a workshop to ask questions about synthetic and natural grass proposals for BCO.

The invitees to the workshop were RESOLVED to be:

- Dr Mick Battam who has provided a report to Natural Grass at Bob Campbell Inc on techniques to improve the natural grass surface at BCO
- a representative of Synergy Turf Manufacturing – Council's preferred tenderer for the synthetic surface and ancillary works for BCO
- Frank Hamersley for Greenwich Sports Club
- Martin Cunningham for Natural Grass at Bob Campbell Inc.

The GCA was specifically excluded from the workshop on the grounds that it did not have a stake in the issue.

The BCO workshop will be held tonight.

The list of invitees has changed. It is now:

- Martin Cunningham for Natural Grass at Bob Campbell Inc
- Dr M Battam
- The preferred tenderer – **Synergy Turf Manufacturing is no longer invited** - on the basis it had a conflict of interest.
- In the place of **Synergy Turf Manufacturing** Council has invited **Mr Martin Sheppard of Smart Connection**, Council's long time synthetic turf consultant.

Mr Sheppard was on Council's BCO Tender Evaluation committee.

- Mr John Neylan has been nominated as Council's independent adviser at the workshop.

- **Frank Hamersley**, President of Greenwich Sports Club
- At Mr Hamersley's request, a representative of **NSW Football Association Inc.**

We ask - Why are the Terms of Council's Resolution not being implemented?

This workshop was to allow a full discussion of both synthetic and natural turf options. There now appears to be a strong focus on advocates for a synthetic surface.

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## Northern Suburbs Football Association's Email to Members

Over the past few days, many of you will have received an email from the Northern Suburbs Football Association. [Click here](#)

We are concerned by several of the claims made in this email and have written to the CEO of NSFA to raise these concerns. [Click here](#)

We also last night issued a subsequent email to NSFA: [Click here](#)

NSFA'S response to the above GCA emails: [Click here](#)

The NSFA email to members warns its reader "*Without your support and your action (to support a synthetic BCO) the future of BCO is in doubt.*"

### **BCO can have a very healthy future and it does not require a synthetic surface to achieve this.**

If Lane Cove Council decides to award a contract for a synthetic field, the **entire** \$3.6m grant from the Department of Planning will be expended on the ground alone (including fencing and lighting). There will be nothing left for the shared user path or amenities building. A \$1.6m shortfall has been confirmed by Council. And this does not include the cost of the carpark, playground and all associated costs detailed in the Master Plan.

And the community will be left with ongoing concerns about the health and environmental impacts of a synthetic surface.

But if Lane Cove Council decides to proceed with an improved natural grass surface for BCO the Department's funds will cover the **entire works to the**

And BCO will be a natural grass ground that sporting teams and all other community stakeholders can share, just as they have done for years.

**IF YOU HAVE ANY CONCERNS ABOUT THE BCO WORKSHOP PROCESS  
PLEASE EMAIL COUNCILLORS ON:**

[councillors@lanecove.nsw.gov.au](mailto:councillors@lanecove.nsw.gov.au)

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**Local Government Election postponed to 4 December 2021**

The Minister for Local Government has announced that the local government election will now be held on 4 December 2021.

This is the election that should have been held last September but was put back by a year due to the COVID pandemic.

Kind regards

Merri Southwood

**President**

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