



Dear Community Member

**ON THIS MONDAY NIGHT -19th JULY - COUNCIL WILL BE ASKED TO APPROVE A CONTRACT FOR BCO BEFORE IT HAS ISSUED A NEW ENVIRONMENTAL APPROVAL**

We knew that Council's revocation of its Part 5 environmental approval for BCO would not mark the end of its fight to force a synthetic ground on a community that has clearly said it doesn't want it.

**The Council Agenda for this Monday night 19 July is truly audacious.**

[Agenda of Ordinary Council - Monday, 19 July 2021 \(nsw.gov.au\)](#)

Council has assessed the responses to its request for tender for the BCO works.

It is proposed that, on Monday night, Council will award a contract to Synergy Turf Manufacturing Pty Ltd for \$3,293,692.33 ex GST to construct and install the synthetic BCO and "associated infrastructure".

It is not clear if this "associated infrastructure" includes all the elements in the original Master Plan including the Share User path.

The grant from Minister Stokes will not cover the shortfall and here is how Council proposes to cover it:-

- a grant of \$125,000 from Northern Suburbs Football Association
- an additional grant of \$500,000 from the Department of Planning – the same Department that is conducting a review of the impacts of synthetic turf!

If the grants are not forthcoming, Council will ask DPIE to take elements out of the scope of the Master Plan.

**Just what additional community benefits would Council propose to take away, having already resolved to take away our natural grass oval?**

Council states that elements unfunded through grants will be funded through

**But, most importantly, where is the new Part 5 environmental approval that is required under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act?**

**How can Councillors approve a contract when they have yet to see the Part 5 approval, a document that can only be issued after Council has examined and take into account to the fullest extent possible all matters affecting or likely to affect the environment by reason of its BCO project?**

**How will Councillors ensure that the Review of Environmental Factors that underpins the Part 5 is a truly independent assessment of environmental factors?**

The BCO project has, at best, been supported by 4 of 8 Councillors.

It has been pushed through with indecent haste since Council's announcement about 4G technology on 17 May 2021.

The report to Council raises many questions that should be answered before Councillors vote to award a tender.

We are talking about a lot of money, about an irreversible project and one that the community is extremely concerned about from an environmental perspective.

We are less than two months away from Council elections.

New Councillors will inherit the risks of a hasty vote.

Our Councillors should take time to look seriously at the improved natural grass option detailed in the recent report by Dr Mick Battam.

Dr Battam's recommendations will lead to a ground that can be shared by all.  
[Click here.](#)

And there will be funding left to create a magnificent legacy, not one that will remind hundreds in the community of 4 Councillors who refused, for over a year, to listen to its concerns.

There will be no public forum on Monday night.

midnight on Sunday 18 July.

Or email Councillors on [Councillors@lanecove.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Councillors@lanecove.nsw.gov.au)

Kind regards

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**President**

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