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Date of submission: Thursday, March 02, 2017

Submission: CULBURRA BEACH PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC.
ABN 46 518 114 398

2nd March 2017

At the meeting of the Culburra Beach Progress Association Inc. held on Wednesday 1st March 2017 it was resolved:

‘IPART defer the submission made by Shoalhaven City Council to increase rates by 13% for the next 2 years until such time as the elected Council has had meaningful consultation with the community to outline the need for such large increases.’

In reaching this decision the Association is aware that the rate increase was predicated to reduce the commitment on asset renewal to enable the Council to meet the “Fit for the Future” requirements imposed on Local Government.

Whilst in the short term this target is to remedy the backlog in asset renewal the additional 11.5% increase above the IPART increase of 1.5% will perpetuate and compound forever.

Culburra Beach is a village environment with a large amount of senior residents, retired or on pensions, that can ill afford a rate increase of 11.5% above the IPART increase into the distant future.

There has been NO community meetings by Shoalhaven City Council to discuss the rate increase proposal and when enquiries were made to Council regarding any community meetings there has been no response.

There is also no details of any projects that would be funded from the increased revenue other than asset renewal.

As the annual budget for 2017/18 will be formalised prior to the decision of IPART if this matter is deferred it would allow a formal and proper community consultation to be carried out by Shoalhaven City Council, which should have already been undertaken, prior to the next financial year.

Beach Progress Association Inc. awaits your response.

Robert Shimmen
President