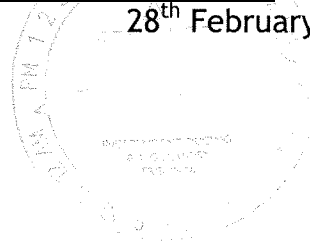


MARGARET HOWES



28th February 2017-02-28

The Assessor,
IPART,
PO Box K35,
Haymarket Post Shop,
NSW 1240.



Dear Sir

OBJECTION SUBMISSION TO BALLINA COUNCIL PROPOSED RATES INCREASE

I would confirm that my Ballina Shire Council rates for the 2006/7 year were \$1564 and for the 2016/7 year are \$3736, which is a 139% increase over the ten years. There is no case for a rates increase, as rate increases from the past 10 years have caused such a hefty slug. Averaging it out, my rates have increased 13.9% p.a.

I am a 78 year old woman paying \$75 per week Council rates to live in my own home. I might as well sell up and move to a rented flat.

I understand an Emergency Services Property Levy is to be billed alongside Council rates from 1st July 2017. Ratepayers have not been advised the cost of this levy.

The rates increase proposed by Ballina Shire Council is unfair, unwarranted and unnecessary. There are people in the Shire who are doing it tough and cannot afford current rates, let alone increased ones. Many are pensioners on fixed incomes like me and this rates increase will take the food off our plates.

The Council needs to learn to live within its rates budget and look at ways to save money. It has invested in commercial buildings for lease and set itself up as a developer. The salaries of the executive staff are extraordinarily high and should be reviewed. The place is top heavy with chiefs.

The Council is constantly receiving various grant monies which it has to match. The new road to the airport past Gerry Harvey's complex is of no value to the ratepayers at all, yet it is on the agenda for construction.

Regarding the health of waterways, this does not come within Council's jurisdiction. A lot of the black water comes out of Bungawalbyn Swamp which is not in Ballina Shire.

Please take my submission into account and please, ABSOLUTELY NO special rate increase. Last year the Ballina Council took our increased rates to upgrade the swimming pools to satisfy a minority of noisy ratepayers yet it still hasn't upgraded the pools.

Yours faithfully,



Margaret Howes

*NB. SEE attached letter from
G BEN SMITH -*

Author name: M. Howes

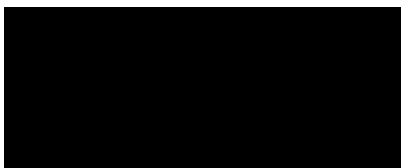
Date of submission: Friday, 3 March 2017

Submission: From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]

Sent: Monday, 27 February 2017 9:49 AM

To: IPART Mailbox

Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted



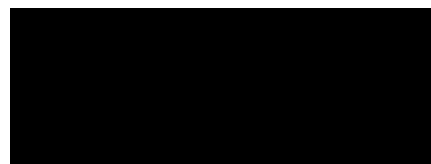
Your Message 2nd Objection submission to Ballina Council rates increase. The river does not come within the jurisdiction of the Council. The last rates increase for upgrading swimming pools has not yet been spent. Please DO NOT approve this current request. Thank you. I

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]

Sent: Monday, 27 February 2017 9:42 AM

To: IPART Mailbox

Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted



Your Message I wish to make a submission by way of objection to the proposed rates increase by Ballina Shire Council. I am a 78 year old pensioner and my rates are currently \$3750 a year. This equates to \$75 per week just to live in my own home without adding any other expenses such as electricity (\$2000)

Following article/comment not published due to copyright concerns

| Title | Publication | Date |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|
| 'Rate Rise Unnecessary' | Ballina Advocate, Page 8 | 22 February 2017 |