

Parks and Playgrounds Movement Inc

Tuesday, 1 March 2005

Newcastle City Councillors
Council Chamber, City Hall, NEWCASTLE

Dear Councillors,

Merewether Beach Pavilion (Surf House)

Parks and Playgrounds Movement have a special interest in this matter as it is primarily about good park management and protection and promotion of our magnificent coastal landscape.

In considering Merewether Beach Pavilion (Surf House) we ask you to emphasise Council's good faith by:

1. Implementing the official Plan of Management.
2. Negotiating a Heritage Agreement with NSW Heritage Council.
3. Allowing the area to be tidied up and the Bitou Bush around the building to be removed.

The *Merewether Baths Precinct* Plan of Management recognises the architectural honesty of the building and its link with the Merewether family and its historic context with the Baths and Glenrock railway

Architecturally this is a good building. Compare with other buildings at Merewether.

It is the last public Building from the Merewether Municipality.

Bathers Way needs the Merewether Beach Pavilion.

Bathers Way links and promotes our grand coast its beaches, cliffs and, heritage places from Nobbys Coal River Precinct to the Glenrock Conservation Area.

The community wants to take Council seriously but Council must:

1. Support it's own official plan and the planning process.
2. Negotiate a positive outcome for the building of which the City can be proud.
3. Clean up around the building and be positive not negative.

Yours Sincerely

Doug Lithgow, Parks and Playgrounds Movement
<http://www.geocities.com/parksandplaygrounds>

Monday, 28 February 2005

Letter to the Editor
The Herald (Newcastle)
Bolton Street, Newcastle. NSW

Dear Sir,

Make Positive Policies Prevail.

Council's consideration of the Merewether Beach Pavilion (Surf House) (*Herald 28/2/05*) is a test of Newcastle Council's good will and its ability to negotiate a Heritage Agreement with the Heritage Council of NSW.

Merewether Beach Pavilion (Surf House) is an important part the City's heritage and is identified in Council's official plans for restoration. It is the last remaining public building from the Merewether Municipality and it would be a double outrage if it were demolished.

Council has a clear opportunity to uphold and maintain its Plan of Management for the *Merewether Baths Precinct* that recognises the architectural honesty of the building and its link with the Merewether family and its historic context with the Baths and Glenrock railway

The Bathers Way links and promotes our grand coastal heritage including its cliffs, beaches, heritage places and buildings from Nobbys Coal River Precinct to the Glenrock Conservation Area.

Friends of Merewether Beach Pavilion ask Councillors to uphold the official plan and negotiate a positive outcome for the building of which the City can be proud rather than a negative destructive demolition.

Yours Sincerely

Doug Lithgow, Parks and Playgrounds Movement
<http://www.geocities.com/parksandplaygrounds/>