

On the application: 126 Tweed Valley Way,, Yelgun, NSW (SSD 8169)
NORTH BYRON PARKLANDS - Two concurrent applications are proposed.

Firstly, a Modification to Concept Approval MP 09_0028 is proposed to allow for changes to patron size and to harmonise the conditions to reflect a permanent cultural events site.

Further, development consent is sought under Part 4 of the Act for the permanent use of the North Byron Parklands as a cultural events site for up to 50,000 patrons.

From stats ... based on Byron Shire Information
<http://www.byron.nsw.gov.au/byron-data-dashboard>

POPULATION -

Currently approx 33,000 people live in the Byron Shire
Festival nos. 2017 - approximately 32.500 ..per day – which is the equivalent of Sydney with 5.3 mill people – coping with an extra 5.3 mill people every day ... (as in the Olympics .. which Sydney people say was chaos)

DEMOGRAPHICS

Median age of people in the Byron Shire = 42yo – Brunswick Heads = 70yo
The Parklands Festival is aimed at youth .. which is not appealing to a large no of locals.

Mega “Youth” Festivals are also not in keeping with the culture of our area.



Jessica Ducrou is on record as saying that she aspires to turn SPLENDOR into the Glastonbury of Australia. (Glastonbury festival, in England, draws 175,000 attendees.) This is unimaginable on the current site.

The site is supposedly a cultural and educational site ..?? Whose culture ..??



DOLLARS and SENSE ..

Estimated revenues SPLENDOR .. ticket sales – @ 2017 pricing

four day ticket @ \$385 (say 30.000 sales p/day) **\$11.5** Mill

count an extra 2.500 with one or two day passes ... +\$\$\$

add in - camping / car parking fees ... extra \$\$

Alcohol must be purchased at the Festival owned bars

@ \$10 av. per drink x say 90.000 patrons (over 4 days) x 10 drinks = \$9 mill

x 20 drinks - \$1.8mill

x 30 drinks - \$27mill

x 40 drinks - **\$36mill** ... a modest calculation ... over 4 days

FOOD STALLS pay Festival to be there .. add on \$\$\$ here

Conservatively SPLENDOR = \$ 50 million revenue - in four days ...

SPLENDOR and FALLS - \$100 Million \

From ANNUAL REPORT – LIVE NATION (Now 51% owner of the Festivals)

Earning for 2016 = **\$8.3 Billion - takings total** - see p 89

https://s1.q4cdn.com/788591527/files/doc_financials/2016/annual/LYV-2016.12.31-10K_FINAL_rev7_hosting-only.pdf

| | United Kingdom Operations | Other Foreign Operations | Total Foreign Operations | Total Domestic Operations | Consolidated Total |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| | <i>(in thousands)</i> | | | | |
| 2016 | | | | | |
| Revenue | \$ 683,457 | \$ 1,882,590 | \$ 2,566,047 | \$ 5,788,887 | \$ 8,354,934 |
| Long-lived assets | \$ 69,380 | \$ 104,780 | \$ 174,160 | \$ 577,376 | \$ 751,536 |

WHAT DOES OUR COMMUNITY GET IN RETURN –

Festival pays rates to Council - classified under "rural land" - which is not high.
Festival offers \$1 per ticket sale to NFP community orgs in 'grants'.

Say \$32.500 p/a – note : -

Giving to a NFP org is also an “allowable tax deduction” for the Festival.

Some jobs are created – however, most food stalls pay the Festival to be there.
Households affected by noise, and 'volunteers' are given “free entry tickets”..

From a MEGA \$\$ enterprise – this is very little in the scheme of things.

EFFECTS on LOCAL TOWNS PEOPLE

BRUNSWICK HEADS - (1,700 people) – motto - “SIMPLE PLEASURES”

It is the closest small town – with average age of 70yo (see Byron dashboard)

Bruns is overrun at Festival time CURRENTLY with say - 30.000 festival goers being :-

“shuttle bussed” in and out of our town ... day and night - till 2.00am

The town is forced to forfeit its “normal way of life “ ..

our coffee shops are taken over

our street parking is taken over

our supermarket products – are often “bought out”

streets are congested as Festival goers wait for shuttle busses.

Shuttle busses are heard driving around especially at night – when Brunswick

Heads is normally so quiet – you can hear a pin drop.

Youth are often heard walking the streets drunk and loud late at night.

OCEAN SHORES – ceases to become a ‘quiet county town’ for the many

families/ children who live there now.

Police are not readily available to add required control .. if necessary

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Greatest impact is NOISE levels - aggravating to many - still ... though Festival has lowered decibels – (from previous community complaints in this trial period).

WIND DIRECTION - THAT CANNOT BE CONTROLLED

Loud music sounds are carried up local waterways and rivers – depending on the direction as far as Mullumbimby/parts of Ocean Shores / South Golden / Billinudgel And Yelgun.

Residents complain “it is so loud – it sounds like the concert is in the backyard”.

Complaints vary – according to the direction of the wind – and is not constant.

How would Festival Organizers manage this ...?? I believe they can't..

CONTINUAL THUMPING – (vibrating base sounds from sound systems)

are heard day and night – for miles around in surrounding areas ... till 2.00am

This affects families with children, sick people, and domestic pets - especially dogs – as well as wildlife in this site – which is a koala corridor.

Some families are known to evacuate their homes to get a good nights sleep

NOISE POLLUTION creates the biggest negative effect on our community.

GEOGRAPHY of this site –

The Geography of the land – with its waterways, rivers, and changing winds can never be changed by man and has proved it is already difficult - If not impossible to change or to balance : - the needs of “loudness” of Festival/music - and the “quiet enjoyment” of life for community with 32.500 festival goers already .

Up to **50.000 attendees** – is **totally unacceptable noise wise**.

FIRE risks at the Festival site are still high – this is well known.

I understand Splendour was NOT allowed 35,000 per day in 2017 when NSW Police restricted numbers to 32,500 on site - as it already affected the safety and security of the attendees.

FLOODING emergency evacuation risks are also high – as per the 2017 floods in the area. Excavation with such huge numbers would be difficult and dangerous.

SEWERAGE –Currently PortaLoos – remove waste.

If the Festival site is allowed more concert use –

Larger numbers would demand a more permanent setup

Council would confirm – that the current waste processing system is just coping at the moment. Who would pay for that ..??

CAMPING DEBRIS – Parklands site is littered with tents/ camping gear left behind after the Festival .. Also with extra \$ costs for Festival camping – illegal Campers set up in surrounding dunes and foreshores. This is under reported. It is ecologically unsound and damaging to our environment.

ALCOHOL EFFECTS – Also to save on high Festival costs for accommodation and alcohol – illegal local housing rentals see overcrowding – which causes more noise issues in Housing areas. Youth also “charge up” early in the morning before the Festival. They often roam the streets late at night –drunk and loud - affecting normally quiet areas where families live.

ROADS – TRANSPORT

Small roads currently have proved inadequate /congested with current numbers. Leaving the site has proved difficult for many. Having worked in the Visitors' Centre in Brunswick Heads – we regularly were unable to help those who had not booked the 'limited' numbers of seats in advance. Youth who 'had not slept for days' became very distressed – and extra costs due to forced delays caused hardship to young people who are unprepared for 'small town' transport systems

INFRASTRUCTURE – and RATEPAYERS

There are just under 14,500 ratepaying households in the Byron shire, and current stats = 2.1 million tourists each year. So one way of looking at this is that there are about 100 tourists a year extra - for every rate-paying household. Extra numbers - with unlimited use is an unfair burden to local ratepayers who use our roads and infrastructure. Currently 14,000 ratepayers are being taxed up to an extra 25% in three years - to cope with increased Council costs.

IN SUMMARY

Residents of the Shire do have a legal right to quiet enjoyment of our homes and our lives ... we don't think this will ever be addressed properly – as changeable WIND direction over waterways and valleys means Festival noise carry - and can never be controlled. **It is therefore an unsuitable permanent site.**

Two Festivals with 32,500 attending - are being tolerated graciously by the local community. Festivals with 50,000 attendees is unreasonable – and likely to bring much stronger community protest in future. **Parklands site can never be 'harmonised' to work properly for both Festival and community – and is not seen as a "cultural' site for locals.**

Rate payers don't want to have their rates put up any further – while enormous numbers of Festival goers and tourists are using our infrastructure .. for free.

Our Local Council should be allowed more involvement and input - and **work towards a more appropriate site further away** from the 'built up' areas in our Shire – if more festivals are allowed in future.

As a International promoter - LIVE NATION with its reputation and its Billions \$\$ already has the financial muscle and ability to set demands on venues, management, and Councils - and has control of all aspects of the touring process - meaning few can compete with them. As entrepreneurs – with big \$\$invested - FESTIVALS are naturally out to make as much as they can.

MEGA EVENTS IN THIS AREA are not a 'NATURAL or HARMONIOUS FIT' FOR EVENT MANAGERS - and SMALLTOWNS / LOCAL PEOPLE

It robs us of our legal right – to “Quiet Enjoyment” of our homes and lives

RECOMMENDATIONS -

1. Two Festivals @ 23,500 attending could be tolerated by locals at North Byron Parklands if noise levels are further reduced - and more community care is taken.

*2. If Permissions for up to 50,000 patrons is given – with unlimited access - a more suitable site than North Byron Parklands further away from built up housing areas needs to be found so it does not impact on residents lives. **This site is unsuitable.***

*3. **Byron Council** should be more in control of the interest of locals - **to ensure** that - our right to 'quiet enjoyment' is always maintained.
our ecology is cared for with respect
our unique “Simple Pleasures” lifestyle is protected – not destroyed
our peaceful culture - and life in local “small towns” remains harmonious.*

4. Festivals should also make extra \$ contributions to road and infrastructure costs - not just the 14,000 Ratepayers in the Byron Shire – who are being faced with 25% increase in the next three years - because of increased useage.

No I have not made a gift or donation to the Councilor - or a Council employee.