Please accept this as my submission against the current North Byron Parklands DAs.

I strongly support my partner Olga Tresz’s reasons against the permanency, increase in numbers and frequency of the Yelgun Festival site.

Six years ago, after the proposal was rejected by the Department of Lands and Environment, a P.A.C. hearing was held for one day in Byron Bay and one day in Ocean Shores.

The case against was incredibly strong with well researched facts presented by well qualified speakers.

The speakers for the site were, by comparison, quite pathetic and unconvincing. (EG an architect talked about the wildlife disturbance not being a problem, a bus driver who did the current Belongil run for Splendour said there would be no traffic issues, a business man who managed a liquor store and even someone who suggested we needed more culture in the area!)

A local aboriginal whose grandmother’s remains were on the site said to me at the close of meeting “This is a no-brainer.”

Based on the evidence, the outcome was obvious to most present, especially when the P.A.C. said the decision would be through quickly.

When, after some months, (allowing people to cool down?) approval was granted by P.A.C., my initial reaction was that they had been simply going through the motions of public consultation and that this was always a “done deal”.

Let’s hope history does not repeat itself. I would like to believe there is still some integrity left with the powers that be.

If the voice of local knowledge and concern is not enough to be considered, at least listen to the police who are gravely concerned about safety of locals and patrons.

Michael Bushby

Resident and owner,

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