

# CAITLIN ENTRANCE ACTION GROUP (CEAP)

---

To: Broulee Progress Association

## Issue

**Objections to Eurobodalla Shire Council (ESC) approving an application by St Peters Anglican College for extension of hours for general vehicle access via Caitlin Crescent.**

## Background

On 6 June 2001 Project Planning Associates Pty Ltd (Transportation Consultants) submitted an **"ASSESSMENT OF TRAFFIC & PARKING IMPLICATIONS"** report as part of the development application for the establishment of the St Peters Anglican College, Broulee. In essence this report concluded that **"...the proposed college will not have any unacceptable parking or servicing implications..."**

It should be noted that the conclusion by the consultants was predicated on access to the college via Train Street only. The vast majority of traffic would enter Train Street from George Bass Drive. Access to the northern part of the college would be via a service road within the precincts of the college.

In approximately June 2005 the (ESC) apparently granted approval (DA 325/05) for the college to have additional general access via the eastern end of Caitlin Crescent, which is a cul-de-sac. There is a farm type gate with a concrete apron in this location and was originally identified as a student and service entrance. Subsequent plans have identified this entrance as such with the words **"CONTROLLED ACCESS"**. As far as CEAP can determine, ESC did not make a formal assessment on the impact the increased vehicular traffic would have on residents to the north of the college.

In about August 2013 the college apparently sought approval from ESC to extend opening times for this gate for after-hours and weekends.

As a consequence, on Monday 9 September 2013 Mr Stephen Morgan (a resident of Caitlin Crescent) convened a meeting in Caitlin Crescent. CEAP was created as an informal group in order to coordinate objections to the college and ESC.

## Rationale for the college wanting vehicle access via Caitlin Crescent

The desire by the college to establish an access off Caitlin Crescent is, in our view, primarily for convenience and a means to save money. The college therefore does not have to expend funds on building the overflow carpark to the west of the main carpark (included in updated site plans) and the service road to the northern part of the college. There has been little consideration on the impact this may have on local residents.

Despite the college promoting itself as a single campus from kindergarten to year 12, it is quite clear that, in our view, it is effectively operating as two separate campuses. As a consequence it has established a gravel carpark adjacent to the secondary school buildings on the northern end of its precinct for teachers, senior students who drive their own vehicles and as a drop-off point for secondary pupils. It has also been used for out-of-hours parking (P&F Meetings, School Presentations Nights and Concerts). This out-of-hours access was curtailed due to complaints to the ESC via residents. Caitlin Crescent itself is also being used as an overflow parking area. This is despite the fact that there is sufficient parking for private vehicles in the main carpark adjacent to Train Street.

Access to the school via Caitlin Crescent at night has an increased negative impact on residents.

The college has expressed a desire to open up their facilities for public sporting activities and concerts. They obviously would want access to college grounds via streets to the north of the college.

## CAITLIN ENTRANCE ACTION GROUP (CEAP)

---

### **Impact on residents**

There has been a significant increase in the amount of traffic along Zanthus Drive, Suzanne Way, Candlagan Drive and Caitlin Crescent. The design of these streets was never intended for traffic that would be additional to local residents. Candlagan Drive is a narrow winding street. Sharp turns are required to enter Suzanne Way and Caitlin Crescent. There has been an increase in the number of vehicles speeding in Zanthus Drive.

Several of the streets in this area have no footpaths (Zanthus Drive, Candlagan Drive, Iluka Avenue) have no footpaths. Pedestrians (of which there are many in this area) are required to use the roadways. The increased vehicular traffic generates increased risk, particularly as many of the pedestrians are elderly. There is also an increased risk and inconvenience for residents driving from their properties onto the public streets.

It should also be noted that several families, who have members with mental disabilities, moved into Caitlin Crescent because it is a cul-de-sac and thus a safer environment due to reduced traffic movement. The increased traffic movement caused by the college is causing greater concern for these families.

It is evident that should no action be taken now by residents, the detrimental and unnecessary impact caused by the college in encouraging access via Caitlin Crescent now and in the future will become ingrained.

It should be noted that persons associated with CEAP generally believe that the college is an asset for Broulee and provides positive diversification to education in this area. The daughter of one parent attended Canberra Girls Grammar in the 1990's. The issue does not relate to activities within the school, students or its stated objective of integrating within local community, it is about the control of vehicles into and out of the college.

### **Actions taken**

Representations have been made to the local newspapers with an article appearing in these newspapers. Meetings have been held with the Executive Principal and the Chair of the College Board and a separate meeting with ESC Mayor and a manager of sustainability and development.

Written requests have been forwarded to ESC for documents relating to the current application by the college and DA 325/05. Despite several undertakings by ESC staff none of this material has been made available to representatives of CEAP apart from the previously mentioned traffic report of 2001.

### **Future actions**

Formal application for documents will be made in accordance with Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009. The outcome of this application will determine further action to be taken by CEAP.

Yours sincerely

Michael Sheely

07/11/2013