



The General Manager  
Hornsby Shire Council

Dear Sir

## Draft Design Plans for Beecroft Gardens and Community Hall Car Park

The Beecroft Cheltenham Civic Trust submits the following comments for Hornsby Council's consideration.

The Beecroft Gardens located next to the Beecroft train station contributes to the commercial, social and heritage functionality of the Beecroft shopping precinct. It is important that the gardens should be designed in such a way to enable these functions to continue. Many of the proposed design elements reflect these functional requirements.

The Trust has received mixed views on the 'ping pong' table but as it is proposed to be located near the children's playground and the fact it could have multiple uses including being used as a picnic table the Trust does not object to its inclusion. However as the gardens are within a heritage precinct we suggest that any table constructed could have a heritage theme incorporated on its surfaces.

With respect to the proposed pedestrian lift at the train station the Trust request that Council work collaboratively with the State Government to ensure that any decision on the final location and design of the pedestrian lift for the train station is taken into account if it is likely to impact on the design of the garden.

With respect to the Community Hall car park the Trust is concerned about the road safety aspects of the proposed car park. This is understandable considering the existing intersection layout of Copeland Rd rail bridge, Beecroft Rd traffic lights, the fire station and the proximity to Beecroft Public School. This road safety issue is further exacerbated by the lack of vehicle parking in the surrounding streets for parents dropping off and picking up school children. Vehicles frequently park in dangerous positions and there is concern that the school parents will attempt to use the proposed driveways and car park during drop off and pick up times.

The Trust acknowledges that for the Hall to function efficiently and effectively a car park for users of the Hall is essential. We also understand the current access arrangement with vehicles exiting

Beecroft Rd near the tennis courts and then traversing the full length of the Village Green in order to use the Hall is not an acceptable solution in the long term.

The Trust requests that if the proposed car park is approved then, in order to address road safety concerns, the car park must be locked off to avoid public use and the driveways should be designed and secured to avoid inappropriate parking. Also its operation should be closely monitored by Council for an extended period to make sure road safety is not compromised.

Yours sincerely

Ross Walker  
President  
Beecroft Cheltenham Civic Trust

2 August 2017