

TURRAMURRA

# Fears for park after class change

## Frustration as council reclassifies land amid rumours of plans for highrise development at site

**Jake McCallum**

A LAST-MINUTE petition of 300 signatures and a fiery debate was not enough to save the fate of Turramurra Village Park.

Ku-ring-gai councillors Elaine Malicki, Christiane Berlioz, David Citer, David Armstrong and Cheryl Szatow moved a rescission motion on Tuesday to reconsider plans to reclassify the small park. Residents and councillors

against the reclassification said they were concerned by reports that an "iconic building" would be developed on the site.

Turramurra resident Chris Smallbone provided the council with 300 signatures against reclassification, in a petition that claimed "Ku-ring-gai Council was currently proposing to sell and develop the historic Turramurra Village Park" and that "council wants to rezone and sell Turramurra Village Park for highrise development".

The council has only decided to reclassify the land and does not have a development application for the site.

It is, however, permissible for highrise development to go on the land.

Cr Chantelle Fornari-Orsmond said the petition was "misleading". "I'm not surprised they received the feedback they did," she said.

"Ninety per cent of my friends are in the local community that I represent. Families are looking for meeting places and there is a silent majority that laugh at this, this is a joke."

But Cr Citer said regional growth meant that the Village Park should be saved.

"Mark my words, Turramurra will be desiccated through high-density unit development," he said.

"I think this is a very important reason to try and retain this park."

Cr Malicki said the decision to continue reclassification was "barbaric" and the "iconic building that will replace the park will be a monument to the stupidity and lack of foresight of five councillors".

"Ignoring an independent watchdog who said not to reclassify and to consult more was arrogant and irresponsible," she said.



Tim Norris, of Both Ends Of The Lead, with swiss shepherd, Shen. Picture: Adam Ward

## REMEDIES WHEN SICK AS A DOG

**Nigel Gladstone**

A DOG'S life can be ruff but a Hornsby therapist is leading the way to healthier hounds with alternative treatments he says can boost and extend the life of many pooches.

Both Ends Of The Lead owner Tim Norris and partner Mimi Fong provide alternative and preventive services to improve the wellbeing of dogs and their owners.

Mr Norris worked as a sports therapist for 15 years before he transferred his skills in acupuncture, massage and other treatments to canines about 10 years ago.

"I still do acupuncture for people but only very occasionally. Sometimes I treat the dog and the owner at the same time," he said. "I do referrals from local vets for post-surgery rehab but my core focus is helping older dogs."

"The average age for a dog now is 11 to 12 and a half years. About 40 years ago it was 17."

Mr Norris said there were many factors in dogs dying younger, such as

genetics, breeding practices, the quality of food they were fed and owners not exercising their dog appropriately for the pet's age and breed.

"Many people with old dogs still throw a ball at the park and that's like expecting a granny to go sprinting after a ball and expecting her not to hurt herself," he said.

"Food is important, that's a huge factor. Like with people living on processed food six to seven days a week, the health effects are enormous, like diabetes, heart disease."

"Our four-legged friends have the potential to live much longer, as shown by the world's oldest dog that passed last year at 30 years of age here in Australia."

Giving dogs a regular massage to release the tension in their muscles and becoming "like a personal trainer" are two of his top tips.

Mr Norris said dogs stretched naturally but owners could help with a few moves to fight off arthritis and old age.

For more details go to [bothendsofthelead.com.au](http://bothendsofthelead.com.au).



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