



HANGING ROCK PETITION

Have your say

To: MACEDON RANGES SHIRE COUNCIL

Dear Councillors of the MRSC,

We the undersigned; residents, ratepayers of Macedon Ranges Shire and patrons of Hanging Rock formally and humbly request you to please reconsider your recent decision to bypass your Community Consultation Framework in relation to the future management and development of Hanging Rock.

Hanging Rock is a local and international Icon of immense cultural, social, environmental and economic significance.

From the Bushranger "Mad-Dog" Morgan, the countless Picnics (some more successful than others), Leonard Cohen, Rod Stewart and the Boss, the Rock continues to reinvent itself into our communities folk-lore. On a clear day visitors to the Rock can be heard calling gleefully for our eternally lost "MIRANDA".

The Council, as stewards of Hanging Rock have a responsibility to the local community and to the thousands of visitors from all over the world to ensure the unique character and essence of the Rock is preserved.

The Macedon Ranges community deserves to have its say.



Why is this important?

On 28 August 2013 the Macedon Ranges Shire Council approved a motion (5 votes to 4), which was affirmed (5 to 4) on 4 September 2013 to invite private development of 5.8 hectares of the Hanging Rock precinct.

The motion:

(a) bypasses the Council's own *Community Consultation Framework*, so residents and stakeholders have been denied their say

(b) directs the development include (per the Hanging Rock Development and Investment Plan):

- A conference and function centre
- 100 room accommodation facility
- A wellbeing centre and day spa
- An unspecified number of 'creek apartments'
- A permanent stage and event structure
- A large permanent car park
- Yoga and adventure facilities on the Hanging Rock Reserve
- 'Multi-purpose' facility for the Racing Club

Hanging Rock Action Group is not convinced that the scope of development proposed is in keeping with the cultural heritage and environmental significance of Hanging Rock. The social, environmental and economic impacts on the greater Macedon Ranges region do not seem to have been fully investigated.

At the very least these issues deserve rigorous debate and we encourage you to make your thoughts and ideas known, whatever they may be to Council directly.

Thank you, and please have your say.

Hanging Rock Action Group

website www.hrag.info



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Hangrockaction