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# SFF Call Barilaro Out

Shooters Fishers and Farmers Orange MP Philip Donato and Upper House MP Robert Borsak have slammed Deputy Premier Barilaro's calls in the Daily Telegraph to beef up farm trespass laws while campaigning in the district of Orange this week. "You can set your watch to announcements made by the Nationals saying they want to protect farmers during election time. " It is really beyond the pale now. If he was so concerned about protecting farmers from these animal rights terrorists why did his colleagues block our bill for to do exactly what he is calling for now," Mr Borsak said. "John Barilaro should stop paying lip service to farmers under attack by these animal rights extremists and support our bill. "Why hasn't he done so already? Is he too afraid to stand up to his Liberal mas-

ters? "This is so typical of Nationals. They talk the talk during election time, but in Parliament they run and hide behind the Liberals with no intention of delivering what they say they will. "We will reintroduce Animal Protection and Crimes Legislation Amendment (Reporting Animal Cruelty and Protection of Animal Enterprises) Bill 2018 in the new parliament regardless of who is in Government. "This law is long overdue. The community has no tolerance towards acts of threats, vandalism, harassment and intimidation of others." Orange MP Philip Donato supported these calls, citing concerns over the poor track record of the Nationals on the issue. "John Barilaro is the great pretender of Regional NSW. He is just interested in cheap headlines rather than backing good policy to protect our farmers," Mr. Donato said. "If he had any skin or backbone the Liberal Nationals would have legislated this by now by supporting our bill. "The fact that child sex offenders are offered more protection than our farmers is a disgrace. "Farm trespass and the rise of animal extremist groups has been an issue for decades, yet only now the Nationals seemed to have discovered this. "Farmers are struggling as it is, they don't need these lunatics and criminals on their properties putting their lives and businesses at risk."

## Huge Solar Farm For Cootamundra

The Cootamundra-Gundagai Council has given the green light for the construction of a solar farm on the outskirts of Cootamundra. The Council unanimously approved the development at its ordinary meeting in Cootamundra last week.

The solar farm was approved subject to conditions which the council hopes will alleviate the concerns of residents who publicly objected to the development. The site is approximately 20 hectares and currently zoned as primary production and general industrial.

The solar farm will include 36,502 panels, each being 1.9m x 0.9m, arranged in rows of three. The council received nine written submissions opposing the development at the Gundagai Road location. A number of Cootamundra residents also spoke against the proposal during the public forum at the meeting.

According to the development assessment report, the main areas of concern centred around the visual impacts and the location of the solar farm.

Some submissions did not oppose the development in principle as there was support for renewable energy developments, but rather the issue was the location of the farm as an entrance to Cootamundra. The council was told that the developer requested his contact information be passed on to objectors so they could contact him to discuss their concerns. One objector echoed the sentiments of many when stating they feared the farm would have a detrimental impact on land value.

"My kitchen, veranda and back yard would be looking directly down onto the solar panels as we are slightly elevated. This will be an eyesore. I feel it would be much better suited to Cootamundra's industrial area," the objector wrote.

"I am not opposed to solar power and think that it is great for the environment, but a solar farm of this scale should not be situated on the Gundagai main road into Coota. "Cootamundra is known for being a beautiful and clean/tidy town. It encourages people to enjoy the country surrounds and beautiful scenery. This eye sore would be one of the first things you would see when coming into Coota from Coolac/Muttama. Not a great first impression at all."

Other objectors listed noise, glare generated from the panels, and biosecurity as other concerns. While some objectors opposed the development until community consultation had been undertaken, town planner Grace Foulds said the application did not require public consultation due to the size of the development.

"If it was a larger development, it would have been a requirement to conduct a public consultation prior to the application being lodged with the council," Ms Foulds said. Cr Charlie Sheahan said while he understands the concerns of those opposed to the solar farm, he believes the development will ultimately benefit the community and the environment.

"The biggest concerns were loss of value to nearby properties and the visual impact on the environment," he said.

"Realistically, this is small as far as solar farms go, covering 20 hectares. The developer is prepared to plant trees and meet some of the issues that he's hearing from the community. To me, that represents a far better prospect than some other heavy industry that could be developed there.

"As far as I can see with a solar

farm, there'll be no dust, no noise, no odour and no real pollution. To those people who object, I under their

objection – no one likes anything in their back yard or a change to their environment. But we are in a society now where these things are becoming more prevalent. "The location is important to this development because it's where the network is that they can tap into, and ultimately I see this as something that will benefit the community and the environment, and there will be jobs while this is being established in the town."

Deputy mayor Dennis Palmer said concerns can be mitigated by the conditions of consent. "Residents need to have some sort of faith in the council and in our planning staff that your concerns haven't fallen on deaf ears and we can't assign away anybody's rights. Your concerns will be recognised," Cr Palmer said.

Mayor Abb McAlister said the application ticked all the boxes with the council's planning staff.

"We are certainly led at times by the information we get from our town planner," Cr McAlister said. "If we knock this back there's only one place it could really end up and that's in the courts with the developer which would be a very big expense to the ratepayer." Once operating, the farm will generate 12MWh of electricity a year which will be exported into the electricity supply network through works with Essential Energy.

The solar farm will have the capacity to generate enough electricity to power approximately 2,500 homes annually.

## Twin Town Times Classifieds

## **Funeral Notice**

The Death has occurred of Miss Lexie Elizabeth Adam. Passed away peacefully on Wednesday 27th February 2019 at the Sydney Children's Hospital Randwick surrounded by her loving family. Much loved precious daughter of Donna and Greg. Loving sister to Sandy, Lachlan (deceased) and Coco-Rose. Grand daughter of Maureen Lord and Shirley Adam (deceased). Cherished niece of Alannah Lord, James Adam, Jennifer Adam (deceased), Debby & Matt Barton. Sadly missed by her cousins, extended family and her many friends. Late of Neill Street, Harden. Aged 15 Years Rest in Peace

A graveside service to celebrate Lexie's life will be held on Friday 8th March 2019 in the Murrumburrah Lawn Cemetery, commencing at 11.00am. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made at the cemetery to Ronald McDonald House Charities Randwick in memory of Lexie. Students, Teachers and Staff of Hennessey Catholic College Young, Trinity Catholic Primary School Murrumburrah, Murrumburrah High School and Murrumburrah Primary School and the staff of Bunyip Pre-School Harden are invited to attend wearing their uniforms to form a guard of honour. Patterson Brothers Funerals

## Funeral Notice

The Death has occurred of Mrs Joan Beryl Summerfield.

Passed away peacefully at Southern Cross Care Young on 5th March 2019. Much loved wife of Maurice. Devoted mother of Kevin, Bruce, Lee, Helen, Roger and Peter. Cherished

grandmother and great grandmother. Beloved sister of Mary Marinan. Formerly of Blackett Avenue Young.

> Aged 91 Years Rest in Peace

A service to celebrate Joan's life will be held on Thursday 14th March 2019 in St Paul's Anglican Church Murrumburrah, commencing at 11.00am.

The cortege will then leave for the Murrumburrah Lawn Cemetery. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend.

Patterson Brothers Funerals

## Thank You

The family of the late Ron Fuller would like to thank Dr Asif Sazaad, all staff at Harden Murrumburrah Disrict Hospital, Craig Nicholls and ambulance staff for the care and attention given to Ron during his illness.

## **Public Notice**

Garage Sale 9th March 57 Iris Street Murrumburrah 8am to 1pm

The next Harden **CWA** Meeting will be on Monday 11th March in our rooms in Neill Street (opposite Thompson Rural) at 2pm.

Wednesday 13th March Coffee morning with guest speaker. 10.30 am in community rooms ALL WELCOME

### **Public Notice**

### CHURCH TIMES

#### UNITING

Fri 8 Kyb group meets in Church Hall at 10:30am Sun 10 Ross Memorial 10:00am Thu 14 St Lawrence 2pm Chapel Old Time Dance Fundraiser.

ANGLICAN Sun 10 March: 10am – St Paul's, Murrumburrah 4pm – Salt, Parish Hall (contemporary style with kids' program)

Murrumburrah-Harden Hospital Auxiliary Coffee Mornings are back Wednesday 13th March at 10:30 am All Welcome.