



January 2022

The General Manager
Hornsby Shire Council
PO Box 37
HORNSBY NSW 1630
hsc@hornsby.nsw.gov.au

Dear Sir

Concerns re the Brickpit Park, Thornleigh – Playground Concept Plan’ – Reference Number F2020/00256

The aim of Friends of Berowra Valley is to protect the natural landscape, heritage and biodiversity of Berowra Valley while making the valley more accessible to the community.

The Friends of Berowra Valley support the playground concept plan, but we are concerned about the deleterious impact on the adjoining Critically Endangered Blue Gum High Forest. The plan is obviously designed to encourage more children to the area and to encourage them to stay for longer. This may put pressure on the BGFH as it will be perceived as a play space as well.

The FOBV therefore recommend that:

1. the BGHF is fenced off from the play areas with a fence that will prevent the entry of pedestrians and bikes of all types
2. The entry paths through the BGHF are sufficiently wide to enable bikes to pass, are off the ground and constructed of recycled plastic/FRP or equivalent, are edged, and both sides fenced to prevent pedestrians and bikes stepping off into the BGFH
3. Nature play materials using materials natural found in the BGFH be incorporated into all parts of the playground to encourage nature play without damaging the natural BGFH.
4. The stormwater biofiltration pond continue to have this function and not be used for a dog water recreation pond.

Yours sincerely

Yours sincerely,
Karen Benhar
President – Friends of Berowra Valley