

Submission  
No 355

## INQUIRY INTO CROWN LAND IN NEW SOUTH WALES

**Organisation:** Save Christison Park Action Group (SCPAG)  
**Date received:** 2 September 2016

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Crown Land Inquiry - late written submission  
The Committee

Dear Chair,

The Save Christison Park Action Group (SCPAG) heard of the Crown Land Inquiry after the committee concluded the hearing process. We respectfully ask that you accept our brief written submission.

We are a community group formed in 2008 to protect Christison Park, Vaucluse. We formed when the Trust Manager, Woollahra Council, proposed to erect flood lighting for night sports. Besides other things about 2,500 people signed a petition opposing flood lighting in the Christison Park.

Christison Park is situated on the coast and adjoins Macquarie Lighthouse. The Bicentennial Coastal Cliff Walk runs through the park. It is an open flat area, which affords wonderful coastal and harbor views and is used regularly by walkers, runners, dog owners and schools for sport.

Since 2008 SCPAG has attempted have the Trust Manager consult with the park community about any significant changes in the park. This the Trust Manager has not done necessitating on occasion e.g. 150 people attending Council Chambers about park matters.

SCPAG has advocated for :

- retention of the near pristine nature of this open, wind swept park,
- replacement trees and appropriate pruning/ gardening
- use of the park for both leashed and off leashed dogs
- replacement exercise equipment which will blend in with the environment
- replacement seating,
- clear signage as to permitted uses in the park

We have particularly lobbied against:

- loss of Crown Land to private enterprise
- advertising in the park

SCPAG is concerned about:

- lack of community consultation by the Trust Manager with park users
- lack of replacing removed trees
- lack of consideration for and encouragement to individual park users,
- lack of care and upkeep of the vegetation, seating and exercise equipment
- use of Crown Land by private business/es

Present matters of concern include the Trust Manager's:-

- refusal acknowledged that it chopped down many trees in the park
- lack of replacing trees it removed
- refusal to replace seating from three important viewing areas
- allowing advertising on exercise equipment
- allowing months to pass without repair of broken exercise equipment
- allowing private business to encroach from their licenced area further into the park
- not taking appropriate steps to prevent rubbish in the park caused by a single private business.

We are grateful for work the Trust Manager does in the park, including maintaining the small grandstand, setting the sports playing areas, pruning vegetation from the Bicentennial Coastal Cliff Walk and emptying bins.

We hope you will consider this submission as part of your inquiry.

Thank you, yours sincerely,

Ericka  
SCPAG