

From: Stella Kent
Sent: Monday, 11 March 2019 9:41 AM
To: Contact Us
Subject: Response to DA0082/2019 Intention to construct a Combat Engineers Memorial, 88-96 Paterson Street LAUNCESTON TAS 7250

[DA0082/2019](#) Passive Recreation - Construction of a structure (Combat Engineers Memorial) 88-96 Paterson Street LAUNCESTON TAS 7250

As someone who enjoys King's Park on an almost daily basis, I am responding to your call for comments on the construction of the Combat Engineer's Memorial.

I presume Council has guidelines on establishing Memorials, but wonder if they may need tightening before you make a decision on this latest request. For example, the Council website states that Launceston maintains many memorial parks, but would like to ask if it might be more appropriate to consider centralising these scattered remembrances in just a couple of places? The obvious contenders would be the area round the Cenotaph in Royal Park and the very under-utilised Memorial Avenue off High St at Windmill Hill.

I wonder too if the Council has guidelines on what kinds of memorial are appropriate? Plaques, flower beds, the memorial trees planted to create the avenue of Memorial Avenue can be both discreet and moving. But what of the recently established Polish Memorial in Kings Park, its towering, heavy concrete pillars out of scale and out of tune with its gentle waterfront setting and softly undulating grassy surrounds. It may be that the current application to erect part of a Bailey Bridge on the hillside is simply not appropriate compared with the planted gardens in the Park which commemorate the Rats of Tobruk and the 2nd/ 40th battalion of WW2, and the native garden and winding paths of the Peace Garden.

And what of all the other requests for memorials that may follow? If it was one or two intrusive structures it might not matter. But without clear guidelines, it then becomes far more difficult for Council to turn down requests for memorials in all shapes and sizes, requests made out of genuine grief, wishing to honour brave, lost souls.

Kings Park is of great historical importance to Launceston, a plaque on the waterfront there commemorating the landing of Lieutenant William Collins on the Lady Nelson in 1804. In its time the Park has been a neglected wilderness and has even fought off an attempt to turn it into a kitsch dinosaur park, but it has emerged as a charming space, loved by locals and visitors alike as a space for quiet recreation, with vistas of water and water-birds and cloud-scapes, its curved bay connecting to Ritchie's Mill and the Gorge (whose beauty, Collins declared, was probably unsurpassed in the world). If plans go ahead to eventually connect up the Gorge area with Seaport, North Bank and Inveresk it will become even more important but its character should remain linked to that of the lovely curve of the river. Without overriding guidelines, however, by allowing ad hoc installation of different memorials - however worthwhile and meaningful in their own right - it does put Kings Park in danger of turning into a junk yard.

I would be grateful if Council will consider these suggestions.

Dr Stella Kent

From: Don & Pixie Lowe
Sent: Monday, 11 March 2019 11:36 PM
To: Contact Us
Subject: objection to application for a memorial

The General Manager
Launceston City Council

Dear Sir,

As a resident of Launceston who walks almost daily along the waterfront, I wish to record my strong objection to another proposed memorial along the stretch of waterfront land between Stillwater Restaurant and Hallams. This section of water frontage is one of the very few green open spaces along the front and it already hosts several monuments, at least one of which is aesthetically highly intrusive.

I have no doubt the applicant (J. Crack) is worthy, representing an altogether worthy organisation, however, this application represents one too many monuments in what is quite a limited space. Open space along our water front is most desirable and already extremely limited. Visitors and residents alike use our waterfront and this is not an appropriate place for funerary memorials and monuments which could perhaps be better located near Carr Villa Cemetery.

Kindly record my strenuous formal objection to this or indeed any other application for memorials along our crowded waterfront.

Yours faithfully,

Pixie Lowe

From: edwin rowsell
Sent: Thursday, 21 March 2019 9:53 AM
To: Contact Us
Cc: edwin rowsell
Subject: Application DA0082/2019 Passive Combat Engineers Memorial

With due respect to the applicants for the proposed Memorial I would like to , as a regular walker in this site , submit the following observations .

1. In the past Kings Park has been the subject of attempts to alter its status as a Park the worst being the efforts to build an Hotel on the site . This caused a bitter reaction .
2. In my opinion Council made a well intentioned mistake in allowing the Polish memorial to be built on the site . In reality it has proven to be obtrusive and commanding in its presence . This memorial unfortunately created a precedent . Precedents can with careful thought and explanation be amended .
3. It not too late for Council to review that decision and say no more Memorials can be erected in this " Park " as I can envisage other applications will follow .
4. A suitable place for the Engineers memorial could be a plaque in the Cenotaph wall.

Edwin Rowsell

From: HELEN MAREE TAIT
Sent: Thursday, 21 March 2019 2:51 PM
To:
Subject: DA 0082/2019

Att: Planning Officer, Lara

I wish to make comment re DA 0082/2019 Construction of a Memorial in Royal Park .

The recent construction of a memorial in Royal Park introduced a lot of concrete and hard surface into the parkland. The construction work also encroached onto the river edge vegetation and habitat where few habitat areas remain for our iconic local water birds to live.

I ask that care be given;

1. to valuing the open space/ green breathing space element offered to the city by the parkland.
2. to improving where possible the river edge habitat for our wildlife. Perhaps in lieu of more concrete in the park we could have some more river edge native habitat rehabilitation at least where the damage was done at the last memorial construction site.

I love that there is still evidence in Royal Park (towards the silos} as to where the rivulet flowed up into what is now the Margaret St to the woollen mills area and that some of the same wildfowl species that have lived there a very long time can still be seen living here.

Sincerely
Helen Tait

From: Stephen Tredinnick
Sent: Friday, 22 March 2019 4:35 PM
To: Contact Us
Subject: Kings Park DA 0082/2019

To: Mr Michael Stretton
General Manager
Launceston City Council

Dear Mr Stretton,

I understand that the closure date for the DA 0082 closed yesterday but I hope that my submission will still be included in responses from the public about the proposed "Passive Recreation - Combat Engineers Memorial".

Why am I bothering to make a comment? Well, I walk my dogs through Kings Park almost every day.

I suggest that this memorial to brave Australian men and women of our armed services be placed in Royal Park near the existing cenotaph to Anzac Day veterans near the Queen Victoria Museum.

I have seen the design of this memorial and it seems to be in keeping with what has recently been placed in Kings Park - another ugly sculpture!

Kings Park is a very important site in Launceston as I imagine it was probably where the first square riggers, perhaps even Matthew Flinders would have landed.

It is a 'natural' amphitheatre that should have a stage at its focus allowing for gatherings, musical events etc...

One can look straight down the Tamar river when walking along its path.

The Polish Memorial is a monstrosity. It doesn't even include a BBQ!

8 tall square poles with red and white tops surrounded by rectangular concrete plinths covered in self-congratulatory prose.

It does not even provide good shelter for the homeless in its cold concrete bunkers. A memorial to piles, not just Poles, me thinks.

Any feng-shui about this structure? Forget it.

The memorial to the 2/40th AIF Battalion I suggest should also be moved to near the Anzac cenotaph. It is unfortunately a very ugly memorial usually covered with red and white flowers that look like pansies - again not an appropriate nor respectful choice.

I am very grateful for the services our armed forces have given us. My father was in the Australian Airforce in WW2 and I keep his medals with honour.

I am saddened to see the Kings park being cluttered with memorials that should be placed elsewhere and now again under threat for a structure that belongs elsewhere.

I suggest the "gift from the Polish community" should be converted into a stage. Remove the poles, soften the concrete masses, allow people to congregate and perform, utilise the electricity and flat surface constructed.

May I suggest an excellent book for town planners, architects, constructors of memorials, et al ... is 'A Pattern Language' by Christopher Alexander who was Professor of Architecture at the University of California, Berkeley, (and two other authors). I am happy to lend you my copy if you don't already have it.

It is full of excellent ideas and concepts.

The further destruction of the natural, beautiful ambience of Kings Park is a very good example of what 'A Pattern Language' intelligently opposes as inappropriate, insensitive and an insult to the soul of a beautiful valley.

I am happy to discuss these ideas further with you and others.

Yours sincerely,

Stephen Tredinnick