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Intellectual Disability Association S.A.

Chloe!

what are you thinking?



Ms Chloe Fox's recent public attacks on Minda are deeply disappointing.

Putting aside the fact that this is privately owned land, Ms Fox may be demeaning herself and her own party's work which carefully analysed and reviewed this area before introducing a development zone amendment in 2006 to ensure the long-term protection of the dunes. Minda has championed the dunes' survival for decades and fully supported the North Brighton Coastal Plan Amendment Report introduced by the Rann government in 2006.

Proposed new development changes are well outside the coastal zone that Ms Fox and her party specified.

Ms Fox, by attacking Minda and, by association, the 2,000 clients with severe intellectual disability, is genuinely putting at risk their very future.

Minda and its clients must never be used as a political football in a seat Ms Fox holds by just 167 votes.

Ms Fox has not been photographed standing outside Minda demanding funding despite her government providing funding to Minda clients at the lowest rate in the nation.

Is Ms Fox suggesting she and her own party did shoddy work with the 2006 North Brighton Plan?

The 2006 plan specifically considered public access along the foreshore, the provision of appropriate linkages through the site, the protection and enhancement of significant coastal environs and the interface between adjoining land uses. As a result,

changes to the Development Plan included a realignment of the coastal conservation zone boundary to increase the area of land protected by the zone from 1.8 hectares to 3.3 hectares and to ensure adequate protection of the remnant dune system.

Smacking of desperation for publicity after recent negative press about her, Ms Fox has contradicted her own Minister for Development, Paul Holloway, who told Parliament recently, "Clearly Minda are trying to do their best for the people who depend on their services and they are consulting widely," and "I am not going to make any hypothetical decisions on what may or may not be a final proposal."

Ms Fox may be better advised to champion outcomes like, "We need fair, proper and balanced solutions for all stakeholders. Minda has been doing a great job for over 110 years and must be around long after I am the local member."

Ms Fox always has the option of going to her cabinet and asking they buy this private site for the \$120 million dollars it is worth.

Her current approach may be questionable.

Minda wants a 'win-win'

By DAVID GOLDSMITH

MINDA has not ruled out seeking major project status from the State Government for the proposed \$20 million overhaul of its Brighton site.

The disability service provider sparked a public backlash last month by proposing to build four multi-storey retirement apartment blocks on land behind protected coastal dunes.

Environment groups, Holdfast Bay Council and Bright MP Chloe Fox have voiced concerns about building on the secondary dunes.

Minda chief executive Cathy Miller said any move to seek major project status - taking development approval away from the Holdfast Bay - was a decision for the Minda board.

"But that is an avenue that's still open to us," she said.

"I'd prefer to try and create win-win situations... but at the end of the day you may reach an impasse you can't move from."

Ms Miller said the views and emails from opponents of the apartment plan.

"I had a surprisingly large response from consultants, all of them who were in favour of keeping the sand dunes as they are," she said.

Ms Fox said Minda was "an outstanding organisation", but she disagreed with the proposal.

"I don't mind them building apartments to make money for the good of their clients," she said.

"I just think it's a great pity they want to build on this valuable piece of the dunes."

Ms Miller said the proposed redevelopment was a "necessary step" for Minda to help provide better services for its clients.

"We're not developers at all - and we're just trying to provide the best possible option for everyone who lives on site and comes to our day programs. That's our priority."

The secondary dunes are some of the last along the metropolitan coast and are home to several rare plant species.

Ms Miller said the views expressed during the consultation process would be addressed and the plan amended if necessary.

"It is a concept plan," she said.

"Nothing has been designed or drawn up - and elevations haven't even been completed for the site."

"We want to go forward with a very positive plan and not one that will cause community unrest."

A community meeting was held last night (Tuesday, May 18) at Brighton Secondary School.

Australian Coastal Society spokeswoman Claire Lock said it would be a "travesty" if the development went ahead.

Ms Fox said she had received "dozens" of calls

Messenger

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www.guardianmessenger.com.au

Now ON BOARD: New Minda CEO Cathy Miller. Picture: Cathy Mundy / munda

New chief takes over reins

HELPING bring multi-million dollar plans to fruition is nothing new for Cathy Miller.

Ms Miller was heavily involved in the recent two-stage \$10 million Flinders Medical Centre redevelopment.

She also oversaw a \$127 million upgrade of the Lyell McEwin Hospital during her stint as its general manager. And as the newly appointed chief executive of Minda Incorporated, the mother-of-two now has a fresh challenge - to realise the organisation's controversial \$200 million masterplan for its 25ha Brighton site.

"Over my career I've probably been involved in about \$800 million of various capital works projects in both the private and public sector - offers a number of attractions.

"And Minda's masterplan was something that really interested me."

Ms Miller took over at Minda on May 3, replacing Susan McInerney, who resigned in January.

Ms Miller says that after a 30-year career in health administration, the position at Minda - SA's largest provider of services to intellectually-disabled people - offers a number of attractions.

Excerpt, Guardian, May 19, 2010

Authorised by David Holst, Chair Intellectual Disability Association of SA, Father of a child with a disability (Kim, pictured) who is a client of Minda