

**SAVE OUR FORESHORE**  
**PRESS RELEASE 5 November 2007**  
**(update on last weeks)**

**‘SAVE WORLD HERITAGE SHUTE HARBOUR’ CAMPAIGN  
LAUNCHED AT AIRLIE MARKETS.**

The SOF caravan made its first appearance at the Airlie markets on Saturday in its new role. Having put the win against the FKP project behind them, the Save Our Foreshore team are now working to prevent the construction of a huge development on Shute Harbour’s public foreshore.

“While the government has formally put an end to the multi-story hotel development on public parkland in Airlie Beach, that is only one small part of our public foreshore.” Says spokesperson Suzette Pelt. “The pattern of public land grabs for private commercial development continues under this Government, even into World Heritage waters”.

The proposal the community group will now be fighting against is an inappropriate development proposal on 51 hectares of public foreshore and over the World Heritage waters of Shute Bay. Planned are 115 multi storey dwellings on public foreshore, several five storey resort buildings and a 630 berth marina.

“This is clearly a massive public land grab” Ms Pelt says “It is simply not needed. Any development in Shute Harbour should be in the existing commercial area”.

“Even a reduction in marina size with any land based infrastructure is unacceptable in this World Heritage area”.

“The value of Shute Harbour in its natural state is priceless in the longer term. It is outrageous that people could lose this irreplaceable environmental and scenic treasure for the region to a private commercial development”. Ms Pelt said.

According to those manning the caravan on Saturday the public support for their cause was tremendous. “The shock of what is happening at Muddy Bay was a constant theme and most people were horrified at the prospect of it happening yet again at World Heritage Shute Harbour.” Ms Pelt said. Hundreds signed petitions and several out of town couples said although they had been coming to Airlie for years this would be their last visit. “People are shocked and saddened at what is happening to this place and they are voting with their feet.” Ms Pelt added.

For more information please contact:

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