

Response to article by Michael Gloster in Noosa Matters 10/12/22

Noosa Matters has published an account by Michael Gloster (Noosa Parks Association) of a wondrous cultural partnership now begun upon Cooloola between the Kabi peoples and the State Govt.

Its main theme of argument is entirely and disturbingly false.

Beginning at the 5th paragraph (1st long one), this inventive story pushes the false and grossly misleading assertion that the Nov. 12 ILUA meeting delivered the signing of a landmark agreement between Kabi and the State to co-manage Cooloola National Park. This is a complete fiction.

Regarding Cooloola the ILUA meeting dealt only with matters related to the commercial deal with CABN. No resolutions or business were undertaken specifying any partnerships or arrangements with the State regarding Cooloola National Park. None. Zip. Zilch. Nada!

The ILUA gives the Kabi Corporation a 10% stake in the Cooloola segment of the CABN operation and an employment target of 10% during construction and 25% during operations. That's it.

This is a minority status subordinate to the needs and objectives a private commercial corporation. Some would reasonably call it a neo-Colonial arrangement. It carries not one iota of Park management status.

The author's grand assertions otherwise are basically an outright lie, or at very best the product of extremely limited comprehension.

Some of the article's lesser points of fiction:

How can this very limited agreement possibly influence the situation on the beach? It can't.

The author claims that project critics have aimed denigration, smears and lack of respect toward proponents. Do those claims refer to persistence with unanswered questions and annoyance at unfair exclusion from process? Probably.

How though might he account for Phil Jarratt's smear piece on our Cooroy Forum, particularly it's totally speculative attack upon Wit-booka's character and credibility delivered without any fact-check, interview or right of reply?

What about the systemic refusal by persons he names as abuse victims to acknowledge and listen to authentic Kabi voices that disagree with those in service of the development?

This man has more forks in his tongue than can be found in a commercial cutlery drawer. A truly astounding performance.