

25 May 2021

Dear General Manager

We write to request that Council seeks ownership from the Crown of the reserved road which extends from the Whitemark Esplanade to Palana Road, locally known as the Cattle Track. This will improve access for landowners and increase the future development potential within the town boundary of Whitemark.

Travelling north along the Whitemark Esplanade, the road changes to a gravel road that continues to Palana Road. This was once the old stock route to the Whitemark port. This section of road, fondly referred to as 'the Cattle Track' by locals, has continually been maintained by Council for at least the past forty years. It is the public access to the extremely popular 'Bluff Track Fitness Trail' and has an 80km speed sign located at its eastern entry point, opposite Thule Road.

Despite being maintained and operated as a local road, this road is classified as a reserved road and is public land owned by the Crown. We understand that reserved roads are corridors of land kept by the Crown to provide for potential future access to subdivided lots.

There are currently eleven individual properties (titles) with frontages to this road, including three permanent residences, a parcel of Crown land and the Council-owned block at the corner of the Cattle Track and Palana Road. The Island needs land and housing opportunities close to Whitemark for the township to expand. The potential for further development along this road is an attractive option being so close to the town centre.

Properties on the Cattle Track have 'Palana Rd' as their official address. The property owners have some concern over the incongruous address, particularly if the need arose for an emergency vehicle to find these properties by their official address.

All private property owners along the Cattle Track have been consulted and are supportive of the change of the track to a Council-owned road as a natural extension to the existing Whitemark Esplanade.

We trust that the Council will recognise the potential future benefits this proposal will bring and give due consideration to formalising this road, that has been functioning as a road for many decades.

We look forward to hearing the result of Council's deliberations on this matter.

Sincerely

Jana Monnone
Noel and Vicki Warden
On behalf of Cattle Track property owners