



Vincenia Ratepayers and Residents Association Inc.

Your Community Consultative Body for

Shoalhaven City Council

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DRAFT MINUTES OF VRRRA/CCB MEETING HELD 20 APRIL 2017

Venue: COMMUNITY CENTRE, VINCENTIA

Time: 7.30PM

Attendees: 21 people signed the attendance record, with all indicating that they were financial members.

Apologies

Irene Ross, John Ross, Jo Pullinger, Sue Walsh, Ken and Sue Buckley, Keith and Barbara Howard, Ros Vickery, Mayor Findlay, Councilors White, Proudfoot, Watson.

Welcome

The President welcomed all attendees.

Confirmation of Previous Minutes

Motion: Moved draft minutes of the minutes of the general meeting of 16 February 2017 be accepted.

Moved: John Picot, seconded Len Murray. Accepted without amendment.

Correspondence

- As an action from the February meeting, we wrote to Council re the bike racks. These were installed prior to Easter. Council advice circulated to members.
- As an action from the February meeting, we wrote to Council re the closure of the northern most access to Nelsons Beach. Council responded that it would be a permanent closure with the provision of an upgraded access, which is within 30 metres of the closed access. The details of this advice have been circulated to members.
- Advice from Council on the Community Strategic Plan, VRRRA letter to the Federal member, and confidential letter from four members to the committee would be dealt with under specific agenda items.
- The VRRRA contacted Elite Energy and a quick response was gained on safety aspects associated with barriers for the Huski Triathlon raised at the last meeting.

Community Strategic Planning (CSP)

- There is a current CSP exercise being run by Council to develop a City-wide CSP. Feedback is being sought from the community on priorities. The Council is looking for feedback on the following question:

What would you like to see in your city by 2027?

The Discussion Paper and feedback forms collected at the Council's session were made available to members at the meeting, and members were reminded that they could also give feedback online. By giving input now,

members will participate with Council proactively – a more effective engagement than reacting after the CSP is set in stone.

- The VRRRA approached Council to provide a briefing at this meeting on the how the current City-wide exercise and the 2014 work on the development of the Vincentia CSP through the Towards 2025 project fitted together.
- Council responded as follows:

‘The community planning process (towards 2025) that was carried out in 2014 was run by the community for the community. Council was not involved in the process other than attend the drop in session and answer questions raised by the VRRRA (at that the time). As you are aware this plan has not proceeded. Council is not working with the community in anyway on this plan at this point in time. It is our understanding that the planning process has ceased. When asked if this process should be recommenced we have recommended that a community planning process does not proceed at this point in time. We have recommended all groups agree to work together on any plan before the “community“ planning process should re-commence. We have advised members of the community (both VRRRA and Vincentia Matters members) that should any planning process continue in the future then it would need to be collaborative and have a joined approach with all community groups involved (including SES, Clubs, Mothers groups etc.). Council only supports community planning processes through the provision of information if requested and can provide guidance on past community experiences. Council does not run these processes. Any community plan is only used by Council if it can clearly show how all of the community has been involved in the development of the plan and that a collaborative approach has been adopted. Council uses completed plans which have been presented to Council, by the community, as a guide to inform our planning processes. The plans are seen as an additional community engagement tool and provide insight into the thoughts of the community at the time that they have been created. Community plans do not have a formal status within the planning framework and only feed into planning processes as information along with all other forms of community engagement. They are used by other communities to inform their own planning and community projects and often used for community grant applications. The Vincentia process has not informed the current Council Community Strategic Plan process in anyway. Council does not have access to the data that was obtained during this community planning process and no plan has been presented to Council at this time. The Council Community Strategic Plan is for the whole community and is created through citywide community engagement. This plan informs our Delivery Program and Operational Plan.’

- The meeting noted that the President’s current approach on engaging with other local community groups will assist in building bridges for the community to have a more united approach in the future.
- The meeting also recognized that the current approach to seeking community feedback was piecemeal and that an overall CSP for Vincentia would go a long way to have a coordinated approach to community development, although some doubts were raised about the capacity of the VRRRA-CCB to conduct such an exercise.

Engaging with other community groups

- The VRRRA President, Peter Livingston, outlined a proposed open letter he intended to send to other community groups in the area, that included points on the following:
 - Informing of the role, responsibilities of the VRRRA-CCB, regular bi-monthly meetings, email updates from Council, virtual and community noticeboards, website;
 - Inviting the other groups to participate in meetings, provide email contacts to get updates from Council, provide articles for the newsletter, notice board updates;
 - Providing the President’s contact details for follow-up.
- Peter Livingston identified 12 groups to send the letter to, including Vincentia Matters. Members also identified others including the Rural Fire Service, Sporting Groups, including the Golf Club, groups associated with the High School and church groups.

Motion: a) Circulate the letter to all members seeking their comments on the distribution list within a specific time-line; and b) Send the letter once the distribution list was finalized.

Moved: Peter Livingston, seconded Angela Johnstone. Accepted without amendment.

Membership Drive

- Flyer was circulated and generally thought to be well written by Angela. Peter Livingston agreed to coordinate a letter-box drop with volunteers called for – Jan and Len Murray, John and Fiona Picot, Renee Koonin all volunteered to assist.
- Suggestions were made to distribute the flyer at the shopping centres and on notices boards including at the Leisure Centre and at the Market Place – volunteers are required to undertake this work.

Bay and Basin Community Hub Master Plan

- Call for volunteers to participate on a Council sub-committee to assist in finalizing the Bay and Basin Community Hub Master Plan, with the first meeting in May 2017.
- Fiona Picot and Renee Koonin volunteered as our representatives – they call for feedback from the members so that they could raise relevant questions on the sub-committee to ensure that the Hub would be relevant for current and future needs of the community. Questions and comments were to be sent to Fiona and Renee through the Secretary.

Briefing on the Public Meeting between the State Grants Commission and the Shoalhaven Council

- Peter McVay talked about the paper distributed to members prior to the meeting.
- One of the issues raised was the three year freeze on indexation of Federal financial assistance grants to local government in the 2014 Budget – this has contributed to the fall in Federal assistance to the Shoalhaven Council. The Committee has written to the local Federal member for Gilmore, urging her to support the reintroduction of indexation to Federal assistance grants to local government in the 2017 Federal Budget.

Motion: Circulate the paper to all CCBs, requesting that they write to Council, State and Federal to remove the freeze on indexation of financial assistance grants, and for the distribution of funding to reflect a stronger needs basis in the future.

Moved: John Picot, seconded Renee Koonin. Accepted without amendment.

Delivery Program and Operational Plan DPOP (Budget 17/18) submission – input from the members on items for the Budget

- Bob Pullinger said that no information has yet been provided by Council. These are items for very local issues, with Angela Johnstone giving the example of pruning overgrown bushes that blocked clear road views. When information is provided by Council, it would be circulated to members along with a form for individuals to provide input.

Treasurer's Report

- The VRRRA's Treasurer, Bob Pullinger, provided a statement of current and full year forecast, income and expenditure compared with full year situation in 2016. This shows that the VRRRA funds will decrease by over \$400. Currently, 41 members who are expected to renew their membership, have not paid their 2017 dues, and recommended that a reminder be sent out on membership dues. (See Treasurers' Report attached).

Motion: That the Treasurer's Report be accepted.

Moved: Bob Pullinger, seconded Sue Sheridan. Accepted without amendment.

VRRRA Computer

- The VRRRA's secretary, Sue Sheridan, said that the VRRRA computer's hard disk drive had failed. The drive was replaced in July 2015 and no longer under warranty. (Previous cost of replacement was \$258.01) Harvey Norman IT said that they could replace the hard disk drive again, but given that it was an old computer that there was no guarantee that other components would not fail. Currently, using the Cloud.

- One member suggested that the Council be approached to see whether they had a superseded computer that could be used, but given that such machines were unlikely to be laptops, this was not going to be pursued.
- Another member suggested that we support a local business which had successfully revived their failed hard disk drive – the Secretary undertook to pursue this, provided the expenses were justified.

CBPG Report

- Report as attached.

Motion: The CCB adopts the sub-committee report and that the Minutes to be distributed to all Councillors, include the report.

Moved: Bob Pullinger, seconded Tony Vukelic. 12 members supported this motion without amendment, 9 members abstained on the basis that they did not have sufficient information to make a decision.

An Update from Bayswood

- The VRRRA Vice-president, Angela Johnstone, reported on the relocation of the playground to higher ground, including the provision of new equipment. Angela said that Council was responsive in its consultation process, with 74 submissions made, of which 51 supported the current placement location higher on the hill above that previously. The playground is bigger with sand underneath.
- Suggestion was made to approach Vincentia Marketplace to move their noticeboard to a more prominent position.
- Angela was going to check as to whether the bike track from the Leisure Centre to the Marketplace was fully paved.

Report from the March 2017 Committee Meeting

- Draft minutes of the meeting were summarized by the President and broadly discussed. The draft minutes are available on the VRRRA-CCB web-site.

Other Business

- Peter Livingston said that a newsletter was planned for next month, and said that he hoped that we would get articles from the community groups that he planned to approach. He sought ideas from members ideas for articles.
- Peter Livingston wanted to shorten the list of agenda items for the June meeting and have a guest speaker. A speaker on the aquaculture project had previously been successful.
- An update on the Vincentia Village Markets proposal was given by Peter McVay, with a June 17 start date flagged.
- Angela Johnstone encouraged members to provide feedback on the Roads and Maritime consultation on the intersection between Island Pt Rd and the Princes Highway. The intersection between Jervis Bay Rd and the Highway was noted as an ongoing problem.
- A number of other problems were raised – a smelly sewerage vent at the bottom of Church Street, quality of water in three properties at the end of Collingwood Beach; and overcrowding and damaged doors on the train service to Kiama.

Meeting closed at 9.50pm

TREASURER'S REPORT - VRRRA Inc - 2017 APRIL GENERAL MEETING

LAST YEAR -Full Year		THIS YEAR TO 31-Mar-17	FORECAST Full year 2017
1627	Everyday Account Start of year	2215	2215
	Income		
485	Membership subscriptions 2017	495	500
40	Pre-paid subscriptions following year	0	0
0	Bank Interest	0	0
500	Grants - SCC	0	500
0	Grants - other	0	0
577	Donations	54	0
<u>1,602</u>		<u>549</u>	<u>1,000</u>
	Expenditure		
599	Public liability insurance	0	600
0	Bank Charges	40	10
54	Fees Dept Fair Trading	0	100
240	Room Hire etc - VRRRA meetings	0	240
121	PO Box rent	0	121
0	Postage, Printing stationery & supplies	0	203
0	Computer & Peripherals	0	0
0	Internet Website	0	55
0	Dog Bags - Plantation Point	0	100
<u>1,014</u>		<u>40</u>	<u>1,429</u>
	Balance in bank account end period		
2,215	Everyday Account	2,724	1,786
<u>2,215</u>		<u>2,724</u>	<u>1,786</u>

Collingwood Beach Preservation Group Monthly Report – April 2017

1. The Collingwood Beach Dune Vegetation Management Plan “CBDVMP”.

This is work in progress. Next steps are review by NGH, a Coastal Expert and report to Council by June '17.

2. Coastal Zone Management Plan “CZMP”

This is work in progress. The CZMP and mapping on Department of Planning site is to be updated for latest Coastal Hazard Mapping.

3. Sea Level Rise Policy “SLR”.

A talk and presentation was made to Councillors on 22nd March by Dr Howard Brady, a scientist with expert understandings of sea level rise and the Shoalhaven. It is understood to have been an “excellent presentation”.

4. Coastal Hazzard Mapping

It is understood Councils original objective for Advisian to perform the review of the submissions from the public on the Coastal Hazzard’s Report has been considered to be too costly (\$7,000). The review of the submissions will now be undertaken by staff.

It is not known if a cost benefit analysis was undertaken to determine if there is a real benefit considering wages still need to be paid and if there are extra costs if Council does not have the modelling tools, software and expertise to undertake any appropriate technical review.

It is recommended that to avoid any conflict of interest, it would be more appropriate for a Coastal Expert other than Advisian, to undertake a peer review of the technical submission made by the CBPG.

The CBPG will make a deputation in relation to the Advisian report probably to be put to Council on 18 May.

5. Coastal Reforms – Stage 2.

The State Government has yet to confirm if Minister Roberts will take over the responsibilities for the Coastal Reforms as part of the handover of the Minister for Planning’s responsibilities from Minister Rob Stokes. The CBPG met with Hon Shelley Hancock MP in March to discuss the status of the Coastal Reforms.

J Stuchbery Chairman

Collingwood Beach Preservation Group

MOTION :

**Collingwood Beach Preservation Group – Sub Committee Monthly Report
The CCB adopts the sub committee’s report and that the Minutes including the report be distributed to All Councillors.**