

Community Forum on Vincenia Village Shopping Centre

On Wednesday 17 May 2017, around 150 residents joined with retailers, landlords, Council officers at a Forum organised by Vincenia Matters to explore:

- improvements to infrastructure;
- the future plans of property owners and business operators; and
- what residents want and how we can help the village become more attractive.



The forum, professionally facilitated by Bruce MacKenzie, provided a welcome show of community support for the shopping centre. A report on the discussions at the forum is being prepared by Vincenia Matters and will be circulated to participants and made available on the community Notice Board. Vincenia Matters will organise another forum on the National Broadband Network in Vincenia in the coming months.

Departure of Respected, Long Serving Council Officer

After 35 of service, Friday 28 April 2017 was the final day for Shoalhaven City Council's Group Director for Planning, Environment and Development, Mr Tim Fletcher.

Mr Fletcher said he has enjoyed a wonderful career at Council and is eternally grateful for the assistance, cooperation and respect he has received from staff he has worked with over the years as well as the many state and federal members of Parliament, Councillors, industry members and the public.

During those 35 years Mr Fletcher has attended approximately 1,200 Council meetings, dealt with approximately 90 different Councillors through 8 terms of the elected Council. General Manager Russ Pigg has praised Tim's contribution to the Shoalhaven saying, "He has approved or overseen the approval of 10,000's of Development applications over the period of his distinguished career – over 50,000 DA's. Dwellings, industrial, business, tourism, government, medical, and educational facilities and much more – the Shoalhaven has undergone enormous growth and change since 1982 and Tim has been a guiding force to facilitate this growth in keeping with the natural attributes that makes Shoalhaven such a special place."

The VRRA always found Tim to be a person of respect, with a smile on his face and an ability to be frank. We believe the Council and communities will miss his knowledge and experience as well as the respect, friendliness and frankness he offered to everyone. We wish him many decades of good health, enjoyment, and relaxation in retirement. Keep on smiling.

Sea Level Rise Briefing

In March 2017 the Shoalhaven City Council took the opportunity to respond to a recommendation from the Collingwood Beach Preservation Group's monthly report to receive a briefing from Dr Howard Brady on sea level rise. Dr Brady's presentation can be found at the following website collingwoodbeachpreservationg.com.au. It provides an understanding of the science behind sea level rise drawing upon his intensive research undertaken in the Jervis Bay and surrounding beaches and cliffs in the Shoalhaven area.

Funding for Vincentia Projects in Council Budget

Shoalhaven City Council has been consulting until 26 May 2017 on its draft Integrated Strategic Plan which includes the Community Strategic Plan, Delivery Program, Operating Plan and Budget. Residents should be aware that the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal has recently approved a Special Rate Variation to increase rates by 13.2% in 2017/18. Our next rates notices will also include the NSW State Government's Emergency Services Property Levy (which replaces the previous Emergency Services Levy on insurance policies).

The VRRRA notes that the proposed budget includes funding for the following projects of particular interest to Vincentia.

	2017/18	2018/19
Vincentia Community Library	\$0.7m	\$4.15m
Twyford/Vincent St Shared Pathway	\$0.38m	
Moona Moona Crk Pedestrian Bridge	\$0.64m	

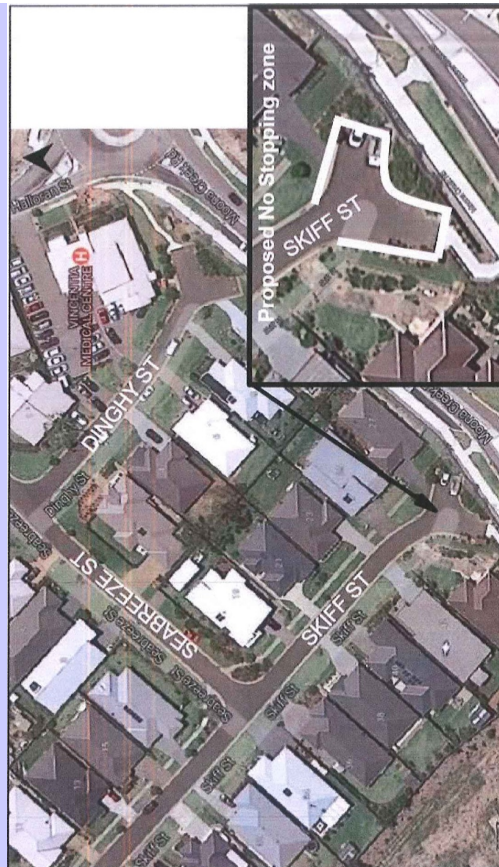


The VRRRA has also made 11 submissions for activities and actions in Vincentia as part of the Delivery Program and Operational Plan including: Updates to Vincentia Village Shopping Mall; Studies on Coastal Management Planning issues & Collingwood Beach Dune Vegetation Management Plan; Improvements to Berry St and other access points to Cycle/Pathway (including Disability Inclusion) connecting with Bayswood; Plantation Point Reserve Flooding issues; Plantation Point Reserve facilities; Bayswood Estate Maintenance; Pathway Improvements on Minerva Avenue and St George Avenue and Pathway Safety Issue near Moona Bridge; Disability Inclusion ramp to Collingwood Beach; and Water Filling Station at Vincentia Village Shops.

Proposed No Stopping Zone — Skiff Street, Vincentia

Council has been requested to install a No Stopping zone in the existing hammer head turning area at the southern end of Skiff Street, Vincentia. Concern was received regarding vehicles parking in this location preventing the turning movement of motorists, service vehicles and emergency vehicles.

Council is proposing to install a No stopping zone around the hammer head turning area located at the southern end of Skiff Street, Vincentia. The detail of the proposal is shown below. Council is seeking your view on the proposal prior to making any changes. Your comments could be received by Friday 9 June 2017. Comments can be forwarded to council's General Manager via email (council@shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au) or in the enclosed self-addressed envelope.



Exercise Equipment at Plantation Point Reserve

The new exercise equipment at Plantation Point Reserve has been installed and is open to the public. It is already getting lots of grateful use. Well done Council.



New Bicycle Racks at Vincentia Village Shopping Centre

The VRRRA thanks Council for installing attractive, new bicycle racks at the Village shopping centre. We also appreciate that the old bicycle racks have been retained to allow more bicycles to be secured at the shops.

We also thank the the tireless efforts of Jo Pullinger in getting these racks installed.



VRRRA Membership Fees

We apologise for any inconvenience caused to members in February 2017 when we increased the annual VRRRA membership fee from \$5 to \$10. We appreciate that many members had already paid their 2017 membership before the Annual General Meeting in February increased the fee. However, if you have only paid the original \$5 fee, please pay an additional \$5 to ensure that you remain a financial member during 2017. Payment can either be made online by going to our website at www.vrra.org.au or at the bi-monthly General Meeting.

Our Next Meeting

Our next meeting is on Thursday 15 June 2017 at 7.30pm at the Vincentia Community Hall in the Coles car park.

Not a VRRRA member? It doesn't matter for the consideration of local Council related issues. Everyone is welcome and if you are a ratepayer or resident of Vincentia, come and have your say.

Why not join the VRRRA? It is only \$10 per person per year. Membership application is quick and easy. It can be done on the night or online by going to our website www.vrra.org.au. For information contact the secretary: vrra.ccb@gmail.com.

Input for Future Newsletters/Community Notices

Do you have any issues/news or community notices that you want circulated in the Vincentia community in future Newsletters?

Do you want to respond to something in a previous Newsletter?

If so, please send your contributions to vrra.ccb@gmail.com and we will consider its inclusion in future publications. Articles of no more than one page including photos are preferred. You do not need to be a VRRRA member to contribute, but the VRRRA reserves the right to determine whether an article will be included.