



Vincentia Ratepayers and Residents Association Inc.

Your Community Consultative Body for

Shoalhaven City Council

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MINUTES OF VRRRA/CCB MEETING HELD 15 DECEMBER 2016

Venue: COMMUNITY CENTRE, VINCENTIA

Time: 7.30PM

Apologies

Linda Lawless, Terry Bowman, Greg Watson, Keith Howard, John Metcalf, Abe Mehmud, Garry Kelson

Welcome

The President welcomed The Mayor Amanda Findley, Councillors Jo Gash, Patricia White and Bob Proudfoot along with representatives from CCB's at Huskisson, Sussex Inlet and Hyams.

Shoalhaven Council Rate Rise

An informative slideshow and robust discussion amongst members, the Mayor and Councillors ensued.

Motion:

This meeting of the Vincentia Ratepayers & Residents Association and the Vincentia CCB does NOT support any of the 3 options for future special rate increases presented by Council, and calls for a deferral of any special increase for 1 year.

Before any special rate increase above the IPART rate peg amount of 1.5% is considered, Council should first explain to the Community:

- * what plans it has for Review of Services not considered important by the Community,
- * What operational efficiencies it has identified, and the money saved
- * How it plans to increase Value for Money on large purchases and capital projects

Moved: Col Poulter, Seconded Noel Bowman. Accepted

Confirmation of Previous Minutes

Motion: Moved minutes of our October meeting be accepted.

Moved Col Poulter, seconded Angela Johnstone. Unanimously accepted.

Motion: Moved minutes of our November Special Meeting be accepted.

Moved Col Poulter, seconded Angela Johnstone. Unanimously accepted.

Three Resolutions (2 Special, one Ordinary)

Special Resolution 1

That the existing registered Statement of Objects of the Vincentia Ratepayers and Residents Association Inc (VRRRA) be replaced by the following Statement of Objects:

To provide ratepayers and residents in Vincentia with a forum to discuss issues of concern.

To facilitate discussion on issues and communicate the collective views of the community to relevant authorities including local, state or federal government or to other individuals and organisations as appropriate.

To advocate for improved public facilities in Vincentia and seek grant funding from local, state or federal government to support such facilities.

To obtain and disseminate information relevant to the Vincentia community.

To encourage the involvement of the community in the decision-making processes of local, state and federal Governments that impact on Vincentia.

To fulfil the role of the Community Consultative Body for Vincentia while recognised by the Shoalhaven City Council (SCC) and complying with the *Guidelines for the Conduct of Community Consultative Bodies* published by the SCC when dealing with Council related matters.

Moved: Peter Gaffey, Seconded Ros Vickery. Unanimously accepted.

Special Resolution 2

That the registered Constitution of the VRRRA be amended as outlined below:

- *Part 2 – Membership* of the VRRRA Constitution be amended by replacing the existing nomination process and the role of the Committee in the approval of applications for membership with a simplified application process which requires the Secretary to approve all applications from natural persons eligible for membership (i.e. ratepayers and/or residents of Vincentia).

To illustrate the intention of this proposed amendment, the draftsman may wish to consider the following amendments that we believe would give effect to our proposal:

Delete existing sub-clause 2(1)(b) which refers to the existing nomination/approval process in existing clause 3.

Replace existing clause 3 which details the existing nomination/approval process with a new clause 3 along the following lines.

3 Application for Membership

(1) A person applying for membership of the association:

(a) must complete in writing (including in electronic means) the application form set out in Appendix 1 of the Constitution; and

(b) must lodge the application with the Secretary of the association together with evidence that the applicant is a ratepayer and/or resident of Vincentia.

(2) The Secretary must:

(a) approve applications from persons eligible to be members and reject applications from persons not eligible to be members; and

(b) request approved applicants pay the sum payable under the Constitution by the member as an annual subscription.

(3) The Secretary must, as soon as practical and on payment by the applicant of the amount referred to in sub-clause 2(b), enter or cause to be entered the applicant's name in the register of members and, on the name being so entered, the applicant becomes a member of the association.

- *Part 3 The Committee* of the Constitution be amended to provide a maximum number of three consecutive terms for which an Office Bearer may hold office.

Moved: Col Poulter, Seconded Peter Gaffey. Unanimously accepted.

Ordinary Resolution

That the VRRRA adopt the following Code of Practice to guide its Executive Committee and Members in performing their roles.

CODE OF PRACTICE FOR VINCENTIA RATEPAYERS AND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION INC.

GENERAL MEETINGS

- Meetings will be run along informal lines as outlined in Section 4.6 of the Guidelines for Conduct of CCBs
- Meetings will address the issue, not the person, and respect others' opinions

CORRESPONDENCE & RECORDS

- Information to Members will be by e-mail and the VRRRA web site
- Digital records will be backed up at least weekly and to a secure location off-site

GENERAL MEETING AGENDA & MINUTES

- Members can suggest Agenda items before the Agenda is finalised for each meeting
- The Agenda for General Meetings and an index of relevant correspondence and previous Executive Committee Minutes will be e-mailed to members at least 2 weeks before a General Meeting
- Minutes will be a fair, accurate account of key discussions and all decisions
- President or Secretary will quote motions back to the meeting before voting
- Draft minutes will be posted on the website no later than 2 weeks after the meeting

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- Committee members will inform themselves of and abide by their responsibilities under the *Associations Incorporations Act 2009* (the Act), the VRRRA Constitution, the Guidelines for the Conduct of Community Consultative Bodies and the Code of Practice
- The Committee will be fully open with, and fully accountable to Members, and where practical include Members in decision-making on all matters
- The Committee members will ensure that the position taken by it on urgent items that require a response before the next General Meeting will be ratified at the next General Meeting
- The Committee will present Members' collective views to the Council and other bodies, including the views of Members adversely affect by Council's or others' plans
- The Committee will deal with matters raised by Members constructively and in a timely manner
- Committee members will disclose any interests in a mater being considered by the Committee and abide by the requirements of s31 of the Act
- The VRRRA will encourage diversity of Executive Committee membership
- The VRRRA will publicise Executive Committee members on the VRRRA website
- Minutes of Executive Committee meetings will be kept including list of attendees, decisions made and how attendees voted on particular issues

ELECTIONS

- As nominations are received by the Secretary for election of Committee Members, the nominations will be e-mailed to members for their information

POSTAL AND ELECTRONIC BALLOTS

- The VRRRA will allow proponents and opponents of a motion subject to a postal or electronic ballot to present their case to the membership, preferably to accompany the ballot paper when circulated by the Returning Officer
- The Committee reserves the right to review and amend any documents circulated to members as part of the Ballot process to protect against VRRRA liabilities

Moved: Len Murray, Seconded Ken Buckley. Unanimously accepted.

Thanks was given to the many involved over a long period in the development of these changes including John Picot, Mary Owen, David Hopkins, Anne King, Dawn and Tony Thompson, Bob and Jo Pullinger and more recently Sandy Easterbrook, Col Poulter, Ian McCausland and Peter Livingston for their efforts in putting together the above Resolutions for the Code of Practice.

Correspondence

Correspondence was received regarding:

A Basketball hoop and hardstand.

Discussion was held as to a suitable venue for the hoop. It was agreed to write to Councilors re the hoop and stand and to suggest it be combined with the new Leisure Centre additions. It was noted Council had misinterpreted our original request.

Moved: J Pullinger, Noel Bowman.

Bike Racks, Vincentia

Council has advised the racks are on back order and hope to be received by mid December.

Pedestrian Refuge, near Berry Street.

Suggested we write to Council again re refuge near Berry Street.

Moved: Ros Vickery, seconded Noel Bowman. Accepted

Letter from Ann Sudmalis re Grants.

It was noted the date the letter was written and the short notice to closure for applications.

Suggestions for grants were...

New laptop

VRRRA laser printer for economical mass printing

Allowance for consumables (paper and ink say \$1000)

Software upgrade (eg Microsoft Office)

Large LED TV and stand (kept in hall and used for presentations instead of current setup of projector and screen).

It was agreed we put in grant applications for the above.

Moved: Ken Buckley, Dawn Thompson. Accepted

Treasurers Report – see attached

Newsletter

Looking for ideas for our next Newsletter.

Suggestions made were...

Rate Rise

Footpath

NBN plastic tubing rollout.

CBPG Report - attached

Collingwood Beach Preservation Group – Sub Committee Monthly Report

Motion:

The CCB/VRRA adopts the sub committee’s report and that the Minutes including the report with the below recommendations are distributed to All Councilors.

Moved B Pullinger, seconded Noel Bowman. Accepted.

Motion:

The Collingwood Beach Dune Vegetation Management Plan “CBDVMP”.

- The CBPG be invited to send a representative to the Councilor workshop(s) on a listen only basis.
- The Councilor workshop(s) be held at 4.30pm or later.

Moved Noel Bowman, seconded Col Poulter. Unanimously accepted.

Sea Level Rise Policy

Motion:

Request a Councilor briefing from the eminently qualified Dr Howard Brady on the science behind sea level rise and his intense research undertaken in the Jervis Bay and surrounding beaches/cliffs in the Shoalhaven area.

Moved Noel Bowman, seconded Ken Buckley. Accepted.

Natural Resources and Floodplain Committee – vacancy

Motion:

Request the appointment of Dawn Thompson as a VRRA representative to the fill the vacant position.

Moved Robyn Bowman, seconded Tony Vukelic. Accepted.

General Business

Plantation Point Water Filling Station

Congratulations are to be sent to Shoalhaven Water, along with the suggestion we would like another filling station near the Holden Street Boat ramp.

Moved Norm Vickery, seconded Ken Buckley. Accepted.

Round the Bay Path

A Committee member made mention a footpath along Twyford and Vincent Streets is in the “design stage only” for 2017/18.

Noticeboard

Members were reminded of the rules for the community noticeboard.

The meeting closed at 9.22pm