

MINUTES OF NORTH ARM COVE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION GENERAL MEETING
held at the Community Hall at 10.00 am on 11 February 2012

MEETING OPENED at 10.10 am

ATTENDANCE: 28 members and 21 non-member as per attendance sheets plus committee members: Len Yearsley, Susan Carter, Peter Freeman, Kerryan Griffin, Tony Hann, Doug Kohlhoff

APOLOGIES: Louise Harvey, Steph and Jim Hunter

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING held on 10 December 2011 were distributed and accepted

Moved: Susan Carter

Seconded: Kerryan Griffin

Carried

MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES: - nil

CORRESPONDENCE IN

From	Date	Re	Action
Craig Beaumann, MP by email	21 December 2011	Receipt of our letter of support for public toilet – hall site	File: Public toilet
Local Community Insurance Services	5 January 2012	Renewal remittance – payment \$613.21 due on 20 February 2012	To meeting for approval, then payment
Matthew Smith, Emergency Services Regional Officer, Australian Red Cross	17, 25, 31 January 2012 1 February 2012	Provision of Bush fires preparing to leave early booklets – 10 copies and other literature	Distribution to residents requiring assisted evacuation
David Bortfeld, Manager Parks and Recreation	24 January 2012	Thanking us for submission re Recreation Boating Strategy – first draft for public exhibition March 2012	File: Boat ramp
Andrew Brabrook, Community Services Manager, GLC	31 January 2012	Requesting payment for stage 1 community BBQ project –with tax invoice\$7000	File: Hall BBQ
Ivy Stevenson	undated	Suggestion that GLC purchase two deep water frontages for boat ramp – included cheque \$40 for advertising and \$10 membership	Action: Len to respond File: Boat ramp
Barry Young	10 February 2012	Pointing out need for water access to evacuate in fire or other emergency.	Action: Len to respond

			File: Boat ramp
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Motion that the two accounts be accepted and paid

Moved: Len Yearsley

Seconded: Sandy Chappelow

Carried

CORRESPONDENCE OUT

To/From	Date	Re	Action
Craig Beaumann, MP/Len Yearsley	10 December 2011	Public Toilet NAC, seeking support for grant application made by GLC	File: Public Toilet
Glenn Handford, GM GLC/Len Yearsley	4 January 2012	Our submission re Recreation Boating Strategy 2012	File: Boat ramp

Motion that the correspondence be received

Moved: John Alexander

Seconded: Peter Freeman

Carried

REPORTS

TREASURER – presented by Len Yearsley in the absence of Louise Harvey

Interim Treasurer's Report	10 December 2011 - 11 Feb 2012	
Total Balance as of Last Meeting	\$	24,676.94
NACRA	\$	23,844.17
Friends of Fame Cove	\$	823.22
Petty Cash	\$	9.55
Plus		
New Subscriptions	\$	100.00
Interest	\$	136.80
Total Income	\$	236.80
No Expenditure		-
Total for NACRA including FOFC & Petty Cash	\$	24,913.74
Members		87

Motion that the financial report be accepted

FIREWISE - Len Yearsley reported that:

As many residents have expressed a view they intend to evacuate should a serious bushfire threaten North Arm Cove, Guest speaker Police Inspector Mears, a Disaster Management Coordinator, was booked to speak regarding Displan and Understanding Emergency Evacuation but was unable to attend.

Bushfire Survival Booklet .The RFS has supplied 200 of 300 copies for distribution to all NAC residences. With Inspector Darrin Briggs' agreement, the distribution is now to be held over until prior to next fire season because of the current low bush fire risk .

Action: Distribution by Firewise Sub Committee.

Red Cross, the agency responsible for REDiPLAN and the management of those requiring assistance and emergency accommodation, have provided a limited number of booklets for Seniors and general community members. There was no charge for the booklets, although they cost \$2.00 each. They can also be found on line at

www.redcross.org.au/emergency-resources.aspx

Red Cross is happy to provide a speaker prior to next fire season.

A list of residents requiring Assisted Emergency Evacuation is being prepared. To date, 14 residents have been identified and will be visited by a Firewise Committee Member to ensure they have an understanding of the process and a copy of the Seniors Booklet. If they approve their contact details, these will be passed to Police and RFS and held by NACRA Firewise for reference in an emergency .

Stage 2 of NAC burn off, probably to the West and North of the village, has been delayed until weather and programme permits .It may not be until prior to next fire season.

BOAT RAMP AND WATER ACCESS David Bortfeld, GLC Manager Parks and Gardens, addressed the meeting as follows:

The Recreation Boating Strategy was a process to identify the future needs of every GLC community re infrastructures needed. Grants are funded by both NSW Maritime and GLC and there had been a public call for submissions.

Heros Bay – David was commissioned by Council to find out what could be achieved on the site. A Marine Biologist has mapped the sea grass, and drawn plans showing the sea grass bed starts about 87 metres out. Engineer drawn plans show the impact of physical structures. Because of the long tidal movement, a ramp 40 metres long would allow 4.5 hours use each day/night with water depth of 0.3 metres (The Public Works standard is 0.75 metres). David will now take these findings back to Council to ask if Council wants to cost the ramp given the parking difficulties, the limited time of water access and the deep community divide. It is still felt that Heros Beach is the only reserve that has sufficient space for parking, family recreation areas etc..

There was much discussion including questions about the effects of prevailing winds, the problems of retrieving at Shoal Bay, whether the bollards in the plan for Water Street could be removed, and whether the community wants money spent on the boat ramp or whether there is a higher priority.

Arlis Painter advised the meeting that a group of 12 people were seeking legal advice because they were so concerned about being trapped on peninsular in an emergency eg fire. Len responded that cool burns every six years (rolling scheme every two years) help reduce amount of fuel.

David recognised that there is no principle evacuation point and this may be an avenue for getting state funding. Tony Tony Hann asked why Medina Bay which seems to meet the need for deep water and is central to the village is not being considered. David replied that there was a problem of drain water, it is heavily treed, has only a 20 metre frontage and lacks turning space for vehicles. He mentioned it appears to lack the required parking space for six vehicles with trailers.

Reference was made to the letter from Ivy Stevenson (tabled) about buying two blocks with deep water frontage and David responded that Council could not afford it. He said that perhaps some agreement could be made if a developer looked at a new subdivision.

Julie Savage said that all sites had been rejected in the past and that a possible site may need to be found outside the village.

David said that Casuarina is the next best option but it would need 60 m of ramp in a marine park and many people would have difficulty backing that far.

David confirmed that the engineering works to improve drainage at Water Street are going ahead at a cost of \$30 000 but no money had been allocated for beautification engineering.

HALL/BBQ – carried over

FIVE YEAR PLAN – Len Yearsley explained the NACRA Committee has prioritised items on the Five Year Plan into A /B/C. categories and submits this list to the meeting for endorsement and adoption. As a number of projects interlink the committee believes it will be better to move on specific projects or parts of projects as funding opportunities allow, rather than impose a strictly numerical approach.

Nearing completion	Website Hall BBQ area
Priority A	Boat Ramp Fitness Trail linking existing public reserves Children’s playground Outdoor toilet – hall Water Street Development
Priority B	Signage Survey and official naming of all reserves Casuarina Park jetty Master Plan for Hall site and open space for games Bus shelter on Highway
Priority C	Walking track Wide Bay Reserve
Ongoing	Secure community land for future ownership

Jim Peegram asked if there is a way for exterior door to hall toilets to be constructed, but Maureen Kelly said GLC would not allow this because security of the whole building would be compromised.

Motion to promote Casuarina Park jetty to Priority A

Moved: John Altonen

Seconded: Barry Young

Carried

Peter Chappelow asked why the survey and naming of all reserves had not been carried out. Tony Hann explained that this had been raised at a meeting with Lisa Schiff – GLC Town Planner in November 2011, and the reason given was that the survey would be too expensive. David also pointed out that should he advertise the seven access ways, he would be responsible for maintaining them.

Maureen Kelly explained that in the late 1980s the council owned property, Cove Gateway, now Casuarina Park was sold and it was promised that NAC would be reimbursed for the sale.

Motion that this be followed up with Council

Moved: Maureen Kelly
Action: Len

Seconded: Julie Savage

Carried

Motion that road edging and road widening be included – moved by Deidre, seconded John Moore

Moved: Deirdre McCulloch

Seconded: John Moore

Carried

Maureen asked that the interest of the hall committee in the playground and the master plan of the site be noted.

Motion that this meeting adopts the five year plan. John Aaltonen and Jan Carter - carried

Moved: John Aaltonen

Seconded: Jan Carter

Carried

WEBSITE – Doug Kohlhoff reported that

The website was being increasingly accessed, that six workshops for editors had been run and 17 of the 21 editors had now trained.

Tony Hann added that Non-editors can put up information and that the official launch with visiting dignitaries will be held on 25 February at 12 noon. Please RSVP for catering.

ADMIN REVIEW – Tony Hann reported that there were three current issues:

1. Access ways to which had been dealt with by Lisa Schiff
2. The problems of erosion at the waterfront
3. Correct meeting procedure to deal with issues that need to be brought to wider audience.

FAME COVE/NORTH ARM COVE DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL – Len Yearsley

NACRA Committee notes that the NSW Planning Environmental Assessment request issued by the Minister on 23 April 2010 calls for the exhibition of the proposal within two years by the applicant or the applicant should consult further with the Director –General . This date is now around six weeks away.

INCREASE IN COUNCIL FUNDING – Len Yearsley

As a consequence of the NACRA executive meeting with Glenn Handford, GM, GLC and grant applications made by GLC and NAC Tennis Club, NACRA can now report

Council Budget 2011-2012

- \$30 000 water Street drainage upgrade
- \$8 000 Aquatic Survey and investigation of Heros Bay

Additional funding

- \$8 000 Hall BBQ project
- \$4 000 Hall electrical upgrade (evaluation presently being undertaken by GLC)
- \$1 000 Material Hall BBQ seating and planter boxes (requires community working bee)

Grant Applications not yet confirmed

- \$29 000 Public Toilet – Hall site
- \$25 000 tennis club building (application by Tennis Club)

Total \$105 000.

The above are all projects funded or under consideration by GLC and the State Government in the current year. If the Grant Applications are successful, this will be the highest level of financial commitment shown by Local and State Government to North Arm Cove and begins to address the community's long standing need for recreational facilities.

PUBLIC TOILET GRANT APPLICATION – carried over

PROPERTY VALUE DECLINE – Len Yearsley

Recent Lands Department Unimproved Valuations show a decline of 22.5% for property in NAC . This is a massive decline and appears out of step with other NSW Coastal Property where property values are reported as showing steady growth and levelling off in 2011. Len suggested that North Arm Cove property may be less desirable for retirees who are seeking retirement villages.

General Business

Clean Up Australia is on 4 March starting at 8 am. Gloves and bags are provided. Tony Hann asked that areas that need clean up be reported to him. Beauty Point and west of Merriwa Street were mentioned.

School bus to Bulahdelah – carried over.

Beauty Point subdivision Len reported that he had received a call from Len Roberts saying that the Department of Planning and Infrastructure had released a consultation draft on a new subdivision in NAC. Len said there were 2831 non-urban land owners so 1700 of these would have to agree on the subdivision. That is, 60% of land owners controlling 60% of the existing subdivision would need to agree by ballot before the minister would consider re-subdivision. The process could take 10-15 years if agreement can be reached on the cost of development of infrastructure estimated by the Department of Planning to be around \$160 000 a block in the case of North Arm Cove. GLC is having a strategic planning meeting on Tuesday to discuss this topic – Lisa Schiff, Planning Manager GLC, expects to run a meeting in next two weeks or so to describe what is going on to the NAC community. Motion that NACRA form a sub committee to consider the implications for the existing urban subdivision of North Arm Cove of the proposed draft environmental Planning and Assessment Amendment (Subdivision Regulation 2112) and makes submission to Department of Planning and Infrastructure and GLC by the due date.

Moved: Len Yearsley Seconded: Rob Van Zandvliet **Carried**
Interest was indicated by Maria Pickles, Julie Savage and Barry Young.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING –14 April 2012

With no further business, Len declared the meeting closed at 12. 00 noon.
SUBMITTED – Susan Carter

Approved as a true and correct record:

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Len Yearsley (Chairman)

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Date