

**North Arm Cove Residents Association  
Minutes of General Meeting on 9 October 2010**

**Present:** The president, Len Yearsley; acting secretary, Kerryan Griffin and twenty residents (as on attendance sheet).

**Apologies:** Louise Harvey (treasurer), Susan Carter (secretary), Peter Chappelow, Tony Hann, Stephanie and Jim Hunter, Trish Woodrow, Rural Fire Service Inspector Darrin Briggs and Peter Freeman.

The president opened the meeting at 10.10am and thanked Bruce Brown for accepting new memberships at the door.

**Minutes**

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the meeting on 28 September 2010, as circulated, be confirmed as a correct record of the proceedings (*John Alton/Deidre McCulloch*).

**President's report**

**AGM - Election of officers:** President, Len Yearsley; vice-president, Peter Chappelow; secretary, Susan Carter; and treasurer, Louise Harvey

Office Bearers: Stephanie Hunter, Jerry Kilby, Tony Hann, Kerryan Griffin.

**2. Sub-committees:**

**Fame Cove:** Peter Chappelow (<sup>co-ord.</sup> chairman), Len Yearsley, Tony Hann, Peter Freeman, Nigel Tully and Pat Brennan.

**Boat Ramp:** Peter Chappelow (co-ordinator), Len Yearsley and Stephanie Hunter.

**Aged Care and General Community Facilities:** Kerryan Griffin (co-ordinator) and Stephanie Hunter.

**NACRA Administration Review:** Tony Hann, Len Yearsley, Louise Harvey and Susan Carter.

**Fire wise Group:** Len Yearsley (co-ordinator) and Stephanie Hunter, RFS liaison local brigade.

**Aquaculture:** Janine Reid.

**Environmental:** Peter Chappelow.

**Signatories for bank account:** Louise Harvey, Len Yearsley and Stephanie Hunter

**3. Burn-off and Fire wise**

**Burn-off.** This is scheduled for 16 October 2010. Ten brigades with 20 trucks and 120 volunteer firefighters will take part and complete the burn-off in one day. The RFS will have its own communication and catering centre. Access to and from the community will not be affected. The burn-off is weather dependant. Once final confirmation has been given (Wed/ Thurs), notices will be distributed by the fire wise group.

**Fire wise.** By invitation, the president attended a NAC fire brigade meeting to clarify the role of the Fire wise group. NACRA and Fire wise have offered NAC RFS logistical support in the event of a major incident including catering and accommodation. The president said this was well received by the brigade and members. Darrin Briggs has agreed to speak to the next general meeting on 11 December.

**4. Boat ramp/ Water access:**

Plans have been on display for Water Street and Casuarina Park, and residents notified. Comments or inquiries should go to the council, not to NACRA. Comments to be made by 26 November 2010.

The NACRA Boat ramp committee will make its own report to Council proposing that a jetty could be more centrally located to allow greater buffer for neighbours to the south; that a jetty should have a pontoon end and be sufficiently robust to enable vessels to load and off load passengers and be able to operate at low tide. Heros beach may have been surveyed.

The president said NACRA would start to consider looking at external funding to aid the developer projects. He said he would attend the Council's 355 committee meeting at Hawks Nest to be chaired by GLC Parks and Reserves Manager, David Bortfeld.

**5. Fame Cove:** Thanks to Peter Freeman, an ongoing campaign of letter writing is continuing; 60 letters have been sent to state and federal politicians, to NSW Government Departments and Great Lakes councillors. The president said 12 replies had been received. Indicators are that no submission from the developer will be made until mid 2011. NACRA was on the mailing list for notification and a response was required within 30 days. The possibility has been raised that the developer might include an eight-story hotel facing the Cove, and an eco-tourism facility as a trade off for not affecting Fame Cove.

**6. Insurances:** Andrew Braybrook (GLC Manager) is looking into an insurance policy that could cover a group of Incorporated Not For Profit community groups. He has requested details of Cove usage of council facilities which require insurance. Public liability is a requirement for any grant project i.e. tennis court and hall extension projects. NACRA is awaiting a response.

**7. Community Centre extension.** A \$30,000 grant application was made to NSW Govt. for a pergola of which \$20,000 is dedicated to materials. There is no response yet. The matter is in the hands of the Hall Committee.

**8. Kangaroo/Wallaby Road Kill.** Kerryan Griffin has solicited the help of residents and Julie Savage to prepare a map of kangaroo/wallaby road-kill hot spots to decide the best sites for wildlife warning signs. A map/report will be forward to the committee for the next meeting.

#### Treasurer's Report

Total balance as of last meeting	\$3154.15
Total income	\$ 199.16
Total expenditure	\$ 73.00
Balance	\$3280.31

**RESOLVED:** That the Treasurer's report be accepted (*Bruce Brown/Maureen Kelly*)

#### Correspondence In.

From	Date	Re	Action
Fiona Beynon for Peter Garrett, Minister of the Environment, Water, Heritage and	11 August 2010	Advising that the dept will liaise with the developer re matters of national environmental significance under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 and inviting comments on <a href="http://www.environment.gov.au/epbc/notices/epbc-help.html#comment">www.environment.gov.au/epbc/notices/epbc-help.html#comment</a> .	Passed to Tony Hann, for Fame Cove Sub-committee 1008

the Arts Max Haste, Manager Port Stephens – Great Lakes Marine Park	12 August 2010	Confirming that the Marine Parks Authority had registered our interest with Dept of Planning to ensure the development application for Fame Cove is forwarded to Marine Parks Authority for comment.	Passed to Tony Hann, for Fame Cove Sub-committee 100825
Craig Baumann, Member for Port Stephens	11 August 2010	Advising that the development application is unlikely to be advertised for community comment before the State Election on 26 March 2011.	Passed to Tony Hann, for Fame Cove Sub-committee 100825
Sunne printing Services	12 August 2010	Brochure re flyers etc	FILE: after meeting 101009
Brett Nudd, A/director N E Environment Protection and Regulation	30 August 2010	DECCW will provide comments to the Dept of Planning on environment protection, biodiversity, threatened species and Aboriginal heritage issues	Passed to Tony Hann, for Fame Cove Sub-committee 100910
Catherine Cusack, Shadow Minister for Climate Change and environment Sustainability	September 2010	Suggesting NACRA contact Minister for Planning and requesting NACRA advise Ms Cusack of any government response.	Passed to Tony Hann, for Fame Cove Sub-committee 100910
Tony Kelly, Minister for planning	8 September 2010	Re local consultation – meeting with Mr Chris Wilson, Director Major Projects Assessment. Further enquiries to be thru Mark Schofield, Development Assessment of Dept of Planning	Passed to Len Yearsley 100927

From		Date	Regarding
Michelle Dumazel	NSW Maritime	13 Aug 10	Fame Cove
Brett Nudd	Assistant Director, NE. NSW Govt dept of Environment Climate Change and Water	30 Aug 10	
Hon Catherine Cusack	Shadow Minister for Climate Change and Environmental sustainability	31 Aug 10	“
Tony Kelly MLC	Minister for Planning NSW Govt.		
Steve Dunn	Chief Executive, NSW Maritime	21 Sept 10	
George Davey	Deputy Director-General Primary Industries NSW Govt.	22 Sept 10	“

## **General Business**

### **1. Grant applications**

- a. To Department Ageing Disability and Home Care for a \$500 grant for a Seniors Week project in 2011 to conduct a ‘Senior Safe’ tennis coaching clinic.
- b. Community Assistance Grant. DA 412/2007 is still not completed. \$6,352.00 A delay arose because the association’s name on the Australian Business register had not been

changed from its former title which included 'progress association' to become 'residents association'. Now resolved.

2. **Community survey.** The committee will ask residents for their views on community priorities and wish lists. The Great Lakes Council recommends this as it helps with the reallocation of funds. Also NACRA's administrative processes will be reviewed for compliance with Department of Fair Trading Model Rules under which the association operates.
3. **Membership drive and fundraiser.** The president said the committee was considering the need for another membership drive and fundraiser event (raffles or a wine tasting dinner similar to the event held last year).
4. **GLC meeting luncheon.** In order to help lift NAC's profile and to advertise the dynamic nature of the Cove the president suggested that NACRA, in association with the Hall Committee, host a meeting/luncheon with key members of the council. To ensure NACRA's ongoing relationship with Council executives.
5. **Aquaculture report.** Janine Reid reported "...oyster production in Port Stephens is down by 14%. compared with other NSW sites. NAC is deemed too polluted for oysters and the leases have recently been used as 'sprats' for pearls. ...It is unlikely that the condition of the oyster leases in North Arm Cove will improve whilst the industry is in decline. After a flurry of activity to rectify the poor condition of the leases when they were due for renewal a few years ago, the leases are again slowly starting to become overgrown and derelict. The Oyster Industry Sustainable Aquaculture Strategy is due for review next year and we will be campaigning to have leases that have not been used for several years removed as Priority areas".
6. **Tennis court.** Mick Nolan drew attention to a trip hazard caused by the edge of the concrete pad beneath the basketball hoop by the tennis court. He asked for an extension to that pad. He also asked what progress was being made on erecting a shelter shed for the benefit of the tennis players. The president said these were matters for the tennis club committee. Trish Peters (tennis treasurer) suggested the tennis secretary, Carol Duffy, could write a letter to the management committee (a GL Council 355 committee) to check on the situation about the provision of a shelter.
7. **Trail bikes and vandals.** Concerns were raised about the nuisance caused by an increase in the use of unregistered trail bikes on tracks and roads in and around the village. Also, the meeting was informed that the newly erected fire-danger sign had been vandalised. Additionally, there had been an increase in the amount of rubbish being dumped.  
**RESOLVED:** That a letter be written to the police notifying them of the unlawful bike activity. (*Nigel Tully/Bruce Brown*).
8. **Melbourne Cup Day, Tuesday, 2 November:** Management committee secretary Maureen Kelly announced that a Cup Day event, starting at 11.30 am, would be held in the hall. This year the televised race would be received via a digital antenna and shown on the big screen.

The meeting closed at 11:15 am.

The next general meeting is to be held at the Community hall on 11 December 2010.

SUBMITTED – Kerryan Griffin (Acting Secretary)

Approved as a true and correct record:

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Len Yearsley (Chair)

.....  
Date



Len Yearsley &lt;lenyearsley@gmail.com&gt;

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## Aquaculture Report

1 message

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Janine Reid <janinereid@optusnet.com.au>  
To: Len Yearsley <lenyearsley@gmail.com>  
Cc: Maureen Kelly <thecovenews@exemail.com.au>

Tue, Sep 28, 2010 at 4:15

### Aquaculture Report- October 2010

The NSW Aquaculture Report for 2008-2009 has been released. It confirms what we already know from looking at the condition of the oyster leases in North Arm Cove, in that production in Port Stephens is falling. The report shows that in Port Stephens, Sydney rock oyster production fell by 2.7% and Pacific oyster production by 6.7%.

The overall trend in Port Stephens is a decline in production. Production in 2008/2009 is 14% down on the 10 year average. The NSW Oyster Industry Sustainable Aquaculture Strategy was supposed to improve conditions for oyster farming, but since the introduction of the strategy in 2006, production has fallen 15% in Port Stephens, but has been reasonably static statewide. Port Stephens has been affected by poor water quality at Tilligery Creek and Tea Gardens, but it seems unlikely that any losses in production have been taken up by other areas in the Port.

Statewide, production increased by 3% in 2008/2009, probably due to the recovery from disease in the Hawkesbury. This brought the industry back to the 06/07 production level. The value of the industry also rose due to a 3% rise in the farm gate price. The Oyster Industry Sustainable Aquaculture Strategy envisioned a sustainable production of 120,000 bags of premium oysters by 2013. The total NSW production in 2008/2009 was 56,000 bags, less than half the envisaged production.

It is unlikely that the condition of the oyster leases in North Arm Cove will improve whilst the industry is in decline. After a flurry of activity to rectify the poor condition of the leases when they were due for renewal a few years ago, the leases are again slowly starting to become overgrown and derelict. The Oyster Industry Sustainable Aquaculture Strategy is due for review next year and we will be campaigning to have leases that have not been used for several years removed as Priority areas.

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North Arm Cove Residents Association Interim  
Treasurers Report

15th August -  
9th October

at July 2010 -  
14th August

Total Balance as of last meeting	\$	3,044.60	3,154.15
Friends of Fame Cove	\$	868.22	868.22
Balance less Fame Cove	\$	2,176.38	2,285.93
Petty Cash	\$	9.55	9.55

*Plus*

New Subscriptions	\$	100.00	170.00
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Donations

Maps / OTHER			
Fundraising			
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>199.16</b>

*Less Expenditure*

Insurance	\$	-	
General	\$	-	
CHEQUE BOOK REBATE			28.90
INTEREST ON BANK ACC.			0.26
FAIR TRADING FEE			48.00
ECC NETWORK M/SHIP			25.00

<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>73.00</b>
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<b>Total for NACRA including FOFC</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>3,144.60</b>	<b>3,270.76</b>
<b>Total for NACRA including FOFC and Petty Cash</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>3,154.15</b>	<b>3,280.31</b>