

NORTH ARM COVE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION GENERAL MEETING

held at the Community Hall, Saturday 8 June 2013 commencing 10.05am.

Present: 11 Members and 7 non members including committee members Stephanie Hunter, Doug Kohlhoff, Kath Kohlhoff, Barry Young, Annette Searle

Apologies: Lawrie Searle, Len Yearsley, Tony Hann, Jim Hunter, and Maureen Kelly

Minutes of last meeting: Moved *Annette Searle* seconded *Doug Kohlhoff* that the minutes of the meeting of 13/4/2013 be confirmed. Carried.

1.0 Business arising from General Meeting 13/4/2013

- a) Insurance: Following an email to GLC Kath Kohlhoff has spoken to Andrew Braybrook who advised that Council does not cover local groups such as the Residents Association and that this is "not a council function". Eight or nine years ago they tried to get local groups to form a larger group to reduce insurance, with no success.
- b) Given the time span and large increase in insurance rates (and the fact that a number of smaller associations have closed in recent years), Council are prepared to try again to form a larger group. Andrew Braybrook has requested Lindie Hepple (Community Services Co-ordinator) to follow up.

2. Motions on Notice

Nil

3. Correspondence

Insurance:

May: email from Kath Kohlhoff to Andrew Braybrook GLC re insurance.

May: Email reply from Andrew Braybrook re insurance.

Road Signs and road maintenance

April: emails to and from Tony Hann and Wade Holmes re street signage

April: email to Darrin Briggs RFS requesting he write to council requesting that they undertake maintenance of the fire trails which will be incorporated into the community protection plan for North Arm Cove. (No response as yet).

Grants:

1/5/13 From Great Lakes Council confirming successful application for Community Grant Program with forms to be signed.

Email from Community Building Partnerships confirming grant of \$25,000.

Miscellaneous:

May: EcoNetwork re fees due (already paid).

Email from Port Stephens Eco Network confirming results of Forum with State Parliamentarians on the new planning and development legislation.

Moved Doug Kohlhoff seconded Barry Young that the correspondence be accepted. Carried

3.1 Business arising from correspondence:

Stephanie Hunter referred to the correspondence from Port Stephens Eco Network and the new planning and development legislation. There is some concern with this legislation and we are encouraged to read the summary and prepare a submission. Stephanie is to put a summary of the new legislation on North Arm Cove website and how you can take action. Maria asked what the time frame is for feedback. Stephanie advised that this is not mentioned in the correspondence from Council. We are urged to send a "Vote A Gram" or write to the local MP or to the media.

4.0 Reports

4.1 Treasurer

NACRA Income To 31 May		Expenditure To 31 May	
Member subscriptions	30.00	EcoNetwork (FoFC)	25.00
Website sponsorship	300.00	Cheque Book	4.50
Interest	10.49		
Total Income	340.49	Total Expend.	29.50

Balances	As at 31 Mar	To 30 May
NACRA	5311.07	5647.06
Friends of Fame Cove	775.22	750.22
Petty Cash		
Total	6086.29	6397.28
Credit Union	5793.40	6454.25
Awaiting deposit	435	0.00
Less unres chqs	-142.11	-56.97
Total	6086.29	6397.28

68 financial members at 31 May 2013
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Kath Kohlhoff mentioned that end of financial year coming up and membership fees due by end of June.

Moved Kath Kohlhoff seconded Barry Young that the treasurer's report be accepted. Carried

4.2 Social Club

The social scheduled for 24 May was once again cancelled due to bad weather. A get together and games night was planned for Friday 28 June, to be held in the hall where weather is not an issue however this date is already booked.

5. OTHER REPORTS:

5.1 Clean Up Australia

Nothing to report.

5.2 Draft GLC LEP 2012

No news from the GLC on the next stages for approval.

5.2 Foreshore Erosion

Still no response from Council. Tony Hann has asked Lisa Schiff to call him but no reply.

5.4 Website

Nothing to report

5.5 Boat ramp and jetty

The Boat Ramp and Water Access Committee met with David Bortfeld from GLC in May to discuss the \$25,000 Community Building Partnership Grant received for waterfront amenity improvements at Water Street and Casuarina Park. David indicated that Council would provide support in the implementation of the Grant. The requisite paperwork to obtain the grant funds has been completed so hopefully, the funds will be in our account very soon. We have until 31 March 2014 to complete this project.

Barry Young requested information on what the \$25,000 covered and Stephanie read out full details of the grant supplied by Council.

Maria Pickles said boat racks at Water Street are mainly used by Cove residents and suggested they would be happy to volunteer for this project. Volunteers will be called to help with planting landscape etc.

5.6 Status of road map & signage

The village map proposal is in the hands of GLC's Richard Old, who paid us a visit on 12 April. He agreed to pursue our suggestion of placing the sign on the LHS of Market Street, just past the Uralla Street junction. The Council will erect our map once approvals are given. He has also offered to replace the present Fire Brigade sign with a new sign that embodies sufficient information to allow other signage at that junction to be removed. He promised to start

progress on the project week commencing 20 May.

Meanwhile, Council has refused to add two additional signs in Booral Street directing traffic into Eastslope Way and Cove Boulevard (plus Point Circuit, Baromee Way and the Esplanade east). The Council has also refused our request to review safety aspects of traffic movement at the Carrington Road junction with North Arm Cove road.

Richard Olds emailed Stephanie during the week to say that he has not forgotten us and will get back shortly (the usual council response). Stephanie will keep on to this.

5.7 Fame Cove

No report submitted

5.8 Grant applications

Doug reported grant application opening soon for Better Boating, which will close 1st week of August. Things that fall into this category are dinghy-launching facilities at Water Street and Casuarina. Suggest we submit a grant for improving the capacity to launch small dinghies at these two spots. Stephanie asked the meeting if they would like to proceed with this grant submission.

Barry Young moved and John Aaltonen seconded that a Better Boating grant be applied for. Carried.

Maria Pickles commented that if we have two launching areas, people need to be aware of where channels and seagrass beds are as in summer people come up across oyster leases and sea grasses with their outboard motors. Channel markers should be considered. Barry Young suggested we apply to Council Aquaculture department to have poles removed from oyster leases. Stephanie Hunter to contact Janine Reid and her reply will be posted online.

5.9 Firewise

Nothing to report

6.0 General Business

6.1 Nominations for office bearers, next AGM. All positions on the committee will be declared vacant. Stephanie called for nominees for these positions. Nomination forms will be posted on the website shortly.

6.2 Visit to North Arm Cove by Liberal/Labor politicians Arlys Baker has organised for Bob Baldwin to come and spend some time with North Arm Cove residents before the next election and discuss matters with residents. As we did in 2010, we will be inviting all major party candidates to address Cove residents if they wish, at a General Meeting in August

6.3 NOTA – still putting aside 50 copies of paper for Cove residents each week, but they are not being collected. Ralf Schirk has kindly offered to pick up copies of Nota every week and leave at the community hall for residents.

6.4 Heros Beach and Community Centre. The Heros Beach draft management plan has been prepared and is open for comment until 20/6. Stephanie Hunter urged everyone to comment and to write to council with any concerns or comments. The two options provided are not 'hard and fast' and Council will be open to feedback and suggestions from residents.

Stephanie also noted that it was important that individual comments be submitted, as any response from the Residents Association would be considered as single submission and not representative of individual views. Jim Pegram queried this and said any recommendations should come from the Residents Association based on members voting on the final elements for the plan.

Discussion took place on the Heros Beach plan with Julie Savage and some other residents concerned about the existing plan and its merits. Julie Savage stated that Council had prepared the Management Plan at her request, after she had addressed a Council meeting. Stephanie Hunter reiterated the need for residents to pass their concerns to Council. Stephanie also mentioned that the plans were based on community feedback from the recent survey.

Julie Savage moved that the Residents Association prepare a draft management plan to Council for proposed Heros Bay development in conjunction with discussion by members. Seconded Barry Young. Motion withdrawn.

Susan Carter pointed out that council have asked for individual submissions to counteract any divisiveness in the community.

Ken Duffy raised the question of previous plans that had been approved by Council that had not gone ahead because of the Residents Association wishing to pursue their own agenda.

Stephanie Hunter advised that there was, as yet, no Council Plan for the Community Centre site. In the case of Heros Beach, Council had bypassed the Residents Association, who had no involvement in the survey that Council requested be placed on the community website.

Ralf Schirk asked how projects are selected for funding. Doug Kohlhoff responded that grants were applied for on the basis of what was on the wish list and/or had Council planning approval. We applied for a CBP grant for Water Street and Casuarina Park because plans for these areas were prepared by Council several years ago and the implementation of these plans had been placed very high on the community's wish list in the survey undertaken in the second half of 2012.

Stephanie Hunter advised that in the case of Heros Beach, it is the only accessible water area in the Cove, used by families and visitors and it does need improvement/facilities. The survey certainly confirmed that residents want improvements. Council is planning work on all reserves in North Arm Cove including the community centre. For this community the most utilised area is Heros Beach and it is certainly in need of amenities.

Barry Young suggested that the 355 committee be urged to approach Council re plans for the community centre site. These plans include play and sporting areas. Barry suggested the Residents Association make a representation to Bob Baldwin during his visit to North Arm Cove for funds for play equipment.

Following discussion of possible locations for playground equipment, Kath Kohlhoff suggested we write to Council requesting that the management plan for the Community Centre site be completed.

Julie Savage moved a motion that the Residents Association writes to council recommending that development plans for community centre and Heros Bay be prepared in conjunction with each other, as each area will be affected. Motion withdrawn.

Susan Carter noted that all the issues under discussion are the result of a wish list submitted to Council. She also reminded the meeting that copies of previous years Residents Association minutes are available at the library and they detail what has been the subject of community grant submissions in the past.

Susan Carter moved a motion that the Residents Association re visits the wish list at a forthcoming meeting and that there be a standing resolution that any new committee review the wish list on a regular basis. Seconded Barry Young. Carried.

6.5 Street Lighting. Barry Young raised the issue of Street lighting (or lack of it) and asked if we should apply to Council for more lighting. Stephanie suggested both Residents Association and 355 committee pursue this issue.

6.6 Garden Working Bee. Maria Pickles called for volunteers for a working bee on 29 June to clear Lantana and Bitou Bush from the area around the hall and community garden.

Meeting closed at 11.40 am

1. Next Meeting

Next Executive Meeting – date to be advised

Next AGM and General Meeting Saturday 10 August commencing 10.00am at the Community Hall.

The AGM and election of Committee Members will be held at 10am **on 10 August 2013** at the North Arm Cove Community Hall. The general meeting will be held following the AGM. Nomination forms will be available online and in the Cove News July edition.

Approved as a true and correct record

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Stephanie Hunter (Chairperson)

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Date