

**NORTH ARM COVE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION GENERAL MEETING**  
**Community Hall, Saturday 12 October 2013 commencing 10.00am**

**Present:** Eleven members and one non member including Stephanie Hunter (Chair), Kath Kohlhoff, Doug Kohlhoff, Annette Searle

**Apologies:** Barry Young, Len Yearsley, Lawrie Searle, Jim Hunter, Janine Reid, Pat Brennan

**Minutes of last meeting:**

*Moved Doug Kohlhoff that the minutes of meeting on 10/8/2013 be accepted. Seconded Annette Searle. Carried*

**Business arising from General Meeting:**

At the last meeting a motion was moved to invite Great Lakes Council members to a special meeting of the Residents Association to discuss communication concerns with local council. Glenn Handford was to be included in this meeting, however he has been overseas. He is now back and Stephanie Hunter is waiting to hear back from him re a suitable date for this meeting.

A similar meeting was held last year with Council and some issues still remain unresolved. Tony Hann expressed concern that the meeting would need to be tightly controlled. Stephanie said that the meetings would include unresolved issues. Peter Chappelow pointed out we will only get a limited number of councillors and that it might be better to raise these issues at a Council Meeting. Alternatively, a meeting could be held immediately following the Council meeting. Stephanie Hunter stated that you are only allowed 3 minutes presentation time at Council meetings (this is to be confirmed). Bob Reid said we should give the Council a prior agenda, plus a list of unresolved issues. NACRA desired outcomes should be on this list.

*As an amendment to the previous resolution, Peter Chappelow moved that members of the Executive attend a council meeting to address unresolved issues. Seconded Maureen Kelly, Carried.*

**1. Motions on Notice**

nil

**2. Correspondence**

Council:

- 24/8 email from David Bortfeld re Water Street/Casuarina redevelopment
- 29/8 email to David Bortfeld re dinghies at Water Street
- 30/8 email from James Condie GLC re road repairs to Ridgeway/Promontory Way
- 3/9 email from Dianne Denton GLC re use of hall for meetings FOC
- 12/9 email to Glenn Handford GLC re meeting with councillors
- 17/9 follow up email to Glenn Handford re above
- 26/9 email to Anne Gambrill GLC re meeting with councillors
- 1/10 email to Craig Baumann re changes to planning legislation
- 1/10 email follow up to Glenn Handford re meeting with councillors.
- 3/10 email from Craig Baumann's office acknowledging email of 1/10
- 10/10 email to Ron Hartley re storm water and drainage issues

Miscellaneous:

- 2/9 letter to Jim Pegram with copy of email from James Condie re road repairs.
- August 2013: letter to Darrin Briggs RFS re community protection plan.
- 9/10 emails to and from Doug Kohlhoff and Maria Pickles re Dinghy Rack design.
- 10/10 email from Janine Reid re OISAS review.

*Moved Tony Hann that correspondence be accepted, seconded Bob Reid. Carried.*

## Reports

### 3.1 Treasurer

| <b>Treasurer's Report</b>         |                 |                 |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>from 1/8/2013 to 30/9/2013</b> |                 |                 |
| <b>Balances</b>                   | <b>Opening</b>  | <b>Closing</b>  |
| Friends of Fame Cove              | 750.22          | 750.22          |
| NACRA                             | 3720.88         | 4136.91         |
| Proj Map Sign                     | 2000.00         | 2000.00         |
| Proj Waterfront Amen              | 25000.00        | 25000.00        |
| Website cost provision            | 140.00          | 95.00           |
|                                   | <b>31611.10</b> | <b>31982.13</b> |
| Companion Credit U                | 31578.07        | 32064.1         |
| Unpresented Cheques               | -56.97          | -81.97          |
| Undeposited Funds                 | 90              | 0               |
| <b>Total</b>                      | <b>31611.10</b> | <b>31982.13</b> |

  

| <b>Plus Income to 30 Sep</b> |               |
|------------------------------|---------------|
| Interest                     | 75.48         |
| Member subscriptions         | 405.00        |
| Social/Fund Raising          | 213.80        |
| <b>Total Income</b>          | <b>694.28</b> |

  

| <b>Less Expenditure to 30 Sep</b> |               |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| Fair Trading                      | 52.00         |
| Hall Hire                         | 127.00        |
| Social function                   | 81.00         |
| Website fees                      | 45.00         |
| Gen. expense NACRA                | 18.25         |
| <b>Total Expenditure</b>          | <b>323.25</b> |

  

|                          |   |                 |
|--------------------------|---|-----------------|
| <b>Closing Balance</b>   | = | <b>31982.13</b> |
| <b>Financial members</b> | = | <b>45 (82)</b>  |

Those members who have not yet renewed are reminded that membership fees are now overdue.

Tony queried the position re insurance and Kath advised that she has still not heard back from Council as yet and is following this up.

*Moved Kath Kohlhoff that the Treasurers report be accepted seconded Annette Searle. Carried.*

### 3.2 Social Club

The next social evening is Friday 18 October with an "Oktoberfest" theme.

### 3.3 Website – nothing to report

## 4. Other Reports

### 4.1 Firewise

Kelly McLeod from the RFS attended the meeting and spoke on recent fire incidents in the Great Lakes area. All local brigades were involved plus outside brigades. Kelly has recently visited almost all Cove residents and followed up on the Bushfire Survival plans distributed by the Firewise subcommittee.

Kelly is happy to provide advice to any concerned residents. If you are worried about neighbouring properties, write to RFS Fire Control, Tuncurry or use the on-line form and they will send an inspector. Limited hazard reduction burns have been done at North Arm Cove and Carrington. The Community Protection Plan is not complete, and this is now a high priority. Stephanie asked if there was still information to come from the North Arm Cove Brigade.

Stephanie raised concerns about there being only one road out and asked Kelly whether it was possible to have a fire trail road put into suitable condition to use as a second escape route. Kelly pointed out this is a council concern, not RFS. Further slashing has now been done on the Ridgeway. Slashing has also been done around containment lines. Doug mentioned that clearing has been done under electricity lines. Maureen Kelly raised the issue

of people not being aware of hazard reduction burns and Kelly said a notice would be put on the fire board in future, also on the community message board. If people are concerned, Kelly requested they ring Triple 0. In case of fire, ALWAYS ring Triple 0.

Stephanie asked what is happening with the emergency evacuation list and Kelly replied that it was to be given to the local emergency management committee. Stephanie thanked Kelly for coming to the meeting.

RFS was asked for information that can be put on website re fire safety this year.

#### **4.2 Road map project**

Our local sign writer, John Knight, has provided a draft design for our comment and work is proceeding. A copy was tabled for members to view after the meeting. In response to a query from Tony Hann, Stephanie Hunter replied that the sign would comply with the Council standard format.

#### **4.3 Dinghy rack project**

Planning and preparatory work for this project is now well under way. Water Street will be done first. Residents in Water Street have raised some concerns and the Residents Association are addressing these.

#### **4.4 Grant applications**

Waiting to hear from Better Boating and Community Building Partnerships re our current applications.

**4.5 Boat ramp and jetty/Medina Bay** – nothing to report however David Bortfeld advised land survey is to be done on Medina Bay.

#### **4.6 Heros Beach**

A report with recommendations regarding a Management Plan for Heros Bay Reserve has not yet been placed before Council.

#### **4.7 Fame Cove**

Council has approved Fame Cove development (details available on website). The Fame Cove Committee is Len Yearsley (Chairman), Tony Hann, Pat Brennan, Nigel Tully, Pete Freeman, Peter Chappelow. Stephanie advised that some changes have been made to the development and this is a direct result of concerns raised by the Fame Cove Committee.

#### **4.8 Aquaculture**

Bob Reid, representing Janine Reid presented details of the 2013 OISAS Review, which is available for public comment until 5 November.

The OISAS strategy was developed in 2006 with the goal of increasing oyster production in NSW. In fact it has declined by two thirds, particularly in the Port Stephens area where production has decreased considerably. OISAS are now asking for public comments on the 2013 Draft OISAS review. There are two areas in North Arm Cove close to residential areas and one of these has not been worked for around 20 years. OISAS want to maintain priority zoning for these areas and this could impact on any proposed jetty construction. To facilitate the opportunity to remove these leases in the future, The Community needs to lobby to not have them zoned as priority leases.

Residents are encouraged to lodge submissions declaring that as leases not being worked, they should not be given priority. NACRA should prepare a similar submission. Tony Hann pointed out that there are high coliform levels in the Cove and this may have an impact on any renovation of existing leases. Tony is happy to work with Janine Reid on this issue.

Doug Kohlhoff suggested that NACRA write to council with reference to their 2011 plan to not have any oyster leases within 50 metres of waterside facilities/jetties.

Stephanie thanked Bob for presenting the OISAS information.

#### **4.8 Hall Committee**

The walking/cycle Pathway project is under way and plans are being passed on to Council. The outside toilet is now complete and ready for use. Maureen Kelly advised that Council have not put a lock on the toilet so it is currently accessible to the general public, however a padlock has been installed on the toilet roll holder. A sensor light will also be installed.

Maureen Kelly reminded everyone about Melbourne Cup Day.

### **5. General Business**

#### **5.1 Five year plan:**

As proposed at the August meeting a survey to review the items that should be on our five year plan is now being compiled. Members are invited to suggest items for inclusion on this survey. Most responses last time came via the website, so the survey will be set up online.

#### **5.2 Stormwater/Drainage**

NACRA's many previous submissions on stormwater drainage do not appear to have been incorporated into current planning. A recent meeting arranged by Council addressed some of these concerns, however at this meeting it was apparent that Council seemed unaware of problem areas around Eastslope Way and Merriwa Boulevard and this is to be taken up with Council. To tackle the problem of rock formations, Council would look at putting stormwater drains above ground.

Council have supplied large format plans that residents can comment on and these plans will be available for six weeks for residents to view. Tony Hann suggested a couple of open sessions at the hall where residents can view the plans. This information should be put on the website and on the noticeboard. Peter Chappelow suggested plans be mounted in the window facing the outside for people to view. Maureen Kelly will also email residents who raised the issue. The plans will be put on display in the Library for residents to view in Library hours (Saturdays 10am to noon).

#### **5.3 Sub Committees**

After the Annual General Meeting, the NACRA sub-committees were reviewed. Some are ongoing and some set up to handle specific issues. At present there are nine, which is a fairly heavy workload for six committee members. There is still a vacancy on the committee that needs to be filled as a matter of priority. Current sub-committees are:

***Fame Cove \* Boat Ramp \* Website \* Aquaculture \* Firewise \* Social \* Village Map \* Water Street and Casuarina \* Administrative issues***

#### **5.4 Proposed Abalone Farm**

Stephanie Hunter will contact Peter Economos and ask if he wishes to speak about a proposed Abalone Farm near Pindimar at a future general meeting. Although this is a land based farm, effluent will run off into north side of Port Stephens.

**Meeting closed at 11.10am**

### **6. Next General Meeting – Saturday 14/12/13**

Submitted: Annette Searle

Approved as a true and correct record:

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Stephanie Hunter, Chairman

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Date