



Worimi Country



NACCAi

Ordinary General Meeting

13 MAY 2023

AGENDA

- Open Meeting
- Apologies
- Previous minutes – Comments
- Previous minutes Endorsement
- Agenda – Comments
- Attendees focus or points of interest for discussion in meeting
- Opening comments from floor

COMPLIANCE ISSUES

Asbestos dumping x2 – Bus zone and on trail

- 13/2/23 BR had a phone call from an officer from Newcastle EPA Office.
- They are investigating the dumping.
- She advised the **Somerset Ave site** appeared to be on the Council road reserve, and thus Council would have the responsibility to have it removed.
- I told her that this road was privately owned, that being the case she said the landowner would be responsible.
- Similar situation for the **Allandale Ave site**.
- Next steps for the EPA are to work out exactly where the dumps are, determine who the landowners are, and then issue clean up notices.



COMPLIANCE ISSUES

Unlawful Development

- BR had meeting with Gary Mead from MCC re unlawful developments was held 2/3/23 at Councils Taree office.
- GM invited to meet at NAC and show him some of the problems, but he declined and said he would do his own inspection beforehand.
- He also advised he would send him a dossier showing examples of the problems
- As well as providing examples B.R. sent a strong message on our dissatisfaction.
- Dossier and with the general manager and councillors and the ombudsman if BR doesn't get a positive response.
- Bob discussed following at meeting



COMPLIANCE ISSUES (continued)

Bob discussed following at meeting with Gary Mead MCC Exc Manger Liveability and Sustainable Development)

1. What can be done to get compliance and enforcement actions in North Arm Cove back on track, with concrete action being taken to have unlawful developments removed.
2. The results of the compliance audit undertaken by the compliance department, and the actions arising from that audit.
3. The situation with colorbond and industrial mesh fences. We have been advising the compliance department that these are unlawful. Adam Matlawski states that they are lawful, but will not provide any legal basis for this decision, despite us requesting it to be legally reviewed a number of times.
4. What actions Council is taking or planning to take to educate and inform landowners on what development is unlawful.
5. The problems with rubbish dumping on the southern end of Gooreengi Rd where it joins the Pacific Highway.
6. This problem is also escalating with more rubbish being dumped. Some months ago I was told by a Council ranger that this land was Council land and that a gate had been requested to prevent access. This issue has been resolved in last few weeks as shown on website

COMPLIANCE ISSUES (continued)

Actions Agreed at the meeting BR and Gary Mead following five actions:

1. Council would continue to work on updating the non-urban land section on its website – it is quite out of date and does not provide good guidance on what is permitted/not permitted. We would be happy to assist with this project
2. You would consider a mail out to paper subdivision landowners on what is permissible/not permissible.
3. For the moment you would focus compliance actions on a small number of high-visibility developments, and you would ask Brad Ferguson to identify these developments for consideration.
4. With regard to the rubbish dumping on the Gooreengi Rd extension, a locked gate needs to be installed, but you need to make sure that the RFS has a key and there is an alternate exit for the two properties further down the highway, and perhaps they should have keys for the locked gate as well.
5. You would get clarification on the permissibility of colorbond and mesh fences under the Exempt and Complying Development SEPP. have provided Adam Matlawski with detailed advice on this.

COMPLIANCE ISSUES (continued)

Gary Mead - email reply

Hi Bob, each of the actions we discussed, website, mail out install of gate and compliance focus, have been initiated as promised, I will follow up with staff regularly.

To which BR replied

I would be grateful if you (or your staff) could advise me specifically:


1. The expected timing for the installation of the locked gate at the end of Gooreengi Rd
2. Which of the unlawful development issues from the document I provided are being actioned, and the status of those actions
3. The expected timing for the mail out
4. Clarification on the permissibility of colorbond and mesh fences under the Exempt and Complying Development SEPP. As I advised we believe that these fences are not exempt development, and have provided the reasons in detail to your staff, but they say these fences are exempt development, and despite numerous requests from us they have not provided any legal basis for this.
5. I am requesting this specific advice because over the past 18 months our community has been let down a number of times by Council compliance staff stating that actions are being taken, and then we later find out that nothing has happened, and we had been led up the garden path.



MCC
PROGRAMMED
MAINTENANCE
IN NAC

Parks - Question to Liam Bulley MCC

BR questions:

- My enquiry came from a recent association meeting where a number of residents queried what maintenance such as mowing that Council did on our reserves. They were wondering how come in North Arm Cove residents have to mow and maintain our reserves when in the big towns Council does this.
 - I'd be grateful if you could advise what maintenance/mowing Council carries out on our five reserves – Casuarina Park, the Community Centre precinct, Yallarwah Park, Heros Beach and Medina Bay, and how often it is scheduled to be done.
 - If Council doesn't have a maintenance/mowing schedule for these reserves, can one be developed?
- 

MCC PROGRAMMED MAINTENANCE IN NAC (cont)

Liam replied

- Maintenance of North Arm Cove is managed by Operations staff based out of Tea Gardens. I have confirmed that the extent of parks maintenance in North Arm Cove undertaken by MidCoast Council staff is mowing of Heros Beach Reserve on a 3-4 week cycle and spraying of a drain and the helipad at the community hall.
- My understanding is that the balance of Council owned or managed open space is maintained by volunteers with Council support. Steve Howard in my team is responsible for establishing and supporting volunteers to undertake maintenance of open space and natural areas.
- In regard to the level of service provided by Council in maintaining open spaces in North Arm Cove, I would say that the extent of volunteers maintaining open spaces across the regions is strong but variable.
- We have approximately 1,200 volunteers across the MidCoast involved in open space maintenance and volunteering is as strong in large towns (for example, Harrington, Forster and Tuncurry) as it is in smaller villages (for example, Coopernook and Coomba Park).

I am happy to meet with your committee to get a better understanding of your concerns relating to park maintenance.



MCC PROGRAMMED MAINTENANCE IN NAC (cont)

NACCAi reply

You are correct in that we have volunteers who mow Casuarina Park and Yallarwah Park on a regular basis. We don't have any volunteers regularly involved with Heros Beach , only occasional people cleaning up flotsam and jetsam off the beach.

- NACCAi is currently running a survey of NAC residents / landowners regarding what upgrades we would like MCC to undertake at our existing parks/facilities. We have listed the following areas for them to comment on :
- Heros Beach
- Yallarwah Park
- Casuarina Park
- Community Hall Precinct
- Medina Bay





MCC MAINTENANCE PROGRAM IN NAC(cont)

MCC PROGRAMMED MAINTENANCE IN NAC (cont)

Options for way forward

- When the survey is completed we will present the results to Council and whilst we know funds are limited we would hope that small cost items could be prioritized and budget allocation made so ongoing improvements can be achieved by cooperation between the Community and Council
- I attach a couple of the completed surveys relating to Heros Beach, which are typical of the communities thoughts. It reflects the thoughts of a lot of residents that they don't believe that Council is maintaining the area as per the advice below.
- The other area of concern is the children's swings and play area in the Community Hall precinct. There is a concern that the soft fall to this area has diminished to an unsafe level and could lead to children being injured due to the exposure to a hard base , particularly in areas of high foot movement. Your prompt inspection of this problem and action on this would be appreciated by the entire community.
- I would like to suggest that once Bob returns from holidays we organize to meet with you and Steve Howard ,on an agreed date and time in North Arm Cove to discuss what Council can achieve within North Arm Cove, considering the limitations of existing funding and manpower . By both parties understanding what can be done we can work together for the betterment of the Community

MCC PROGRAMMED MAINTENANCE IN NAC (cont)

BH received this reply on 5/5/2023

MCC Commitments

- Liam has informed me that there's some outstanding works to be completed around the North Arm Cove area which include the Playground near the Community Centre and some vegetation maintenance at Hero's Beach.
- I've spoken with the Ops Team at Tea Gardens Depot and can confirm works will be taking place soon.
- The team are **currently sourcing suitable mulch soft fall from a supplier, and we predict works will take place late May/early June. They will also be undertaking vegetation maintenance at Hero's Beach around June and July.**



PARKS UPGRADE SURVEY

NACCAI RESIDENTS SURVEY			REPLIES TO DATE 17	
YALLARWAH	HEROS BEACH	CASUARINA	MEDINA BAY	COMMUNITY HALL
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. SIGNAGE ON AREAS HISTORY 2. NATURAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE 3. REMOVE BIG PILES OF DIRT IN MIDDLE AND SOUTHERN END OF PARK 4. BBQ FACILITIESP, 5. PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT 6. PARKING, 7. PERGOLA AND SEATS 8. COVERED BBQ AREA 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. BBQ FACILITIES 2. SEATS 3. PARKING 4. SEATS, PERGOLA, 5. BBQ FACILITIES 6. PARKING 7. GRASS AND BEACH MAINTENANCE, 8. CLEARING OF UNUSED DINGHYS AND ROWING SHELLS, 9. REPOSITION EXISTING SEATING CLOSER TO WATER 10. REGULAR MOWING OF GRASS, PERIODIC CLEANING OF BEACH 11. WEED REMOVAL 12. REFURBISH HEROS BEACH TO COUNCIL PLAN WITH CHILDRENS PLAYGROUND, BBQ PARKING ETC AS PER PLAN 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. PUBLIC JETTY 2. REMOVE DANGEROUS TREE FOR SAFETY 3. PLAY EQUIPMENT 4. INCREASE LENGTH OF DINGHY RAMP 5. PERGOLA OVER EXISTING TABLE 6. OFF STREET PARKING 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. BETTER ACCESS 2. FENCED SWIMMING AREA 3. STORMWATER MANAGEMENT 4. RENEW ACCESS ROAD AS SCoured OU BY RUNOFF 5. REGRADE ACCESS TRACK, WEED REMOVAL 6. JETTY AND PICNIC FACILITIES 7. ROAD IN AN OUT FOR BOAT TRAILERS, TOILET FACILITIES, RUBBISH COLLECTION, 8. PICNIC AREA, PROTECTION FOR SURROUNDING HOUSES, 9. UPGRADE OF COVE BOULEVARD FOR INCREASED TRAFFIC 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. NET/BASKETBALL BALL COURT 2. PERGOLA TO PLAY AREA 3. LEVELLING OF GROUND AROUND TENNIS COURT 4. GRASS AREA BETWEEN TENNIS COURT AND HALL 5. IMPROVE SWING AREA 6. PERGOLA TO PLAY AREA CHILDRENS PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT

UPDATE ON COMMUNITY GROUP MEETING

Attendees thoughts on this group – so far so good, good initiative, let’s keep it going	Actions forward
<p>Putting together welcome pack for new residents – Lorraine had prepared a draft for the Community Centre with a list of handy contacts on the back.</p> <p>The group reviewed this and the earlier NACRA “Information for new and prospective residents of North Arm Cove” brochure and brainstormed what should be in the new residents information package. Bob was asked to allocate responsibilities to attendees for drafting the detailed contents of the pack. A copy of the earlier NACRA brochure is attached.</p> <p>An outline of the pack content and responsibilities for drafting the content are a separate attachment to these minutes.</p> <p>Bob advised that he would be overseas from 4 April to 10 June and would not be able to do much until he returned, and would not be attending the next meeting in two months.</p> <p>We also discussed including a section on businesses that advertise on the website in the package.</p>	<p>Bob – allocate responsibilities for drafting content of residents information package.</p> <p>All – prepare and distribute a draft of your section before the next meeting.</p>
<p>The current MCC Community Donations program was discussed. This program provides for a donation of up to \$2,000 for eligible organisations to deliver community development and capacity-building projects and activities. It was felt that the information package would fit into this program as it was all about bringing the community together and expanding resident’s involvement in the community. Applications for this program close on Sunday 2 April 2023.</p> <p>It was agreed to prepare an application for this funding based on the information package with 300 copies being prepared and distributed to existing and future residents.</p>	<p>Bruce – prepare and submit annual donations program funding application for the residents package</p>
<p>We discussed the need for posts/articles to be posted on the website and the importance of this with the Cove News no longer being published. It was agreed to draft a roster for groups to write regular articles for posting on the website on what’s happening with their group and information pertinent to their groups activities. Bob to draft a roster for consideration at the next meeting.</p>	<p>Bob – draft roster for website articles</p>
<p>It was agreed that we meet every two months on a Wednesday afternoon at 2pm in the Community Centre.</p> <p>John Fisk advised that we may need to pay a fee for hall hire for these meetings, and he undertook to find out from MCC.</p>	<p>Bob – set meeting dates (see below)</p> <p>John Fisk – ascertain if we need to pay a hire fee to MCC for these meetings.</p>
<p>Mens Shed – Current post on Web Page for Project Leader</p>	<p>Awaiting group momentum</p>
<p>Next meetings - 24 May, 26 July, 27 September, 22 November (4th Wednesday of every 2nd month) 2pm Community Centre</p>	



GOORENGI GATE INSTALLATION

The need for a secure gate was first raised by a North Arm Cove resident (who wishes not to be identified) in March 2022 and followed up again in April and May with various MCC officers. Approval was eventually given by MCC in September, however due to the need for access by various authorities who need access to the area on occasions, approval by NSW RFS, Transgrid, Essential Energy and National Parks and Wildlife was sought and gained by MCC. Without these approvals the gate could not be installed.

NACCAi on behalf of all the North Arm Cove Community would like to thank all involved in the installation of this gate. NACCAi and the North Arm Cove Community hope to see this level of cooperation between our Community and MCC continue in the future for the betterment of all involved in maintaining our community.

NACCAi would like to thank the following for making this gate installation possible.

1. The officers of Mid Coast Council, including but not limited to the Rangers and Bushfire Officer.
2. NSW Rural Fire Service
3. Transgrid and Essential Energy
4. National Parks & Wildlife Service
5. The unnamed NAC resident who pursued this matter with Council ensuring a positive result for all.

GOORENGI GATE INSTALLATION

On Thursday the 20th April 2023, the installation of a secured gate at the southern end of Goorengi Rd. North Arm Cove was completed by MCC.

This gate requirement came about due to large and increasing amounts of general and building rubbish being dumped in areas beyond this gate. Repeated clearing of this area by MCC failed to stop this illegal practice.





GOORENGI GATE INSTALLATION

YALLARWAH PARK EXERCISE EQUIPMENT

- The Equipment has had the paint damage rectified, however the replacement part sent to be installed was incorrect and we are still waiting a new installation date from A Space
- Community utilisation is strong
- Working bee for maintenance





YALLARWAH PARK WORKING BEE

- We still have some plants (held in Garden Group area) remaining that need to be planted and we would like to get some top dressing to level up around the path edges.
- A general clean up of the area would be good as well. Can someone volunteer to organize this as it would be good to get it done before BR returns from holidays

New Business + Close

- Comments from floor

- Meeting close