

APPROVED : **DANGAR ISLAND LEAGUE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING and PUBLIC MEETING**

Held at Dangar Community Hall on Saturday 29th September 2012

Annual General Meeting Opened: 2:05p.m.

1. **Attendance:** Bronek Karcz, Judy Nikola, Hans Pohl, Ron Barelle, Antony Schinckel, Joanne Karcz, Sue Merricks, Stephanie Oak, Jackie Morgan, Peter & Edie Godbolt, Peter Wolfe, Nina Tyrrell, Wally Bower, Joanne Cameron, Linda Raby, Donnie Maclurcan, R.G. Walker, Alison Megarrity, Edward Horne, Charlotte Haywood, Valentina Gluszko, M.Liebenberg, S. Galvin, Cybele Shorter, Charles Hill.
2. **Apologies:** Judith Doyle, Tony Partridge, David Turner, Win Weber, Andy Payne.
3. **Adoption of previous minutes:** Same were distributed to the meeting. Accepted by Ron Barelle, seconded by Peter Wolfe and passed by the meeting.
4. **President's Report:** Antony commented on the highlights of what the League had been involved in this past year (detail given in individual reports later).
  - Andy Payne's new web site for the League.
  - Our successful input into the Peat Island and Mooney Mooney development plan to ensure more transparency, accountability and a slower pace to allow adequate input from all communities.
  - Successful input to the Brooklyn waste water treatment plant issue with Sydney Water, which resulted in them not being allowed to increase the effluent discharge levels.
  - Input to Hornsby Shire Council on the CLEP process to ensure the island's heritage nature is reflected and to request more opportunity for island input to the creation of these plans and planning processes.
  - Working closely with the island's Historical Society to work towards better archiving, cataloguing and public availability of the archival and historical material.
  - Working to create a commuter cooperative mooring facility on the island, combined with the HSC requirement for handicapped access for the ferry.
  - Many other projects including supporting art days,, bushcare and island tree problems and e-waste cleanups.
5. **Treasurer's Report:** Hans drew the meetings attention to the Independent Auditor's Report prepared by Margaret Kepert, along with the Profit and Loss statement and the Balance Sheet – copies of which were made available to the meeting. See separate email.
6. **Membership Report:** Hans reported that the current membership stands at 95.

All reports accepted by Sue M. Seconded by Wally B.
7. **Election of New Officers:** Current committee stood down and Charles Hill was appointed as electoral officer. After nominations and votes, the following were appointed:
  - President: Bronek Karcz.....nominated by Antony S, seconded by Sue M.
  - Vice President: Antony Schinckel... nominated by Bronek K, seconded by Wally B.
  - Secretary: Judy Nikola.....nominated by Sue M, Judy declined the nomination  
Judith Doyle.....nominated by Judy N, seconded by Wally B.
  - Treasurer: Hans Pohl.....nominated by Sue M, seconded by Bronek K.
  - Officers: Judy Nikola.....nominated by Antony S, seconded by Bronek K.

Ron Barelle.....nominated by Wally B, seconded by Bronek K.  
Christine Sanderson....nominated by Antony S, seconded by Joanne K.  
Michael Liebenberg.....nominated by Sue M, seconded by Judy N.  
Peter Wolfe.....nominated by Joanne K, seconded by Michael L.

**8. AGM closed at 2:30p.m.**

**GENERAL PUBLIC MEETING**

Opened at 2:31p.m.

Adoption of previous GM minutes: Accepted by Sue M, seconded by Ron B.

Business arising: (Deferred to following agenda topics)

**1. Subcommittee Reports**

- a) Dangar Mooring Co-op (Deferred to special GM following)
- b) Peat Island/ Mooney Mooney Development: Bronek reported that there is a section on the DIL website giving information as to the DIL position on this matter. It has been ongoing for 2 years now, DIL has put in a submission to make the area recreational and a gateway to the Hawkesbury, not residential. There has been no progress from State Government in the last year. Bronek and John Andrews, of Mooney Mooney Resident's Association are meeting with Matt Kean on 4/10 to ascertain what progress has been made by the State Govt on this issue. The Major environmental groups have taken the same position as DIL however, Brooklyn and Mooney Mooney progress associations have formally stated that they wish to have residential development occur which they believe will enhance the economic values of their communities.
- c) DIL website: Andy Payne's report read by Judy N.
  - The site was completely redesigned in June to make it more visually appealing and easy to access.
  - Relaunched as the Dangar Island Community website, sponsored by the League.
  - The site continues to be maintained and updated on a voluntary basis by Andy Payne.
  - The site now attracts an average of 40 unique visitors each day, from locals to people overseas.
  - It has been an excellent way of providing access to lengthy documents (eg for the berthing co-op) in an environmentally responsible way.
  - You can now maintain your League membership through an online form saving even more paper.
  - There is a new artists, musicians and writers page to showcase local talent. (free of charge)
  - All future ideas for the site are very welcome. Please also send calendar items through to: [website@dangarislandleague.net](mailto:website@dangarislandleague.net)
- d) Roads: Bronek reported that this is a thorny issue between HSC and island residents. He believes we are moving towards a solution which is acceptable to all. The roads have deteriorated and need resurfacing with some areas dangerous to walk on. Talks with HSC - they don't want to upset the residents and would prefer to work with the community.

- They accept the Heritage roads with the steep parts bitumen and the remainder gravel as per the Dangar Island control plan.
- Re surface material: HSC will not use sandstone which they say is not appropriate. They will use a recycled road base and lay a trial of this material on a 200m strip of Riverview Ave before Christmas. The trial will take several months. Much discussion on this matter took place.

“Ron asked for clarification of the bitumen sections, Antony stated that gravel sections are road base.

Wally suggested we tell HSC to do the trial.

Sue M reminded the meeting of the 1994 Island Heritage assessment done by Knox and Tanner laying out specifications for the roads.

Bronek stated we should go ahead with the trial.

Valentina suggested getting a panel of experts to test the proposed material for sustainability.

Bronek said to run with the Engineer’s recommendations.

Joanne commented that it would be maintained every 2 years.

Bronek stated that the gutters need reprofiling, gravel roads require maintenance and HSC want to lay bitumen.

Sarah said that the island is zoned pedestrian precinct and the roads should only carry light loads.

Valentina commented that heavy trucks were coming onto the island.

Bronek said we need to act or HSC will do what they want.

Christine agreed to go ahead with the test for Riverview but this would not necessarily be the solution for all roads on the island.

Bronek said the test would take 4 months so we need a solution for surfaces of the other roads.

Christine said we are at an impasse with people wanting to protect the heritage roads and HSC not knowing how to do that.

Antony agreed to 200m test then look at alternatives for other roads.

Bronek reminded the meeting that some roads are becoming hazardous. They have been graded too high with loose rock on top, need grading to level to allow grass to grow over the road.

Cybele suggested a motion to accept the test strip with a proviso that this is not necessarily the material to be used on all roads – motion passed unanimously.

Ron proposed to investigate and clarify the heritage issues standing – unanimously agreed to.

Bronek said the League could look into alternative material to use on roads.

Ron asked if we do something about the lower roads.

Bronek stated to talk to the Engineers with a view to rolling the lower roads.

Sarah asked that this be done sensitively so as not to destroy grassed areas.”

After discussion a motion was moved that received unanimous support to conduct the 200m trial on Riverview Avenue as suggested by HSC.

- e) Mullet Mail: Bronek reported that Mel needs someone to assist with the editing of the Mullet Mail. Cybele commented that she continues to help and will follow-up. Suggests to keep asking people.
- f) Community Hall: Joanne reported that in July, the booking fees were increased slightly. As there has not been an increase in fees or some time and the committee is now required to pay for utilities, it was felt that this increase was justified.

At the recent AGM, Vanessa Payne was elected Booking Officer. Please make all hall bookings through her – her details are on the league website as is all necessary information and forms required to book the Hall. Please read the Conditions of Hire before completing the relevant hire forms and remember that leaving the hall as you found it is a condition of hire. The Hirers checklist is also on the website and will assist hirers to ensure that the hall is left in the same condition they found it in. This completed form is returned with the keys after the hire.

All hall users must be booked with a completed booking form to enable the committee to report all usage to Council.

While the committee manages the use of the hall for HSC, it should be noted that the money raised by hiring the hall does not go direct to Council. This money remains with the committee for the upkeep of the hall and is used to pay for incidentals as well as bigger purchases, e.g. the fridge.

Sarah reported that the water tank is leaking from the top and she had informed HSC. Joanne commented that the tank and toilet block are the responsibility of HSC – phone number on the toilet block.

- g) Bowling Club: Peter reported that the club has been refurbished this year to help with noise abatement, including carpeting. It has been a quiet winter. There was an issue with the sewerage system which required the entire control panel to be replaced.
- h) Fire Brigade: Wally reported that the brigade has found new members and continues with basic fire training. The DA has been approved for the new fire shed which should be built in the next 12 months. He advised members to keep their eyes open and observe for fire hazards.

Valentina asked what bush fire reduction is happening and who is checking for fuel reduction. She said there is much fuel litter around public areas with large piles covered in black plastic. Sue commented that there has not been a controlled burn for 5 years and that there is a frightening fuel load in the reserve. Cybele stated that the reserve is council land and the fire brigade does programmed hazard reduction. Most recently it was done physically. She has inspected the area herself and reminded the members that the brigade are volunteers.

Sue asked if the League would write to HSC suggesting a fire control plan or ask the Rural fire brigade. Bronek clarified the issues as 1. Fire reduction 2. Compost piles. Wally commented that HSC are responsible for nominating who does a burn. After some general discussion, Bronek said the League will write to HSC and work with Wally and Jonathan (Fire Captain) to assess Dangar Island fire potential.

- i) Historical Society: Judy reported that she has met with Lisa Hayes and David Reynolds to formulate a plan to archive and store the Historical Society material which is mostly photos and plans. They are seeking grants to assist with this process from HSC, Powerhouse Museum, Wikimedia, Museum and Galleries and the International Conservation Services. Ron asked if HSC could fireproof the room where the Historical Society material is kept. Bronek suggested that Lisa and the Historical Society assess the options. Sue thanked the Fire Brigade and the Historical Society for their work.
- j) Cafe/Shop: No representative present at the meeting.
- k) Buggy: Judy reported that the buggy and its band of volunteers has provided another good year of service to the community, with just a few too many interruptions due to breakdowns. These mechanical problems have been a result of the conditions of our roads, the unsuitability of the buggy for these conditions and, of course, age. HSC has attended to each of these problems in a timely manner, wherever possible.

The “yellow peril”, as we fondly call it, is nearing the end of its useful life on the island and a replacement vehicle has been ordered. We can look forward to the new vehicle providing a more reliable and more comfortable service. The replacement buggy is an E-Z-Go RXV 2Five from Golf Car World that will be modified to suit the conditions and standards as required on the island. It will have the capacity to carry 5 passengers as well as the driver and it will be able to accommodate a stretcher. We expect delivery in the next month. This new buggy, like the current one, will be leased from HSC and funds raised from vehicle permits and buggy fares are currently sufficient to cover this commitment.

Unfortunately, a heavy duty extension cord has gone missing from the buggy shed. Judy asked if anyone has borrowed it to please return to the shed a.s.a.p. The community has continued to be great supporters of the buggy, with many residents regularly relying on the service. Many others offer their time as volunteer drivers. On behalf of the Vehicle Management Committee, Judy thanked both the commuters and the drivers for their support and hope that it continues in the coming year. Cybele suggested taking photos of the “yellow peril” before it goes for historical value.

- l) Road Blockage: Sue commented on Riverview Avenue being blocked last week with builder’s trucks and a crane which the builders said they had a permit for. Should we approach HSC regarding this? Wally read out an email he received from the owner of the property apologising for the blockage and stating that the DA did not specify builder’s trucks be moved during the daytime if emergency vehicles had to pass and parked in a manner that allowed emergency vehicles to pass a night. He suggested the League write to HSC to make this requirement in future as part of any DA on Dangar.

Sue said she spoke to the owner at the site and suggested moving the crane and trucks at night but he did nothing. Bronek said the League would write to HSC suggesting an amendment to development applications and reinforced the need for HSC permission to close the roads. Cybele asked if the vehicle permits need alteration to clarify this

point. Valentina said the turning bays on Riverview were not legitimate, Bronek suggested this was something for the Vehicle Management Committee to look into. Acceptable turning areas exist Neotsfield and Grantham.

m) Bush Care: Cybele stated that more volunteers are always welcome.

**AOB:** 1. Vandalism of cars in Brooklyn – Judy phoned Constable McMullen at Hornsby Police who said they can only contact car owners following vandalism reports if they have phone number.....pushing for RTA to include this in vehicle registration details. Police continue to patrol Brooklyn regularly i.e. once or twice overnight. He suggested lobbying council for CCTV cameras similar to those used at railway stations which police can access. He gave names of Crime Prevention Officers with a view to talking to the community, Malcolm Baker or Paul Cleary. Bronek said DIL would pursue this issue and that parking was getting tough in Brooklyn. Sue suggested ratepayers have parking permit stickers. Valentina said that many other commuters use the carpark so zoning could be looked at. Cybele proposed the Go-Get solution.

2. Emergency Procedures: Bronek stated that the League is formulating a definitive idea of what we need to do in response to emergencies.
3. Snakes: Sarah alerted everyone that snakes are on the island. Sue found a red-belly black snake.
4. Chemical waste clean-up: Jackie proposed a waste clean-up be organised for old paint tins, etc. DIL will liaise with HSC on this.

**Meeting Closed** at 3:50pm

**Next Meeting** - TBA