



**Draft Minutes of Dangar Island League Annual General Meeting and Public Meeting**

**Saturday 23 September 2017**

**Those in attendance:** Sophia Walsh (Chair), Bronek Karcz (Committee), Vanessa O’Keefe (Committee), Ross Spence (Minutes), Marina Garvey (Committee), Trevor Kanaley (Committee), Sue Merricks (Committee), Hans Pols (Committee), Matt Carter, John Sullivan, Leonie Sullivan, Jane Wilson, Jacky Korner, Jenny Rowe, Stephen Boyle, Misit Moore.

**Apologies:** Judith Doyle, Joanne Karcz, Judy Nikola, Tony Partridge, Bill Lyn-Robinson, Georgia Lyn-Robinson, David Ruppin, Yvonne Terlikdsen.

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Meeting Commenced 2:03pm

Sophia Walsh welcomed new members Matt Carter, Stephen Boyle and Misit Moore.

**1. Acceptance of Minutes of Last Annual General Meeting 24 September 2016:** Proposed by Jenny/ Seconded by Sue. Carried. No business arising.

**2. Communication In and Out:** Ross indicated it had been a busy time communicating with Council over a range of matters. This would be detailed in the following items.

**3. Dangar Island League President’s Report – 2017** (prepared by Sophia Walsh but presented with Bronek, Trevor, Hans, Sue and Vanessa)

1. Treasurer’s Report
2. Telecommunications
3. Council Vehicles
4. Brooklyn Improvement Master Plan
5. Garbage and Waste Services
6. Ferry Fare Review

7. Ferry Wharf Upgrade
8. Council Maintenance Works
9. Sydney Water Tank Removal
10. Mullet Mail

Points presented were as indicated – discussion points raised from the presentation follow.

### 1.1 Treasurer's Report (presented by Hans Pols on behalf of Judith Doyle)

- P/L statement indicated a net loss for the year of \$1,237 explained by lower membership fees and interest income on term deposits and expenses covering five editions of the Mullet Mail.
- Balance Sheet indicated total equity of \$14,811 as at 30 June 2017 mainly in Bendigo Bank Term Deposits.
- Margaret Kepert has provided a satisfactory independent audit report.

*There are still over 120 members financial as at 30 June 2017.*

### 1.2 Telecommunications (Vanessa)

- **NBN** - Construction will commence early 2018. Due to the complex design challenges of delivering fibre to the island, this timetable may change
- **Mobile Blackspots** - Brooklyn and Dangar now 'priority location' for new Mobile Black Spot Program. DIL has asked State and Federal members to represent our concerns in the negotiation process.

*As far as the blackspot program was concerned contractors are not particularly interested in coming to the island.*

### 1.3 Council vehicles – Ute and Buggy (Sue)

- Council is reviewing management arrangements
- Issues are around ownership, financial management, reporting and insurance
- The latest communication from Council states that:
- **'Council will no longer supply nor be involved in the management of Island vehicles'**  
This includes not only the ute, but also the island buggy

*There have been several communications with the former Mayor and other council officers since February including a meeting on the island with Steve Federow and Steve McPherson and representatives of DIL and the DIVMC in June. It was agreed that before any options on taking this matter forward were developed, the Council would undertake an analysis of the costs and benefits of existing arrangements for both the utility vehicle and the buggy. This analysis would be undertaken in consultation with both the Dangar Island Vehicle Management Committee and the Dangar Island League.*

*This assurance given by the officers at that time has not been carried through as very brief details of costs and income were provided recently with no analysis of the costs and benefits. It would appear that Council are backing away from previous commitments made with financial pressures considered a big factor. It was considered vital that residents and service*

*providers be advised of this situation and urgent action be taken to develop a strong case for the retention of these vehicles.*

*Options discussed include;*

- *Petition to council from residents*
- *Support from Rural Fire Service and Sydney Water regarding required use of ute in emergencies.*
- *Develop the case of residents or visitors with disabilities.*
- *Jane Ryder offered to draft a letter based upon correspondence to date.*
- *Sue was to make further contact with Peter Coad to seek more financial details regarding the vehicles.*
- *The matters to be reviewed at the next DIL Executive Committee meeting*

#### **1.4 Brooklyn Master Improvement Plan (Bronck)**

- Council has advised that the Brooklyn Master Plan is currently on hold.

*Concerns were expressed about the current financial cutbacks at Council level that would limit any financial commitment to solutions. It was reported that State Rail, Sydney Water and the Rural Fire Service had indicated problems with the proposed increased population density for the town, due to the limited road access in and out.*

*The Lower Hawkesbury Consultative Group still see the issue of car parking in Brooklyn the key issue. Trevor pointed out that a Master Plan is still urgently required even though the consultants have not approached the issues in an appropriate way. Council will still need to report on the findings of the consultants. This issue will be raised with the new Mayor at a first meeting requested by the DIL.*

#### **1.5 Garbage and Waste Services (Vanessa)**

- Council have received the consultant's report
- No action has been taken as yet
- 18 households have taken up offer of smaller bins – due 6 October.

*Vanessa indicated she would continue to follow up with Narelle. This issue was one raised in a letter to the new Mayor, Philip Ruddock. If report is not available soon then it was suggested that an application be made under the FOI Act.*

#### **1.6 Ferry Fare Review (Vanessa)**

- IPART has assessed Brooklyn Ferry Service's fare proposal and made a draft decision to accept it. Draft Report is available on IPART's website
- Under the draft decision, maximum fares would be:  
\$7.60 from January 2018      \$8.00 from January 2019  
\$8.40 from January 2020      \$8.80 from January 2021
- Submissions to the Draft Report close on 27 October

*DIL made a submission to the IPART Review by 15 September but the outcome is simply an acceptance of proposed fees of the ferry service operator. A resolution of the issues related*

*to regular users of the service with an Opal Card are the responsibility of the Department of Transport and are not part of the IPART Review. The DIL Executive will determine the nature of any submissions to IPART regarding the draft report by 27 October.*

### **1.7 Ferry Wharf Upgrade (Vanessa)**

- Letter to all residents in August
- On-site construction is scheduled to start by **early October**
- The new wharf is expected to be operational by **early December**
- All equipment will be stored or operated from the contractor's barge
- Work hours: 7am to 5pm Mon - Fri and 8am - 1pm Saturday
- Signage will be in place providing project manager contact details for any construction related queries.

*The notification to residents is still lacking detail.*

### **1.8 Council Maintenance Work (Bronek)**

- Request to Council for the roads to be maintained as part of an annual maintenance program.
- Our engagement with Council continues as an advocate for improved maintenance services

*It was noted by Trevor that the Island is unique in that the capital costs for servicing residents is less than average while the maintenance costs would be above average. With a squeeze on recurrent budgets at the council this will impact more on Island residents than the average ratepayer.*

### **1.9 Sydney Water Tank Removal**

- Removal has commenced
- Communication to residents on 30 August
- The League is liaising with Sydney Water throughout

*Sydney Water has set a high standard in relation to a careful process and good communication with residents.*

### **1.10 Mullet Mail (Marina)**

- Spring Edition out now
- Summer Edition submissions close 16 November

*Marina indicated a good feeling about the expansion of the latest edition to other river communities. The paper is to provide careful and polite communications between various groups in the community. There will be a review of advertising policy by the new DIL Executive Committee to consider ongoing revenue for the paper.*

## **Any other Business**

- **Thefts from Brooklyn Mooring Cooperative (Vanessa)**

*DIL made contact with Kuring-gai LAC – Hornsby Police regarding ongoing thefts from boats in the locked marina. The response was a good one with once a night patrols arranged and an officer assigned to the issue. The key issue was the need to keep boats locked in the marina with strong chains.*

*Vanessa also encouraged any members to consider standing for positions on the BMC Board with the AGM on the last weekend in November.*

**At the conclusion of the President's Report -2017 all Office Bearers and Executive Committee members stepped down.**

**Election of 2016/2017 Office Bearers and members of the Executive Management Committee**

Sophia thanked Jenny Rowe for acting as Returning Officer for the Election Process.

**Nominations received by 15th September as follows:**

**President** : Nominated and Seconded: Sophia Walsh

**Vice President:** Nominated and Seconded: Vanessa O'Keefe

**Secretary:** Nominated and Seconded: Ross Spence

**Treasurer** : Nominated and Seconded: Judith Doyle

**Executive Committee:** (up to 5 positions) Nominated and Seconded:

Marina Garvey, Trevor Kanaley, Bronek Karcz, Sue Merricks, Hans Pols

**The 2017/2018 Executive Committee was therefore elected as follows:**

**President: Sophia Walsh, Vice President: Vanessa O'Keefe, Secretary: Ross Spence,**

**Treasurer: Judith Doyle**

**Executive Committee: Marina Garvey, Trevor Kanaley, Bronek Karcz, Sue Merricks, Hans Pols**

## **FUTURE DATES**

- **General and Annual Meeting – 22 September 2018 2:00pm**

**Sophia thanked present members for their attendance and contribution to the meeting. The meeting was then declared closed at 3:02pm.**