



**Draft Minutes of Dangar Island League ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING and Public Meeting**

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2016**

**Those in attendance:** Peter Wolfe (Acting Chair), Trevor Kanaley (Committee), Sue Merricks (Committee), Ross Spence (Secretary), Jenny Rowe, Leonie Findlay (Committee), Nina Tyrrell, Wally Bower, Ross Higgins, Joanne Karcz, Brenda Hall, Kathryn Kirby, Bronek Karcz, Jane Wilson, Paul Ryder, Alec Pratt, Garry Mahoney, Mark Agnew, Graham Ley, Imelda Settle, Cybele Shorter, Lyn Higgins, Margaret Bower, Marina Garvey, Julian Leeser MP.

**Apologies:** Sophia Walsh (President), Evan Walsh, Judith Doyle (Committee), Hans Pol (Treasurer), Vanessa O'Keefe (VP),

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Meeting Commenced 2:08pm

Peter Wolfe was the acting Chair for the meeting as Sophia Walsh was unwell and had gone to the hospital. Peter welcomed any new members and the new Federal member of Parliament for Berowra Julian Leeser MP.

**1. Acceptance of Minutes of Last Annual General Meeting:** Proposed by Ross Higgins/ Seconded by Sue Merricks. Carried. No business arising.

**2. Financial Report:** Peter Wolfe reported on behalf of Hans P (Treasurer)  
– summary for y/e 30/06/16;

- Income:** membership fees - \$355, interest - \$337; total income - \$692.
- Expenses:** Mullet Mail - \$176, fees fairtrading - \$87, representation expenses - \$201, depreciation - \$132; Christmas gifts - \$140; total expenses - \$736.
- Assets:** Bank accounts and deposits - \$15,734, data projector - \$314: total assets - \$16,048.
- Independent Audit Report:** A favourable audit report from Margaret Kepert was tabled. Acceptance of accounts was proposed by Jenny Rowe and seconded by Ross Higgins.

### **3. Correspondence In and Out:**

Ross Spence commented that most communication now takes the form of emails and phone calls rather than letters.

Most communication has been with officers of the HSC;

Bob Stephens

Alan Boyd

Stephen Fedorow

Narelle Bowly

With local representatives

Cr. Nathan Tilbury

Matt Kean MP

Julian Leeser MP

With Elton Consulting Pty Ltd

With Brooklyn Community Association

With Sydney Water

With IPART – fare submission

With NBN Co

**No discussion.**

**4. Dangar Island League President’s Report – 2016** (prepared by Sophia Walsh but presented by Peter, Ross and Sue.)

- 1. Government Engagement on community issues**
- 2. Telecommunications**
- 3. Brooklyn Master Plan**
- 4. Wharf update**
- 5. Council works**
- 6. Peat Island**
- 7. newDemocracy Foundation**
- 8. New Garbage Truck Service**
- 9. Mullet Mail**

Points presented were as follows – discussion points raised from the meeting to follow.

#### **1. Government Engagement on community issues**

Efforts have been made to engage with authorities on relevant issues so that the needs of island residents are understood.

Federal

- ▶ Julian Leeser, MP

State

- ▶ Matt Kean, MP
- ▶ Sydney Water

Local

- ▶ Nathan Tilbury, Councillor HSC
- ▶ Bob Stephens, General Manager HSC

## 2. Telecommunications

The following information was received from the office of Julian Leaser MP responding to questions raised and he summarised the answers at the meeting.

All premises on Dangar Island are due to be covered by the fixed line NBN network.

- ▶ This is part of the wider Berowra build, which is commencing in Berowra Waters & Berowra Heights in December this year.

NBN is currently in the detailed design phase

- ▶ The major challenge to delivering infrastructure to Dangar is getting things across the water.
- ▶ As part of their design rules NBN is required to follow the existing communications path into an area. The current communications pathways across the water are very close to existing high voltage power lines.
- ▶ NBN has to find a way of safely incorporating these into the designs. They are considering all options for how to do this.

NBN will go live on Dangar towards the end of 2017

- ▶ Construction will commence in the middle of 2017.
- ▶ Due to the complex design challenges of delivering fibre to the island, this timetable may change.

### Discussion points:

Graham Ley raised a technical question as to how the links are to be made to the island – using microwave or cable. Julian Leaser MP gave an assurance that he would raise this matter with NBN Co. Julian Leaser also indicated that approval had been given for a new mobile phone tower to service Brooklyn and other river communities to reduce “blackspots”.

## 3. Brooklyn Master Plan

Vanessa O’Keefe represents the island on the Community Reference Group (CRG).

First meeting was held as a brainstorming exercise to identify:

- ▶ What ideas the group liked and why
- ▶ What ideas the group didn’t like and why
- ▶ Who each member was representing and why
- ▶ The process will take at least a year
- ▶ There will be opportunities for input from residents, and the consultants will let us know when and where
- ▶ We asked them to set meetings for the coming year

### Discussion points:

This new approach is only yet at an early stage and issues such as development, parking and railway station access will be addressed in due course. There will be opportunities for community consultation.

## 4. Wharf update

Peter reminded residents of the session held in the Community Hall on 3 September 2016.

Elton consultation session

- ▶ Good attendance by residents (45)
- ▶ Displays in the hall showing the new designs
- ▶ Presentation by Elton & SMEC engineer

- ▶ Question and answer session

**Discussion points:**

It is now very clear that HSC will make final decisions and have the power to authorise commencement. The DIL will follow up with Elton Consulting as to the timing of these decisions following the community consultation.

## 5. Council works

We are in discussion with Council about remedial works including:

Widening of the asphalt walkway (Neotsfield)

Maintenance of the existing sandstone roads (Grantham, Baroona)

Maintenance of the existing table drains (All roads)

Council officers are indicating they want further consultation on which options are preferred for the maintenance of the existing sandstone roads – they have nominated the following;

Option 1 - 40mm Asphalt Overlay with AC10 no or minimum maintenance required.

Option 2 - Scarify existing road base. Add road base DGB20 to 50mm spread and trim & compact

Option 3 - Scarify existing road base and add additional crushed sandstone to 50mm spread and trim and compact.

**Discussion points:**

These issues had been discussed before in relation to Riverview Avenue and greater clarification of the options was required before any recommendation could be made. HSC seem to prefer option 1 or 2 as they involve greater cost at the beginning but lower maintenance over time. These options have not been the preferred option of residents in the past. The DIL will consult with HSC to gain a better understanding and be open to the views of residents so that appropriate roadworks can be carried out as promised in the last financial year.

## 6. Peat Island

Peter Wolfe has recently attended a further meeting arranged through Matt Kean MP and had the following information to report;

Property NSW has redone site analysis, constraint maps and now has new proposals:

- ▶ Zoning proposal is radically different and takes account of physical, environmental and heritage constraints
- ▶ Residential density is reduced from 450 to 200 units
- ▶ Peat Island itself is Tourism zoned and pedestrian access only
- ▶ Marina is reduced and relocated & allows for visitor berthing
- ▶ Four heritage listed buildings are retained
- ▶ MOU reached with Aboriginal Land Council
- ▶ Some shops and a petrol station envisaged.
- ▶ Housing - large lot residences, town houses & 3 storey units
- ▶ No development on the escarpment & widespread public access

Next steps

- ▶ Consideration by Gosford Council then stakeholder consultation Re-entering gateway & full public consultation early 2017.

**Discussion points:**

The updated information has been welcomed but there is still a long way to go in community consultation and the approval process. The comment was made that residents of Peat Island will be directed to Berowra Station for railway travel.

**7. newDemocracy Foundation**

- ▶ At the last League General Meeting it was suggested that we should explore different ways a community can deal with issues that can divide.
- ▶ The League has extended an invitation to the newDemocracy Foundation to come here on Saturday 10th December and lead a discussion with interested residents on innovative models of decision making.
- ▶ The newDemocracy Foundation is an independent research organisation that helps communities and agencies become innovative in the democratic process.

**8. New Garbage Truck Service**

Sue Merricks led the discussion on this item.

The League has been working with Council to raise possible issues and seek resolution.

- ▶ Community Meeting held in July 2016
- ▶ Tour of new bins for HSC Councilor, GM & staff
- ▶ Advising HSC about particularly challenging sites
- ▶ Monthly meetings to review feedback & options
- ▶ Mullet Mail articles & letter to all residents

Since commencement of the service the following issues have been identified;

- ▶ Steep blocks, rugged stone steps
- ▶ No existing platforms to keep bins off road
- ▶ Bins fall over edge after emptying
- ▶ Too many bins
- ▶ Bins are too big for some households
- ▶ Friday collection does not suit
- ▶ Truck damage to road
- ▶ Using bins at Brooklyn not allowed
- ▶ Hard to maneuver bins

Residents have come forward with different ideas as to resolution of some of these issues;

Talk to neighbors & share innovative ideas

- ▶ Move unwanted/unused bins away from the road until we can organise for their removal
- ▶ Ask contractors to leave bins in orderly way after emptying
- ▶ Camouflage your bin – there are some good examples already around the island.
- ▶ Painting them is not encouraged as they could become MORE unsightly.
- ▶ DIL feedback to HSC on any physical challenges that have not been overcome
- ▶ Assistance to de-clutter the island of 'redundant' bins - to be removed at an agreed time.
- ▶ Move unwanted/unused bins away from the road until we can organise for their removal
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- ▶ Camouflage your bin – there are some good examples already around the island.
- ▶ Painting them is not encouraged as they could become MORE unsightly.
- ▶ DIL feedback to HSC on any physical challenges that have not been overcome
- ▶ Assistance to de-clutter the island of 'redundant' bins - to be removed at an agreed time.

### **Discussion points:**

Ongoing concerns were expressed regarding both the safety of the new service for residents and the visual impact of the number and colour of the new bins when left in the street creating a loss of amenity for the island. Many residents had sent letters to HSC regarding their concerns. It was noted that while residents should express their concerns in this way it is helpful to the DIL committee if copies are sent to [president@dangarislandleague.net](mailto:president@dangarislandleague.net) so that the committee is informed of these concerns as well.

While it was acknowledged that the Work, Health & Safety issues were very important to resolve for the contractors the Council still has to be concerned and have a duty of care for the residents who are in a location where there are serious issues in moving the bins from their properties to the road. Some residents also are finding bins are being dropped down the slope after emptying by the garbage truck.

The question was raised whether smaller bins were available and could these be collected by the truck. Clearly there is a lot more consultation with HSC to be done by the new DIL committee.

## **9. Mullet Mail**

- ▶ Spring edition out soon
- ▶ Changing of the guard
  - ▶ Mel will be standing down at the end of the year
  - ▶ We are now looking for volunteers
- ▶ Thanks, as always, to Mel and Andy

**At the conclusion of the President's Report -2016 all Office Bearers and Executive Committee members stepped down.**

## **5. Election of 2015/16 Office Bearers and members of the Executive Management Committee**

Peter thanked Ross Higgins for acting as Returning Officer for the Election Process.

### **Nominations received by 16<sup>th</sup> 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 2016/17 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**

## **6. General & Other Business**

### **1. Dangerous Chemical Removals**

Concern was expressed by Nina Tyrrell about the difficulty in removing old paints and chemicals from properties on the island and the hazard this was creating. There was a discussion about the difficulty of identifying the various chemicals and the rules that HSC has in regard to the disposal at the waste site on special days in the year. Finally it was agreed that this has to be a personal responsibility of the home owner and neighbours might be able to assist in taking such chemical to

the waste site on the special days. It was noted that they can not be taken off the island on the ferry or with barge contractors.

## **2. Park Committee**

Cybele Shorter detailed the work of the newly formed Park Committee in maintaining the quality of this area and liaising with Council officers regarding mowing and maintenance issues. Sophia Walsh is to represent the DIL Committee on this Park Committee. Further suitable plantings will be achieved in the park.

## **3. Julian Leeser MP**

Julian Leeser was given an opportunity to address the meeting and he commented on his good experiences on the island and his interest and desire in being an ongoing support for islanders in his role as the Federal member of Parliament. He also shared a brief review of his maiden speech to parliament regarding his personal interest in promoting responses to mental health issues impacting the Australian community.

**Peter thanked present members for their attendance and contribution to the meeting. The meeting was then declared closed at 3:20pm.**

## APPENDIX 1 – Financial Report

### Dangar Island League, Inc Profit & Loss Statement

For the year ended 30 June 2016

#### INCOME

Membership Fees	355
Interest Income	337
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>692</b>

#### EXPENSES

Printing Mullet Mail	176
Lodgement Fees	87
Depreciation	132
Representation expense	
Nathan Tilbury visit	201
Christmas presents	140
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>736</b>

**NET PROFIT/(LOSS)** -44

**Dangar Island League Inc.**  
**ASSETS**

**Balance Sheet**  
**As of 30 June 2016**

**CURRENT ASSETS** as of 30 June 2016

Cash		
Bendigo Bank Cheque Account	2,545	
Cash Drawer	130	
Bendigo Bank Term Deposit	13,059	
		<u>\$ 15,734</u>
Plant & Equipment (data projector)	658	
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	-344	
		<u>\$ 314</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>\$ 16,048</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>0</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b><u>\$ 16,048</u></b>

**EQUITY**

Retained earnings at beginning of year		\$ 16,092
Current year earnings		- 44
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<b><u>\$ 16,048</u></b>

## **INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT**

To the members of the Dangar Island League Inc.

### **SCOPE OF AUDIT**

I, Margaret Kepert, have audited the attached financial report, comprising Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss Statement, of the Dangar Island League Inc. for the year ended 30 June 2016.

The Management Committee is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the financial report and the information it contains, and it has determined that the report is appropriate to meet the requirements of the members.

I have also conducted an audit of the financial report in order to express an opinion to the members of the association, on its preparation and presentation. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used by the Management committee are appropriate to the needs of the members.

The financial report has been prepared for distribution to members. I disclaim any assumption of responsibility for reliance on this audit report or the financial report to which it relates, to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

The audit procedures included examination of evidence supporting the amounts disclosed in the financial reports. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether, in all material respects, the financial report is presented fairly so as to present a view consistent with my understanding of the financial position and performance of the Dangar Island League Inc, as represented by the results of its operations. The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

### **AUDIT OPINION**

In my opinion the financial report presents fairly the financial position of the Dangar Island League Inc and the results of its operations at 30 June 2016.

**Margaret Kepert**  
**132 Riverview Avenue**  
**Dangar Island NSW 2083**  
**Dated: 29 August 2016**