

## **APPROVED Minutes of Dangar Island League Public Meeting – Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2013 started 2.15pm**

Those in attendance: Bronek Karcz (President) Ant Schinckel (VP), Hans Pols (Treasurer) Judith Doyle (Secretary) Ron Barrelle, Peter Wolfe, Christine Sanderson, Michael Liebenberg, Ann Howard, Joanne Karcz, Robert Bickerstaff, Kathy Merrick, Wendy McMurdo, Jenny Rowe, Bill & Georgia Lyn-Robinson, Lynda Dryden, Wally Bower, Ross Higgins, Lyn Higgins, Phil Sargent, Colin & Jane Putt, Terry Dorrough, Heather Dorrough, Trevor Kanaley, Paul Savage, Sarah Galvin, Sue Merricks, Tony Partridge, Angela Brinn, Harry Recher, Ana Pollock, Cybele Shorter, Mark Cole, Vanessa Payne, Martin Lloyd, Laurie Stromner, Jonathan Sykes, David & Rowena Reynolds, Kathy Hobbins.

Apologies: Judy Nikola, Andy Payne, June Savage, Jackie Morgan, and Sue Baxter

### **1. Acceptance of last minutes:**

(AGM Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2012). Proposed by Ant Schinckel, seconded Sue Merricks. Approved by the members.

### **2. Presidents Report:**

Bronek introduced the Committee members: Michael L, Ron B, Peter W, Ant S, Christine S, Judith D, Hans P (Judy N absent).

He advised that most of the items to be covered under this section did in fact appear on the main agenda. Updated details therefore will be covered under following headings.

He stated that there are some issues where the community may not all agree on, however we should find ways to work together for the common interest of the Community as a whole.

Bronek welcomed the group and offered **some special thanks to Andy Payne** for his on-going work with the Leagues Community website, **Mel Anderson for her time and expertise on the Mullet Mail** and to **Michael Liebenberg** for organising the **recent well supported, Island Sculpture exhibit**.

### **3. Treasures Report:**

Hans reported the funds held are: Term deposit account: \$ 11,751.07. Statement account: \$ 3,152.24.

With regards to membership he advised there were now 114 members – the largest number ever. He confirmed that hand written receipts will always be given unless paid via internet.

Often the reference on the electronic receipt was not clear enough to allocate to an individual. Hans asked that this be taken into account when paying over the internet. Wally 'confessed' to being WB as one of the shorthand references.

Ron B moved to accept the Treasures report, which was seconded by Jenny R and approved by the members.

### **Sub- Committee Reports:**

#### **1. Dangar Island Mooring Co-Op:**

Ant S advised – November 2012 submissions had been missed due to an administrative oversight with regard to a new ruling of which the committee was not aware. Process had changed since recent the merger of RTA and Maritime.

The new timescales will now be a mid October 2013 submission for funding approval from HSC and Maritime.

Sub-Committee is currently seeking the possibility of grants, via government agencies and the like, that might go some way to subsidise the (individual) costs of the current design. Work on this front is not considered overly positive and should not to be relied upon.

Ant S reassured everybody that applications this time around would be timely and that June pre approvals will be sought – in good time for final October/November 2013 submissions.

## **2. Island Emergency Procedure:**

Chris S has been working on “what help is available if we have a health drama or emergency on the island and what access/procedure is available”. A First Responders Group is the aim.

She appreciated that it is difficult and a bit ad hoc, but acknowledged that Wally had done lots to set up an informal emergency call service. Which to date had worked well.

The first component of this ‘program’ is getting more islanders with first aid skills. A course has been organised for 9<sup>th</sup> March – Sasher Fischer will be the trainer. This first program is nearly booked however if the demand was greater then more courses can and will be organised.

The cost per head was \$110. The League subsidising \$10 per person or \$20 per household (where two in attendance)

From this group it was hoped that the concept of a First Responders Group might be formed, rostered and provided with further training via workshops and so on. This group would work along side the DI Fire Brigade.

Cybele spoke of Manfred’s dedication, over two decades, in being the first volunteer First Aider for the island – however this was not now a fair task to ask and that indeed it was time that we islanders took more personal responsibility for such needs. Wally and Manfred were again thanked for their contribution.

## **4. Road Maintenance:**

Bronek outlined the recent ‘back story’ to the roads. As agreed at the last Public Meeting, HSC had completed the 200-meter test strip on Riverview and also graded the lower roads and smoothed them out.

There was much shared discussion – in summary:

Residents and regular users of Riverview were very complimentary on the new surface and delighted that it had held up to the recent heavy rains well.

Even some members who were anti the works being done said that after the test they are very happy with the ‘new’ surface, and now appreciate the need for the remedial maintenance and work to be carried out.

Sarah G raised concern over drainage on parts of Riverview. Bronek explained that as part of the test strip the drains had been cleared and this would be part of the continued works if HSC are given the go ahead, around the whole of Riverview.

A motion was put to the audience: *to accept the recycled road base test as a success and that further un-sealed sections of Riverview Avenue be completed to the same specification.*

Motion proposed by Sue Merricks, Seconded by Jenny Rowe and approved by the members ... Against: Sara Galvin

**Bronek undertook to inform Council of the decision taken at the meeting and request that the Riverview road maintenance program be completed utilising the recycled road base.**

Wendy M requested that **Bronek make sure that Council is clear that the maintenance program is only applicable to Riverview Avenue and does not involve any other roads** particularly those on the lower sections of the Island.

## **5. CLEP – Council Local Environmental Plan:**

Peter W advised that the CLEP across all states had been reviewed.

This is a regular occurrence but this time it is part of new Federal planning legislation to create more uniform planning regulation across the entire State. Local Councils are required to comply with and conform to the new uniform State planning system.

All planning regulations are required to be simplified and streamlined.

June to August last year the League had this on its agenda. Response was made late but in time for inclusion. The League's written submission was followed through with various discussions with the Principle Planning Officer to ensure that Dangar Islands view be heard.

Peter further confirmed that under the new regime Dangar Island now is included in the Riverside Settlement Section of the Hornsby Shire Council CLEP. He stated that:

i) all heritage features are listed and

ii) we are graded at E4 living, which means we are an Environmental living Zone. E4 applies to all Riverside settlements.

E4 means Dangar is residential, one can run Home Business – confirmed as 'home occupation' work i.e., resident working from home. But not to conduct business that has employees on the home site.

- Under E4 - B & B and holiday rental and home and childcare business are allowed.

- Buildings can cover 30% of a block – was 25%. Maximum 180 sq meters floor area on any block

- Kiparra Park remains B2

It was asked of HSC to set out flood and salt plains. We were informed it was out of their scope. It was also asked if fencing could be controlled or better specified, but was informed that this would not be considered in this CLEP round.

For any further changes to the CLEP (i.e. River Settlements) we would need to go apply to the State for any amendments, as this is where the new planning rules stem.

The whole process for the new rules to become law will take until Sept/Oct this year. In the meantime there is a bit of an impasse but it is likely that any new applications for property development or alteration will take on the new rulings.

Tony P asked that the Community might have been more widely involved. It was stated that all papers (of which there are many) are on the HSC website – Ant S confirmed that the League had taken it's lead from the Knox and Tanner report which was the last document which directly reflected of the Islanders wishes.

Ron B thought there needed to be closer scrutiny as the site coverage had gone up, height restrictions increased and set back from boundary. E4 did not allow for granny flats. He felt there might be some issues worth fighting for. **He suggested that something be put together and considered. Ron suggested he would take this up between now and the next Public Meeting. Ron B**

**Bronek suggested that the Executive Committee look at what the issues are regarding the current proposals and Ant S suggested that if necessary a separate Public meeting could be held on the subject.**

## **6. Mullet Mail:**

Michael M - League Committee member was now to work closer to Mel Anderson in making the MM a little more modern, with more human interest.

The publication dates for the M Mail are 21<sup>st</sup> March, 15<sup>th</sup> June, 14<sup>th</sup> September and 13<sup>th</sup> December – copy / articles will be required four weeks prior. **These dates to be published on the website.**

Mullet Mail policy was stated that NO anonymous letters or articles will be published. Only in very exceptional circumstances would this be waived, where say a child was involved and could be made vulnerable etc. There should be no room or allowance for malicious intent.

Comment from the floor (Cybele). M Mail designed for News and View of Dangar Island and Opinions from Residents. Michael M stated that articles had not been knocked back from inclusion before – we should not censor articles.

However, if facts or issues of concern arose, the article would be held back and discussed with the author seeking clarification and amendment if required.

Bronek K advised that Mel had felt under unfair pressure over recent requests that she publish anonymous letters and articles. (She was caught between the Editor and the authors). It was improper that she should be put in this invidious position.

Michael L stated that there was no intention to censor articles but editing would take place to make articles more readable, especially those like the Leagues Presidents report which were boring. The pertinent facts would remain.

Bronek asked that there be MORE letters to the editor.

### **7. League Name Change:**

The Executive Committee put forward a proposal / motion that the name be changed.

The reason being was to help being more clearly being recognised/understood as what we are and whom we represent, when dealing with authorities. Currently explanation took up that crucial 'sound bite' one needs as means of introduction either in writing or verbal.

The Legal name change and registration would cost \$59 and the website domain registration etc would be circa \$160 for 5years.

There were many varying views and considerable debate around this topic. Suggested names proposed and from the floor included.

Dangar Island Community Association, (DICA) Dangar Island Residents Association, (DIRA) Dangar Island Residents and Ratepayers Association, (DIRRA) Dangar Island League (DIL) Dangar Island Owners Association (DIOA), Dangar Island Progress Association (DIPA)

*Various comments on names include:*

- Community:** Old age (health) care home ...
- League:** was it a Gentlemen's league / a Club /... thought to be Old fashioned / a small Club not inclusive
- Residents and Ratepayers:** too long – did reflect clearly the membership criteria - this could be included on the letterhead to at least help the written communication
- Progress:** not favourable

A workshop to work though was suggested.

A show of hands produced: Community (14), Residents (8), Residents & Ratepayers (1), Association (11), League (7). The polling was staggered and some members voted more than once so these results should be considered as an indication only.

Due to the split views and questions raised on this subject - **Bronek moved that this be taken back to the Executive** and be addressed at the next League Public Meeting.

It was thought that this matter, of a name change, could be put to the whole island on the website with a web based decision mechanism as some residents were often away. Bronek informed the meeting that as per our constitution the mechanism for decision making is via Public meetings, and it would not be possible to do a change of this nature on the website if we are to work within the correct governance.

However specified **Fair Trading proxy forms could be utilised.**

**4:11**

## **8. Executive Meeting Dates:**

Bronek reminded the room that the Executive Committee meets monthly – first Saturday. These meetings take place at the various committee members' homes, for convenience.

As has always been the case any resident may attend any of these meetings. If one should wish to do so, they should contact Bronek prior to meeting and he would ensure that the request was fulfilled.

## **9. Fire Controls:**

Jonathan Sykes (Fire Captain) presented actions on this issue, raised at the last Public Meeting, regarding 'fuel' on top of Island in Kippara Park, which is managed, but HSC. There had been at least two visits by HSC Fire Officer – Amelia Jones, organised by Bronek.

Jonathan explained that DIFS works along side RFS and HSC and the District. He also informed members of the strategy across 7 areas, where there maybe a burn-off every 7 years, and how these vary dependant on the ecology of the land.

He too talked of the 20m and 30 meter, from boundary defendable zones – and that residents could and should help manage overload of fuel in these 'shared' private / public zones.

Following HSC Fire Officer visits at back end of 2013, Risk Management plans had been drawn up by RM manager (who lives in Brooklyn) around the areas causing concern.

*These were projected once screen.*

**First area** runs along the top of the park, from behind 147 to 131 Riverview, along the ridge shown by a pink line. This was the area where work is **to take place in the autumn.**

The work will take the form of hand removal /trimming and making piles for controlled bonfires to be burnt. The RFS state mitigation crew could do this. HSC have allowance of 3 days per year for this work.

**Pile burning is scheduled for the first week of April 2013 weather permitting.**

**Second area:** alongside Mario/Chabela's house running up the hill shown as blue triangle. A 'broad acre hazard burn' would manage this. **This is planned for spring, however permissions are yet to be confirmed.**

Broad acre hazard burns only take place around every 8-10 years and because of the nature of the burn protection of wildlife in the area is considered – this spot has many Shea oaks where the Black Cockatoos may feed. This is currently being assessed.

Bill asked about Sydney water keeping the area around the disused water-tank clear – Jonathan confirmed that they did maintain it, in and around the tank well.

Ana: suggested that RFS/HSC maps should be made up to date in case of fires. This comment referred to the lines demarcating vacant blocks within the confines of Riverview Avenue and Kiparra Park. Comment was made that HSC has been asked to remove the lines where there were NO properties but this had been rejected.

Jonathan further reported that the rest of the season risk was considered low with regard to fires

He introduced Vanessa Payne as the DIFS Community Engagement Officer and that Home Visits are available to gain advice on fire safety and he encouraged residents to sign up.

Kathy Hobbins commented that for easy access onto the island in case of fire and emergency it would be a good idea that all the **private wharfs had their road names/numbers sited on them – this was general considered an excellent idea** and one that Milsons Passage had already adopted, to assist in case of emergencies.

**It was thought that this be included in the First Responders Group plan.**

**5:11**

## **Other Business:**

### **1. Wildlife Reserve proposals:**

Correction from the audience was made on the spelling – Deerubbin.

Bronek acknowledge that there had been several emails around the community on this subject in the last few days and clearly it was a 'hot topic'.

He confirmed how this campaign first came to the notice of the League:

In November last year he was invited to a Lower Hawkesbury Estuary Management Committee. This was in relation to the work the League had been conducting with the monitoring of Sydney Water/Brooklyn Sewer plant discharge.

During the meeting the topic came up re Bradley's Beach and Deerubbin Point becoming a Wildlife Reserve. It came as a surprise, as he (Bronek) was not aware of such a proposal and was concerned that this had not passed through to the broader community of the islanders.

Following a request by Bronek the LHEC Chair passed a motion that the proposal and discussion regarding the Wildlife Reserve be taken back to the Dangar Community. Bronek undertook this task, hence the inclusion of the Wildlife Reserve agenda item in this meeting. A Wildlife Reserve would come under the Companion Animals Act and this was considered that this be of some considerable, interest to residents.

Harry Recher made the following comments:

He'd been a member of the LHEC for a period of time and refuge for migratory birds had been under discussion for well over a year. It had always been intended to seek community involvement and this was still the intent. No decisions had been made or positions confirmed regarding Wildlife Reserves so there was no need to engage, at this time, with the Community

He said the League has incorrectly introduced the issue, as it implied that decisions were already made regarding the Wildlife Reserve and this was not the case. Wildlife Reserves are in discussion in the LHEC. Bradley's Beach is not the focus for a Wildlife Reserve but Mareela Reef.

During the response by Harry, Wendy McMurdo made the following comments quoting from documents, the minutes of the LHEC meeting held in August 2012:

Mareela Reef was the area of discussion and record. Bradley's Beach and Deerubin Point had never been mentioned. Wendy McM stated that the League agenda topic was wrong and should not have been raised in the fashion that it was.

She said she had been the chair of the LHEC committee for 8 years, and confirmed that protection of Mareela Reef and Deerubbin Point had been on the agenda as it was a unique rocky reef and important bird refuge.

Harry Rechers response to the meeting continued:

Rocky Spit on Dangar Island was identified as a place where a protection area might be set up, however without change of HSC signage this would have no bearing. Educational signing would be required. This would talk of both birdlife and the seagrass as an example. It would be indentified as an IMPORTANT AREA.

Several bird species come down Rock Spit as a retreat and to feed. These birds are highly threatened species and the area is a significant water habitat. This is an important area for them to find refuge during their long migratory flights.

Single greatest threat is dogs including leased dogs. Harry stated that he was not a supporter of a legislated Wildlife Reserve as he knew the dog owners on the Island and that they would not comply. Harry advised that his position on the LHEC was that the establishment of a legislated Wildlife Reserve was a waste of time and that they should drop the whole thing.

*Vigorous debate followed and the following comments were heard from the floor:*

Tony P: asked of Rocky Point refuge was in conflict with Beach restrictions

Mark Cole:

LHEC website had some objectives for consultation – see their mins. Note to report and consult with Dangar Island.

He thought representation of Bronek was underhand in his presentation. Consultant should have been consulted. The experts on the Island should have been consulted.

Wendy McMurdo:

Why propose a Wildlife refuge – what's the point if nothing can be done – the committee was just information gathering.

The comment re Bradley's Beach under threat need's to be corrected.

Item for consideration – protection for the island.

Bronek K:

There had clearly been some mis-understanding, which had been exacerbated, with the many emails, over past 72 hrs, back and forth.

He'd spoke (yesterday) with Peter Coad HSC convenor of the LHEC Meeting who had advised that no decision had yet been made beyond education and involvement with the community. He considered it an asset if a resident group were able to set up monitor of the birds.

Education and awareness to the boarder community of such rare species could be of interest to other islanders. HSC would appreciate further involvement from willing residents.

It clearly states in P & J Smith Ecological report August 2012 handed out in the meeting **and to be posted on website calls for: 'The Assistance of the Dangar Island League should be sought in this programme'**.

Bronek proposed the formation of a group with interest in bird monitoring -hands raised:

**The raising of hands was very fast and it is thought that the following raised hands. (This would need to be confirmed at next meeting): Jonathan S, Kathy M, Ron B, Chris S, Ant S, Sue M, Sarah G, Jenny R, Georgia L.R. Cybele said she would co-ordinate the group and later in the meeting Laurie S said she to could assist.**

**Cybele also offered to write some education information on the birds from the experts for inclusion in the MMail.**

Bronek asked if this new group could be 'grafted' on existing work? Mark did not think this a solution as people – Rick and Harry – already doing this.

Wendy considered we use experts if we want to find things out.

Laurie said she was happy to help with research support with more general information that the boarder community would benefit from e.g., If you are to bring your dog to the beach – it would be better at high tide. She felt that if **people were informed better it might help change some dog owner's behaviours.**

At this stage, Ant reminded everybody that often **when hears of something for one first time** there is often surprise, confusion, intrigue, and this was a classic case of many islanders hearing something for the first time. Facts readily available to all would make for us working more together.

The LHEC 2011 report was available on line. Harry Recher said there were two documents– **Bronek confirmed that he now had the 2012 report. Harry advised that the other report 2011 was also relevant and needed. Bronek asked if Harry could send it so as not to get the wrong ones and make a mistake.**

Harry spoke of The LHEC having representatives from both the Hornsby Shire and Gosford Council to represent the community, fishermen, oyster farmers and the like. The Estuary covered 880 miles.

Bronek suggested that the **newly formed DI group present back at the next Public Meeting – this was knocked back by some in the room.**

Sue M thought that the opening up of the subject had been a good one and overall there was no negative result and that this new group might look at ways it can assist, inform and educate.

**It was generally considered good that the item came onto the agenda as we are all better informed.**

Bronek K proposed that the motion be withdrawn and asked that the community via the League remain in touch with any further developments of outcomes.

## **2. Recreational Equipment:**

Bronek advised there were three items for discussion under this section:

- i) 2013/14 HSC Playground and Park equipment plan,
- ii) Paul Savage proposal of Exercise Stations and
- iii) Ann Howard proposal of a Commemorative Park Structure

In reverse order: Ann Howard had made submission for Commemorative Park Structure with the concept “ *to bring past islanders, present islanders and our children together... no straight lines in nature! It would not intrude on current children’s present play space, and they could play hide and seek around it. It would be graceful, vibrant shape, throwing a shade spot in summer.*”

Ann Howard’s presented an initial concept for the Commemorative Park Structure. She welcomes input from the community on her ideas. Her contact details, for those interested and wish to discuss/input ideas to the concept, are [annhoward@ozemail.com.au](mailto:annhoward@ozemail.com.au) (9985 7234).

**Paul S had written to the League with the idea of exercise stations** around the island. It was thought this proposal would be of interest to the many daily walkers and runners on the island.

Wendy McM commented that there was a problem that some of the park benches were in fact on land that HSC leases to the Bowling Club.

Cybele S commented that fixed seats have to wait years for funding and there is a 2013 plan for some new play equipment, picnic furniture with covered area and there is not enough money for all of these things. Money had already been allocated to something else.

She added that memorial stuff is not easy for approval in a public area and questioned if a memorial plaque would be appropriate when also considering issues regarding the reconciliation of the aboriginals who also were past residents the Island.

Its’ hard for all options, desires and wants to be provided for and that further **comments could be forwarded via email to Bronek – president@dangarislandleague.net.au**

Other comment from the floor regarding the availability of funds: – “there are several millionaires in the room!”

Bronek K - in closing this section: It was clear that there are some special interest groups. (Playground, Commemorative Structure, Exercise Gear etc) However **all ideas and proposals should be given an airing to inform the community and allow a chance for positive comment and for the residents as a whole to make a considered decision in going forward.**



### **3). Historical Society:**

Peter W informed members that the DIHS had in fact been de-registered due to the lack of accounts and minutes being filed with the Authorities.

Judith D and Peter W, since learning of this, had take action in the past three weeks, and with advice, had set about to re-forming the Society as a Legal Incorporated body. The cost of this is \$163. They have also taken up registration of domain names cost of \$47.

DHIS funds are not currently easily assessable due to this time in limbo. The Executive League Committee agreed to pay the cost for Incorporation Application. Judith D confirmed she made donation for domain names.

Lisa Hayes (as a professional Collection Manager) had volunteered several months ago to catalogue & archive all of the DIHS collection. This task cannot be done until equipment is purchased – a scanner and a computer are required. **A scanner has recently been purchased by way of League funds: \$316** underwritten by Peter W.

**Further funds are sought for a computer.** Stu Allen had been involved to help computer spec. He provided a written document in response to Lisa's brief. Initial searches had thrown up second hand option \$1,200 (same new would be \$2,000) it was thought to be too expensive by some.

It was proposed at the meeting that the members give support to purchase a computer.

There were suggestions of leasing or renting for the purpose with concerns that they maybe replacement issues in a short period. It should not be seen as an asset.

Others were of the view that the Historical Collection had great value to the community and this was not a huge investment to safe guard it.

Ana P said that she had an Apple computer that she was willing to sell. Will approach Judith D at end of meeting to verify spec for purpose and also cost.

*The impasse was then broken and a motion was passed that:*

- The League spend \$163 on the re-registration of the DIHS and also \$316 for the scanner - and
- The League purchase a less expensive suitable computer. It was proposed that Ana's second hand computer should be seriously considered - and
- The League would be re-funded in full (or part) by the DHIS for the set up & equipment purchases once the DHIS is again formally up and running.

The motion was proposed by Paul S, seconded by David Ruppin and approved by the members.

**David Reynolds personally thanked those who had worked to re-establish the society and said how he looked forward to working alongside Lisa and other new members.**

### **4. Peat Island/ Mooney Mooney: - Lower Hawkesbury**

Bronek re-presented the proposals put by the Dangar Island League to the SPA in 2011, regarding Peat Island and the land identified for redevelopment at Mooney Mooney.

The Dangar Island League position is that Peat Island and the adjacent foreshore land be developed as a recreational park and a gateway to the Lower Hawkesbury.

Further that there was no objection to the redevelopment of the land to the East of the F3 provided it was in line with the needs and expectations of the Mooney Mooney community and sympathetic to the Hawkesbury River and it's environs.

Slides from previous presentations (from 2011) were used as aids (all are on the website for viewing). Mooney Mooney and Milsons Passage joined and supported the Dangar Island League submission.

A key strategy over the past two years has been to encourage the State Government to split the whole Peat Island and Mooney Mooney redevelopment into two separate projects. Peat Island and land to the west of the F3 as one project and the other the Mooney Mooney Land to the East of the F3.

On 8<sup>th</sup> February 2013 by way of a call from SPA, we were informed that the Government has decided that the mega-project will be split into two as we have requested.

We have achieved our first step in saving the Peat Island land.

The Govt had previously tried to have one mega project so that the financial gain from the Mooney Mooney parcel could be used to entice a developer to develop the Peat Island side, which has some major issues and is financially rather unattractive.

We will now be able to deal with Peat Island and the adjacent land as a separate parcel knowing that it holds less attraction to developers and is of little financial benefit to the government. We are in a stronger position to canvass our proposal for a Community Recreational Park and a Gateway to the Hawkesbury.

The Dangar Island League, Milson's Passage and elements in Mooney Mooney have together requested that the Government consider setting up a Hawkesbury River Trust to manage the future use of Peat Island and land to the west side of F3. This is being considered but response from the Government has cooled in recent days. We will continue to push our case.

Regarding the Land to the East of F3 – Mooney Mooney:

The State Govt around about May/June will dispose of this land to a developer without a prior rezoning. We asked for this so that the developer would need to apply for rezoning and go through a public consultation and approval process.

Once zoning is approved the developer will be required to submit a plan through a local DA process that will be managed by Gosford Council. The land consists of run down and abandoned buildings. (An old school, church, fire shed, petrol station and very run down community houses. The old petrol station that has been fenced off for some time has just had a DA approved for demolition and remediation.)

**The League will continue to monitor and report back on this important river development.**

#### **5. Brooklyn re-development Plans:**

Brooklyn Progress Committee had a new President, which coincided with DI League approach to work closer together as a group. We share many of the same facilities, issues and opportunities and closer relationship was thought to be only a good thing. **The League will report on this new initiative.**

There is a master planning process proposed for Brooklyn – largely around the parking issues and general 'sprucing' up of the area in the mix at Council.

#### **6. Phone/Internet Access:**

Bronek reported that in recent times the hooking up to internet (indeed a Telstra line) had been problematic for some. The League has investigated.

Bronek has talked at length with Telstra and NBN and advised members that there are NO plans for any additional lines onto the island so DO NOT GIVE UP YOUR PHONE LINE. There are just three left! Telstra technicians, on the Island, provided this information. There were only ever a 150 wires/lines brought to the island.

Dangar Island is not on the next 3-year NBN rollout nor the follow 3-year roll out.

Satellite is not an option ... Radio towers are probably the solution NBN will one day bring to the Island.

Andy P had put up a **Internet Survey** on the website and Bronek **encouraged all to complete** it as we need to collect individual data and indeed information/support from other local River settlements to make a case for getting noticed and in the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of plans. **A thousand residents would be a good start!**

**This is considered to be an important issue that if we don't act now we may regret it.** Resident and members support appreciated.

### **Any other Business:**

#### **7.1. Bikes in the Ferry Shed:**

Wally B asked that we do a 'clean up of bikes' at the shed. Tagging on Friday night to monitor those that are used and those that may have in fact been dumped. They are often left strewn across the walkway in the shed and maybe with a reduction in number would allow for them all to be put away and left in a tidy and safe fashion.

#### **7.2. Dumping 'stuff' at the Wharf:**

Wally B also asked for support in monitoring the dumping of inappropriate things in the ferry shed.

E-waste clearly should NOT be left there and some things should be thrown away and NOT dumped at the shed. More individual discretion needed.

#### **7.3. - 80 Riverview - cleared block:**

Jenny R asked if League had followed up re clearance of the block. Bronek confirmed that letter had been written to HSC as requested by a few residents. HSC replied to say they had contacted the owner with regards to our comments and concerns.

#### **7.4. Chemical Clean up:**

Wendy McM asked what was happening with the Chemical Clean up.

Bronek replied that the League had several discussions with HSC (and included Geoff Gausaula). Private companies had also been contacted by appeared to be cost prohibitive.

It is a difficult logistical exercise and not as easy as the successful e-waste collection, for obvious reasons – for such a collection an inspector would need to be present, as every tin/receptacle would need to have contents listed.

As yet **we'd not found a suitable solution. It remains on the League agenda and will pursue further.**

Bronek thanked all those for attending and the meeting closed at 5.10pm.

