

FINAL - Minutes of Dangar Island League – Public Meeting – Saturday 15th June 2013

Those in attendance: Lars Gunderlach, Peter Godbolt, Marion Castiglioni, Sarah Galvin, Lisa Hayes, Marcela Torres Castiglioni, Jenny Rowe, Michelle Ramage, Kim Wilson, Janes Jaggs, Andy Payne, Trevor Kanaley, Kevin Hansen, Jenny Hansen, Gareth Tillson, Peter Coad (HSC), Kathy Hobbins, Jodi Thiessen, Nicola Weddin, Sue Merricks, Graham Ley, Jane Putt, Hans Pols, Joanne Karcz, Heather Dorrough, Terry Dorrough, Bob Walker, Lars Dahl, Jackie Ward. Bronek Karcz (President) Ant Schinckel (VP) Michael Liebenberg, Judith Doyle (Sec) Christine Sanderson, Ron Barrelle

Apologies: Judy Nikola, Peter Wolfe, Ann Howard, Colin Putt, and Mark Cole.

Meeting START 2.15pm

1. Acceptance of Previous Minutes (9th Feb 2013): Proposed Ant Schinckel, seconded Jenny Rowe. Approved by the members.

2. Presidents Report: Bronek K Update:

2a). Roads: Following the successful 200-meter road surface 'test'. HSC had confirmed that the remainder (un tarmac) surfaces of Riverview Avenue would be completed to the same specification by end July. Timing is weather dependant and availability of heavy equipment. The gutters would also be re-cut during the road works.

2b). Fire Hazard Reduction: Due to wet weather the burn offs had been postponed – however work on clearing areas had commenced.

2c). Peat Island: League is in Communication with both local, federal and State government bodies with regard to re-development. DIL working with other River settlements (Mooney Mooney, Brooklyn, Milsons Passage, with shared consideration that PI be made a Public recreational space – *Gateway to the Hawkesbury*. There is a master plan in train to take in the whole Lower Hawkesbury.

2d). Historical Society: Confirmation that the DIHS was once again up and running. Committee formed. Membership open. Participation in NSW History Week: 7-13th September. **Public Exhibition and AGM w/end 7/8th September 2013.** Thanks to all those involved and special thanks to Lisa Hayes – The Collection Manager.

Michael Liebenberg informed members that there was to be a DIHS fundraiser end July. Sales of 'unhung art'.

Donations of any artworks that residents have that they might have tired of, stored under the house, in the boat shed – are welcome!

2e). Park Proposals: At the last Public Meeting there had been three proposals.

i) Ann Howard – Commemorative Park Structure – AH advised BK that she is looking to have an architect draw up some ideas for further submission for Residents for consideration.

ii) Playground equipment/Seating: Cybele and 'mothers group' had been working on submission to council. BK suggested that their ideas be presented to members at next Public Meeting.

iii) Paul Savage – Exercise station idea dropped – Whilst this was considered a good idea, consideration as to HSC not allow for work stations around Public areas and insurance concerns.

Nicola W asked that it be minuted that the Commemorative Structure concept did not have full residents support.

BK again requested that that all ideas for the park should be considered and that they should all be funnelled through the League / Public Meetings to ensure that all residents have opportunity to decided what they would like. Jackie Nickolls spoke positively, on behalf of the 'mothers group' and appreciated the need for communication with the League on such broad community space.

Michael L advised that Peter W had pointed out at an Executive meeting, that a large proportion of the land from Club to Hall was in-fact leased from HSC by the Bowling Club.

It should be noted that funding for the park had been put back to 2015/16 Budget – this should not deter **the Community to agree on what it wants so as to be in good position to submit timely proposal to avoid further push back.**

2d). Mullet Mail: The second *new look/tabloid format* was distributed yesterday. The editions theme being the Health of the River – there were some great information and educational articles and members expressed thanks.

Michael L expressed frustration with the lateness of submissions and that in future if the deadline – as posted – is not met then articles and submissions will have to be passed on. It was emphasised that the compilation and layout – courtesy Mel Anderson – takes a fair chunk of time and chasing up should not be dominant the volunteer time given.

2e). DI Mooring Co-operative: An informative meeting with exchange of ideas, thoughts and understand had preceded this meeting. The DIMC working Group will respond as per discussions at the previous meeting.

2f). Peat Island, Brooklyn Master plan/ parking: These are several items that the League Executive is currently activity working on. Discussions with Mayor and Federal MP, Department of Lands is necessary.

The authorities are realising that whilst one can have a BMP the opportunity to look at how the various River settlements interlink and how they support and impact on another should not be missed.

3. Treasurers Report:

Hans P confirmed that the Statement Account holds \$1960.33 and the Term deposit holds: \$11,868.

In addition the DIHS has repaid \$864 of the Loan approved at the last Public Meeting. The balance of \$700 remains owing – to be repaid – once DIHS has raised sufficient funds in the coming months, from tours, fund raising and memberships.

4. HSC Environmental Programme – Dr Peter Coad:

Dr Coad gave a 20-minute presentation on the HSC Lower Hawkesbury Estuary Management Plan.

He talked of funding and partnerships. History of the organisation – established 1997 surrounding a Berowra Waters project. 2006 the Brooklyn plan was expanded in 2009 to include the whole of the Lower Hawkesbury. Span – Wiseman's Ferry > Broken Bay... Cross over in to Gosford CC also.

Membership is mixture of Commercial, Residents, representatives from Government bodies and Utility authorities.

The cover projects in the following 5 categories: Capital Works, Education, Compliance, Planning and Research.

The presentation showed examples in each area. Copy of the p/point presentation has been requested for those who might have further interest.

Membership to the Committee is also open and those interested to join should go to HSC website for application form. Applications close on 28th June.

The future of the committee is uncertain as government plans reform, political will and funding is uncertain.

Dr Coad took some questions from the floor: Water Quality Improvement and how the quality compared with other areas. Yes improvement had been noted and certainly quality very good compared to other water estuaries.

Kathy Hobbins commented that she had seen Dolphins for the first time. Another 'old-time' resident intimated that the used to be seen on a regular basis way back when.

The members applauded and thanked Dr Coad for his informative presentation.

5. Jetty Numbers/ House roadside numbers:

Christine S informed members that the Executive had been looking into the costs in providing numbers of the private jetties to assist the m emergency boats speedier access.

Subsequently there had been an incident when wharf numbering would have allowed for fast attendance of emergency services.

The estimated cost to produce required numbers would be maximum of \$3k. Circa \$50 per riverside house. Contributions from residents would then be sought, with no obligation.

A working bee would be organised to erect the signs – once produced.

Bronek K asked member for approval for \$3k expenditure – **This was approved with none against.**

Judy N was thanked for her research into materials and costs and **will take project to next phase – informing residents etc.,**

Chris S also asked if residents would consider placing numbers at the front of their properties – roadside – again to assist with easy location of properties to assist buggy driver in the case of emergency.

6) Emergency Procedures: Chris S continued to state that there had been a **First Aid course** – well attended and **another one is to follow in November.** She requested that all are welcome to attend. There was a personal cost association. League provide small per person subsidy.

Chris confirmed that on behalf of the League and community she is working towards getting a First Responders Group functioning – teams of three.

She advised that **at 2pm on Sat 13th July, in the Community Hall** there will be meeting for residents to discuss how best to further set up and manage a DI FRG. **All are welcome.**

The meeting will be attended by Super indent Sue Webster of Ambulance Volunteers & Community FR – who had first hand knowledge of Scotland Islands FRG.

7). League Name Change: Bronek K advised that this item on the agenda to serve as notice that there will be a **motion at the next Public Meeting** to change the name to Dangar Island Residents Association. It will require a 75% approval to be passed.

The background being that when dealing with anybody off the island one has always to explain who and what the League is + we are missing out on communication as when search for DI Residents organisation – comes up blank.

8). Brooklyn Master Plan: Bronek K advised that HSC was now looking at Brooklyn as a part of a wider Lower Hawkesbury Master Plan. At a recent meeting Brooklyn Progress Meeting they had voted to be a part of a wider scheme to take account of surrounding River settlements.

There are clearly some joint issues that we need to be involved in e.g., Park, Lift at Railway, Public wharves. Bronek confirmed that the League would continue to work with HSC, alongside other local community groups and authorities and give feedback as things develop.

9). Dangar Island volunteers Recognition. Andy P addressed the launch of a new initiative designed to recognise one or several of the many volunteers around the island. Supported by the League and organised via the Club. A small review committee had been formed with reps from each of the current volunteer groups. Ross 'Pav' Higgins will Chair.

Voting forms are on the Community website: dangarislandleague.net/recognition. **Nominations to be submitted by end July.** Paper based forms available at shop and club. Post in League box near shop.

The award(s) will **be presented at a Club event on Saturday 17th August.** Participation with nominations and attendance on 17th Aug is encouraged.

Thanks went again to Andy P for his tireless efforts with the Community Website. He asked to help keep it fresh and interesting he would welcome new material. He mentioned that the site received average of 60 hits per day!

10) .A O B

10a) Jane Jaggs – Shop/Café board addressed the members.

Recent survey feedback – she thought the response poor.

Finances 6mths in the black, \$13k in the bank that was good through the winter months.

There was now a new menu, Adrienne a new staff member cooking. Upgraded the staff to senior level – in some ways this was unfortunately as some of the younger people on the island had to be laid off. Improved service, increased signage had been noted.

Discussion as to whether wi-fi should be free. There seemed to be some issue with electricity costs in association with this? Jane asked for a volunteer to assist with possibility of using this facility to draw more customers. Stuart Allen put his hand up.

Free newspapers had been a request – rejected. There were still some issues with Coles delivery but working through that. The ferry now was carrying some goods, which did help out considerably.

Discussion around coffee making and training might be followed through with coffee bean provider.

Reduction in coffee price was not an option. Shop continues to be competitive with local convenience store.

Encouragement to use and book the shop for functions.

Jo K commented and supported by Judith D that 36 responders was not such a bad return.

10b). Buggy was back from its warranty repairs.

10c). Hall Committee – there were new requirements for HSC regarding Hall bookings, usage and conditions that were outlined in current Mullet Mail. It was requested that these be noted and adhered to by those using the hall so as to assist Vanessa /administrative volunteer on Hall Committee.

Terry Dorrrough noted that the paving to the left of the door (back facing) had sunk and caused flooding during heavy rains. It was asked that the League might write informal note to Hall committee to who might then request attention from HSC. Other thought a working-bee group might be able to fix it up!

Bronek mentioned that HSC as per their draft strategic plan intends to upgrade toilets. The Hall Committee members at the meeting mentioned that they had taken up contact with HSC for further discussion and inspection. Clarification on work timetable to be sought.

10d). Community Projector: Bronek asked for member's approval for up to \$500 expenditure for a projector that would be purchased by the League and made available for use in the Community Hall. **Approval was granted with non-against.**

10e). Aus Grid: Bronek K advised that discussions were taking place between HSC, AusGrid and League as to the de-commissioned equipment and replacement plans. Closing the road for any length of time was not considered a viable option

It was hope any major movement of equipment on roads would be done prior to remedial works on Riverview and or use of helicopter might have to be an option. **Bronek continues dialogue.**

Sarah G had concerns re poles with termites. Whilst regular inspections are taken out Bronek suggested **a call to AusGrid/Energy Australia to report a specific badly invested poles. A report has in the past resulted in a speedy inspection from the electricity supply organisations.**

Sue M – made suggestion that the light source from the streetlight might be lowered.... Several other residents thought this to be a good idea also.... as some homes get light pollution if living near to pole. Again it was considered something **individual residents might want to report if they are bothered with this.**

Bob Walker had a problem with the turf table and asked if more bitumen might be considered to avoid water running down and under his property. **Bronek K to survey the spot, with BW,** following meeting and to see if any remedial works might be carried out when the road engineers revisit the island in coming weeks.

Nicola W – advised members that 22nd September was Brooklyn Spring Fair and asked anybody wanted a stall to refer to her.

The meeting closed at 4.05pm

Next Public Meeting: General and AGM –

2pm Saturday 28th September 2013 – Community Hall

5:5