



Newport Residents Association Inc.

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Minutes of Ordinary General Meeting **Held 20th June 2017 at Newport Community Centre**

Meeting commenced at 8.30pm

Members present:	As per attendance sheet
President	Gavin Butler
Treasurer	Kyle Hill
Secretary:	Wendy Dunnet
Committee members:	Bill Thomson, Peter Middleton, Selena Webber, Sue Young

President's welcome to all present:

Gavin Butler welcomed members and guests including the Newport Chamber of Commerce and the Newport Surf Club. He explained the Ordinary meeting would be suspended in favour of a Special Community meeting to consider and discuss the proposal to terminate and turn around the B-Line busses. Should time permit the ordinary meeting would be resumed at the end of the Special Meeting. (*The minutes and notes from the special meeting are attached to these minutes.*)

Resumption of Ordinary Meeting

Gavin Butler again welcomed members and remaining guests and reminded everyone that Annual memberships were now due.

Apologies: Martha Gee, Dick England, Brian Penhall, Warwick Kitt

Approval of Minutes of previous Ordinary General Meeting held 16th May 2017
Moved: Greg Ross Seconded: Glen Moore

Treasurer's Report:

Balance as @ 30/04/2017	715.61
Add Receipts	0.00
Sub total	715.61
Deduct Payments	
Net Assets as at 31/05/2017	715.61

Moved: Pat Stewart Seconded: Bill Thomson

Correspondence & Matters Arising:

Any matters arising that relate to items for discussion would be dealt with at that time.

Correspondence from Christine Hastie on 1st June 2017 via a phone conversation with Pittwater Council, advised storm water drainage works would commence in the next few weeks in Bramley Lane to improve the drainage. Ross St will be reviewed next financial year.

Newport Playground Upgrade - letter received from Steve Lawler, Executive Manager (NBC) Parks and Reserves on behalf of Dick Persson acknowledging NRA correspondence, complimenting NBC staff on the recent upgrade.

Pittwater Waterway Review - Greg Ross and Glen Moore both sent letters commenting on the Waterway Review. Unfortunately a letter from the NRA was not received by the deadline however Council will accept our submission and the points raised at Stage 2 of the Pittwater Waterway Review draft Strategy. We will be advised once the date for the Council meeting has been determined.

Wine Bar - Gavin Butler received a request from Mr Patrick Moroney (Ph 0411 525454) to discuss with NRA the possibility of a Wine Bar on the corner of Robertson Rd and Foamcrest. GB to advise.

Pedestrian Safety Barrenjoey Rd. Further to correspondence sent to Warwick Kitt , Michelle Carter from NBC wrote to the NRA advising they will be contacting the owner of the property requesting they improve pedestrian safety. This may be through flashing lights or other calming devices. She also noted that as it is private property NBC are limited as to what action they can take.

Footpaths - Felicity Shonk from NBC advised Bill Thomson via correspondence, there are two footpath projects planned for FY18/19, at Hudson Parade and Crescent Rd but these may change as a result of the development of the Northern Beaches Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plan (PAMP) due to commence next financial year. It was agreed that we write to NBC requesting that PAMP for 2017-18 include a footpath running from the corner of Queens Pde East to Myola Rd Newport and then down Myola Rd to Ross St. A loop previously listed by PWC. GB suggested any other streets or footpaths should be nominated to be included in the Pittwater Masterplan.

B Line - we received correspondence from representatives from Cremorne who are also protesting the Government's decision to introduce the B line service. They have sent us a petition if anyone would like to sign it. As we only just received this email we will follow up with them prior to the next meeting.

Items for Discussion:

Council Amalgamations

Subsequent to the public meeting held in Mona Vale last month, Protect Pittwater, through crowd funding, have raised over \$13,000. They have since approached various barristers and solicitors re: the legal situation and will report further at the next meeting.

David Shoebridge (Greens member) is working on a petition which he proposes will go to the Minister. This is to instigate a boundary adjustment.

Upcoming NBC election 2017

Pittwater Forever plan to check out all candidates and consider who they will support. Further discussion to be held once we know who the candidates are.

Land & Environment Court Hearings

Greg Ross advised the L&EC had found in favour of the RMYC. The President advised that NRA has written to the NBC asking them to appeal the decision. Pittwater Forever has also written to the NBC asking them to appeal.

No findings at this time on other L&E matters.

Unleashed Dogs Exercise Areas

Submissions due to NBC by 21st June 2017. There is a link on the NBC website. Gavin Butler briefed the meeting on the submission he sent on behalf of the NRA.

327 Barrenjoey Rd shop top housing DA

To be discussed at the next meeting

Other Planning Applications

The list of new DA's and Section 96 applications received during the month, and those not otherwise dealt with during the meeting, were read out and no NRA action was deemed necessary.

Newport Oval

Roger Johnson advised he has an architect friend who has an idea. They are talking to Mona Vale Junior Rugby. Roger will follow up and report at the next meeting.

General Business:

Gavin Butler acknowledged local resident Alan McCormack received an OAM in the recent Australia Day honours.

Patsy Fry has requested the NRA support the Sculpture trail again, this year. Wendy Dunnet noted she has been trying to get in touch with either Patsy or David Catchlove to find out what they want.

B-Line bus service - there was further discussion following the earlier meeting and it was decided meetings needed to be made with the Premier, the RMS Minister and Rob Stokes.

Peter Middleton advised a You tube video on Newport could be viewed by the end of the week.

We will support the Newport Surf Club with a Rally. It was agreed we need a Rally.

Meeting Closed at 9.08 pm

Next Meeting will be the AGM to be held on Tuesday 18th July 2017 at the Newport Community Centre at 7.00pm.

Minutes of Special General Meeting **Held 20th June 2017 at Newport Community Centre**

Meeting commenced at 7.00pm

Members & guests present:

As per attendance sheet

President's welcome to all present:

Gavin Butler explained the Ordinary meeting would be suspended, as our meeting has been expanded to include other Newport Community Associations and general residents to consider and discuss:

- * The Proposal to extend the B-Line bus service to Newport
- * The impact on Newport with an explanation of the options for terminating and turning the B-Line buses around
- * Summarise discussions with Rob Stokes
- * Develop a community response

Should there be sufficient time the Ordinary meeting will resume later.

Introduction

A year ago, 21st June 2016, at the NRA meeting, it was discussed at length and decided that an extension of the B-Line from Mona Vale to Newport was not in the interests of the Newport Community. Additionally, the NRA was unaware of where the push was coming from to extend the B-Line or had there been any consultation on the benefits or otherwise.

Gavin Butler subsequently wrote a submission to NBC with a copy to Rob Stokes, on behalf of NRA expressing the following:

- *The detrimental impact on the residential streets of the volume of buses needing to turn around
- *The impact on the surf club car park if it was decided to use the northern end to turn the buses around could not be justified and would be too dangerous to the single lane portion and the bends coming down the hill from Avalon
- *The possibility of a dedicated bus lane would be catastrophic to Newport businesses
- *The current streetscape of Barrenjoey Rd in the village of Newport has been extremely well up graded and it would be potentially destroyed to make way for permanent bus lanes.

Gavin Butler subsequently had a drive around with the Administrator in November 2016 and once again made him and Rob Stokes aware of our issues. Not whether buses are good or bad but the impact on Newport.

GB advised there was to be a meeting on Wednesday 21st June 2017 at Mona Vale with representatives from the NSW Transport B-Line project team and other resident associations from the Northern Peninsular to discuss the B-Line service schedule. Palm Beach will lose some services under the current proposal.

Summary - Options for turning and terminating the B-Line buses at Newport

It is anticipated by the Government there will be 100 turning buses per day, 7 days.

- * Bramley Lane Car park - they will need half the carpark. If they also allow commuter parking that will be a major problem for the businesses & shops on the surrounding streets.

- * Northern end of Surf Club car park which will require a right turn from Neptune St. Then a turn around in the carpark. Space will need to be allowed for queuing.
- * A quarter of the Surf Club car park on the Western side, northern end - we will lose the centre parking

Interim suggestions:

- * Buses turn right off Barrenjoey Road into The Boulevard then left into Ross St, then Bramley Lane & back onto Barrenjoey
- * Left into Bourke St at the Rugby Park. This will create an issue with turning & queuing.

GB had a phone conversation with Rob Stokes on Friday 16th June 2017. Stokes said there was money to pay for alternate facilities but GB reiterated, why the B-Line at all when there was no need for the service.

It was discussed and agreed at the meeting, that there is no 'interim' start.

Newport Surf Club

Gavin Butler introduced Rob Emerson, President of the Newport Surf Club. Rob noted they had only found out at a meeting, on 13th June, about the B-Line. The Surf Club does have plans to extend the Club building and has been advocating with Council to remove the car spaces between the clubhouse and the playground to reduce the current pedestrian issues between the playground, the toilets & the beach. He noted on any sunny day in summer, surf club events, Nippers, Australia Day etc, the Car park is full.

While they have no detailed plans from B-Line for the car park, in regard to bus turning, layover parking for 3 buses, associated built facilities etc it was considered the reduction in car parking will substantially reduce the capacity & effectiveness of the car park for the community.

That proposing such significant bus infrastructure on absolute beach front land seems completely inappropriate for the beachside environment.

That the traffic movement required to turn the volume of buses into the beach car park will be problematic.

He communicated that the surf club management committee would join other residential groups in articulating their concerns to the proposal of potentially turning buses around in the beach carpark for the B-Line.

He also noted their concerns with the apparent lack of planning for the Newport extension. The fact that if this goes ahead as planned in January there will need to be a temporary solution whilst a design and REF is prepared. If the buses are running in January it doesn't seem likely that the REF for a permanent solution will receive unbiased consideration.

There needs to be more effective community consultation. The B-Line people had not even contacted the Surf Club.

Newport Chamber of Commerce

GB introduced Margaux Strong President of the Newport Chamber of Commerce. Their number 1 concern is for the shop keepers & businesses of Newport. She will talk to them re: their awareness of the B-Line extension and what it means.

General Discussion on the current Bus services and what will the B-Line provide

- * there will not be many extra buses compared to current situation
- * need 150 commuter spaces - currently 74
- * Initially we were told it was uneconomic to bring buses past Mona Vale - what's changed?
- * L90 (15 minute service) will be reduced
- * L88 E buses approx 12 per hour
- * 199 to Manly with a change at Mona Vale or Newport?
- * Forest Coaches currently provide 'feeder' buses
- * 10 minute service sounds great but what is the impact?
- * why change everything for "how many people" will use additional service
- * B-Line 7 days a week till 11pm
- * Capacity of the B-Line buses vs current Bendy buses?
- * focus should be on B-Line terminating at Mona Vale
- * new double decker buses have smaller footprint than their predecessors
- * we need to consider all the children who use the Surf club carpark
- * Mona Vale residents have proven they can stop the Government
- * We do need to do something about the traffic - is the B-Line the answer?
- * we can't have light rail or train
- * improving the internet speed will allow more people to work from home or nearby
- * The B-Line is coming but Newport is not the place to terminate the buses
- * There should be an Environmental Impact study
- * We do need to get to the wider community. Rob Stokes says he has feedback that there is a demand for the B-Line. We need to qualify & quantify that need.
- * Mona Vale is the Town Centre and the Bus terminal there should be expanded to provide all the facilities the RMS require at minimal cost using Industrial land. The Newport Beach front is valuable land, for the whole community.
- * The B-Line is not a rapid bus service. You will not get there any quicker as there is no designated bus lane other than what is currently there

After much discussion it was decided to prepare a motion for the meeting.

Motion

A Motion was put to the publicly promoted meeting of the Newport Residents Association, attended by the President and other members, the President of the Newport SLSC and other members, the office bearers of the Newport Chamber of Commerce and other residents of Newport.

Resolution Carried

That this meeting resolves that no B-Line service is extended to terminate in the village of Newport and that it be terminated at the town centre of Mona Vale which is at the junction of major roads to and from Pittwater.

Furthermore, this decision is to be conveyed to all pertinent Members of Parliament, Department heads and Council executives who are involved in B-Line terminus decisions and it is to be supported by the reasons for this community's requirement for this action.

Proposed by: Peter Middleton, Seconded by: Bill Thomson

Meeting closed at 8.20pm