Newport Residents Association Inc.

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Annual General Meeting 2026 - Minutes

Date: Tuesday, 1 September 2026

Meeting: Annual General Meeting

Location: Newport

President / Chair: Gavin Butler

Secretary: Wendy Dunnet

Treasurer/ Vice President: Glenn Moore

Committee Members: Peter Middleton, Doug Cohen,
Sue Young (apology), Kyle Hill (apology)

Members present: As per attendance sheet

1. Opening and Apologies

The Annual General Meeting was opened by the President, Gavin Butler.

Apologies were received from:

- Sam Trahan
- Kyle Hill
- Sue and Tony Young
- Sue Ross
- Cllr Rowie Dillon

2. Confirmation of Minutes of Previous AGM

The minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting had been circulated to members prior to the meeting.

There being no amendments or objections, the minutes were **accepted as a true and accurate record**.

Moved: Ron Seldon

Seconded: Glenn Moore

Carried

3. President's Report

President Gavin Butler presented his report for the 2025–26 year.

The President thanked the members of the Newport Residents Association for their continued support and noted the importance of the Association maintaining a close working relationship with Northern Beaches Council and its Councillors.

Particular appreciation was expressed for **Andrew Johnson, NBC Community Liaison Officer**, who regularly attends NRA meetings, provides updates on Council policies and follows up Newport maintenance and other community matters.

The President also reported on the Association's involvement with the **Pittwater Community Alliance**, comprising approximately 14 major community organisations within the former Pittwater area. The Alliance's objectives include protecting and preserving Pittwater's unique environment and advocating for the area's built and natural environment.

Key matters addressed during the year included:

- Robertson Road development
- Newport – Bilgola shared pathway
- Serpentine public art proposal
- Review of the draft Northern Beaches Local Environmental Plan (LEP) and Development Control Plan (DCP)
- Coastal and waterways issues
- Representation on community and development matters affecting Newport residents

The President thanked:

- Wendy Dunnet — Secretary
- Glenn Moore — Treasurer
- Peter Middleton
- Sue Young
- Kyle Hill
- Doug Cohen

for their support and contribution throughout the year.

Motion: That the President's Report be accepted.

Moved: Peter Middleton

Seconded: Doug Cohen

Carried

4. Secretary's Report

Secretary Wendy Dunnet presented her report.

Wendy acknowledged the long-standing leadership of Gavin Butler as President and his continuing role as Chairman of the Pittwater Community Alliance.

The Association's activities during the year included continued advocacy and follow-up on:

- Newport – Bilgola shared pathway
- Robertson Road development
- Newport's vacant shops and commercial vacancies
- Planning policy and rate increases

- Community consultation arrangements
- E-bikes and e-scooters
- Illegal vape and tobacco shops
- Mona Vale Road West extension
- Wakehurst Parkway
- Coastal artwork proposed for Bert Payne Park
- Newport revitalisation initiatives

Wendy noted the importance of Council supporting initiatives designed to bring events and activity into Newport throughout the year.

Particular emphasis was placed on the **"Reactivating Newport"** proposal prepared by Glenn Moore and the committee. This was identified as an important project for the forthcoming year, with the Association seeking support from Councillors and Council.

The Association's submission on the draft Northern Beaches LEP and DCP was also acknowledged, together with submissions made by the Pittwater Community Alliance and individual members.

Wendy thanked Andrew Johnson for his regular attendance and assistance, and thanked members for their ongoing support and participation.

She also acknowledged the committee members for their teamwork and assistance throughout the year.

Motion: That the Secretary's Report be accepted.

Moved: Gavin Butler

Seconded: Peter Middleton

Carried

5. Guest Presentation — Ms Jacqui Scruby MP

The meeting welcomed **Jacqui Scruby MP**, State Member for the local electorate, who attended at short notice and provided an update on issues affecting Newport and the wider Pittwater area.

The presentation and subsequent discussion covered:

Newport revitalisation and vacant shops

Jacqui discussed the difficulties facing Newport's commercial centre and vacant shopfronts.

She referred to possible "carrot and stick" approaches, including incentives for landlords who make vacant premises available for pop-up shops, creative uses or community activities.

She also discussed the possibility of future legislative measures involving vacant commercial properties and indicated that she was investigating these matters in advance of the next State election.

Grant funding opportunities for local activation projects were discussed, including the successful funding obtained for Avalon.

The concept of **Community Improvement Districts** was also discussed. Jacqui offered to arrange for a relevant NSW Government representative to attend a future meeting and explain how such districts operate.

E-bikes, e-scooters and antisocial behaviour

Considerable discussion took place concerning illegal e-bikes, youth antisocial behaviour, theft and pedestrian safety.

Jacqui advised that new enforcement powers relating to illegal e-bikes were expected to be implemented shortly and that police would have the ability to seize bikes that were illegal, regardless of whether the rider was engaging in other unlawful behaviour.

She indicated that she was advocating for enforcement activity to focus on known problem areas and times.

The meeting also discussed possible future measures involving registration, licensing and/or insurance of e-bikes.

Development and planning reform

Jacqui expressed concern about the State Government's development and planning reforms, including the Housing Delivery Authority (HDAs) and State Significant Development (SSDs) processes.

She encouraged residents to become involved with local advocacy groups and to make submissions concerning proposed planning changes.

She also referred members to the new Sydney planning strategy and encouraged residents to understand the implications of increased housing densities and development throughout Sydney.

Mona Vale Road and Wakehurst Parkway

An update was provided on progress relating to Mona Vale Road West and Wakehurst Parkway.

The Mona Vale Road consultation period had been extended, and the contractor procurement process was underway.

Wakehurst Parkway works were discussed in relation to road safety, drainage, flooding and road improvements.

Narrabeen track

Jacqui advised that the Narrabeen track project was progressing and was expected to reopen later in 2026.

Vape and tobacco shops

The meeting was advised of increased enforcement against retailers selling illegal tobacco and vapes.

Jacqui noted that landlords may now face penalties where they knowingly lease premises to retailers involved in such illegal activities.

Roadside cleanliness

Concerns about rubbish and debris along roads including Wakehurst Parkway and Mona Vale Road were raised.

Jacqui advised that she had referred concerns about the quality of roadside maintenance to the relevant authorities and had received an indication that roadside cleaning would be undertaken.

6. Questions and Discussion with Jacqui

Members raised questions concerning:

- Illegal e-bike use and enforcement
- Youth behaviour and parental responsibility
- Pedestrian safety
- Registration and licensing of e-bikes
- The economic cost of e-bike injuries
- Empty shopfronts

- Local business activity
- Development pressures
- Community consultation
- Public transport and the potential impact if the B-Line was extended

  Jacqui advised that she considered the absence of a B-Line service to Newport to be, in some respects, a factor limiting development pressure (as seen in Mona Vale), although she acknowledged the potential benefits of improved public transport for local businesses.

  Jacqui was thanked for attending and for providing the update.

7. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Glenn Moore presented the financial report for the year ended **30 June 2026**.

Key figures reported were:

- Membership income for 2025–26: $522
- Membership income for 2024–25: $1,655
- Expenditure for 2025–26: approximately $1,225
- Assets/cash at 30 June 2026: approximately $623
- Liabilities: Nil
- Member equity: approximately $623

Membership numbers were reported as:

- 2024–25: approximately 56 memberships
- 2025–26: approximately 29 memberships
- Current year: approximately 31 memberships

The Treasurer noted that increasing membership was important to the Association's financial sustainability. Approximately 50 paying memberships would substantially cover the Association's annual operating costs.

The meeting also discussed the Association's website, email communication and Facebook/social media presence as opportunities to increase awareness, attract new members and encourage participation.

A suggestion was made that future communications should include a prominent and simple **"Join/Become a Member"** link to make membership easier for new attendees.

The Treasurer advised that expenditure was being carefully controlled and was expected to remain at a similar level during the coming financial year.

Motion: That the Treasurer's Report be accepted.

Moved: Ron Seldon

Seconded: John Colquhoun

Carried

8. Election of Office Bearers and Committee

All positions were declared vacant for the purpose of the election.

Andrew Johnson acted as Returning Officer/Interim Chair for the election process.

President

Nominee: Glenn Moore

Proposed by: Kyle Hill

Seconded by: Sue Young

There being no further nominations, Glenn Moore was **elected President**.

Vice President and Treasurer

Nominee: Gavin Butler

Proposed by: Glenn Moore

Seconded by: Kyle Hill

There being no further nominations, Gavin Butler was **elected Vice President and Treasurer**.

Secretary

Nominee: Doug Cohen

Proposed by: Gavin Butler

Seconded by: Wendy Dunnet

There being no further nominations, Doug Cohen was **elected Secretary**.

Committee Member 1

Nominee: Wendy Dunnet

Proposed by: Gavin Butler

Seconded by: Doug Cohen

Wendy Dunnet was **elected Committee Member**.

Committee Member 2

Nominee: Sue Young

Proposed by: Gavin Butler

Seconded by: Peter Middleton

Sue Young was **elected Committee Member**.

Committee Member 3

Nominee: Peter Middleton

Proposed by: Gavin Butler

Seconded by: Sue Young

Peter Middleton was **elected Committee Member**.

Committee Member 4

Nominee: Kyle Hill

Proposed by: Gavin Butler

Seconded by: Peter Middleton

Kyle Hill was **elected Committee Member**.

The Returning Officer declared the election process complete and congratulated the incoming committee.

9. Incoming President's Remarks

Glenn Moore thanked members for their confidence in electing him President.

He acknowledged the extensive experience and long-standing service of committee members, including:

- Gavin Butler - approximately 13 years as President and many additional years on the committee
- Wendy Dunnet - approximately 10 years as Secretary
- Peter Middleton - approximately 16 years as a committee member, including previous periods as Secretary
- Sue Young - approximately 15 years on the committee, including service as Secretary and as a former Pittwater Councillor
- Kyle Hill - approximately 22 years on the committee, including service as President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary

Glenn stated that the experience and institutional knowledge of the committee would provide important support as he took on the role of President.

He welcomed Doug Cohen to the committee and thanked the outgoing and continuing members for their contribution.

10. Council Update — Andrew Johnson

Andrew Johnson provided an update on several Council matters.

Changes to community participation and development applications

Andrew advised that significant changes to the NSW planning system had come into effect on **1 September 2026**.

Under the new arrangements, a large proportion of development applications would no longer be required to be publicly notified or exhibited.

Examples discussed included certain:

- Dwelling houses
- Dual occupancies
- Multi-dwelling developments
- Secondary dwellings
- Ancillary development
- Subdivisions creating up to five lots

- Alterations and additions
- Modifications to existing approvals
- Tree removal

Andrew advised that Council planning staff would continue to assess applications against planning requirements, but residents would no longer necessarily have the opportunity to make submissions.

He noted that Council had concerns about the loss of local knowledge that can sometimes be provided through community submissions.

The meeting discussed an example where community information about an Aboriginal heritage site had assisted Council's consideration of a development application.

Members expressed concern about the reduced opportunity for residents to be informed about and comment on development proposals.

Andrew clarified that "Councillors" do not generally assess individual development applications; these are assessed by Council planning staff in accordance with the applicable planning legislation and procedures.

Complying development

Andrew also advised that changes had been made to notification arrangements for complying development, including changes to the information provided to neighbouring residents.

Digital parking permits

Andrew advised that the new digital parking permit system had commenced from **31 August 2026**.

Approximately 100,000 permits had been issued.

Residents experiencing difficulties were encouraged to contact Council's customer service centre at Mona Vale or Andrew for assistance.

Once registered, permits would generally operate on a three-year cycle.

Newport – Bilgola Shared Path

Andrew advised that the project was approaching completion.

Because e-bikes and e-scooters had become more prevalent since the pathway was originally designed, Council was investigating design measures intended to encourage slower speeds and improve safety.

Further works would also occur around the northern end of the car park, including cleaning, landscaping, fencing and improvements to the transition between the car park and dune area.

Coastal artwork

Andrew advised that the proposed coastal artwork remained under consideration.

The project was subject to artistic copyright considerations, meaning Council could not yet publicly release details of the proposed artwork.

Further information would be provided when appropriate.

Queens Street East car park

Andrew acknowledged the Association's advocacy concerning improvements to the Queens Street East car park and surrounding area.

He noted that the improvements were an example of successful advocacy by the Newport Residents Association.

11. Questions to Council

Members asked questions concerning:

- Street sweeping in Newport
- Scheduling of street cleaning
- Parked vehicles preventing kerbside cleaning
- Development application notification
- Complying development
- Private certifiers
- Access to development plans on Council's website
- Community consultation
- Council's role in development assessment
- The new NSW planning reforms

Andrew advised that residential streets are generally scheduled for street sweeping approximately every **6–10 weeks**, although the timing can change because street-sweeping crews may be redirected following storms, flooding, debris incidents and other operational requirements. He acknowledged the difficulty caused by parked vehicles preventing access to gutters.

Andrew also advised that Council was seeking legal advice concerning the extent to which development applications and associated plans could continue to be displayed online where an application was no longer subject to public exhibition.

12. Planning and LEP/DCP Submissions

The meeting was advised that the formal public submission period for the draft Northern Beaches LEP and DCP had recently closed.

The Newport Residents Association had made a submission, prepared principally by Gavin Butler and Sue Young.

Submissions had also been made by:

- Pittwater Community Alliance
- Other Pittwater community organisations
- Peter Middleton
- Doug Cohen
- Glenn Moore
- Other individual residents

Members were advised that residents could continue to communicate directly with Council regarding matters of concern, notwithstanding the formal exhibition period having closed.

It was anticipated that Council staff would review submissions over the following several weeks, with consideration by Councillors expected during 2027.

13. Current NRA Activities and Future Priorities

The meeting noted several matters requiring continued attention during the coming year:

1) **Reactivating Newport** — continuing discussions with Council, Councillors, the Newport Chamber of Commerce/Pittwater Business representatives and the State Member.
2) **Pittwater/Hawkesbury–Nepean waterways and coastal management** — continuing advocacy and consultation.
3) **Draft LEP and DCP** — monitoring the Council assessment and future consideration.
4) **Newport – Bilgola shared pathway** — monitoring completion and safety measures.
5) **Mona Vale Road West** — monitoring progress and consultation.
6) **Wakehurst Parkway** — monitoring road safety, drainage and flood mitigation works.
7) **Newport commercial centre** — seeking funding and initiatives to increase activity and reduce vacant premises.
8) **E-bike and pedestrian safety** — monitoring implementation and enforcement of new State Government measures.
9) **Illegal vape and tobacco retailers** — continuing to support appropriate enforcement.
10) **Coastal artwork** — seeking further information from Council when available.

14. Correspondence

Secretary Wendy Dunnet reported on correspondence received.

Queens Street East Car Park / Tree Planting

Correspondence from Sam Trahan was noted.

Council's Parks and Landscape Design team had undertaken an initial site assessment and identified an opportunity for tree planting at the car park.

The proposal was undergoing further feasibility assessment, with Council's landscape, roads and engineering teams considering the relevant site and design requirements.

A draft concept plan is expected to be developed for further discussion.

Funding may potentially be considered as part of a future Council budget program.

The Association acknowledged Sam Trahan's continued advocacy on this matter.

Pittwater Community Alliance event

Members were advised of an upcoming presentation:

"Where Have All the Trees Gone? The Cumulative Impact of Suburban Redevelopment"

Speaker: Professor Peter Davies, Macquarie University

Date: Thursday, 12 November 2026

Time: 7:00 pm

Venue: Avalon Beach Surf Life Saving Club

Members were encouraged to note the date. The event may also be promoted through the NRA's communication channels closer to the time.

15. Next Meeting

The next Newport Residents Association monthly meeting will be held on:

Tuesday, 13 October 2026

Meetings will then return to the first Tuesday of the month for November and December.

16. Close of Meeting

There being no further business, the President thanked members and guests for their attendance and declared the Annual General Meeting closed.

Meeting closed: Approximately 8:30 pm

Elected Committee — 2026–27

Position	Name
President	Glenn Moore
Vice President & Treasurer	Gavin Butler
Secretary	Doug Cohen
Committee Member	Wendy Dunnet
Committee Member	Sue Young
Committee Member	Peter Middleton
Committee Member	Kyle Hill

Prepared from the meeting recording/transcript for confirmation and adoption at the next meeting.

Appendix

Newport Residents Association
Financial Statement 2025-2026

Statement of Income & Expenditure for the period 01/07/2025 to 30/6/2026

Income	2024-2025	2025-2026
Bank Interest		
Donations - General	360.00	52.00
Subscriptions 2024/2025	930.00	0
Subscriptions 2025/2026	230.00	330.00
Subscriptions 2026/2027	90.00	140.00
Subscriptions 2027/2028	45.00	0
	1655.00	**522.00**
Expenditure		
NSW Fair Trading		57.00
Post Box & Postage	159.00	202.00
Printing & Stationery	70.00	
Web Site Costs	15.95	210.00
ANZAC Wreath & Flowers	120.00	120.00
NBC Hall Hire	658.20	616.00
Hall hire for PCA		
Projector Cable		20.00
	1101.93	1225.00
Surplus/ (Deficit)	**553.07**	**(703.00)**

Bank Reconciliation

Balance @ 1st July	**637.97**	**1401.04**
Cash	135.00	45.00
Add receipts	1655.00	522.00
	2427.97	1968.04
Deduct payments	1,101.93	1225.00
Net Assets	**1326.04**	**743.04**
Bank Statement 30th June	**1401.04**	**521.04**
Plus o/s deposit	90.00	102.00
	1491.04	623.04
less unpresented cheques	165	0
	1326.04	623.04
Net Assets @ 30th June	**1326.04**	**623.04**

	Balance Sheet 30th June 2025	**Balance Sheet 30th June 2026**
Assets		
Cash	**1326.04**	**623.04**
Liabilities	0	0
Members Equity	**1326.04**	**623.04**

Prepared by Glenn Moore, Treasurer Newport Residents Association

Date: 26th August 2026