Secretary’s Report July 2018 – June 2019

The NRA held General Meetings in eleven of the months, including the December Christmas social gathering. Since our March meeting, we have had the benefit of the monthly attendance of the NBC’s Community Liaison Coordinator or her deputy. This has resulted in excellent follow-up on matters discussed or arising in our meetings. It has also facilitated specific Council presentations/discussions on pertinent matters such as the Newport Flood Study and the Newport Village Activation Plan.

As our President has reported, this year has seen the NRA well represented in the quarterly meetings of four of the NBC Strategic Reference Groups. Additionally, these SRG reps and other NRA members have participated in the community’s input to other Council strategic area workshops, such as Local Strategic Planning Statement and Local Housing Strategy; Sister Cities and NBC; Northern Beaches Industry Tourism Summit; Draft Destination Management Plan.

The NRA has continued to be represented at each meeting of the community consortium, Pittwater Community Alliance, including our President, Gavin, continuing as the group’s Secretary. This has resulted in worthwhile cross-community communication and cooperation, including PCA meetings with senior Council management and other government representatives.

While the NBC is yet to instigate an advice system to registered community groups, re DAs and other planning/zoning proposals which affect their domains, our committee members have set-up a defacto method which warns us of most Newport proposals, allowing a submission to be made where thought appropriate and discussion at a general meeting when the advertised period allows.

The NRA has registered with NBC to receive Community Engagement emails and other pertinent community advices. This allows our association to consider and, where appropriate, make submissions on significant matters such as: Pittwater Waterways Strategy; public acquisition of 62 Hillside Rd rain forest area; upgrading of Newport Oval as the entrance to the village; Parking policies; community future for Foamcrest Ave Carpark; Outdoor Dining policy and charges; Station Beach Off-leash Dog Trial.

In summary, your association continues to raise, to monitor and to draw attention to a spectrum of matters and issues that affect our community and be available to act as its conduit to those who can assist us towards favourable outcomes.