



Newport Residents Association Inc.

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Vice-President Kyle Hill 0412 221 962

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Hon. Treasurer – Glenn Moore 0418 609 207

www.newport.org.au

Minutes of Meeting

Held 15th February 2022 at Newport Community Centre

Meeting commenced at 7.04pm

Members present:

President

Vice-President

Treasurer

Secretary:

Committee members:

As per Covid19 attendance sheet

Gavin Butler

Kyle Hill (apology)

Glenn Moore

Wendy Dunnet

Peter Middleton, Simon Barlow,

Sue Young

President's Note

Gavin Butler welcomed members and special guests, Trish Chaney & Allison Cooper, from NBC.

Apologies: Kyle Hill

Approval of Minutes: of previous meeting held 16th November 2021.

Moved: P.Middleton

Seconded: R.Seldon

Treasurer's Report:

Balance as @ 01/11/2021	2050.28
Add Receipts	270.00
Sub total	2320.28
Deduct Payments	143.60
Net assets as @ 31/01/2022	2176.68

Moved: G.Ross

Seconded: S.Young

Note: Members Subs 2021-2022 Now Due & Payable

Correspondence & Matters Arising:

The Greater Sydney Commission advised an update of 2 new Senior leaders, John Lydon as Economic Commissioner & Sarah Winter as Executive Director Central Coast & Macquarie Park.

In response to an enquiry by the PCA as to rules & regulations for Houseboats on Pittwater, Andrew Johnston from Rob Stokes office, responded that yes, in certain locations & under certain conditions. Marine legislation does not permit a person to permanently reside on any vessel (including houseboats) moored in NSW waters. There are also restrictions regarding how many days, vessels can be at anchor in NSW waters.

Bill Thomson, one of our members raised further concerns of dogs on Newport beach requesting our Councillors to make representation to Council to require the enforcement of current regulations. This is an on-going issue. Previously Councillor Rory Amon had advised there are only 3 full time & 1 part time dedicated animal management officers. They will respond to a call to Council regarding a specific call out or dog attack.

NPWS have advised they are improving visitor amenities at Barrenjoey Headland by installing permanent toilets & a water refill station. Concept plans will be available late February 2022 & construction is scheduled to commence in mid-late 2022.

Items for Discussion:

Robertson Road Update

Gavin Butler advised the meeting of the Planning Panel's decision, received on Monday 14th February, to approve the DA for 351 Barrenjoey Rd with conditions, despite all our objections and concerns. We are all very disappointed in this result.

He had previously sent an email to our new ward Councillors detailing the 351 Barrenjoey Rd DA breaches (which they had asked for). GB summarised those details to the meeting. In an email to Mayor Regan (25th January 2022) he reiterated our belief (contrary to Mayor Regan's) that the Newport Masterplan is still sound. We only object to a DA when it attempts to breach the NMP & the DCP/LEP. Non adherence to the NMP is happening time & time again.

We are concerned this has again set a precedent and that despite the planning codes, a developer is still able to negotiate changes to their benefit.

Newport Planning Applications

A number of DA's have recently been submitted to Council, most are for alterations or additions to existing premises. Council did advise us the DA at 521 Barrenjoey Rd Bilgola Beach was refused. We have the on-going issue of not receiving notification of DA's but instead rely on an app to notify us. Two DA's that are of consideration are:

Firstly, 11 - 17 Ocean Ave, Newport for construction of a residential flat building.

Secondly, 27 Nullaburra Rd Newport. This DA will require a 7m deep by 7m wide excavation and is totally out of scale to the neighbouring residential housing. Submissions close 16th February. GB asked WD to write to Council requesting an extension to give us time to consider this DA and put forward a submission. Again we have not been notified of this application.

Council Elections

We have 3 new Ward Councillors - Rory Amon, Miranda Korzy and Michael Gencher. We look forward to working with them on issues involving Pittwater.

PCA update

GB advised he is now Chairman of the Pittwater Community Alliance (PCA) for the next year, with Chris Hornsby of Warriewood Residents Assn as Secretary. Earlier in the day the PCA had an on-line meeting with Louise Kerr (Director of Planning, NBC) and Andrew Pigott. The meeting was well represented by other members of the Pittwater Community groups that make up the PCA. Sue Young & Wendy Dunnet also attended. He thanked Trish Chaney for organising the meeting.

The first item on the agenda discussed inappropriate DA's eg 1105/1107 Barrenjoey Rd Palm Beach, 189 River Rd Clareville, 351 Barrenjoey Rd Newport. Also quarrying of rock formations, Ocean Rd & Florida Rd. (which should be treated similar to tree preservation).

Louise Kerr responded at length to each of these examples. She and Andrew Pigott outlined the plan for the development of the new LEP which will possibly only be ready by the end of the year. Issues with height limits, housing strategy & floor space ratios were all discussed.

The inclusion of each of our villages' Character statements into the new LEP was the most debated item with Council believing the statements were similar & therefore individual statements would not be included. Of major concern was that NBC advised they were getting push back from the State Government from the proposed inclusion of the Character Statements into the LEP and that they be retained in the DCP as they are currently. One of the offsets to losing our Pittwater LEP was the promise to include the Character Statements into the more legally binding LEP. The PCA will therefore write to our local Member, Rob Stokes, reinforcing the need to include our Character Statements both in the LEP and in their current form. Council is saying it's a State Government issue.

In summary, the members of the PCA are very concerned that the Northern Beaches Council are allowing too many planning breaches across the peninsular.

Separately, Miranda Korzy wrote on 1st February to the communities across the Northern Beaches advising she had a meeting with Louise Kerr regarding the new LEP. Miranda noted what her priorities are for the area - topping her list is building lightly in E4 zones & preventing overdevelopment - stopping massive excavations that change the contours of the land, strong tree canopy laws & maintaining low rise buildings in the villages. She also wants to know what the Community groups & active residents want. What are their priorities? She wants to know what you want & do not want.

Newport SLSC update

Submissions closed mid December 2021. GB asked Trish Chaney if Council could please advise current situation

Marina Safety

Following on from writing to council over safety concerns in our Marinas last year, Council advised it is an RMS issue. Therefore we contacted Roads & Transport who have written to say it is not their issue it's Council's issue. They also suggested we contact Fire & Rescue NSW.

Newport Activation Group - Taste of the Beaches

Allison Cooper is hopeful the activation group will meet regularly this year. The Taste of the Beaches is a Council initiative. Unfortunately the cafes in Newport are not able to take advantage of the grants available due to struggling with staff & managing their businesses.

We had some entertainment over the last 2 Saturdays in Robertson Rd and near the florist. Those who heard it thought it was very good. On Australia Day, Council provided entertainment in Bert Payne park but many people were disappointed that there was no celebration. People came expecting there to be a celebration as we have had in previous years.

On Saturday, February 26th, 9am-3pm in Robertson Rd, there will be a 'Make Music Day'. Allison to forward details.

Presentation - Robertson Road Concept

Simon Barlow, 'Save Robertson Road' founder and NRA committee member, presented to the meeting some concepts of how Robertson Road and the individual land owners could come together and create a precinct that meets the Newport Master Plan and creates a heart for Newport. The meeting gave a very positive response to his presentation. It was suggested we look at Green Square & how the owners there came together to help create it.

Miranda Korzy had advised via email that the CEO of the Northern Beaches Council was due to meet with the Pittwater Councillors to show them plans that staff have drawn up based on Simon's concepts.

General Newport Maintenance Matters

In mid June 2020 we met with Council at Dearin Park in Kalinya St and discussed ways to improve the park so more people would use it. This included installing 2 more seats near the water's edge as well as upgrading the paths, building a sandstone wall, adding additional bins & installing a hand rail. Council have advised they will install 2 new seats near the street which was not where we had suggested. These would be new seats & they have allowed for this in the 21/22 budget. Previously they had said they had some seats in storage we could use. After some discussion, the meeting agreed to using the seats in storage even if they do not match and use those funds to complete other upgrading in the park. WD to discuss with Council representative.

Other maintenance issues include removing the now obsolete Optus Cables from our streets, asking Council to improve the south entrance to Newport beach and to establish more regular street sweeping. Also the new Keoride buses are parking adjacent to Porters Reserve taking up a lot of car parking spaces. Trish Chaney to investigate.

NBC Matters & Projects Open for Comment

The NRA has recently made a submission to the NBC Community Engagement Strategy and the Draft Northern Beaches Environmental Study. Both entailed extensive work by Committee members.

Sue Young suggested submissions made on Council's 'Have Your Say' should be available for the public to read & review (as per submissions on a DA) so that one can see what other people are thinking. PM to update our submission to include this suggestion.

General Business:

No other business

Meeting Closed at 8.40pm

Next Meeting: will be 15th March 2022 at the Newport Community Centre at 7.00pm