



# Newport Residents Association Inc.

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Hon. Treasurer – Glenn Moore 0418 609 207

[www.newport.org.au](http://www.newport.org.au)

## Minutes of Meeting Held 18th February 2025 at Newport Community Centre

### Meeting commenced at 7.03pm

Members present:	As per attendance sheet
President	Gavin Butler
Vice-President	Kyle Hill (apology)
Treasurer	Glenn Moore
Secretary:	Wendy Dunnet
Committee members:	Sue Young (apology), P Middleton

### President's Note:

Gavin Butler welcomed members and guests including Andrew Johnston from NBC.

**Apologies:** Sue and Tony Young, Kyle Hill, Ray & Bronwyn Brooks

**Approval of Minutes:** of previous meeting held 19th November 2024.

Moved: G.Moore

Seconded: R.Seldon

### Treasurer's Report

Balance as @ 01/01/ 2025	\$969.77
Add Receipts	\$0
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>\$969.77</b>
Deduct Payments	\$110.00
Net assets as @ 31/01/2025	\$859.77

Moved: R.Seldon  
Seconded:P.Middleton  
NRA annual membership is \$20 per person or \$25 per family and is now due.

### **Correspondence & Matters Arising:**

The meeting discussed the recent Coles supermarket closure (19th January 2025) and their plan for re-opening as a 'Coles Local'. A previous letter to Coles outlining some community concerns and an NRA survey also noting some community suggestions for improvement in the store were discussed at length. NWP has been providing assistance to help people go to other supermarkets while the store is closed.

It was suggested we invite the Coles Manager to a meeting to present what the store will look like. It was also suggested that Coles should renovate, paint & therefore improve access to their carpark.

### **Items for Discussion:**

#### **Robertson Road**

GB responded to rumours about RR and DA 2019/1157 by contacting Louise Kerr. Council confirmed that Condition 15 has been imposed on that development consent in relation to the requirement of a construction management plan (CTMP). It must be submitted to Council for approval prior to the issue of the Construction Certificate (CC). Council has confirmed it has not received a CTMP yet or a CC. Works will not be able to commence onsite until such time that a CTMP has been approved and a CC issued.

Andrew Johnston confirmed Council audits vacant shops as members raised their concerns about the current number of vacant shops in Newport & RR.

The next RR working group will meet in early March. Council is planning to retain an Urban designer to work on RR & has advertised the appointment. We have been asking for this for more than 5 years. We are very grateful for Simon Barlow's work on Save Robertson Road and the number of designs that have already been created.

#### **Newport Planning Applications**

We received in January an email regarding an unapproved & non compliant construction at 65 Hillside Rd Newport. Unfortunately submissions closed at the end of January.

#### **NBC Rates decision**

Despite the number of submissions made regarding the proposed rates decision, Council met on 28th January and made the decision to increase Council rates by a proposed 40%. Fortunately, this decision still needs to go to IPART tribunal who will make the decision to approve it or not. This is standard practice. The Auditor General should make a judgement in May. Our State member Jacqui Scruby has put an on-line petition for us to send to the NSW government asking for an Independent inquiry, an audit & a halt to rate increases in the interim. The petition needs 20,000 signatures to trigger a debate in Parliament. The petition is on our website.

#### **NSW Govt Planning Reforms**

The State Government has finalised its planning reforms. The focus will be on Mona Vale as a Town Centre which will allow new medium density development up to 6 storeys. Good news for Newport. A Forum is being held on 26th February at Mona Vale Memorial Hall 6-9pm to discuss community involvement.

#### **PCA Update**

A meeting was held on 28th January with Jacqui Scruby MP, attended by representatives of the PCA including Gavin Butler. GB summarised the discussion which covered a number of topics

including housing reforms, NBC budgetary issues & cost shifting from the State Government, Wakehurst Parkway flood proofing, MV road west stage 2 progress - nothing can be done at this stage - progressive loss of tree cover, E-bikes and proposed lowering of speed limits from Avalon to Palm Beach. GB confirmed it was a very productive meeting.

### **Shared Pathway to Bilgola**

Andrew Johnston noted preliminary works for the Newport to The Serpentine shared pathway will commence from 24th February. The initial works include clearing vegetation & further survey work will allow for a detailed design to be completed which will then go on public exhibition for community feedback.

The project webpage will be updated as the project progresses.

<https://yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/ConnectingNorthernBeaches>

### **NRA Meeting Dates**

GB advised members that NBC have changed their meeting dates to the 3rd Tuesday of the month which therefore means Councillors cannot come to our meetings nor can we attend a Council meeting. It was discussed to change the date and it was agreed to move after decades of meeting on the 3rd Tuesday of the month to now meeting on the 1st Tuesday.

Therefore it was agreed our next meeting will be 1st April 2025 with possibly 2 committee meetings prior to that meeting to cover an issues.

### **General Newport Maintenance**

It was noted that there has been no maintenance on the median strip on Barrenjoey Rd which is a poor welcome to Newport.

In addition WD asked if Council could do some maintenance on the Newport to Bilgola pathway even with the works progressing. The yellow paint on the steps has worn and is quite dangerous. They need repainting & weeds need clearing.

### **Other NBC Matters**

WD noted the extensive media reporting of Australia Day celebrations at Newport Beach and the massive effort put in by all the local communities to make it such a great community event. It was therefore extremely disappointing that Council decided to withdraw its \$5000.00 of funding. This annual event has been held for the last 30 years and until recently included Citizenship ceremony.

Council's Coastal Artwork project is due to have another meeting in the coming months in after requesting submissions from the community to be taken into account for the briefing to potential artists.

### **General Business**

Glenn Moore asked if Council can please organise no parking signs surrounding our Anzac memorial, leading up to Anzac Day. Anzac Day is a very important event in our community, with many more people attending. We need parking restrictions in place to make it safe and provide space for hundreds of people.

**Meeting Closed at 8.35pm**

**Next Meeting: Tuesday 1st April 2025 at the Newport Community Centre at 7.00pm**

***NRA 2024/2025 annual membership renewal fell due 1<sup>st</sup> July  
\$20 per person or \$25 per family***