



Newport Residents Association Inc.

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www.newport.org.au

Minutes of Meeting Held 21st February 2023 at Newport Community Centre

Meeting commenced at 7.06pm

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

President's Note

Kyle Hill as acting President, welcomed members and guest, Rowie Dillion from the Newport Chamber of Commerce.

Apologies: Gavin Butler, S.Barlow, G. Moore, Trish Chaney, Allison Cooper & Annie Laing from NBC.

Approval of Minutes: of previous meeting held 15th November 2022.

Moved: P.Middleton

Seconded: S.Young

Treasurer's Report:

Balance as @ 31/10/2022	\$1844.14
Add Receipts	\$20
Sub total	\$1864.14
Deduct Payments	\$261.72
Net assets as @ 31/01/2023	\$1602.42

Moved: G.Ross

Seconded: R.Seldon

Payments included room hire, \$98.40, NSW Fair trading \$50.22 Printing \$113.10

Members' Subs 2022-2023 Now due & payable. \$20 per person or \$25 per family

Update Newport Chamber of Commerce

Rowie Dillon, President, Newport Chamber of Commerce, spoke to the meeting on various matters including The Coastal Walk Public Art Program. There have been 2 meetings with representatives from the community including Peter Middleton & Simon Barlow attending on behalf of the NRA. They are preparing a brief which will go to Council to be considered by Council & then put out to tender to various artists who will submit their interpretation of an art piece for Newport. This process will take approximately 3 months. The proposed budget is \$200-250,000.

There was some discussion regarding the process and the possible outcome over concerns that Newport will have a proposed piece of art like Mona Vale's proposal (estimated budget \$170,000) which has recently been suspended. Peter Middleton suggested Rowie contact Council and request an extension for preparing the brief so that there can be more consultation including the Community.

Rowie advised that the footpath (which had been dug up by Ausgrid) in front of Coles supermarket, will be repaired with new paving by the end of March. She also noted the fire that took place on 27th December at 335 Barrenjoey Rd Newport has meant that a number of those businesses cannot operate & it will be sometime before work can commence. Therefore Council is helping with the hoarding to make it more attractive. She asked that we support the businesses that are there to help them keep going. Char Rice & MT Baskets in particular.

The Chamber has tried to stop the recently opened store selling tobacco & vaping products, next to the busstop but with no success. They are also asking Council to help with some repairs to 2 green electricity boxes near Zubi.

A Newport Chamber of Commerce meeting is planned for Wednesday 22nd February & it is expected that both the Yacht clubs & Merivale will have representatives attending. This is a positive sign that the businesses of Newport are getting together. They will be discussing plans for the year. One NRA member commented on the success of The Australia day activities at Bert Payne Park, this year.

Kyle thanked Rowie for her update.

Correspondence & Matters Arising:

Miranda Korzy invited the NRA to a Planning forum on 2nd February, focused on protecting Pittwater from inappropriate development. Many people in the Community are distressed by the loss of tree canopy & the large number of developments with extensive excavations that are currently occurring. Unfortunately, no one could attend. Sue Young advised that John Illingsworth took a video of the proceedings. This is available via YouTube at <https://youtu.be/GiMeJYSThBM>

We received a memo from the committee of the PCA to gauge the opinion of the residents' associations to the likelihood of the oil & gas exploration permits being granted as a result of a recent court decision, noted in a SMH article. Kyle put the questions to the meeting. 14 of 18 members present, agreed it is an issue for the PCA. 4 members did not vote as they felt they did not have sufficient information to make a decision.

Items for Discussion:

Robertson Road Update

There are no updates at this time.

Newport Planning Applications

Other than applications for alterations and additions, one application which may be of interest is for a seniors development at 36 Bardo Rd Newport which has now closed for submissions. John Colquhoun has put in a submission on the application and commented to the meeting that Bardo Road is effectively one way, and with parking both sides, the use of the Keoride and garbage collection, he thinks will both cause traffic issues if this development proceeds. The initial DA was for 12 units & included the property next door. This is for 6 units.

We received a letter from NBC advising of their refusal of DA2021/2621, 27 Nullaburra Rd (the NRA had put in a submission). Peter Middleton & Kyle Hill attended the Land & Environment Court on site meeting on 6th February 2023. We are now waiting on the Court's judgement.

Conservation Zones - update

Kyle Hill read the recent advice from Council regarding the Conservation Zones Review. In summary, Council received & analysed 935 submissions from 837 individuals. A copy of the submissions will be available on the project website including a Consultation report which summarises the key issues & Council's response. They anticipate many of the issues can be resolved by changes to the draft Conservation Zones Review methodology. Where necessary, relevant consultants will be engaged to contact landowners & arrange a site inspection. The outcomes from the Review will assist in the development of the draft Northern Beaches LEP and DCP.

PCA Update

On behalf of Gavin Butler (Chairman of the PCA) Kyle Hill gave a summary of the meeting the PCA had with Council prior to Christmas. Topics of concern which were discussed, included Tree Cover - GB asked Council to use 30% of a site as against 50% as a canopy criterion, as it is now under the Dept of Planning. Louise Kerr from Council advised that they had to be careful on the issue of Bush Fire prone land & they are not going to do a Strategic Bushfire study.

C.Hornsby & S.Young raised the issue of Aboriginal Heritage not being included as a factor in determining the conservation of particular sites. Council replied there was not enough mapping of sites & the sensitivity of sites could therefore delay the progress on the LEP/DCP.

Foreshore Protection areas were discussed and the time line for the new document.

Floor Space Ratio Controls, which only currently apply to the Manly LEP are due to be included in the new LEP.

A meeting with Rob Stokes on 20th January, observed that FSRCs work well in conjunction with C4 & other Conservation zones & would be suitable to Pittwater. It works in the Mosman LEP via recent amendments. Other matters were discussed (including Lizard Rock) or followed up with Rob Stokes on behalf of the PCA, finishing with them thanking him for his 15 years of service prior to his retirement.

March State Election

The PCA will conduct a Public Information meeting on Wednesday 15th March at the Newport Community Centre at 7pm to meet the Candidates. This will give candidates the opportunity to inform the community about their policies.

Shared Pathway to Bilgola

GB has raised concerns over the progress & funding of the shared pathway from Newport to

Bilgola. He wrote to both Mayor Regan & CEO Ray Brownlee on 20th December 2022 asking when it will start & how long the project will take to complete. We are extremely keen for this project to commence. The funding of \$2.91m was announced in January 2018. Each of our Ward Councillors have agreed to follow this up, especially to retain the funding for the project. It was suggested to contact Michelle Carter who may be able to assist.

General Newport Maintenance

Kyle Hill checked Dearin Park and the tables & seats have still not been completed as we expected. This is really unacceptable.

Peter Middleton contacted Phillip Devon at Council over his concerns at the lack of road marked pedestrian crossings at Bishop & Gladstone Streets which we thought were a priority, but there are only signs in place. Phillip advised there are delays due to issues (geotechnical) with the assessment of the road pavement. Weather permitting, it should be completed by mid-March. PM suggested the signs should be covered to reduce confusion until the pedestrian crossing is completed.

Other NBC matters and General Business

WD explained to the meeting that the Federal Government provides electorates with funding for small capital projects. We had the idea of applying for a grant to install bollards at both ends of Robertson Rd so that Council do not pay for security when RR is closed off. This would give us more flexibility for different occasions & events. Discussion followed, including adding paving of RR to the application. WD, PM & SY all advised that it is not a simple process & we may not be able to do it but we might be able to get Council to apply for it.

A resolution proposed by John Colquhoun, 2nd by Warwick Kit & Greg Ross as follows, was then passed unanimously:

'In light of Federal grants currently being available for community capital projects, the NRA supports a proposal for making the Robertson Road precinct more community friendly by laying down cobblestone paving (or similar) on the road surface and installing removable bollards at the entrances for ease of temporary closure for events.'

Warwick Kit raised the issue of the Newport Surf Club & that he understands the Surfrider Association is against the sea wall. Most were not aware of their involvement. It was explained that Council is appealing the recent refusal of the development.

Greg Ross put to the meeting a request to install a No U turn signal at the junction of Trevor Rd, Newport & Gladstone Rd, Newport for vehicles travelling north towards Newport Village. For some years there was a No U turn sign for vehicles travelling north at either Queens Pde or Trevor Rd. somehow it has been removed. The decision to not allow cars to turn right from Bardo Rd has contributed to this problem. Cars now are trying to turn right at Gladstone St. They turn either into the median strip lane or even the middle or curb side lane of Barrenjoey Rd heading south. There are many cars who are driving north who then need to turn back to head south & they do a U turn. This is potentially quite dangerous. WD will forward to Phillip Devon.

Meeting Closed at 8.56pm

Next Meeting: will be 21st March 2023 at the Newport Community Centre at 7.00pm

NRA annual membership renewal falls due end June: \$20 per person or \$25 per family