



Newport Residents Association Inc.

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www.newport.org.au

SECRETARY'S REPORT JULY 2019-JUNE 2020

The NEWPORT RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION aims to represent the local residents of Newport. This means we are involved with numerous activities and issues that concern us, as locals. A DA in Beaconsfield Rd, a set of stairs at the end of Melaleuca St, a pedestrian crossing on Bishop St or the purchase of rainforest land on Hillside are a few examples.

This year we have also been focussed on 2 DA's in Robertson Road. One is currently still being considered by Council.

We are fortunate to have a good working relationship with Northern Beaches Council. Since last year we have had both Trish Chaney (Community Liaison Coordinator) & her deputy, Annie Laing attend as well as Alison Cooper, Place Coordinator, who is assisting with the Newport Activation program. We really appreciate their attendance and follow up.

We are represented on two of Council's Strategic Reference Groups - the Traffic & Transport SRG & Economic & Smart Communities. Previously one of our members was also involved in the preparation of the NBC Flood Report.

We have had a number of very interesting guest speakers attend our meetings including, Justine Gordon, CEO Burdekin Association & Avalon Youth Hub, Ian Hutchinson from CPRfriendly, who taught us CPR, and an NBC presentation on Microplastics & Waste Education.

In March, we were due to hear a presentation by Peter Robinson from NBC, to discuss the difference between DA, CDC & Exempt Development but unfortunately COVID-19 hit and subsequently, we were in lockdown & all meetings were cancelled. We, as a Committee subsequently met, first by Zoom, then socially distancing ourselves so we could continue working on different issues. Notes of our meetings were posted on our web site. We resumed normal monthly meetings in June 2020.

We lobbied Council in waiving outdoor dining fees for our cafes & restaurants and aimed to assist where we could to make Newport safer & better.

We are not just about DA's & planning. We are for the community. We are currently doing a survey to determine where we go next & what's important to the people of Newport. We have a very good working relationship with the Newport Chamber of Commerce and the other resident groups who make up the Pittwater Community Alliance. Our president, Gavin Butler is also their group secretary. We have supported the activation of Robertson Road as a focus for the village and now the Newport Fresh Produce Market.

Due to COVID-19 we have delayed this AGM until our December 2020 meeting. Council elections have also been delayed until September 2021 and representation on the SRG committees have been extended until after the Council election.

It has been a busy year and many thanks to Gavin for his leadership during this difficult and unprecedented 18 months. Also thank you to Bill Thomson as Treasurer (now retired) and our other Committee members, Peter Middleton, Kyle Hill, Sue Young & Glenn Moore for their ongoing commitment.

We look forward to a positive and better 2021.

Wendy Dunnet

December 15th 2020