

Minutes of General Meeting of the Basin Villages Forum, held Monday 15th March, 2010, at 7.35 pm, at St Georges Basin Community Centre, Meriton Street, St Georges Basin.

Present: 16

Apologies: – Chris Grounds, Jesse Vincent, Terry Smith, Ron Tomlin, John Burns. Clr John Fergusson

Minutes of previous General Meeting were read.

Matters arising:

- Sportsground drainage plan: - Forum is awaiting response from expert who is currently examining the drainage plans.
 - Damage to Heritage Estates. John Fimano reported that he'd spoken to Clr Fergusson on this matter. John is awaiting response from Clr Fergusson.
 - Rotting waste/runoff in stagnant water nearby fish cleaning table at John Williams Reserve: letter has been sent to Shoalhaven City Council on this matter. The letter was read out allowed by the President, and the meeting approved to be sent.
- Moved David Reynolds, 2nd, Norm Webb.

Financial report – \$952.54 in chequebook. Full detailed report is on file. No debtors, nor creditors. Moved Christine Rigg, 2nd David Reynolds.

Correspondence in, and out.

Full list of Correspondence In and Out was read by Correspondence Secretary.

Attention drawn to:

Drainage 121 Walmer - email received by Maureen from Ian.

Moved Peter Vincent, 2nd David Reynolds

Matters arising from Correspondence:

Query from floor re 'Bream Beach bushcare group' and proposed removal of pittosporum species at Bream Beach. John Fimano had spoken to Bushcare coordinator about this. Letter was sent from Forum to Council regarding removal of the pittosporum from the Bream Beach area.

John Fimano will report back to Forum on further developments of this issue.

GENERAL BUSINESS

LATM; some signs have been installed.

“Future Directions”. Guideline document is issued every 10 years by Council, providing policy direction to staff & community. Rebecca Rudd & Maureen Webb had examined the draft document and drew up a response from the Forum. Specific statements taken that ‘Vision Statements A & B are ill defined.’ Comments from residents related to

- Requirement for Council to implement an active program for environmental regulation compliance and enforcement.
- Agreed that Reduced Global Warming impact targets should be introduced
- Discussion and decisions reached over
 - Community Indicators
 - Population
 - Strong shoalhaven Communities
 - Community Infrastructure & Services
 - Leadership in Sustainability.

Joint CCB meeting at Council offices, attended by Pam & Maureen: 30 people at the meeting. Some issues discussed were:

- Sea level rise, raised by Tim Fletcher. Effects on property values, removing of structures, sea walls viable?
- Proliferation of signs issues - authorised & otherwise. Consideration could be given to employing extra rangers.
- Bill Patterson, waste manager spoke on recycling & new waste bins. Clr Brumerski stated could be based on Coffs Harbour plan. Extra \$50 year extra to get 3 bins. Reference also made to Greenwell point split bin trial. More genuine community consultation is needed on these options, not based on one study at Greenwell Point.

- Draft budget presentation – **Wednesday 19th May 7.00 at Huskisson.**

Revenue sharing grants is based on value houses. 2003 pricing of houses applies to this area.

- Draft strategic plan. Many criticisms of this document in its current draft, presented. Majority of the 30 attendees did not approve of this document.

- LEP was discussed. Could be on exhibition around April/May for 8 - 10 weeks. Letter will be sent to all ratepayers advising of changes in their areas. Final LEP should be produced in 2010/11.

- Rates & service charges. Rates rising to 2.6% on rates for coming year. Water access charges from \$65-\$75; Usage \$1.30 - \$1.45 and sewer rates from \$585 to \$615.

Blacket park. Maureen wrote to Council re soil loss as result of the upgrade of this reserve which Forum had in principle supported. Work is unfinished, no planting done, no sediment traps installed. Major siltation has washed into the basin. Drain has eroded all way down to clay, and isthmus is expanding. Martin Upitis advised he'd get Council offers to check it Monday. Maureen had also rung South Coast Register, and met with David Banwell & Michael Dale, on site. Reply from Ray Massey was read out at this forum general meeting.

Letters need to be sent to Council regarding the Blacket Park situation, to other areas - Walmer Avenue, and to the general state of drainage & clearing on foreshore of the Basin. Gross pollutant traps must be upgraded to meet standards. Ask Council what is its future intention regarding management of increased sedimentation of the Basin. How do they intend to remediate the existing damage? Forum also would like to know Council's policy on removing some sedimentation. Core samples could be taken to establish the original 'lake bed'.

Drainage plan for proposed St Georges Basin sportsground development was discussed. Forum is waiting for results of examination of the plans.

Impact of cats upon fauna in the Wrights Beach Reserve area.

Forum to write a letter to Council regarding imposing a night-time curfew on cats.

Meeting closed 9.10 pm.