

MEETING NOTES

MEETING WITH CENTRAL AREA 1 COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE BODIES

Friday 3rd October 2008

Committee Rooms 1, 2 & 3, City Administrative Centre, Bridge Road, Nowra.

The meeting commenced at 10.07 am.

Apologies were received from Carmel Krogh – Director Shoalhaven Water and Peter Cumes – Currarong Progress Association

PRESENT

Russ Pigg – Chairperson

Mayor – Clr Green

Clr Ward – left 10.20

Clr Fergusson

Clr Watson – left 10.45

John Gould – Assistant General Manager

Bill Paterson – Director City Services and Operations

Peter Dun – Director Finance and Corporate Services

Tim Fletcher – Director Development and Environmental Services

Gordon Clark – Acting Director Strategic Planning

Robert Sutherland – Infrastructure Planning Manager

Margaret Day - Callala Beach Progress Association

Betty Rogerson – Culburra Beach Progress Association

Anne Hollis-Coates – Culburra Beach Progress Association

Ron Vaghan – Get to the Point Greenwell Point

Roy Easton – Orient Point Progress Association/Culburra Beach Progress Association

Jennifer Barnes – Callala Bay Progress Association

Teresa Bealey – Callala bay Progress association

1. Welcome

The General Manager welcomed all participants to the meeting.

2. General Manager

a) One meeting for all CCB Executives (*Council Staff*)

Mr Pigg related the advantages of holding one meeting for all CCB Executives that would allow CCB's to have input into issues such as the Draft Management Plan and Budget at the beginning rather than forwarding submissions once the draft is complete. There was general agreement that this would be advantageous.

Over the next few months the General Manager will send a template to all CCBs so that CCB ideas and priorities can be recorded and given to the new Councillors. This will give the Councillors an overview of the communities needs and priorities.

Retirement of Rob Sutherland

The CCBs were advised of the imminent retirement of Rob Sutherland. Mr Sutherland would be taking leave from 24 October 2008 until his retirement in the new year and the General Manager thanked him for the great work he had done over the years in relation to the CCBs.

Community Representatives

The CCBs thanked Mr Sutherland for all the assistance he had provided and mentioned that they did not get a chance to thank John Wells (former Director of City Services and Operations) before he left.

Council

Mr Pigg advised that Mr Wells was currently on leave until his official retirement date and that a cocktail party/reception would be given in his honour before his retirement date and the Executives of the CCBs would be invited.

ACTION: General Manager to ensure CCBs are invited to John Wells farewell party/reception.

b) Direction for the Shoalhaven over next 4 years and the role CCBs will play (*Currarong Progress Association*)

Mr Pigg advised the meeting that there would not be too many changes in the role of the CCBs but hoped that the template for Councillors advising them of the communities needs and priorities would enhance consultation. More feedback would lead to better decisions.

The Mayor stated that over the next four years the Councillors were committed to addressing issues such as roads, transport and more services for the villages.

ACTION: F&CS to forward Councillor contact details to all CCBs

3. FINANCE AND CORPORATE SERVICES GROUP

a) Clean up – Salt Marshes – Callala Bay (*Callala Bay Progress Association*)

Community Representatives

The Callala Bay Progress Association advised that there are car wrecks in the Callala Bay Bushland Reserve and that they had been there for some time. Concerns were also raised on the trail bike damage in the area.

Council

Mr Dunn advised he would ensure that the RID Squad and Council's Waste Services would be made aware of the car wrecks. Rangers would also be advised of the Trial bike issue.

ACTION: F&CS to advise RID Squad, Rangers and Waste Services about car wrecks and use of trail bikes in the Callala bay Bushland Reserve.

b) Viewing Platform - Cnr Orsovo Parade & Orama Cres – Traffic Concerns (*Orient Point Progress Association*)

Community Representatives

Concerns were raised over the danger to pedestrians and motorists caused by tourists stopping to admire the view of the river going out to the ocean at the bend in the road at the corner of Orsova Parade and Orama Crescent. A place for these vehicles to park was needed and the CCB suggested that just an area of road base would suffice as they didn't want a lot of money spent on the area.

Council

Investigations and costings would be done by Rob Sutherland and the CCBs were advised to include this issue on the template for Councillors.

Mr Sutherland advised that previous investigations had put the cost at \$20,000 - \$30,000 but would investigate a road base cover.

ACTION: CCBs to include on the template, the issue of a viewing platform at the cnr of Orsova Parade & Orama Cres for Councillors, soon to be forwarded to all CCBS.

c) Larger Scale Tourist Facilities at Crookhaven (*Culburra Beach Progress Association*)

Community Representatives

The Culburra Beach Progress Association raised concerns at the lack of parking facilities for buses at Crookhaven Headland and following the recent showing of the lighthouse on television felt that increased tourist facilities were required.

Council

The General Manager advised that the item should be placed on the template for Councillors and that costings on a single bus parking area at the front of the Pilot House would be looked at.

Mr Dunn advised the meeting of the recent Council resolution that combined the Tourism Development Committee and the Shoalhaven Tourism Board and that this was the sort of item that should be referred to that Committee.

Mr Sutherland suggested an on-site meeting to run through the Plan of Management would be beneficial to all.

ACTION: SPG and CSO to schedule on site meeting with CCBs in the Culburra Beach and Orient Point areas.

ACTION: CCBs to include on the template, single bus parking area at the front of the Pilot House for Councillors, soon to be forwarded to all CCBS.

4. CITY SERVICES & OPERATIONS GROUP

a) Drainage – Sealark, Derwent and Sydney Street, Callala Bay (*Callala Bay Progress Association*)

Council Response

Mr Pigg introduced Mr Bill Paterson new Director City Service and Operations who advised he would be available for the onsite meeting with Culburra Beach and Orient Point CCBs. Mr Paterson advised that a recent meeting with Callala Beach Progress Association had proven very worthwhile.

Mr Paterson explained that the triangular nature strip area around Sealark, Derwent and Sydney Streets was not draining correctly and it was proposed that the inlet be lowered to the gully pit, the area regraded and that the work was scheduled for October

b) Drainage – Torch Street, Callala Bay (*Callala Bay Progress Association*)

Council Response

Mr Paterson advised that the drainage problems in Torch street had been addressed and the work was now completed.

c) Pathway Work Callala Bay Road (*Callala Bay Progress Association*)

The Callala Bay Progress Association advised the meeting that the work required on the pathway at Callala Bay Road was currently in progress.

d) Jetty Railing Repair (*Callala Bay Progress Association*)

Council Response

Mr Paterson advised that the painting of the jetty railing would be completed by the end of October 2008.

e) Waterfront Work Required (*Callala Bay Progress Association*)

Council Response

The surface in the turn around area at the waterfront is very boggy and Mr Paterson explained that shoulder sealing would be done in December 2008 and that further works were part of a much longer program.

f) Tennis Court Resurfacing – Greenwell Point (*Get to the Point Inc*)

Council Response

Mr Sutherland noted that funds had been allocated from the Shoalhaven Sports Board, and with matching funds from the Club, the tennis court resurfacing project was to commence soon. Currently quotations were being sought and Mr Paterson would advise the Get to the Point CCB of the situation.

ACTION: CS&O to update the Get to the Point, Greenwell Point group of the progress on the Tennis Court Resurfacing.

g) Rabbit Problem – Greenwell Point (*Get to the Point Inc*)

Community Representative

The Get to the Point CCB advised the meeting that the rabbit problem was prominent at the swimming pool and caravan parks.

Council Response

Mr Paterson explained that the rabbit baiting program was due to wind up at the end of October. The CCB was advised to contact Greg Thompson, Natural Resources Officer on 4429 3291 or 0431 133 000 to be part of the volunteers baiting program that is happening on 27 – 30 October 2008.

h) Scrub Removal - Carparks at Boat Ramp and Marine Rescue Station (*Culburra Beach Progress Association*)

Council Response

Mr Paterson advised that although clearing had been done in the areas a few years ago it was noted that it had grown back and suggested that this issue be included in the site inspection proposed for the area.

ACTION: CS&O to include in the inspection with Culburra Beach and Orient Point Progress Associations to be scheduled, the carparks at the boat ramp and Marine Rescue Station, Culburra Beach.

i) Bike Rack Allocation (*Culburra Beach Progress Association*)

Council Response

Mr Paterson advised the meeting that he would request the designer of the second stage upgrade for the Culburra Beach CBD to include the bike rack in the concept plan. The Progress Association representative suggested near the Post Office would be a good location. The Concept Plan would be forwarded to the local CCB when completed.

ACTION: CS&O to request the designer of the second stage upgrade for the Culburra Beach CBD to include a bike rack in the concept plan.

j) Possibility of a fishing platform at the old slipway (*Culburra Beach Progress Association*)

Community Representatives

The Culburra Beach progress Association representatives enquired if, with the addition of a few rocks, could the old slipway at the Beach be turned into a fishing platform as the current jetty was always so overcrowded.

Council Response

Mr Sutherland advised that the NSW Fisheries Department would need to be consulted on the issue but it would be worthwhile listing this issue for the inspection at the onsite meeting that will be scheduled.

ACTION: SPG to include the old slipway at Culburra Beach on the list for the onsite inspection.

k) Clearing required – Lighthouse (*Culburra Beach Progress Association*)

Council Response

Mr Sutherland advised that this issue would also be included on the site inspection. The viewing area needed to be cleared and also the lighthouse required maintenance to protect from further damage. A Plan of Management was in place and signed off by the Department of Lands. It was suggested that the CCB make representations to the Minister, The Hon Tony Kelly in regard to funding for restoration of the lighthouse. Both the Crown and Bushcare Groups would need to be consulted in regard to native plantings in the area.

l) Updates from last meeting (*Culburra Beach Progress Association*)

- **Vegetation maintenance – Carparks, Piltot House and Boat Ramp – Culburra Beach**

This item was covered within previous items.

- **Mowing and Clearing of Open Drains, Culburra Beach**

Council Response

Mr Paterson advised that the Winter program of mowing had finished and that the drain at West Crescent would need to be reshaped if possible as the mower could not get in.

Community Representative

The Culburra Beach Progress Association asked if gravel could be placed in the drains as a possible solution.

Council Response

The meeting was advised Council had recently resolved to review Environmental Plans and Management Plans and the amount of time allocated for slashing would be increased. Staff were currently working up solutions.

5. STRATEGIC PLANNING GROUP

a) Boorawine Creek Reserve – Footpaths needed (*Callala Bay Progress Association*)

Council Response

Mr Pigg introduces Mr Gordon Clark, acting Director Strategic Planning, and Mr Clark explained that his primary role was the preparation of the Shoalhaven LEP.

Mr Sutherland advised that some work had taken place around the creek, taking out weeds. A site meeting with Council and Bushcare group was required to work up a Plan of Management. It was intended that the area revert to natural but gravel paths tended to get very boggy in winter. A concept Plan was currently on exhibition and had been sent to the CCB.

b) Boat ramp Carpark – possible extension – Callala Bay (*Callala Bay Progress Association*)

Council response

The meeting was advised that there were many issues surrounding an extension to the boat ramp Carpark and Mr Pigg advised the CCB to include this issue on the template for Councillors

ACTION: CCB to include the issue of an extension to the Boat Ramp Carpark on the template for Councillors, soon to forwarded to all CCBs.

c) Pathway - Carpark to Sailing School – Callala Bay (*Callala Bay Progress Association*)

Community Representative

The CCB advised the pathway from the Carpark to the sailing school was unsuitable for the many disabled users of the sailing school. The group also wished for a representative, (Barbara McGwiggen) from the group be placed on the membership for the Shoalhaven Access Advisory Committee.

Council response

Mr Pigg advised the CCB that these issues would be included on the agenda for the next Shoalhaven Access Advisory Committee meeting.

ACTION: CS&O to include the pathway from the Carpark to the Sailing School at Callala Bay and the request for membership from the Callala Bay Progress Association (for Barbara McGwiggen) on the agenda for the next meeting of the Shoalhaven Access Advisory Committee.

d) Provision of Amenities – Wowley Creek – Callala Bay (*Callala Bay Progress Association*)

Council response

The CCBs were advised that the 2008-11 Works program has been adopted and Amenities for Parkes Crescent is on the list for 2009/10. If the CCB considered that amenities for Wowley Creek was a priority then Council could consider the list again. This issue would be if the sewer was reachable.

ACTION: CCB to include the issue of amenities for Wowley Creek on the template for Councillors, soon to forwarded to all CCBs.

e) Roadworks – Intersection of Forest Road and Princes Highway

Community Representative

The CCB advised that the loose gravel at the intersection was very dangerous particularly when trying to turn into the highway quickly and asked if Council could remove the gravel. Another issue of concern was confusing speed signage on Forest Road, could this be investigated.

Council response

Mr Sutherland advised that resealing and widening had been completed at the intersection to Callala Beach and Callala Bay and that staff would approach the RTA in regard to the removal of gravel. If

the RTA won't remove the gravel then Council would look in to it. Investigation of the signage would take place.

ACTION: SPG to make representation to the RTA to removal loose gravel at the intersection of Forest Road and Princes Highway and follow up with removal if not done. Investigate the anomalies in speed signage on Forest Road.

f) Status of Greenwell Point Boat Ramp (*Get to the Point Inc*)

Council Response

Mr Paterson advised that the scope had been revised with changes to the pontoon and Carpark. Intense negotiations and detailed engineering investigations were taking place in regard to the plastic pontoon and its ability to withstand weather conditions. Unless there is a major breakthrough in the next few days commencement date would be after Christmas. Mr Paterson advised he would liaise with the CCB on the progress.

ACTION: SPG to liaise with The CCB in regard to progress on the Greenwell Point Boat Ramp.

g) Engineering Proposal – Pyree Hall Intersection (*Get to the Point Inc*)

Council Response

The CCBs were advised that funds were available this year to do the work. The works will include a 200mm overlay over the existing pavement but there were issues regarding the high water table but work should commence during October 2008 and be concluded by Christmas.

h) Walkway Boat Ramp Orient Point to Boat Ramp Crookhaven (*Orient Point Progress Association*)

Council Response

MR Sutherland advised that this issue was not high on Council's priority list and that most of the land was owned by Jerringa. As the CCB had advised that volunteers from Jerringa had offered to do the work Mr Sutherland requested that the CCB and Jerringa work out a concept plan and report back to Council.

ACTION: CCB to liaise with Jerringa to forward a concept plan for a walkway from Orient Point Boat Ramp to Crookhaven Boat Ramp.

i) Erosion along the Riverbank (*Orient Point Progress Association*)

Community Representative

The CCB advised volunteers were willing to assist Council in plantings along the riverbank to help avoid the erosion problem.

It was suggested that Schools/TAFE could be included in the volunteer side of the works needed.

Council Response

Mr Sutherland explained that the erosion had been assessed as not active and plans to strengthen the vegetation were listed in the Estuary Programs. Bushcare groups would need to be involved. Mr Sutherland suggested that this issue be inspected on the site meeting to be scheduled.

Mr Pigg explained to the meeting that the Workcover/Volunteer issue had now been clarified and that Council would investigate the involvement of Schools on this type of projects

ACTION: SPG to include the river bank erosion on the list for the onsite inspection. Invite Bushcare groups from the area to the onsite meeting. CS&O to investigate including school/TAFE students in volunteer programs.

GENERAL BUSINESS

a) Notification of Rabbit Baiting Program (*Culburra Beach Progress Association*)

Community Representatives

The CCB noted that the local Vet had not been notified when rabbit baiting was in progress.

Council Response

The meeting was advised that advertising had taken place but local Vets could be placed on the list for notification.

ACTION: CS&O Ass local vets on the list for notification of intended Rabbit Baiting Programs.

b) Doggy Do Bags (*Callala Beach Progress Association*)

Community Representatives

The CCB advised the meeting of the success of the installation of Doggy Do bag dispensers at Myola and that the bags were purchased at a cost of \$90 for 1,000. They requested that Council fund this initiative and noted that a letter had been recently sent to Council on this issue

ACTION: SPG to follow up letter from Callala Beach regarding Doggy Do Bags and prepare a report on dog off leash areas and the issues surrounding the supply of doggy do bags.

c) Foreshore Work – Greenwell Point (*Get to the Point Inc*)

Community Representatives

It was reported that foreshore work was left uncompleted for some time between Church and Alberts Streets.

ACTION: SPG to investigate the matter.

d) Noticeboard Repairs (*Callala Bay Progress Association*)

Community Representatives

It was reported that the Callala Bay Community Noticeboard had been vandalised.

ACTION: F&CS to schedule inspection/repair to the noticeboard at Callala Bay.

e) Cycleway – Lakersteen Street to School (*Callala Bay Progress Association*)

Community Representatives

Concerns were raised over kids on bicycles using Chisolm Street to get to school as Lackersteen Street is unsuitable for Bikes. High traffic volumes on Chisolm Street were a concern and the CCB requested if Council could monitor the issue. Also the end of Sheaffe Street was just mud and therefore also an issue for kids on bikes.

ACTION: SPG to investigate this matter.

f) Drainage – Orama Crescent (*Orient Point Progress Association*)

Community Representatives

The CCB advised that there was a blockage in the drain in Orama Crescent that had been excavated but was now just a pool of water. The pipe is still blocked and is washing away the road base.

ACTION: CS&O to investigate the drainage in Orama Crescent, Orient Point

g) Playground Vandalism (*Callala Bay Progress Association*)

Community Representatives

The CCB advised the playground in Hollingsworth Crescent was covered in graffiti and rubbish and that vandalism was a major concern. They suggested that lighting may help.

Council Response

Mr Pigg explained to the meeting that these issues were prevalent all over the Shoalhaven and needed to be reported to the Police. Mr Pigg ensured everyone was familiar with the direct number for reporting of vandalism. It was suggested that CCBs could liaise with the Youth Workers in the area and also the police.

The Mayor advised that the police need hard evidence to control the matter and that it was important for people to report issues quickly. The Mayor advised of a meeting with the police to try to put together the concept of a Crime Prevention Van that it was hoped would reduce crime by 20-30%.

It was suggested that surveillance cameras could be mounted and monitored by CCBs but this would need to be coordinated with the police.

Mr Pigg thanked the CCBs and staff for the input and attendance and expressed his hope that the meeting was beneficial for all involved.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded, the time being 11.59 am.

Russ Pigg
CHAIRPERSON