

MEETING NOTES

MEETING WITH COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE BODIES EXECUTIVES

Friday 8th April 2011

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

The meeting commenced at 10.02 am.

PRESENT

Russ Pigg – General Manager - Chairperson
Clr Kearney – Deputy Mayor
Clr Fergusson
Rob Donaldson – Assistant General Manager
Bill Paterson – Director City Services & Operations
Peter Adams – Director Strategic Planning & Infrastructure
Warwick Papworth – Acting Director Development & Environmental Services
Carmel Krogh – Director Shoalhaven Water
Peter Dun – Director Finance & Corporate Services
Greg Roberts – Executive Support Manager
Coralie McCarthy – Acting Media Manager

Gwen & Ken Wiggins – Sussex Inlet Community Forum
David Tarbert – Sussex Inlet Community Forum
Rowena Armgardt – Bay & Basin Community Forum
Brian Saunders – Vincentia Ratepayers & Resident Association
Jim Brown–Sarre - Vincentia Ratepayers & Resident Association
Jenny & John Castellan – Orient Point Progress Association
Max Ford – Culburra Beach Progress Association
David McCorkell – Get to the Point Greenwell Point
Alan Burrows – SLEP Review Group
Peter Cumes – Currarong Progress Association
Robyn Kerves – Lake Conjola Lakecare Association
David Wilson – Lake Conjola Lakecare Association
Leslie Lockwood – Huskisson Woollamia Community Voice
Garry Kelson – Huskisson Woollamia Community Voice
Graeme Gibson – Huskisson Woollamia Community Voice
Margaret Slorach – Ulladulla & Districts Community Forum
Robin Watt – Ulladulla & Districts Community Forum
Trevor Aspin - Shoalhaven Heads Community Forum
Barbara Woodney – Kangaroo Valley Community Association
Keith Learn - Kangaroo Valley Community Association
Ernie Dumbleton – Budgong Community Association
Annette Yates – Callala Bay Community Association
Charlie Yates – Callala Bay Community Association
Pat McDonald – Callala Beach Progress Association
Jem Horwood – Friends of 2538
John Levett – Tomerong Community Forum
Peter Allison – Tomerong Community Forum
Richard Booth – Cambewarra Residents & Ratepayers Association
Leslie Saunders – Hyams Beach Villagers Association

Peter Hudson – Red Head Villages Association
Rick Gainford – Berry Alliance
David Reynolds – Basin Villages Forum

Apologies:

Apologies were received from Murramarang Progress Association

1. WELCOME

Mr Pigg welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the Deputy Mayor and Group Directors.

2. GENERAL MANAGER

a) Shoalhaven Medals

Council

Mr Pigg reminded the CCBs that notification had been sent to all advising that nominations were currently open for the Shoalhaven Medal. The closing date for receipt of nominations is 27 May 2011 with the presentations due to held be in July. The Shoalhaven Medal is slightly different from the Australia Day Awards in that it rewards exceptional or even heroic assistance to society and not necessarily within the Shoalhaven. CCBs were encouraged to submit nominations and advised that the nomination forms were available on the front page of Council's website, the front counter of the Administrative Centres, Leisure Centres and Libraries.

Community Comments

There was general agreement amongst the CCBs that the judging panel for the Shoalhaven Medal should not be confidential. Following explanation of the reasons for confidentiality being to prevent canvassing etc, the CCBs stated that if the Panel was 'open' they would have to stand up to lobbying and canvassing and agreed the decision for confidentiality needs to be reviewed.

Action: Council review the need for the Selection Panel for the Shoalhaven Medal to be confidential

Council

Mr Pigg advised CCBs that were situated around estuaries or lakes that a report will be submitted to the Resources & Reserves Committee, possibly on 10th May 2011 regarding wharves and jetties off Crown Reserves.

3. ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER

a) Update on Community Engagement Policy, Update on Integrated Planning & Reporting Items, Website Project

Council

In regard to the Community Engagement Policy Mr Donaldson referred to previous community consultation and a facilitated workshop, followed by a further consultation period in early 2011. It will be recommended at the Resources & Reserves Committee meeting of 12 April 2011 that Council adopt the Policy with further revisions after the most recent consultation feedback. There is still work to be done relating to training of staff and development of working documents to fully deliver the Policy.

(Post - Script: Council deferred adoption of the Policy, and will hold a Councillor Briefing on 31 May 2011, in which the community is invited to participate.)

In mid 2010 Council adopted the Integrated Planning & Reporting framework including the Community Strategic Plan, Resourcing Strategy and Delivery Program and Operational Plan. The draft Delivery Program and Operational Plan, which is the document that now replaces the Management Plan, for 2011/2012 will be presented for community consultation shortly.

Council also adopted a framework for reporting on progress, using Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), presented in a quarterly report and a six monthly report on progress against all of the 600-plus activities in the Delivery Program.

Following are the links for the **General Manager's Six Monthly Progress Report** (to December 2010) and the **Community Progress Report** (to December 2010).

<http://shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au/council/pubdocs/CSP/2010/Reports/Six%20Monthly%20Progress%20Report%20for%20the%20Community%20-%20July%20to%20December%202010.pdf>

<http://shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au/council/pubdocs/CSP/2010/Reports/Six%20Monthly%20Progress%20Report%20for%20Council%20-%20July%20to%20December%202010.pdf>

The meeting was advised that Council is working towards a June 2011 launch for the new website. Staff are currently building the content and also training staff for future input. It is not just a roll over of the current site but a more comprehensive, user friendly site. Staff are still working through the aesthetics of the design following input on the prototype that was available in 2010 for community input.

The new website should be easier for CCB's and all site visitors to navigate to the items they need to find, with a better layout, a functioning search and site map and an A to Z listing. CCB's will have a specific page where we will list the names of groups and contact details, for citizens. Regularly referenced CCB content may be able to be added to this area if required.

Community Comments

It was requested that information that concerns CCBs such as, Policies, DCPs, AMPs etc be linked in one area.

Action: IT to investigate major document links in one place for CCBs.

Community Comments

It was suggested that Council think about broadcasting via the internet for those who can't attend meetings.

Action – It to investigate the possibility of internet broadcasting of meetings.

Community Comments

Concerns raised in relation to the Community Engagement Strategy were that following attendance at a workshop where feedback was given, all they have received since is the draft document with no changes. (*Post – Script: The Engagement Policy recommended by staff in April did include many of the suggestions received*) Concern that indicators were to be based on community surveys, telephone surveys etc, but not being done – “loose policy”.

Action: AGM to confirm indicators commitments by Council.

Council

The **Community Strategic Plan** states the following in regard to indicators and reporting:

[page 15] Council will monitor its progress towards achieving the Objectives of the Community Strategic Plan using three sets of measures at the objective, strategy and activity levels. These are:

Community Indicators: “big picture” measures of Council’s progress in achieving the Objectives of the Community Strategic Plan.

Strategic Progress Indicators: Council will measure results and progress in implementing the Strategies of the Community Strategic Plan.

Operational Performance Measures: these measures will be used to report on Council’s performance in delivering the activities contained within the Delivery Program and annual Operational Plan. Council will review progress at least every six months.

Data to measure the Community Indicators, Strategic Progress Indicators and Operational Performance Indicators will be drawn from Council operational data, survey results, State Government data and Australian Bureau of Statistics.

The suite of Indicators will be reviewed for reliability and appropriateness after the first reporting year and Council will endeavour to further develop and improve the way it measures and reports on performance and results. Further details of the measures are found in Appendix 2.

[page 19] Community Indicators [defined above] will provide a snapshot of progress towards the objectives of the Community Strategic Plan. Council will conduct a community survey to collect information on the following indicators to be used together with other Council data to measure progress against the Community Strategic Plan at the end of the current Council term. [list of measures follows].

[Page 25, 31, 37, 43] [for each Key Result Area] Council will monitor its results and progress towards achieving strategies for Shoalhaven [eg, Communities] using the following measures: [list of measures follows, for each of 4 KRA’s – to be reported annually, as above – none of these measures involve community survey/s].

The end of Council term survey proposal (as at page 19 of the CSP) is part of the proposed 2011/2012 Operational Plan and Budget, and if funded, should occur in the first half of 2012.

Following is a link to the **Indicators Framework** that Council adopted in 2010 to define the kinds of reports and respective audiences and reporting cycles that would be implemented.

<http://shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au/council/pubdocs/CSP/2010/IPR%20Indicator%20Framework%202010.pdf>

However, the Indicators Framework remains open to further development and enhancement (subject to the usual resourcing and cost/benefit considerations), and the purpose of and options for conducting very regular community surveys as part of KPI or Progress Reporting will be considered as we continue to move forward and build the reporting framework.

Community Comments

The general opinion of the CCBs was that Councillors didn't give sufficient consideration to the views of the CCBs and it was reported that one Councillor even said that the CCBs do not represent the community. If Council will not be doing regular surveys then Councillors need to listen to the opinions of the CCBs. Regular feedback is needed and it was suggested that the website be a more 'seamless' way of advising the CCBs of relevant information.

It was suggested that all information should be provided electronically via email and that a protocol on how to find things on the website should be set up and provided to all CCB secretaries and then provided on a needs basis if new CCB officers are elected.

Council

Yes, the new website should be able to achieve most of this.

b) Innovation Forum Proposal

Council

Mr Donaldson advised the CCBs of the Local Open Gov Innovation Forum to be held on 18th May 2011. The Forum is about sharing information and representatives from the CCBs are invited to attend and submit their views and collaborate with presenters. The Forum will consist of one hour of presentations and then one hour of "unconference", intended to get discussion going but no specific issues to cover or recommendations required.

4. DEVELOPMENT & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

a) Vincentia District Centre, New Industrial Development DCP, Changes – Complying Development – Bushfire Prone Land

Council

- # Mr Warwick Papworth provided a PowerPoint presentation on the Vincentia District Centre, the new Industrial Development DCP and changes, relating to bushfire prone land, to the Complying Development Code SEPP, a copy of which is attached.

Community Comments

The CCBs requested the location of the industrial land at Kings Point.

Council

It was advised that there is a proposal to expand to the west of the existing industrial estate in Kings Point, off Blackburn Road, although there is currently a new aboriginal land claim on the site. A report on the availability of industrial land in Ulladulla is soon to be submitted to Council.

Community Comments

CCBs commented that in regard to the Vincentia District Centre, the Library was to be the focal point but the proposal from Woolworths excludes it. The proposal was to be a community centre now it's just a shopping centre. The Community have lobbied the DoP and they have been given six months for further comment. CCBs would like Council to join with the community to secure the Library.

Council

Mr Adams agreed that Council should work with the community on this matter but advised that the Library will not be paid for by the developer and that Council will have to pay for it. Council must show they are not 'needy' in the negotiations. The developer will need to have a good relationship with the community and negotiations may include siting the library at an alternative location. A meeting with the community will be arranged to consult on the various issues.

Action: Schedule a meeting with the community regarding the options for the Library at Vincentia.

Community Comments

CCBs asked if Council was happy with the amendments to the SEPP and could they work with Council on them.

Council

The State Government is pulling the plug on the 3A planning approval system. Council does think it's a good idea but the issue is complex, a simpler planning system is needed. The new government are planning a task force to look at planning legislation with the intent to go through the process by their mid term. Council staff have been requested to forward submissions on the matter. Council's Development & Environmental Services and Strategic Planning & Infrastructure Groups will put their thoughts together and consult with the community on the matter.

Community Comments

In relation to Exempt & Complying Development the CCBs asked that as it is their role to advertise these developments within the community, does Council have some sort of flow chart monitoring the developments? Concerns were raised regarding the legality of some of these developments and objections made after the development has commenced requires a Land & Environment Court challenge from the community.

Council

Building Professionals Board regulates the private certifiers and developers only have to give two days notification before they commence, there is no provision for notification of complying development.

Community Comment

The Board can investigate individuals so what happens if approval is given in error?

Council

If the development is not complying then work stops and they need to get approval. It is in effect development without consent.

Community Comment

The CCBs asked if the complying developments can be listed separately on the DAs approved list that is sent out each week.

The Tomerong Community Forum stated that following the proposal for the waste disposal facility at Tomerong the community group, SHUT, uncovered a number of matters of concern relating to non compliance at the current quarry operation. An email had been sent to Council's General Manager in October 2010 requesting an explanation on the non compliance issues. Following receipt of the email a letter was received by SHUT stating an explanation will be provided but as yet nothing has been forthcoming. Will there be a report to Council on this matter and is Council committed to investigating this matter?

Council

The General Manager confirmed the matter was definitely under active investigation by the Planning Officers and it was hoped that a report would be submitted to Council in either May or June. Currently all officers and rangers are looking after compliance issues and Council is looking at forming a "Compliance Unit" through a restructure. Additional funding resources are required and currently Council is trying to find the right balance between all issues of compliance.

Community Comment

Is this a weakness in Council that so much is made of compliance? Reactionary measures should be policed. How are compliance issues attended to?

Council

It was explained that staff react to community complaints and also on what staff see in their day to day travels

5. SHOALHAVEN WATER

a) Kangaroo Valley Sewerage Scheme, Treatment Plant Tours, Mini-hydro Scheme – Milton, Asset management Plans

Council

Ms Krogh advised that Shoalhaven Water has undertaken a number of backlog sewerage schemes over the last few years with the Kangaroo Valley sewerage scheme (KVSS) being the last major scheme to be underway. Mr Krogh was pleased to advise that tenders have just been called for the KVSS and hopes the community will be pleased with the plant being moved to a more superior site. A community newsletter, informing the community of the details, has been issued and Ms Krogh requested that if there was anyone who hadn't seen the newsletter to contact her on (02) 4429 3277. Ms Krogh advised that Shoalhaven Water had learned a number of lessons during the implementation of the Lake Conjola and Currarong schemes.

Shoalhaven Water has joined forces with Council's Waste Services Unit for tours of the various treatment plant facilities. Tours have been organised for Local Government Week – 2nd, 3rd and 4th August, and also for 18th, 19th and 20th October and 8th, 9th and 10th November 2011 and Information Flyers will be made available.

It was advised that Shoalhaven Water is heading in a new direction with Council approving the construction of a mini-hydro scheme at the Milton Water Treatment Plant. It is hoped this will be the first stage of future development for water treatment plants. It will be a small scheme but stage one will have the capacity to drive the plant and then once more experience is gained, stage two will generate enough power to give back to the grid, therefore recouping costs while producing water and treating wastewater.

Shoalhaven Water has completed their draft Asset Management Plans for water supply and sewerage, reporting to Council last month and will report again this month. The plans, with a high strategic level of forward projections and scope of water assets, will hopefully be on exhibition soon and Ms Krogh encourages the CCBs to make comment to value add to the plans.

Community Comments

Concerns were raised by the Kangaroo Valley residents in relation to recently completed resurfacing on the main road being compromised by the construction of the KVSS. It was suggested that Council should have coordinated with the RTA to delay the resurfacing till the works had been completed.

There was general agreement that Shoalhaven Water should be congratulated on being proactive and innovative with great projects such as the town water bubblers.

Council

Ms Krogh thanked the community for their comments and advised that Shoalhaven Water hoped to continue being innovative with projects to be considered in the future.

6. STRATEGIC PLANNING & INFRASTRUCTURE

a) Engagement with volunteer groups for works

Council

Mr Adams thanked the community for the efforts they put in to working with Council to achieve the various projects needed in each area and stated that Council would continue to encourage community groups to work with Council. In the past there have been volunteer schemes that have achieved bike paths and the like and often staff get

tied up with other tasks. Council recently confirmed that it will continue to support community projects and that it would investigate how to arrange funding to facilitate the projects. One possibility would be that in the coming financial year any funds set aside for cycleways and footpaths be made available to the community.

It has been suggested that as certain training and/or tickets are required for the work to occur that a single corporate training register be established. When Council is training staff, positions be made available to the community and then the register can be used throughout all areas for trained volunteers to work in their own town as well as the next town if they wish. The register would encourage the sharing of man power and tools and would help facilitate the creation and completion of projects giving the community a sense of pride and ownership in these projects.

Some of the community projects already underway include:

- Footpath at Bawley Point
- Footpath to the Hospital in Berry to commence very soon
- Footpath at Swanhaven started
- Footpath at Kangaroo Valley started
- Footpath at Woollamia to start in July
- Grant being processed for continuation of footpath at Callala Bay

Community Comments

The CCBs asked if it would be worthwhile considering creation of a 'volunteer's symbol'. The bushcare volunteer symbol is well known. This would identify the volunteers on any project and also may encourage more people to volunteer

Action: Council to consider the idea of a recognisable 'volunteer symbol'.

Questions raised by the CCBs included

1. Is a DA required for construction of a viewing platform at Hyams Beach?
2. Do participants of the training get formal qualifications that will be recognised elsewhere?
3. Does Council use people serving community service orders?
4. How does the community go about sourcing people serving community service orders?

The Sussex Inlet Community Forum advised they had to do a full site induction when constructing their footpath and how the community raised \$40,000 towards the project.

Council

1. It was advised that a DA is required and the community should approach Council first particularly if the land is Council or Crown owned.
2. In regard to the training qualifications Mr Paterson advised that the training is kept to a minimum, not to the extent that you get a certificate, as it has been shown

that sort of training takes a lot longer and most volunteers are reluctant to get involved. Council is trying to smooth the process but have to remain legal without turning people off.

3. Mr Bill Paterson advised that Council uses any resource it that comes its way and currently the community service orders offenders are working on litter crews, Harry Sawkins Park, town entrances and the removal of graffiti. Council is currently speaking with the gaol on a number of opportunities we could take advantage of the availability of possible workers.
4. The gaol wishes to achieve community goodwill so this is a real possibility. Contact Bill Paterson on (02) 4429 3362 for the contact details for the gaol

Community Comments

The CCBs stated how nice it was to see Harry Sawkins Park cleaned up

Council

Mr Paterson advised that the problems related to the pond in Harry Sawkins Park were quite complex and issues relating to noxious weeds and contamination were causing difficulties in keeping the pond clean. Marriott Park was much simpler and is remaining clean.

Mr Pigg stated that it was hoped a budget bid for on-going maintenance may assist to overcome the problems.

- b) Feedback from CCB's (at the last round of CCB meetings, they were requested to provide feedback on areas where service levels can be reduced to allow focus on critical areas)**

Council

Mr Adams noted that at past CCB meetings the CCBs were requested to prioritise the allocation of resources in their own communities. Council needs to know if the community wants more maintenance in certain areas and less in others, or if certain amenities are used more often than others, therefore requiring more maintenance. The community knows where these issues need to be addressed better than Council so feedback from the CCBs would be appreciated.

Community Comments

The CCBs requested the list of works that could be prioritised.

Council

It was advised that Councils everywhere are struggling with on-going renewal and maintenance of their assets and a strategy to keep assets at a sustainable level will be reported to Council soon. It is proposed that consultation with the community on acceptable levels of maintenance with a more achievable target take place and it is hoped correspondence will be forwarded to the CCBs soon in regard to this matter.

Community Comment

CCBs noted that the general public often don't have a real idea of indicative costs in relation to Council's maintenance responsibilities. It was suggested that Council supply CCBs with a list of various costs so they can advise their community of the costs for things like – 2 workers, a truck, a mower and a whipper snipper for a day.

Action: Strategic Planning to consult with the community regarding priorities for asset maintenance and investigate the provision of information relating to examples of maintenance costs.

c) Draft SLEP 2009 exhibition

Council

The majority of the SLEP 2009 is ready and once the Height of Buildings issue has been considered by Council they could put it on exhibition. It is required that once the SLEP 2009 is adopted after exhibition the DCP for the whole of the Shoalhaven be ready within 6 months.

Mr Adams explained the difficulties that Council is experiencing in relation to determining the Height of Buildings within the SLEP 2009. Some Councillors have conflicts of interest, being land owners in the area and feel that cannot be present to determine the matter.

Community Comments

What is the staff's suggestion for height of buildings?

Council

Staff are proposing to indicate in the exhibition material that there is a proposal to map the height of buildings at 8.5 metres in the R1 and R2 zones but the decision will be made by Council, staff are flexible.

Community Comments

If there is the potential to have residential development in all varieties, which is 56% of some villages, between 11 – 13 metres, is that good town planning?

Council

The SLEP 2009 is being translated as closest fit. Peter Adams indicated he would not comment on the question of 'good town planning'.

Community Comments

The Kangaroo Valley Community Association advised that they had met with the Mayor and Ernie Royston (previous Director Strategic Planning & Infrastructure) to discuss their concerns on this matter and were told not to worry as Kangaroo Valley will not be affected as it will be just a switch over, best fit and that the DCPs have the height's set by the public.

Council

The General Manager advised that the DCP heights will be brought into the LEP. (this was in error and has since been clarified by the General Manager).

Community Comments

This is not happening. Council is just lying and trying to hide things in the document, just outright dishonest.

Council

Three years ago, at the beginning of the process, the Council resolved it would be an administrative change and the changes to zoning would be just the 'closest fit'. Since then, there have been many changes and planning reforms and Council has negotiated successfully with the DoP on many provisions put forward by the community. As planning in the Shoalhaven is currently in limbo the LEP needs to go out on exhibition so the public can make comment.

Community Comments

This is a matter of manoeuvring amongst Councillors and that once the LEP is law there will be conflict with the DCPs during the period before the new DCP. How will that be resolved?

Council

The existing DCPs will remain in place and when there is a conflict the LEP takes precedence.

Community Comments

The LEP should not go on exhibition without maps for all areas, without the maps all the work falls on the community. We have been told that if it goes to exhibition as 11 metres the Citywide DCP will protect the villages but the DoP advises that if areas aren't mapped it will revert to the 11 metres as per the LEP.

Council

The General Manager advised the meeting the Draft SLEP 2009 Height of Buildings Committee had now been reconstituted and consists of all Councillors with a quorum of four.

There has been confusion between Council and the DoP over the Standard Template as the DoP signed off with the height of buildings in DCPs.

Community Comments

Kiama has had their LEP approved and they had height maps included. Staff conflicts of interest need to be addressed so they can take part in deliberations. The Councillors do not take CCB views seriously.

Council

Clr Kearney stated he doesn't want a height limit that restricts development. A blanket limit will stifle development.

Mr Adams noted that the LEP currently doesn't prescribe the height of buildings the DCPs do. Whether or not heights need to be prescribed in the LEP is the issue Councillors are debating now. It is acknowledged that Council has the discretion outside the DCP, there is no absolute control.

Mr Papworth advised that currently if a DA for a dwelling is over 2 storeys it will need a full assessment

Community Comments

CCBs are not highly regarded by Councillors and believe that they do not present the views of the general public.

Council

The reason that the LEP is not yet on exhibition is that Councillors are listening to the community and they wouldn't attend CCB meetings if they felt that way.

Community Comments

It was suggested that Councillors and staff will not meet with CCBs.

The Sussex Inlet Community forum met with Ward 3 Councillors and staff recently and said that Councillors will meet with the public.

Height of buildings maps should be in place for all towns and all land uses in the document and then hold a Shoalhaven wide community debate.

This was not an administrative change at all.

Kangaroo Valley can have an airfield and helipad next to the main street and houses on the escarpment in the new LEP template.

Council

It was noted that in the communities view it is not just an administrative change.

Community Comments

Councillors should read the whole LEP. Council and Councillors should go back and establish their right to be involved. Full Council and staff should be able to participate in the debate on the LEP.

Council

There are provisions under the Local Government Act for exemptions. 10 Councillors took that opportunity up and were granted the conditional exemption to get the LEP to exhibition. Following exhibition a new exemption is required. Since the exemption was granted one and possibly more Councillors have purchased property and also the Local Government Act doesn't overcome non pecuniary interests, there is no provision in the

act for the Minister to give an exemption on these. Councillors are required to make the decision themselves as to whether to declare an interest or not. Over the last few years a number of formal complaints have been received alleging certain Councillors had remained in the Council Chamber when they had an interest. Complaints are dealt with by the Department of Local Government and sometimes the Ombudsman. Councillors now tend to err on the side of caution

Clr Kearney stated that the Code of Conduct is very clear in its statement that it is up to Councillors to determine if they have an interest.

Community Comments

It was generally agreed that the community want all Council and senior staff to make a proper decision for the community.

Are there any other Councils experiencing this problem?

Council

Some Council's just went ahead and decided the issue and those Councillors could be in the wrong.

There are 2 options to consider here in regard to the LEP, Council could stop the whole process and overturn the administrative change. This could be completely overridden by State Government or go to exhibition with the things most concerning highlighted.

Community Comments

Put on exhibition as like for like.

Council

So, like for like, with a list of proposed changes?

Community Comments

With Height of Buildings maps.

Council

Clear message to put everything on hold.

Community Comments

Want the General Manager included on decision.

Subsequent to the CCB meeting the Draft Shoalhaven LEP Height of Buildings Committee resolved:

RESOLVED on a MOTION of Clr Watson, seconded Clr Soames, that:

- a) *Council proceed to the exhibition of the draft LEP2009 with the current approach to "height of buildings";*

- b) *As part of the exhibition state Councils intention to map and include a maximum building height of 8.5 metres in the proposed R2 Low Density Residential and RU5 Village zones in the plan as part of its finalisation;*
- c) *Height in all other areas be managed through appropriate DCP controls, as either storeys or three dimensional building envelopes.*
- d) *As part of the exhibition, detail the existing site specific building heights that are set in existing DCP's and state Council's intention to incorporate these site specific DCP height limits in the LEP 2009 "height of buildings" maps and include them in the plan as part of its finalisation.*

AND the Development Committee is making the following recommendation to be considered by Council on 17th May 2011.

RECOMMENDED that Council:

- a) *Proceed to exhibit the revised version of draft Shoalhaven LEP 2009 as outlined in the report.*
- b) *Accept the LEP Acceleration Fund offer of \$61,600 subject to negotiations on the funding agreement to the satisfaction of the General Manager.*
- c) *Exhibit the current DLEP version without the recent Standard Instrument amendments and commit to making any required changes after exhibition.*
- d) *Include a copy of the Standard Instrument amendments in an explanatory material DLEP exhibition package.*
- e) *Giving in principle support to exhibiting, alongside the DLEP, a request to amend the proposed zonings currently included in the DLEP for part of the Crams Road Urban Release Area, subject to the submission by the land owner of a supporting environmental study that is to the satisfaction of the General Manager and the Department of Environment & Heritage;*
- f) *Council object to the Department of Planning's restriction on Lot averaging in the R5 Large Lot Residential Zone;*
- g) *The General Manager report to Council during the exhibition period any concerns or issues that Council may wish to make in a submission to the Draft LEP.*

d) Population Forecast

Council

Mr Adams advised that Council is hoping to fund, every year, the ability to provide very detailed information on the website on population statistics and projections. Population growth rates are proving to be not as high as predicted.

7. CITY SERVICES & OPERATIONS

a) Emergency Management Arrangements

Council

Mr Paterson explained that given the Father's Day storms locally and the recent floods interstate it has heightened everyone's awareness of what emergency procedures are

currently in place. There are comprehensive and well planned procedures in place developed by each relevant combat agency and Council is seeking funding to initiate a community education program. Council needs to be proactive in letting the community know as much as possible as there are concerns relating to various issues such as evacuation procedures.

There are a number of groups trialling using mobile and home phones for emergency warnings. This needs to be resourced to ensure information is kept updated.

Community Comments

Does Council use ABC Radio as a primary source of information?

Council

Yes, there is an arrangement with ABC Radio but also there needs to be more than one source of information in the case of failure of one of them.

Community Comments

The RFS has done an evacuation strategy for Hyams Beach. The CCB will send that plan to Mr Paterson.

Action: Hyams Beach Villagers Association to send the RFS Evacuation Strategy to Mr Paterson for assessment.

Council

Concerns have been raised in relation to neighbourhood 'safe places' as only three sites within the whole of the Shoalhaven fit the criteria of a 'safe' site. This issue is under the control of the RFS and is being investigated by them. The SES has a district level tsunami plan that covers the Shoalhaven.

Community Comment

The Cudmirrah Hall is not an evacuation area but has been made into an information area. People have been advised if they are leaving town on holiday to leave that information at the Hall in case of fire so the RFS does not have to check the premises for people. Information regarding pets etc is also left at the hall.

Budgong Community Group advised they have five areas of safety approved by the RFS.

Council

Mr Paterson requested the Budgong Community Group forward to him the information on the safety areas.

Mr Paterson advised of a recent questionnaire for identifying all potential evacuation centres in the Shoalhaven. Lessons could be learned from what's happening at Cudmirrah and Mr Paterson requested information from the Sussex Inlet Community Forum on how they have organised the information drop off.

Action: Budgong Community Group to forward the information on the five safety areas to Mr Paterson.

Action: Sussex Inlet Community Forum to liaise with Mr Paterson regarding the Cudmirrah Hall evacuation information.

b) Impact of wet weather, heavy grass growth and inability to meet mowing schedules

Council

Mr Paterson advised that there has been much community angst in relation to mowing schedules and inability to keep pace with recent grass growth. It has been an unusually wet year and it has become obvious that mowing schedules will need to be increased. Council is currently working on a strategy to identify areas for more maintenance and the help of the community in prioritising these areas is crucial.

Mr Paterson also advised that a bid for an additional \$100,000 for servicing of litter bins has been put forward. An area of concern is the amount of commercial waste in street litter bins.

Community Comments

The CCBs stated that more recycle bins are needed.

Council

Mr Paterson explained that recycle bins in public areas are problematic due to them being filled with domestic waste. They need extraordinary local supervision to be effective and Council is currently looking at trialling this in Berry. A dedicated community is needed otherwise it just becomes another litter bin.

c) Graffiti Management

Council

Council spends \$100,000 to \$200,000 per year cleaning the city of graffiti but the problem is beyond Council's current resources. A bid for an extra \$150,000 has been put in for next year. We try to make a Supervisor, a vehicle and volunteers go as far as we can but graffiti is a problem everywhere.

Community Comments

Are there graffiti kits available? Some CCBs mentioned they have paint provided by Council and the volunteers just go out and paint over it.

Council

Mr Paterson stated Council would be happy to provide paint and other graffiti removal material to those dedicated community members to paint over or remove the graffiti.

8. FINANCE & CORPORATE SERVICES

a) 2011/12 Delivery Program/Operational Plan Process

Council

This is the time of year when the Delivery Program and Operational Plan go out for exhibition. Mr Dun explained that each year these documents include Council's objectives, Revenue Policy including proposed rates, fees and charges and what Council is spending money on and what's getting built etc.

There will be three public meeting as usual where staff will provide an explanation in greater detail of revenue including rates, fees and charges and Council's financial situation. We still have the same equation every year that we have a huge amount of projects and not enough funds.

The first public meeting is on Wednesday 4th May 2011 to be held at Vincentia High School and will commence at 7.00 pm.

The second public meeting is on Wednesday 11th May 2011 to be held at Nowra City Administrative Centre and will commence at 7.00 pm.

The third public meeting is on Wednesday 18th May 2011 to be held at Ulladulla Civic Centre and will commence at 7.00 pm.

Mr Dun advised it is proposed to increase rates by 2.8% next financial year.

Copies of the Delivery Program and Operational Plan will be forwarded to all CCBs once Council resolves to go to exhibition.

Mr Dun advised the meeting of the projects that Council has selected to apply for funding from the Regional Development Australia. The first round of funding closes in May and Council has chosen the following three projects for the funding:

1. Upgrade of the Oallen Bridge
2. Upgrade of the electricity, water supply and runway at the Albatross Aviation Technology Park
3. Sealing of Turpentine Road.

There is \$80 - \$100m available in the funding and over 50 Regional Development areas across Australia so if Council is allocated more than \$1m and is able to get one or two projects going then that is a good outcome.

Community Comments

It was advised that three years ago a combined group of CCBs put forward the suggestion that Footpath/Cycleway be constructed around the whole of the Bay & Basin area. With the Jervis Bay triathlon bringing so many visitors to the area this project should be a priority. Also Jervis Bay Road should be upgraded.

The CCBs also asked why the Ulladulla Civic Centre Upgrade was not one of the chosen projects.

Council

Mr Dun advised that to be eligible for funding, projects have to be shovel ready. No designs have been completed in regard to the Cycleway/Footpath in the Bay & Basin area and Council will apply for the funding, in the second round, for the upgrade of the Ulladulla Civic Centre when Council will be closer to "shovel ready". This will be additional to the \$5.5m Council will have to add to the budget for the Centre.

There will be many more rounds of funding so Council could investigate the possibilities for the footpath/cycleway for the Bay & Basin area.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded, the time being 1.00 pm.

Russ Pigg
CHAIRPERSON