

## MEETING NOTES

### MEETING WITH CENTRAL AREA 2 COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE BODIES

WEDNESDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2011

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

The meeting commenced at 10.01 am.

#### PRESENT

Russ Pigg – General Manager – left 11.41 am  
Clr Watson – left 12.25 pm  
Rob Donaldson – Assistant General Manager  
Peter Dun – Director Finance & Corporate Services – left 11.10 am  
Peter Adams – Director Strategic Planning & Infrastructure  
Bill Paterson – Director City Services & Operations  
Tim Fletcher – Director Development & Environmental Services – left 11.41 am  
Richard Payne – Media Manager – left 12.20 pm

Larry Watson – Tomerong Community Forum  
Peter Allison – Tomerong Community Forum  
Steven Murphy – Huskisson Woollamia Community Voice  
Maureen Webb – Basin Villages Forum  
Chris Grounds – Basin Villages Forum  
Lesley Sanders – Hyams Beach Villagers Association  
Jim McCulloch – Hyams Beach Villagers Association – left 12.25 pm  
Bryan Saunders – Vincentia Ratepayers & Residents Association

Apologies:

Apologies were received from Carmel Krogh – Director Shoalhaven Water

#### 1. WELCOME

Mr Pigg welcomed everyone to the meeting, thanked them for their attendance and advised that he may have to leave after Item 4 of the Agenda due to other commitments.

#### 2. GENERAL MANAGER

##### a) Operations Review (*staff*)

*Council*

Mr Pigg provided a brief overview of Council's Delivery Program, Budget and long term financial plan. The target is to improve the net operating result by \$200,000 in 2011/12, \$660,000 in 2013/14 and \$1m in 2014/15. This will mean a decline in funds available for works but Council hopes to improve results by analysing services to deliver savings. This is a very robust review and there will be a need to balance community needs for improvement. Group Directors and senior staff are working on an analysis and suggested options to reach the targets as Council has a policy position to stay with rate pegging.

With the increase in charges for power, the increase in services and new infrastructure there will be fewer resources for capital works and renewal of infrastructure.

Feedback from CCBs is invited over the next few months and Mr Pigg urged CCBs to think about this issue. With the election of Local Government next year the new Council will have to consider the situation then.

### *Community Comments*

The Hyams Beach Villagers Forum asked if the Global Financial crisis had had an impact on Council's finances. With Council's review to spend less there will be a large effect on the community, will Council try to gather more money rather than giving out less?

The Huskisson Woollamia Community Voice asked if the Collateralised Debt Obligations (CDOs) are mature.

### *Council*

Mr Dun explained to the meeting that there has been no impact as yet and all Council's investments are still paying. The strategy Council has followed of putting funds in cash investments with a wide range of financial institutions is still paying handsomely but things may still happen in the future. Four CDOs held by Council are subject to court action after the swap counterparty failing to deliver coupon payments but Council is confident of getting its money back. Of \$110m Council has invested, \$9m is in CDOs.

Mr Pigg advised Council is trying to do both with the Group Directors report on new initiatives to improve expenditure. Previously there were no set targets, now they will be in place.

### *Council*

Mr Pigg explained that the use of contractors still needs staff to prepare projects, scope the works and manage the contracts. Currently most major capital works are contracted out. Lead times for approvals to get projects up and running are an issue. This year Council had a program of works and the Fathers Day storm tied up \$2m to rectify damage and clean up the mess, it has had a dramatic impact. This year the consequences of the wet weather are that works programs have been interrupted with things like the increase of pot holes and drainage issues. The media are hitting Council hard with the issue of funds being rolled over and concerns have been raised within the community. There are many issues that have caused things to roll over such as planning, construction and threatened species issues. Significant drainage problems in Worrigea costing Council \$660,000 are still on-going and a population explosion of the Green and Gold Bell Frog has caused downing of tools, relocation and more studies. In addition, many projects are funded over more than one year and are planned to be implemented over more than one financial year.

### *Community Comments*

The Vincentia Ratepayers & Residents Association noted that with the shortfall in capital expenditure there was obviously a shortage of staff. It is assumed that Council will employ more contractors.

## *Council*

Mr Pigg explained that Councillors are aware of the increase in operating expenditure and the resources we have at the moment are it. The budget cost must be a neutral position before any new staff are employed.

Mr Donaldson commented that one way for Council to address the issues without taking on project management resources, would be to trim back the scope of works and deliver both slightly reduced works and the required project management.

Mr Adams advised that if you go into individual projects the rollover is unavoidable. With the North Nowra Link Road there is a large budget there but no approval achieved to proceed and it distorts the figures. In regard to the Ulladulla Sports Park, actual works are well advanced and are on schedule although only \$90,000 has been paid out and Contractors are not paid till the work is done. The tenders are completed, contract let, construction well under way but the majority of the budget needed to be revoted until payments are made. The comments in the media are unfortunate as there is a lack of understanding on how construction works. For example only two staff are working on the Ulladulla Sports Park and two staff on the North Nowra Link Road, if this was analysed properly it would not be misinterpreted.

## *Community Comments*

The Hyams Beach Villages Forum asked if Council is using work gangs from the gaol.

## *Council*

Mr Paterson stated that Council has worked with the Correction Centre before even construction commenced and now has a Memorandum of Understanding with the Centre on use of labour. Groups have worked in the parks and gardens area and on the Crookhaven Heads Lighthouse but the requirements to get the groups on a site are complex.

### **b) Community Engagement Strategy (staff)**

## *Council*

In regard to the Community Engagement Strategy it was advised that Council now has a six person community working party that was established to review and redraft the strategy that was on public exhibition last year. The Working Group, along with the General Manager and Assistant General Manager will attempt to make the document simpler with plain English, more practical and explore different ways to engage the community. The draft will go back to Councillors to determine if further public exhibition is required.

### **c) Councillors Payment of Expenses & Provision of Facilities Policy (staff)**

## *Council*

Mr Pigg took the opportunity to advise the CCBs of a couple of Policies going on Public Exhibition as follows:

Council Members – Payment of Expenses & Provision of Facilities Policy – discussions have taken place and amendments have been made. The policy is currently on public exhibition with submissions closing on 9 September 2011.

Private Wharves & Jetties Policy – Mr Southorn is working on this policy. Council has proposed to change the Policy to allow private jetties on public land as there are five individual land owners in Burrill Lake, who without reference to Council, approached Waterways and the Crown Lands Division and got approval for temporary structures but the structures are not temporary and this was the catalyst that prompted Councillors to address the issue. The intention is to free up the jetties for more use, this will be something new and if the community are in agreement Council will have to start to identify what Reserves will work.

#### *Community Comment*

The Hyams Beach Villages Association asked was this at the cost of the ratepayers.

#### *Council*

Mr Pigg explained that there was no cost to ratepayers but the issues were associated to things like works on environmentally fragile reserves such as the impact on sea grass and on ecological endangered species.

#### *Community Comment*

The Tomerong Community Forum asked wouldn't there be insurance issues with jetties built by private individuals. Who would be responsible?

Other CCBs noted that access couldn't be restricted if the Jetty was on public land. It was advised that there was a ruling by Sir Garfield Barwick against Councils on the interaction of a private structure on public land.

#### *Council*

Mr Pigg advised that usually private jetties are chained up but the policy goes into a different area such as if the jetty is for commercial use then it must be open to the public.

Mr Fletcher stated that under current Council policy where the jetty is coming off public land it should be for community use. It was contemplated to change the policy to allow private jetties coming off public land for private use as well but there would have to be significant changes required for the approval process such as liability considerations making them safe for the public. All aspects will have to be considered and the document will have to be worked through step by step.

If Council doesn't give approval then Council's insurer would say that the responsibility would be held by the private constructor with Council the second respondent and Crown Lands the third.

Mr Adams requested the CCBs to make comments when the Policy goes out for public exhibition as there are many factors the public need to be aware of and Council wants to hear the communities' views.

Mr Pigg noted the document will be opposite to what the policy says now, a whole new philosophy, and asked the CCBs to consider comment on it.

### *Community Comments*

The Basin Villages Community Forum asked what difference this will have on the existing structures.

### *Council*

Mr Pigg explained that the approvals had been given on what were supposed to be removable gangways but they look like jetties.

Foreshore Reserves Policy – Mr Neil Southorn is also dealing with this Policy. Council is reconsidering the principles relating to the community maintaining foreshore areas. The catalyst to the direction of Council was brought about by comments made by the public regarding staff stipulating how maintenance is to be done and the community saying Council is not recognising historical works. There is some conflict in various areas where land owners are mowing more than the specified areas. Councillors have taken the view to open up the area for volunteers to mow appropriate distances. In some areas Council will be going on-site to consult with the wider community. Mr Pigg advised that there are a range of legislative issues and the matter is not as simple as some community groups think. There is not a lot of understanding of the Fisheries Act, the Native Vegetation Act and Council is trying to improve the communities' knowledge and work a way through. This is a complex issue and there is debate on the intrusion into saltmarsh areas in Burrill Lake.

Mr Adams explained that changing water levels at Burrill Lake further complicates the issue as the saltmarsh moves with the levels causing a conflict in where the reserve should be mown.

### *Community Comments*

The Hyams Beach Villagers Association noted that this situation creates the illusion that the person mowing the reserves owns the land and the community are not aware it is public land.

### *Council*

Mr Pigg explained that Council does not want to stop the public maintaining the reserves but the boundaries must be understood. Without the volunteer support some reserves would deteriorate as Council doesn't have the resources to maintain all the reserves. The legal issues have to be worked through.

### *Community Comments*

The following suggestions were received on this matter:

- Have to have appropriate restrictions in place
- Volunteer mowers be registered
- Educate people in the nature of the tenure and the environmental issues
- Leaflet drop "Owned by Public"

### *Council*

Mr Adams stated that he didn't disagree with any of the comments but Council staff can be perceived to be provocative if they try and educate the public and suggested that the closest

they can get is to have specific Plans of Management, even though some of these may take years to get into place.

#### *Community Comment*

The Basin Village Forum asked if fear of being fined would make a difference.

#### *Council*

Mr Pigg advised this sort of thing does get publicity and it would be good to deliberately get air play to send the message.

The Policy is not on public exhibition yet as this has come over the top of the work program for Strategic Planning & Infrastructure and they are doing their best to get through it.

### **3. FINANCE & CORPORATE SERVICES**

#### **a) Election Boundaries (Tomerong Community Forum)**

#### *Council*

Mr Dun advised that the Tomerong Community Forum existed within three different election wards and wards 2 and 3 also go through the centre of Sanctuary Point. Council considered a report to the Resources & Reserves Committee on 14 June 2011 and then at the Ordinary meeting of 28 June 2011 on this same issue. Section 211 of the Local Government Act 1993 states that the differences between electors in each ward cannot be more than 10%. The report to Council was written as the difference in the number of electors between ward 3 and ward 1 is 9.63% and it was up to Council to decide whether to change the wards or not. Council decided to not change the boundaries as they were within the 10% but numbers are getting closer. Nowra has both ward 1 & 2, Tomerong has wards 1, 2 and 3 and Sanctuary Point has ward 2 & 3 and often the difference in the wards is determined down the middle of a street.

#### *Community Comments*

The Tomerong Community Forum was disappointed as they were the original seat and now they are in 3 wards. It causing great confusion at election times and Tomerong has no mail service so instructions on what ward you should vote under never reaches the whole community. Clear maps and notices around the town are needed to inform the community.

The Hyams Beach Villages Association asked if it was possible to get rid of the wards altogether.

#### *Council*

It was advised that the Councillors want ownership of wards and Sanctuary Point residents feel the same as the Tomerong community.

Mr Pigg advised Wollongong considered getting rid of their wards but decided against it.

Mr Dun advised that the Executive Support Section of Council Could examine the Tomerong area and see if it can be reduced, at least to 2 if not 1 ward, possible in ward 1.

The Government have changed their minds on who runs the election and it will be up to Council to decide if the Electoral Commission or Council run the next election.

#### *Community Comments*

The Huskisson Woollamia Community Voice stated that Tomerong should be in the same ward as Huskisson and Vincentia as they are all located in the one area. Could Council lobby the Government on the 10% ruling?

The CCBs agreed that it would be hard for all Councillors to keep track of what was going on in the whole of the City

**Action: Executive Support to investigate making Tomerong all ward 1.**

## **4. DEVELOPMENT & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**

### **a) Review of Domestic Cat Controls (*Basin Villages Forum*)**

#### *Council*

Mr Fletcher advised that there was no agreed action for staff in relation to this matter. The Companion Animals Act does affect cats and there are provisions for Council to identify and claim wildlife protection areas with signs advising cats are prohibited in that area and enforcement through fines is possible. If the Forum have a location they wish to be cat free then they should write to Council, and if it is within Council's power, and Councillors wish to adopt that position, then staff may be able to act. There will probably be resourcing implications and cats are hard to catch but we can attempt to enforce such a restriction if adopted.

- # Mr Fletcher tabled some brochures on the Companion Animals Act (copy attached) stating what is required. (attached)

#### *Community Comments*

It was noted that the Bayswood Village have a ban on cats.

#### *Council*

Mr Fletcher explained that in some situations occur because through the DA process flora and fauna reports a consultant will recommend controls to minimise the impact on native habitat and can impose a caveat over the title. How well this is administered is not known but it does try to influence future residents.

The Basin Villages Forum will need to nominate an area and some people will take notice and some won't. An educational approach is advisable but Council can take action, if such an approach is adopted.

**Action – Basin Villages Forum to write to Council identifying the area they wish to be cat free.**

**b) Upholding Council Consent Conditions – Private Certifiers (*Basin Villages Forum*)**  
*Council*

Mr Fletcher explained that the matter of private certifiers was an interesting and confusing issue with legal ramifications and the St Georges Basin Supermarket was a regrettable issue for staff. When Council issues a Development Consent the applicant has the legal right to choose a private certifier as an alternative path to Council. Conditions of Consent are also often very complicated documents. It is the private certifiers role to ensure compliance. Staff are frustrated because they can't actually take action until it becomes clearly apparent that Consent Conditions are not being adhered to, they have no legal ability till then. Unless staff virtually sit and watch the development, which is impossible resource wise, we only become aware, when a problem arises. The community think Council is not doing anything about it. Council has its hands tied to a certain point and staff along with industry representatives have major concerns.

- # Mr Fletcher tabled a snap shot of some of the complaints received by the Building Professionals Board who administer private certifiers. (Copy attached)

Of the complaints made over the last few years 72% have been dismissed. It was advised that if the community had concerns that Conditions of Consent were not being met they should complain to the Building Professionals Board. Council is currently finalising a complaint to the Board over the Supermarket DA at Island Point Road.

The State Government is currently reviewing the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act and Tim Moore and Ron Dyer have the responsibility to review the legislation. They will be touring NSW to engage the community and will be coming to Nowra. There will be public sessions available and people will have the opportunity to address those who are doing the review. Mr Fletcher stated he does not think private certifiers will go away but believes things can be changed. For example, the legislation could enable certain critical conditions of consent being made to meet certain criteria such as public safety and it could be required to be signed off by Council.

The private certifier for the Supermarket issued approval to remove vegetation then the developer completely excavated the site – an extremely different understanding of intention. Council couldn't take action till after the damage was done.

It was advised that there were quite a number of apartment blocks in Sydney that are not occupied where the private certifier had allowed things to happen, there's been court action and as they were built contrary to the DA they can't get an occupation certificate.

*Community Comments*

The Basin Villages Forum stated they were pleased that Council is putting in a complaint on the Supermarket DA. Is compliance of consent an issue for Council?

*Council*

Mr Fletcher advised Council can improve in the area of compliance but asked the CCBs to see the matter in context as over 1,800 DAs are received annually with 40 – 50 approvals a week and some you can identify but there are many more that are done properly. With the St Georges Basin one Council would not have issued the excavation certificate as it was not adequately addressing conditions of consent. There have been incidents of pollution and Council staff are having a meeting with the Minister to raise a number of issues including



private certifiers. Mr Fletcher doubts if they will do anything before the review but he will personally raise it with the Minister.

There are systems in place and it isn't like no one visits sites. Subdivisions won't get their Linen Plan till Council signs off. Staff are not perfect and the CCBs were asked to see the matter in context as only 1-2% have issues, 98% are fine.

Mr Fletcher asked the CCBs to let staff know quickly if they think they see a problem as there is not enough staff to constantly maintain vigilance on all construction works.

#### *Community Comments*

The Basin Villages Forum requested advice on how consent conditions are complied with.

#### *Council*

Mr Fletcher advised information would be made available to the Basin Villages Forum.

**Action: D&ES to advise Basin Villages Forum on how Consent Conditions are complied with.**

## **5. CITY SERVICES & OPERATIONS**

### **a) Vincentia Fire Station (Vincentia Ratepayers & Residents Association)**

#### *Council*

Mr Paterson advised that the community assume the RFS is still under Council control. They are now largely an independent organisation and have a service agreement with Council. The RFS determines adequate coverage area for fire stations. Rather than having little stations all over they are going for the main centre to be at the Crossroads. The RFS has been liaising with community members as they wish to combine three into one. Council has assisted with supplying addresses but essentially it is the RFS's show

#### *Community Comment*

The Vincentia Ratepayers & Residents Association stated the RFS did not contact them at all and completely ignored them.

#### *Council*

Mr Paterson was sure that the RFS did not intentionally mean to ignore them, and it was Council's understanding that the community would be involved in the process.

#### *Community Comments*

The Hyams Beach Villagers Association stated that nobody knew, there was an information breakdown and no information had been handed out. Consultation was just about the layout of the building, it was poorly run and was over in 10 minutes. In their opinion the new site at the Crossroads was ludicrous because of where it is situated, there will be major traffic issues on the Wool Road and was someone supposed to run out with a flag when the fire engine needed to get out in a hurry. Has this been looked at?

## *Council*

Mr Paterson explained that the Stocklands access was determined by the State Government in their approval process. Council is working with Stocklands on the access issue. Only half the funds to construct the fire station are currently available. Those funds were voted in anticipation of the State Government providing the other half of the funding in the 2010/2011 financial year, this did not happen. It is anticipated that the remaining funds for the station will be made available this financial year, but this is not guaranteed.

Mr Adams advised that the consent for Stocklands requires the current Bay & Basin Leisure Centre access road to be ripped up and the bush land regenerated. It's in the Council road reserve and Council won't allow closure till it's satisfied with the alternative access. There will be traffic signals at the school, a separate road to the carpark and a separate road alongside the carpark to ensure the emergency vehicles do not have to travel through the carpark and this needs a design. There is debate on the roundabout at the corner of the carpark and a REMS main will need to be moved. Approval is required for the removal of vegetation and it is unlikely the fire station will be there before the access road is built.

### **b) Hyams Beach Fire Shed (*Hyams Beach Villagers Association*)**

## *Council*

Mr Paterson advised that as the fire shed is a community facility it is open to the community to put to Council what they want to happen to that facility.

Mr Adams stated Council will make the decision and he suggested the community put up a proposal that included how they are going to maintain the building and this would help the proposal.

## *Community Comments*

The Hyams Beach Villagers Association stated they are prepared to maintain the building.

## *Council*

Clr Watson advised that the RFS were looking for funds by selling old fire stations. The Hyams Beach fire station is on Crown land so it can't be sold.

## *Community Comment*

The Vincentia Ratepayers & Residents Association were concerned that Stocklands would not fund the access road unless they unloaded the land.

## *Council*

Mr Adams advised that Stocklands have negotiated with National Parks & Wildlife in regard to maintaining the conservation lands and National Parks & Wildlife advised it would be at a cost.

It was also advised that the access will be via a separate road that does not pass the shops and comes out at the school. The road will be very accessible and centrally located with the town brigade coming out at the traffic lights.

## 6. STRATEGIC PLANNING & INFRASTRUCTURE

### a) LEP Progress (Staff) & (Tomerong Community Forum)

#### *Council*

Mr Adams explained that it was week 6 of 13 of the public exhibition period, which is three times longer than the statutory period. He advised that the interactive website and other explanatory papers would help the community in navigating through this very complicated document. There are quite a few things in place to help understand the document such as interpretative documents, a hotline anyone can call, there are drop in sessions planned throughout the City, local community stalls and lately they have been responding to special requests for extra sessions. Staff are available to explain what the LEP does or doesn't do or the various effects the document will have. It is understandable that a lot of groups have concerns and Council is attempting to help everyone with their specific requests. Sessions have also been scheduled with Government Agencies and Industry Professionals. Mr Adams asked the CCBs to help inform the community.

#### *Community Comments*

The Vincentia Ratepayers & Residents Association asked could they emphasise the fact that if the community want changes it will be considered and will it come back to the public

#### *Council*

The meeting was advised that a copy of all submissions will be given to the Councillors along with a summary of the submissions. If changes are made then in theory the Minister can make the LEP or if the changes are significant, re-exhibition may be necessary.

The recommendations will be made public and Councillors may want a session to study the submissions in full.

#### *Community comments*

The Hyams Beach Villagers Association said the information and process is good but the exhibit at the Bay & Basin Leisure Centre was not being run very well. Often the computer is not even on. Ms Sanders advised she would be willing to run the exhibit for 2 hours to help ensure people get the information they need.

The Huskisson Woollamia Community Voice advised their drop in session was really good.

#### *Council*

Mr Adams noted the comments made by the Hyams Beach CCB and advised he would address the matter and would be happy to consider Ms Sanders offer.

**Action: SP&I to ensure the LEP display at the Bay & Basin Leisure Centre is up and running properly.**

**b) Update – Library – Woolworths Development** (*Basin Villages Forum*) & (*Hyams Beach Villagers Association*) & (*Vincentia Ratepayers & Residents Association*)

*Community Comments*

The Hyams Beach Villagers Forum raised concerns that if the library were to be near the pond then during afterhours time, when the shopping centre is locked up, nobody would be able to walk through the mall. People would have to walk all the way around in the dark.

*Council*

Mr Adams explained that Council met with Fabcot Pty Ltd and they wouldn't consider selling the land but would consider leasing it. This raises problems with Section 94 contributions as these funds can't be used on a lease and it would also mean Council will have on-going costs with a lease and no security of tenure.

It was advised that the matter of the proposed Central District Library was considered at Council's Ordinary meeting on 16 August 2011 with the following resolution being made and that the Councillor Briefing will be held tonight:

*That subject to a Councillor Briefing on the matter, Council adopt the following Motion:*

- a) Not proceed further with negotiations with Fabcot Pty Ltd on the provision of the Central District Library in Stage 1A or 1B of the proposed Vincentia District Centre;*
- b) Advise Fabcot Pty Ltd that Council retains the option of locating the Central District Library in Stage 2 of the Vincentia District Centre;*
- c) Further investigate alternative library sites, outcomes and delivery models for the library to serve the Bay and Basin area;*
- d) Thank Fabcot Pty Ltd for its cooperation in negotiations with Council; and*
- e) Inform the Department of Planning and Infrastructure of Council's decision.*

It was advised that Council has had concept layouts and estimates for the Vincentia District Library prepared and the estimate is approximately \$5m. This sort of structure would have some architectural merit but would be a simple design. Stage 1 would be 900m<sup>2</sup> and CCBs representatives will be requested to work through the designs with Council. One alternative is to locate the Library with the Bay & Basin Leisure Centre.

*Community Comments*

The CCBs stated that they want a good Library.

*Council*

It was advised that subject to the Councillor Briefing the resolution had already been made and there will be no Library in Stage 1 of the shopping centre and Council will be seriously looking at locating the Library elsewhere.

### *Community Comments*

The Vincentia Ratepayers & Residents Association stated that as there will be Stage 1A and 1B with no time limit, Stage 2 could be more than two years away. Council should focus on the Bay & Basin Leisure Centre and proceed as soon as possible.

### *Council*

Mr Adams advised that Council will consider all options.

### **c) Possible Progression – Learn to Ride Facility – Sanctuary Point** *(Basin Villages Forum)*

### *Community Comments*

The Basin Villages Forum enquired if Council would progress the provision of a 'Learn to Ride' facility in the Sanctuary Point area. They would like to work with Council to have this included in strategic planning for the area.

### *Council*

Mr Adams explained that an application for grant funds for a mobile training facility has been successful. This type of facility works out of a trailer and can move around the whole of the Shoalhaven. Cathy Wiseham, Council's Road Safety Officer, will be working on this project and the aim is to train trainers.

### **d) Funding Allocations** *(Tomerong Community Forum)*

### *Council*

Mr Adams stated that at the Southern Area CCB meeting a new group, the Lake Conjola Lakecare Association, enquired where they would find information on works planned in their area and he advised them that there is information on the website provided in the Delivery Program and Operational Plan. However, on drainage, cycleways and the like, more detail may be required and CCBs can contact Martin Uptis, Council's Infrastructure & Assets Manager, for more information.

It was also advised that next month Council will start preparation for next year's Delivery Program & Operational Plan that would be adopted in June 2012. CCBs need to advise Council of their priorities for works within their areas. Funds are limited, particularly with Council reducing expenditure and there has to be a balance between providing new facilities and the maintenance of existing facilities. CCBs can forward submissions at any time and when the Delivery Program and Operational Plan go on public exhibition there is a further chance for the community to forward submissions.

Previously Council has provided a small amount of funds for cycleways but this year the entire pathway budget has been allocated for community based projects. Woollamia has just started a footpath/cycleway project where they had community members buy bricks and Council provided additional funding for other materials. Mr Adams encouraged the CCBs to forward submissions for this type of funding when they have a project ready to go. There is the danger that Council may not be able assist everyone but it's a good way to get things done.

### *Community Comments*

The Tomerong Community Forum asked if the Community would be responsible for the continuing maintenance of these projects. Enquiry was also made regarding the possibilities for a creek crossing in Tomerong.

### *Council*

The meeting was advised that Council would have to allow a maintenance budget on these projects and if the Tomerong Community Forum wants more information they should contact Martin Uptis.

**Action: CCBs to forward projects that are 'ready to go' for Council assistance in materials.**

### **e) Update – Intersection Moonah & Booderee Roads (Hyams Beach Villagers Association)**

#### *Community Comments*

The Hyams Beach Villagers Association advised that three years ago Council indicated that the intersection of Moonah and Booderee Roads would be reconstructed to make it safer. The residents are concerned that there has been no action to date.

### *Council*

Mr Adams advised the intersection has been inspected and realignment would be the best option but unfortunately it is not in the current program and is not considered a high priority in comparison with a number of other projects in the program. Investigations would be on-going.

### **f) Installation of Lighting (Hyams Beach Villagers Association)**

#### *Community Comments*

The Hyams Beach Villagers Association advised the lights in the village are great but at the intersection of Booderee Avenue and Naval College Road there is no lighting and the intersection is dangerous at night. The CCBs requested a light be installed there as it is the only turn off with no lighting.

The Tomerong Community Forum suggested that maybe ripple strips on the roadway would be helpful.

### *Council*

Mr Adams advised that the matter has not been listed as high priority but the installation of decent signage may be of assistance. It was also advised that ripple strips are usually installed to reduce speed and can be quite noisy.

**Action: SP&I to investigate improved signage for the intersection of Booderee Road and Naval College Road.**

**g) Timeframe – Funding – Upgrade of Naval College Road - Cycleway (Hyams Beach Villagers Association)**

*Community Comments*

The Hyams Beach Villagers Association advised they had written to Council requesting the road be looked at, particularly at the windey section to the Erowal Bay turnoff, it seems like an accident waiting to happen. There are vehicles passing cyclists, school children and holiday walkers on the bendy section and the road is extremely busy and is so dangerous. Is there funding from Defence or the RTA? What is the priority?

*Council*

Mr Adams stated he would make available the information as to where any funding from Defence and RTA was going. The section mentioned is not identified for funding.

In regard to the cycleway it was advised that the PAMP does not service the smaller villages well. It is more weighted towards the larger town centres and shopping centres. Council had a bike plan and that needs to be reviewed and resurrected. Clearly there should be safe cycling along Naval College Road and shoulder sealing would assist in improving cyclist safety.

*Community Comment*

Other CCBs mentioned both the triathlon and the Vincentia High school are reasons for improvement.

**Action: SP&I to investigate the programming of shoulder sealing on Naval College Road and make available, to the Hyams Beach Community Forum, information regarding the funding for Naval College Road.**

## **7. GENERAL BUSINESS**

**a) Speed Limits - Tomerong (Tomerong Community Forum)**

*Community Comments*

The Tomerong Community Forum noted that Pine Forest Road has a speed limit of 100 kms and there is a causeway on the road that has only 800ml on the side to a chain wire fence. This is the main road into Huskisson and is frequently used by trucks. The Community considered the speed limit too high.

*Council*

Mr Adams advised he would respond to the Tomerong Community Forum in regard to this matter.

**Action: SP&I to respond to the Tomerong Community Forum regarding speed limits on Pine Forest Road.**

**b) Discounts for Ratepayers (*Basin Villagers Forum*)**

*Community Comments*

The Hyams Beach Forum advised that in other states those that paid the full amount of rates up front were provided with a 20% discount. Would Council consider this type of discounting?

*Council*

It was advised that this type of discounting was not being considered.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded, the time being 12.51 pm.

Russ Pigg  
CHAIRPERSON