

## MEETING NOTES

### MEETING WITH CENTRAL AREA 1 COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE BODIES

**WEDNESDAY 31<sup>st</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

Clr Green – left 10.15 am

Clr Watson

Rob Donaldson – Assistant General Manager – arrived 10.25 am

Peter Adams – Director Strategic Planning & Infrastructure

Bill Paterson – Director City Services & Operations

Martin Uptis – Infrastructure & Planning manager – arrived 10.22 am

Richard Payne – Media Manager

Charlie Yates – Callala Bay Community Association

Annette Yates – Callala Bay Community Association

Peter Cumes – Currarong Progress Association

Max Ford – Culburra Beach Progress Association

James Butcher – Orient Point Progress Association

Pat McAndrew – Callala Beach Progress Association

Apologies:

Apologies were received from Clr Fergusson

#### **1. WELCOME**

Mr Pigg welcomed everyone to the meeting, thanked them for their attendance.

#### **2. GENERAL MANAGER**

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

*Council*

Mr Pigg gave an overview of Council's current year's Budget and the long term financial plan. Concerns are that given the current rating structure and Council's decision to stay within rate pegging and issues impacting on our costs, when you look at the long term financial plan over 10 a year period there's just a continuing greater imbalance between our anticipated revenue over those years versus our anticipated operational expenditure. That means that less funds are available for infrastructure works, whether maintaining what we have or building new assets and infrastructure. So, staff are trying to work out a way of reducing or improving the operational result to retain a bit more money for capital works. Council has set some targets, very modest targets initially of \$200,000, to be saved in some way, either by reduction in something or increased revenue of something else, in the 2011/12 and 2012/13, increasing to a \$1m by 2014/15. Each Group Director and their team are really analysing all the services we provide, how we do business, looking at our delivery models, looking at our revenue sources and whether there are other opportunities. They will be presenting back a

report to Council, hopefully by February next year, on what we have reviewed so far, with some options on how we might be able to meet those targets of initially \$200,000, increasing to \$1m. That will be on the public record at that stage and obviously the community will have a say on whether there's options to reduce services or standards or anything like that. Obviously we'll have to have that dialogue with the community before Council make any final decision.

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

*Council*

Mr Pigg advised that the Community Engagement Strategy is still a draft document and Council has six community members who are working to redraft the document, noting that Pat McAndrew is one of them. They are all volunteers and they are redrafting the policy to make it simpler, easier to understand and in plainer English. The redrafted document is very close to nearing completion and it will be referred back to Council. Then it will be put out to the general public for comment, before it is locked away. Even though the work is incomplete on the revised Policy staff have been implementing many aspects of the Plan, in particular, Strategic Planning & Infrastructure, with the draft LEP with various ways of engaging with the community to obtain feedback. Discussion on the LEP will continue later.

**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:

The Councillors Payment of Expenses & Provision of Facilities Policy is currently on exhibition and submissions will be received until 9 September 2011.

Council has resolved some proposed changes to the Private Wharves & Jetties Policy. It will impact on those who have foreshore reserves, either parks or Crown land that Council is Trustee of, and where it might be possible to allow private jetties and moorings off those reserves. It is Council's intent to explore what areas might be appropriate, what areas might not be appropriate, what would be the rules, how would we allow some private individuals to do that. There are all sorts of implementation aspects that Council is trying to work through and Council has asked for a report back on some of the options that may or may not work. This is a complete change in policy direction to what we presently have. Our Policy at the moment, and has been for quite a number of years, is that we simply don't allow private jetties off public land. Council does allow some jetties of a commercial nature, providing the public is not locked off them and it virtually becomes a public facility.

*Community Comment*

The Callala Beach Progress Association asked if CCBS would have access to the policy before it's put forward as a policy and would they be allowed to preview what is proposed?

*Council*

Mr Pigg advised that Council has resolved to ask for a report back from staff presenting options for locations and requirements to implement that proposal. After Council gets that report back they will commence community consultation concerning those proposed

amendments. We will be engaging formally with the community at large but it won't happen until we've done some initial work and put it back to Council.

### *Community Comment*

The Callala Beach Progress Association asked will it become a policy before the chance for input or will the community have a say before it becomes a policy.

### *Council*

Mr Pigg advised it will be a draft policy basically before you have input.

### *Community Comments*

The Currarong Progress Association asked if there had been any responses to the Councillors Payment of Expenses & Provision of Facilities Policy.

### *Council*

Mr Pigg stated that Greg Roberts, Executive Support Manager would be able answer that question.

In relation to the Foreshore Reserves Policy Council is proposing to change the policy to make it very clear that it wants to facilitate a process which allows members of the public to mow the grass to appropriate distances. The intent is that if there are any areas of concern Council will actually go on-site and discuss with the communities and establish what that appropriate distance might be. Issues to do with riparian vegetation might need to be sorted out. The first community meeting on the ground will be held later in the afternoon.

### *Community Comments*

The Orient Point Progress Association stated they have had this problem in their area and their concerns are whether there is a liability to the public with things like stones being thrown up from mowers. How would that be covered?

### *Council*

We have a general Policy that would give some protection to private individuals because this has been happening on the front boundaries of some properties where people have maintained the area between the footpath and their property boundary so we have a generalised policy to cover that but what we are talking about is the rear of properties. So we are giving recognition to members of the public that might wish to maintain those areas and what we'll be doing with the different areas where there may be environmental constraints is working with the public and getting a better understanding of just what legislative constraints exist and why they exist and getting some agreement of where the boundaries are. The Policy states, at the moment, that you can do so much in the first three metres from your back fence but after that it is sort of a no go zone. That has caused a lot of angst and concern but there still has to be boundaries because there are other issues at play here. We don't want either Council or individuals to inadvertently breach other pieces of legislation by intruding into environmental sensitive areas, such as salt marsh in some places or ecologically endangered areas. There is whole lot of legislation that comes into play and we'll be going out to public exhibition about that in the not to distant future.

### *Community Comments*

The Currarong Progress Association asked whether this addresses Park Care groups in the same way.

### *Council*

Mr Pigg replied that it will as the Policy is supposed to incorporate what we agree on reserves and incorporate that into the Park Care programs which will set out what is allowable and what's not. It may be that the Policy may go out beyond the Park Care Groups as people outside of these groups will be allowed to undertake the maintenance.

### *Community Comments*

The Callala Bay Community Association stated that this was a much better situation as people in his area mow walkways, and don't particularly want to be strategically involved in Park Care groups, but want to keep the grass down for the kids. Will the Policy cover that?

### *Council*

Mr Pigg advised Council will certainly have to make that clear. If the work is done under a recognised care program then certainly there's cover extended but the beauty of the Bush Care and Park Care Groups is that they are covered by Council. What we're dealing with here is the uncertainties of not being covered and Council is seeking advice on that. Clearly the intent of the policy change is to create the situation where people can just go and do it without having the involvement in the Park Care group. That's what the intent is but through the exhibition and further looking at what we're doing insurance wise is that Council has to protect everybody from an insurance point of view.

### *Community Comments*

The Callala Bay Community Association thanked Council for the work being done at the dinghy storage areas but Council has been spreading mulch, which is great but grass grows through the mulch. Can we spray with roundup or something similar to hold the grass back? It is a concern because it's close to the water's edge. What do we do?

### *Council*

Mr Paterson advised that the dinghy storage was installed without reference to the maintenance crews and they have made some minor suggestions to improve what has been installed to make them easier to maintain. Council is reviewing the matter and may make some minor adjustment to improve the ease of maintenance.

Mr Adams noted he too had raised concerns in regard to mulch and was advised that the grass was killed underneath but he had noticed that it is already growing back. When he raised this matter the response was it can be sprayed by Council crews. Private individuals using sprays starts to get problematic as in Burrill Lake when recently staff had used accredited chemicals for that reason. Then there was a large fish kill and it was perceived by the public that it was from the spraying, so it would be terrible if an individual was subjected to that.

#### **d) Response from Council - Timeframes (staff)**

##### *Council*

Mr Pigg advised that clearly we have a target timeframe of 28 days. We emphasise that Group Directors emphasise that in their individual groups and Council has varying systems in place to verify that correspondence is monitored. As you could imagine it gets assigned to multiple people across the organisation. We do have ways of tracking what individual staff has what and that can be reported on and traced but we know that we're not always getting the responses back in the 28 days and we are emphasising to staff to do so.

Mr Paterson stated that his Group have made a dramatic increase in improving their response turnaround times but he cannot find evidence of this correspondence being received by Council. He encouraged the CCBs to advise as soon as possible if letters are not being answered. If the CCBs are not getting replies back they need to tell us so we can track down what's happening.

Mr Pigg advised that the correspondence in question did not impact into City Services & Operations group and he would follow up the matter with the staff concerned. Council is trying to get on top of the problem and improve the customer service.

**Action Mr Pigg to follow up the matter of unanswered correspondence.**

### **3. CITY SERVICES & OPERATIONS**

##### *Council*

Mr Pigg introduced Richard Payne Council's new Media Manager. Richard has been with Council for the last 10 weeks and advised everyone that Richard produces all the media releases that the CCBs are given.

##### *Community Comments*

The Currarong Progress Association commented that the Media Releases are the best idea Council has had over the last couple of years as it just gets the information out there and for those of us with websites, the information can go straight on. The Currarong website has had over 18,000 hits in the last two months so the information is definitely getting out there.

The Callala Beach Progress Association stated they had noticed that some things are coming through the media but not coming through any other channel. In particular, information about community grant funding. We are all chasing funds and if we can find funds from somewhere maybe it's not such a good idea to rely on a media release. It seems that the Callala Beach Progress Association is not on the list for Media releases.

##### *Council*

Mr Pigg explained that it is one way of getting it out in the community world. The difficulty we have with this is that we don't have a Grants Officer. Our advice to individual community groups might not be as good as it could be, but we try through this means to get it out there. The organisation, with Richard Payne being the prime mover, will be putting together a Facebook page on our activities so it is the sort of thing that will grow and over time all members of the community can be a 'friend', get automatic updates when things are posted and will improve this network of information more and more.

## *Community Comments*

The Currarong Progress Association asked to all the Media Releases go to the South Coast Register.

## *Council*

Mr Pigg and Richard Payne assured that yes, all media released go the South Coast Register.

Mr Payne advised that Facebook will provide an interactive method of communication but all will have to join. Emails will still be sent via email.

Mr Paterson advised alternatively Council's Website has all the media releases posted and the community can look there. All Council information is on the website and community groups could bookmark the pages they are interested in.

Mr Adams noted that the Council website is complex but maybe the community can bookmark that page to be able to keep up with the news.

**Action: Richard Payne to ensue Callala Beach Progress Association is added to the Media Release email list.**

## **a) Road Maintenance – General** (*Callala Beach Community Association*)

### *Community Comments*

The Callala Beach Progress Association advised that the pothole maintenance was inadequate. On the corner of Emmett Street Council has been adding an adhesive to the pothole before filling the hole and in wet weather it lasts about 20 minutes once a vehicle goes over it and it takes out more of the road with the adhesive, it's happening everywhere. Is there a monitoring system in place because Council keeps filling the same holes and they are just getting bigger? The procedures needs to be reviewed.

### *Council*

Mr Paterson advised that in the last 10 years the road system has had a holiday while it's been very dry. The weaknesses in the road system are now showing up because we have had so much rain in the last two years. Rain is a real enemy of roads and the change of weather pattern showed up the fundamental weaknesses in our roads so we are really struggling to keep up with pot hole patching because of that changed weather pattern. We have a system where the crews go out while it's raining and try to identify dangerous pot holes. They will then fill those as best they can from a safety point of view with no intention of it being a permanent patch. It is better that patch lasts a short time and not have cars crashing into them than it getting bigger and bigger and really becoming a problem. The crews then go back when they are able, when the weather eases off, and repair those sections on a more permanent basis. However pot hole patching is just bandaids, we have a system of evaluating our roads in conjunction with the Strategic Planning & Infrastructure Group where we evaluate what roads have gone way beyond patching and now have to be heavily patched or totally reconstructed. Dollars come into it and we have a massive job in the City to bring the roads up to scratch. We just go out there and work as a team to work out where do we best apply the money to get the biggest bang for our buck to keep our roads in a reasonable condition. There is just not enough money to keep the roads in the condition

that people want but we have a complex priority system to allocate funds and resources to make roads last as long as we can. If the weather maintains the wet we will have a real problem with the roads.

### *Community Comment*

The Callala Beach Progress Association asked does this cover the sides of the roads, the shoulders?

### *Council*

Mr Paterson explained that over many years we try put the limited dollars where we can. What has been let go in many areas is the edge lines and particularly things like the formation of drains as this hasn't been critical with the dry weather. So what we've got is that grass has built up in the drains and they are not working effectively causing water on the roads. Over the past couple of years we have had a program to reform the drains but we have a massive catch up on that too. Wherever we can we try to identify where roads are dangerous with edges breaking and we will apply money where it is needed, but again the funds are limited.

### *Community Comments*

The Callala Beach Progress Association stated that the edges have been fixed and the garbage trucks and buses just destroy it soon afterwards when they pull off the road. Can't they be stopped from going on those roads for a week so the road can stabilise.

### *Council*

Mr Paterson advised there is not a lot can be done as the garbage trucks and buses can't be stopped from using the roads. If people can put their bins further out it may be possible to speak with the contractor for the garbage truck to stay on the road but the arms that reach to the bins are fairly limited and it would very difficult.

The dilemma is, do we do a high standard quality fix at a huge price to a short section of road or a lower standard of repair on a long stretch of road at a lower cost.

Mr Adams explained that after the 10 year dry spell the rain has made the roads basically unsound underneath. Council has to use a different strategy in wet weather because they are basically dealing with a sodden subbase.

### *Community Comments*

The Callala Beach Progress Association asked about whether Coonamia Road could be fixed properly as it is really bad. Is there a long term proposal for this.

### *Council*

Mr Paterson advised that asset maintenance priorities are the roads.

Mr Adams had concerns that the road has not held up well and ask staff to include it in the assessment process for the various roads.

### *Community Comments*

The Callala Beach Progress Association stated that the last lot of work on widening some parts of Coonamia Road was good but asked why did Council make the other parts narrower. They were of the opinion that Council shrank the road.

### *Council*

Mr Paterson and other CCBs agreed that with the other sections being made wider it gave the impression that the other sections were now narrower. Council didn't make the road narrower we made two sections wider.

### **b) Park Care Groups (Currarong Progress Association)**

### *Community Comments*

The CCBs advised this matter was addressed in the Southern Area CCB meeting notes that were received in the mail today. The CCB was working with Glenn Elliott and were very appreciative of the pathways provided. They wish to keep the good cooperation with Council going and the volunteers will assist Mr Elliott. When was the Park Care Plan going to Council?

### *Council*

Mr Paterson advised Council wishes to continue working with the volunteers and advised (at a later stage for the meeting notes) that the Park Care Plan would be going to the Policy, Resources & Reserves Committee 15 November 2011 and the Ordinary meeting 29 November 2011.

## **4. STRATEGIC PLANNING & INFRASTRUCTURE**

### **a) LEP Progress (Staff) & (Currarong Progress Association)**

### *Council*

Mr Adams explained that half of the public exhibition period has passed. The 13 weeks was 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, fact sheets, a hotline anyone can call, there are drop in sessions planned throughout the City, local community stalls and lately staff have been responding to special requests for extra sessions. Staff are also 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 issue based 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. Mr Adams encouraged CCBs to contact Council if they have any enquiries.

### *Community Comments*

The Currarong Progress Association advised that maybe the drop in sessions should have been held in either the evenings or on the weekends to ensure a better turn out from the community. How many people have attended these sessions?

## *Council*

Mr Adams advised that there were about 15 to 20 at the Culburra session as people were concerned over the DA for the Golf Club. Berry had about 30 turn up as there were concerns relating to rumours that an airport was allowed in that area in the LEP. The numbers weren't high but were better than the numbers attending the public meetings on the Delivery Program & Operational Plan. Mr Adams thanked Currarong for their suggestion as the Citywide DCP is also soon to go on public exhibition.

## *Community Comments*

The Currarong Progress Association noted that they had 60 people in attendance for the last public meeting, where a letter drop was done two weeks beforehand, and supposed that if it was more community focused there may have been more in attendance.

The Orient Point Progress Association stated that it might have been better if the information at the drop in session was about their area and not the whole of the Shoalhaven.

## *Council*

Mr Adams explained there was a limited ability to do this as the information relates to the entire city. Council's approach has been to have staff available for however long it takes to explain the details and Council is trying to meet all the specific needs. 63 written submissions had been received as of two weeks ago and 250 enquiries in person. The role of the CCB is very important to help people in understanding the document. Council does understand that the community can't make meaningful submissions without having an understanding of the document.

Mr Adams stated that all the submissions are important and Council will look at all the issues raised, specifically the CCB submissions. A copy of every submission will be provided to the Councillors and a summary of submissions will form part of the report to Council. The CCB submissions will be listed in a separate category as combined submissions.

### **b) Beach Access (Callala Bay Community Association)**

## *Community Comments*

The Callala Bay Community Association stated that work had been done on the beach access but it was for disabled people and what they had actually wanted was access for the 'less' abled people. The access across Wowly Creek has disintegrated and though they are aware that under the guidelines the bushland reserve cannot be pruned, it is a real mess with trees across the track. When the CCB did a walk through with Bill Paterson in October 2008 the matter of construction of toilets was raised and they were advised that Mr Uptis would prioritise the matter. According to Brad Davis the toilets have been listed as being wanted but not on a list for construction any time in the near future and the CCB is not happy. The CCB was advised that the priority for these toilets keeps slipping as parks that are more popular are jumping the queue.

Also the step at the bottom of the Wowly Creek access is unusable and there are many retirees that like to take their grandchildren there. Maybe the access could be curved and come out on the rock platform

## *Council*

Mr Adams advised that he would take the suggestion on board regarding the access. He also explained that Council has only allocated a very small amount of funding to investigate the provision of new toilets so that the project is ready to go if funding becomes available. The drop off on the step has got quite large and perhaps something can be done there.

Clr Watson advised that maybe Council made a mistake in classifying the land as bushland reserve but despite this it is a highly used area.

Mr Pigg advised that most of the area was designated natural area foreshore and the only piece classified as a park is the small triangle piece at the end of Monach Place and this would be the only place playground equipment could go. Under the Act the issues are constrained. Maybe Council could look at re-categorisation or managing the area slightly differently.

Mr Paterson advised that the walkway at the end of Mitchell Road was a very easy way to get to beach.

## *Community Comments*

The Callala Bay Community Association stated it was not a good access if you have mobility frame because of the soft sand and the one at the boat ramp was better. If Council could just improve something at Wowly Creek and do something to reclassify that would be good.

**Action SP&I to liaise with the Callala Bay Community Association regarding the access issues at Wowly Creek.**

### **c) Forest Rd & Callala Beach Road (*Callala Beach Progress Association*)**

## *Community Comments*

The Callala Beach Progress Association advised that the intersection of Forest Road and Callala Beach Road is hazardous to traffic turning right, either into or out of Callala Beach Road. The present alignment necessitates overshooting the intersection and trucks and other large vehicles are having greater difficulty. It is difficult to see the intersection at night without using high beam. The matter needs to be addressed.

## *Council*

Mr Adams advised that the signage for the intersection had been upgraded following concerns raised in 2009. Lighting was not installed at that time as the closest power connection is Callala Bay Road and there are no resources to extend the power to Callala Beach Road. Solar lighting was investigated, costs being around \$3,000 but it was found that the electricity generated would be insufficient to light the intersection but possibly advances in LED lighting could be an option to be considered in the future. There is a lot of demand for lighting and accident statistics are not showing the intersection as a high priority. It was suggested that widening of the road and moving the signage back may be of some assistance.

## *Community Comments*

The Callala Beach Progress Association requested Council relook at the possibility of solar lighting and consider making the intersection more of a T intersection.

**Action: SP&I to investigate the possibility of installation of solar lighting at the intersection of Forest & Callala Beach Road.**

**d) Currarong Road (Currarong Progress Association)**

*Community Comments*

The Currarong Progress Association noted in the budget papers that \$45,000 had been voted for Currarong Road. What works would this cover and were there any grant funds available.

*Council*

Mr Adams explained that \$45,000 had been voted for the road rehabilitation, heavy patching which included 0.9 klms north west of the Kinghorn Point turnoff. Another section, 3.3 to 3.6 klms from Coonamia Road. This section is not funded but is in the future program. This is currently funded under the Roads to Recovery funding and this may be the limit as there is no confidence in the funding stretching to 2014/15

**e) Road Maintenance (Orient Point Progress Association)**

*Community Comments*

The Orient Point Progress Association explained the hilly areas are a real problem when it rains like it did in March. The roads become rivers and the drains can't handle it. To Council's credit when Otway Street washed away Council came out with three truck loads gravel to repair it. This compelled a letter to be written to Council and it was agreed to seal the whole of Otway Street because the gravel on the hill washed away. Can advice be given when the Street will be sealed?

*Council*

Mr Adams advised that before this meeting staff requested I invite suggestions on the priorities. We have planned the sealing of shoulders Otway St, Orama Cres and Otranto Ave this financial year. Some areas are sealed but we want to do further sections. Orient Ave is starting to break up and there is a plan to do further shoulder sealing on all three roads. Council needs to know if you think this is the main priority.

*Community Comments*

It was advised that the bus routes were sealed a few years ago and this solved the problem on Otranto Ave. The roads on the hilly areas really need attention, Ophir Street, Otranto Ave and Orama Cres. The hilly areas are the priority and if they are correctly sealed it would prevent another wash away, costing Council money. At the top of Park Row the edges are in a bad state and also in Orsova Pde

**f) Site – BMX Track & Future Skatepark (Culburra Beach Progress Association)**

*Community Comments*

The Culburra Beach Progress Association believe they have found an appropriate site for a BMX track and possibly a skatepark in the future. The CCB would like to site both facilities on the land to the south of the tennis courts and believe the land was owned by the Crown. The site is close to amenities and is nearby to the playing fields where the children gather already.

The CCB has had preliminary discussions with the local Aboriginal Land Council representatives and the RFS and both seem to be positive on the proposal. The Aboriginal Land Council representative's only concern was if the site would be excavated and they were assured that all work would be on top of the land.

The CCB is seeking Council's approval and would like staff to come and inspect the site. Once Council has inspected the site they would be putting in a Development Application.

The Orient Point Progress Association offered full cooperation to assist with the some funding and the Culburra Beach Progress Association offered their assistance as they have just built their own BMX track. The Combined Sports & Social Club have offered \$5,000 towards the costs and general feeling within the community is approval for the project.

The Progress Association is also willing to pay the public liability insurance.

*Council*

Mr Pigg stated the land is owned by the Crown but Council is the Trustee but is all one large Reserve.

Mr Adams advised staff would liaise with the Culburra Beach Progress Association and already have prepared a draft report to Council recommending the facility.

**g) Myola Road Widening (Callala Beach Progress Association)**

*Community Comments*

The Callala Beach Progress Association stated that Myola Road is the only access road to Myola, the caravan park and the boat ramp. The road is popular with walkers and bike riders and is used regularly by buses, caravans and boat trailers. The road is barely wide enough for two cars to pass and this necessitates walkers and bike riders to get off the road and into the sand which is dangerous. Would Council look at constructing a footpath?

*Council*

Mr Adams declared an interest in this matter as he rides his bicycle on Myola Road but advised that there were no plans to widen it and the project was not a high priority but a walkway may be a good solution. Mr Adams mentioned this situation was the same for the footpath/cycleway requested by Callala Beach Progress Association in item k). A footpath is not in the program but it is a good idea.

## *Community Comments*

The Callala Beach Progress Association stated that the original plan was to extend the walkway from Callala Beach Road Beach access to Emmett St and on to connect with Callala Bay as the community need a place to walk, jog, bicycle etc. Could Council increase the grass cutting along the edges of the road or dump something along the edges as families have to get off the road when traffic approaches.

## *Council*

Mr Pigg advised the meeting that this was a common call throughout the Shoalhaven. This has been requested for Milton, Mollymook and Narrawallee. What Council needs to do is when road works are done they are potentially widening roads on one side with line marking. Another low cost pathway option is currently being trialled in North Nowra and Council is waiting to see the comparative costs. Resources for these projects could be years away.

Mr Paterson advised Council is looking more and more at unsealed pathways constructed with either recycled material, road base or other materials.

### **h) Proposed Walkway (Orient Point Progress Association)**

## *Community Comments*

The Orient Point Progress Association advised they had forwarded a submission in 2003 for establishment of a walkway from the Regional boat ramp and the Orient Point boat ramp. They advised it was a great walk when the tide was out and they understand there are funding issues. The CCB asked if they were permitted to clear the track as walkers have to go on the beach and the rocks where the track is blocked.

## *Council*

Mr Pigg noted that all the linkages were on Crown land and discussions would need to be held with Jerrinja and Crown land but it is a prime location to do something jointly. There is the opportunity to tap into funding sources to join the land right through.

Mr Adams advised that staff have had many projects directed to them from Councillors and the walking track strategy has been put on hold. Mr Adams stated he will go back and look at the status of this track and check if they can at least keep it clear.

### **i) Myola Boat Ramp (Callala Beach Progress Association)**

## *Community Comments*

The Callala Beach Progress Association stated that a large area at the Myola Boat Ramp had been cleared but never levelled. The area needs to be graded and surface laid. They would like the gravel surface laid with road base at least and a jetty or a fish cleaning table in the area as well.

## *Council*

Mr Adams advised that in the Waterways Infrastructure Capital Works Program for 2014/15 financial year it included 50/50 funding with Fisheries for works at the boat ramp that included some of those works, including a pontoon.

**j) Myola Breakwall** (*Callala Beach Progress Association*)

*Community Comments*

The Callala Beach Progress Association stated that a toilet at the Myola breakwall was absolutely necessary as it is a very popular area and the closest public amenities are those at the boat ramp, over 1.5 klms away. Concerns have been raised over people using the bushes for convenience as this is close to the creek. The CCB stated they were aware a toilet wouldn't be an option in the short term but suggested that 'port a loos' would be a good solution in the interim.

*Council*

Mr Adams noted that construction of amenities at the Myola Breakwall is listed in the strategy but not near the top and the port a loo option will be considered in the interim. Council doesn't have a budget for port a loos but we can take this back to Council to identify whether funding may be available.

Mr Pigg advised the meeting that port a loos are used in other localities when there is an extra call for services, particularly at Christmas

*Community Comments*

It was advised that Council needs to know exactly where to site the 'port a loos'. The Currarong Progress Association suggested that 'port a loos' at Christmas at the boat ramp would be good as it is 500m from the closest amenities block in Dolphin Reserve and also Bosom Beach.

**Action: SP&I/CS&O to submit a report to Council to consider the provision of 'port a loos' at the various locations mentioned in the meeting notes.**

**k) Footpath/Cycleway** (*Callala Beach Progress Association*)

The matter was addressed in item 4 g) above

**l) Toilets – Wowly Creek** (*Callala Bay Community Association*)

The matter was addressed in item 4 b) above

**m) Various Works – Garden & Traffic Island** (*Culburra Beach Progress Association*)

*Community Comments*

The Culburra Beach Progress Association advised that an application was sent to Council some months ago for the possible re-establishment of the gardens in the park at the corner of Prince Edward Avenue and Fairlands Street, which has now been done, and the traffic island outside the east end of the shops. The CCB had also offered to volunteer to do the work as a group.

## *Council*

Mr Paterson said that he had not seen the application but now that he was aware of it he would contact Mr Ford in the near future and ascertain the issues of concern to start the process and that he was more than happy to work with the volunteers.

Clr Watson noted that the traffic island was overgrown with weeds and was unsightly. Clr Watson also noted that a pedestrian refuge was needed on the eastern side of the roadway at the retirement village and it was noted that there is a bus stop nearby where children are often present.

**Action: SP&I/CS&O to meet with the Culburra Beach Progress Association regarding the traffic island maintenance and traffic/pedestrian issues**

### **n) Drainage – Quay Road & Parkes Cres** (*Callala Beach Progress Association*)

#### *Community Comments*

The Callala Beach Progress Association advised that the in area of Quay Road & Parkes Crescent the roadway floods really easily and stays flooded for at least a day and a half. This happens from the end of the Shopping complex through to past the bus stop. The CCB asked could Council look at the type of drainage and whether it can be improved.

## *Council*

Mr Paterson advised that staff haven't had this raised as a problem and there are soakage pits there, but staff require specific details on what is needed.

Clr Watson noted that maintenance crews may need to dig the silt out of the pits as they get blocked and don't work as effectively.

### **o) Centre St Beach Access & Shower** (*Callala Beach Progress Association*)

#### *Community Comments*

The Callala Beach Progress Association advised that their community wanted a cold water shower at Parkes Crescent but there is no water at that location. Alternatively the Centre Street cold shower will suffice but it needs an automatic tap as people are leaving it on. Ray Massie will meet with the CCB tomorrow regarding the issue of the beach access as the area has deteriorated, the ramp is eroding and the leaning rail has never been straightened. Ray Massie has advised the CCB that he will address the erosion issue and will meet with them to work out a way to track the water elsewhere. The CCB are willing to keep the track clear.

It was advised that a seat at Sir Henry Crescent had been requested and Ray Massie had advised he would be able to supply that.

**Action: SP&I to investigate the replacement of the tap at the Centre Street Beach cold water shower.**

## 5. GENERAL BUSINESS

Mr Pigg noted that most of the issues discussed today concerned roads, parks and toilets and it was good to know the communities priorities, this reinforced the need for staff to report those themes when doing budgets to work out the right balance for the works required.

### *Community Comments*

The Callala Bay Community Association advised that the seats on the foreshore had westringia plants towering above the seats, blocking views and people want to do something about it. The CCB is concerned people will act if Council won't and there are concerns they will incorrectly poison. The Callala Beach Progress Association advised they had the same problems.

### *Council*

Mr Adams advised this is a common issue and he would let Ray Massie know that both Callala Bay and Callala Beach CCBs would like this matter addressed.

**Action: SP&I to address the issues of view being blocked by plantings at Callala Beach and Callala Bay.**

## **Street Lighting at Callala Beach**

### *Community comments*

The Callala Beach Progress Association advised that they get constant complaints that there is not enough street lighting in the beach and bay areas and that people can't walk at night. The fact that there are no edges or kerb and guttering exacerbates the issue

### *Council*

Mr Pigg stated some people don't like a lot of lights and some do and there are competing priorities as Council's power bill for street lighting is \$1.5m. In accordance with the Council's Energy Saving Action Plan Council has competing priorities by trying to reduce costs. The Callala Beach CCB were requested to send in a detailed request concerning the lighting.

Mr Pigg thanked everyone for their attendance.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded, the time being 12.10 pm.

Russ Pigg  
CHAIRPERSON