
MINUTES OF THE SHOALHAVEN HEADS ESTUARY TASKFORCE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 30 MARCH 2016 IN JERVIS BAY ROOM 1&3, CITY ADMINISTRATIVE CENTRE, BRIDGE ROAD, NOWRA COMMENCING AT 4.02PM

The following members were present:

Clr Guile – Chairperson
Clr Kitchener
Clr White
Clr Kearney
Clr Wells
Colin Waller
Bob Williamson
Allan Richardson
Mike James
Jessica Zealand
Gerry Groom
Phil Guy
Steve Short
David Lamb
Barry Allen
Graeme Philpott

Others Present:

Kelie Lowe – Environmental Services Manager
Isabelle Ghetti – Natural Resources & Floodplain Manager
Ailsa Schofield – Senior Floodplain Engineer
James Bonner – Development Co-Ordinator
William Glamore – UNSW Water Research Laboratory (WRL)

Apologies

Apologies were received from Tim Fletcher and Clr Gash

Note: Members mentioned that the business papers were not received in the post.

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Note: Graham Philpott advised that there was more extensive questioning in relation the marina and requested that the word 'mooring' be changed to 'Marina' in Item 2 - Study to investigate options for improving flows of the Shoalhaven River at Shoalhaven Heads page 2, last paragraph of the minutes.

MOTION

Moved: Clr Wells / Second: Jess Zealand

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting of the Shoalhaven Heads Estuary Taskforce held on Wednesday 9 December 2015 be confirmed.

CARRIED

2. Presentation

William Glamore – UNSW WRL, provided a PowerPoint presentation outlining the findings of the investigated options for improving flows of the Shoalhaven River at Shoalhaven Heads.

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

3. Study to investigate options for improving flows of the Shoalhaven River at Shoalhaven Heads-update File 9825E

MOTION: Moved: David Lamb / Second: Jessica Zealand

RECOMMENDED that:

- a) The Shoalhaven Heads Estuary Taskforce recommends through the creation of a permanent or a semi-permanent non-navigable river entrance at Shoalhaven Heads as it is the only way in which river flow and the maintenance of an essentially marine environment can be established at the Heads.
- b) The Shoalhaven Heads Estuary Taskforce concludes that the permanent opening would increase the amenity, recreational environment and economic development of the community and the NSW tourism initiative of the Grand Pacific Drive.
- c) A memo from Dr Will Glamore on the additional investigation be included as an appendix to the report 'Management Options for improving flows of the Shoalhaven River at Shoalhaven Heads'.
- d) Dr William Glamore be invited to a public meeting at Shoalhaven Heads to present the findings of his report.
- e) A brochure be sent to all Shoalhaven Heads residents and be placed on Council's internet outlining and incorporating the findings of the report by Dr Will Glamore and the Taskforce's recommendation for a semi-permanent non-navigable river entrance at Shoalhaven Heads.
- f) A media release be organised to present the findings of the report and clearly highlight the needs for Federal and private enterprise funding and include the Taskforce recommendation relating to the permanent or a semi-permanent non-navigable river entrance at Shoalhaven Heads.
- g) Progress on the status of implementation of the recommendations of the report be presented to the Shoalhaven Heads Estuary Taskforce and to Council on a regular basis through its Natural Resources and Floodplain Management Committee
- h) That members of the Taskforce be thanked for their active contributions to this study.

CARRIED

Note: Clr White, Kearney and Wells left the meeting the time being 5.16pm

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4. Boat Building Factory and Boat Mooring Facilities - 1178 Comerong Island Rd, Numbaa -
Lot 2 DP 1077521 File DA84/2166
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MOTION:

Moved: Consent

RESOLVED that the report regarding the Boat Building Factory and Boat Mooring Facilities - 1178 Comerong Island Rd, Numbaa be received for information.

CARRIED

GENERAL BUSINESS

5. Additional Item – Request for Additional Sand Adjacent to the Children’s Play Area
File 2358E
-

Jess Zealand advised that the Community Forum discussed the sand being relocated to create beach area on a trial basis as the limited amenities for children include grass and mud. It was suggested that clean sand could be dropped in front of the play area and then monitored how long it stays for. She also stated the mangroves have started to establish there. It was mentioned that when the entrance is open, people are happy and when it is closed it becomes unattractive. Isabelle Ghetti mentioned that next time the dry notch is maintained sand could be placed in front of the playground. The cost of carting it there and it is unsure how long the sand would stay there for and this will need to be monitored. Isabelle advised that the recent survey of the notch indicated that maintenance works are not required. Next time maintenance works are required (and the transport of sand is affordable), Isabelle will contact the community and organise a trial.

6. Additional Item – Surveying over the Christmas Period File 45866E
-

Jessica Zealand noticed over the Christmas period there was a gentleman who told her he was surveying the erosion control behind the sand flat behind the pontoon along River Rd Reserve and he discussed secondary boating channels. Jessica requested if Council has any available additional information on this survey. It was suggested that this work could have been undertaken by Roads and Maritime Services as Council Staff were unaware of the work.

7. Additional Item – Holiday Haven Occupation & Entrance state File 41490E
-

Clr Guile noted that Kevin Sullivan (Tourist Parks Manager) had advised him that Holiday Haven Parks were ahead of budget. Clr Guile was hopeful that the Shoalhaven Heads Tourism was still thriving.

MOTION:

Moved: Consent

RESOLVED that a report on the Council Caravan Park usage at Shoalhaven Heads be provided to the next meeting by the Manager – Business and Property, in order to assess if the state of the entrance (open/closed) impacts on the tourists numbers.

CARRIED

There being no further business, the meeting concluded, the time being 5.28 pm.

Clr Guile
CHAIRPERSON