

Notes: Ward Forum – Gosford East Ward

Date: Wednesday, 22 April, 2020

Time: 9:30 - 11:30 am

Location: via Zoom

Attendance:

Clr Jane Smith

Group	Rep	Rep
Copacabana Community Association	Stephen Boucher	Sue Steadman
Empire Bay Community Association	Carolyn Barripp	
Hardys Bay Residents Group	Adrian Williams	
Killcare to Wagstaffe Trust	Deb Holloman	Cath Elderton
MacMasters Beach Progress Association	Barbara Wills	Tara Shelton
Matcham Holgate Facebook Community Group	Clive Blunt	
Springfield Residents Association	Gail Santi	Glenys Ray
Wagstaffe to Killcare Community Association	Mike Allsop	Ian Bull

Apologies: Clr Jeff Sundstrom, Clr Rebecca Gale

NOTES

(please note that these are not minutes of the meeting – just general notes)

Group	Update
Copacabana Community Association	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Group meets bi-monthly• Major issues – Local Environment Plan <p>Local Projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improve centre of Copa – foreshore. Note that there are considerations of Aboriginal Heritage• Susan Fahey Park• Roads improvements• Character statements – want an assurance from Council that community will be consulted
Empire Bay Community Association	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ~ 100 members• Meet bimonthly at local hall• Hall owned by community• Embracing and engaging community• communication - Produce local newsletter, Facebook Chit Chat

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- Marina on Reserve – locals have been lobbying for 30 years to get Marina to comply – issues with use of reserve

Thank Council for:

- New Ferry Wharf
- New road Greenfield Rd
- Playspace near tennis court

Concerns

- Greenfield Road – will be a race track
- Playspace – concern about security – night time
- Empire Bay floods badly in rain

Hardys Bay Residents Group

- ~ 300-350 members
- Working towards positive and healthy lifestyle
- Interest in LEP / Character statements

Thank you to Council:

- Council changing picnic seats / tables around Bay

Issues:

- Parking – Araluen Drive – proper parallel parking – sandstone blocks being moved
- Water mains from Heath Road – Araluen – bush track. A lot of breaks in 18 months
- Garbage bin collections along Hardys Bay Pde – and bins at end of jetties

Killcare Wagstaffe Trust

- Formed 1981 – Allan & Beryl Strom and others
- Meetings in Maitland Bay Centre
- Aim to keep an eye on environment
- Succession of new committee members over last 10 years
- Maitland Bay Centre – run by volunteers – open every weekend – about 5,000 visitor each year
- Varied attendance at meetings – a lot of people when there are big issues eg. Developments, aerial spray
- Held a Climate Change Forum in February at Killcare – over 120 attended
- Follow up meeting – solar, community garden – main focus is on Climate Change
- Part of Central Coast Community Collective
- AGM will be held on May 3

Issues:

- Hardys Bay Foreshore – thought we were making progress
- Parking also an issue
- Fence on Wards Hill Road – court made a ruling but no action
- Local Environment Plan

MacMasters Beach Progress Association

- Pleased to be having Ward Forum
- Have bi-monthly meetings – varied numbers

- Hosted a community consultation meeting – about 50 people attended – World Style Café – 7 tables that people could move around and discuss topics

Concerns:

- Communication with Council – lost work ethic, lost knowledge – too big and unwieldy to manage
- Local Environment Plan – and Deferred matters

Q: What is Council's position on offshore seismic testing – reported that this had ceased but understanding is that this is only for whale migration season

Matcham Holgate Facebook Group

Key Interests of community Facebook group

- Local Environment Plan
- Waterways and riparian zone
- Roads generally – potholes – standard of repair is quite poor
- Preservation of wildlife – lot of roadkill

Positive

- Meg's group runs produce exchange every 2 months
- Produce and sustainability
- ~1000 members and active

Springfield Residents Group / Springfield Wetland

Key issues:

- Bushlands Reserve – applied for a grant (Will send more information)
- Garbage bin at Yerin Bridge
- Springfield pond – council has put in funds and State government contributed funds – order placed on private part but no action. Noted issue with Weed of National Significance

Wagstaffe to Killcare Community Association

- ~ 300 members
- Community meeting once / month and guest speakers
- Primary focus – advocacy eg. LEP / DCP
- Operate Wagstaff Hall and tennis court – Hall built by community – on Council land – group does a lot of maintenance
- Worked with other groups to develop community resilience plan – what resources we have to assist community

Infrastructure matters that we would like Council to address

- Foreshore
 - Parking and road alignment
 - Road sealing – Albert St South – and drainage
 - Parkland improvements at Pretty Beach – also along front of Hardys Bay
 - Garbage services – a couple of streets not collected – under impression that Council was going to engage a smaller truck for difficult areas
 - Public Transport improvement – eg. On demand service – more frequent bus services – also ferry to Woy Woy
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Update from Councillor Jane Smith

1. Operational Plan 2020 / 2021

- Currently on exhibition – was due to close this week however Council will be extending exhibition period
- Noted that NSW Government last week announced that councils will have until 1 August, 2020 to adopt their operational plan (currently meant to be adopted by end of June)
- Noted that the COVID-19 will have a significant impact on Council's budget and financial position – expect that there will need to be changes to draft Operational Plan

<https://www.yourvoiceourcoast.com/20-21-ops-plan>

2. Strategic Planning

- Council resolved (9 March 2020) to defer adoption of draft Consolidated LEP / DCP until after Local Strategic Planning Statement has been finalised.
 - Council also previously resolved to take a Ward based approach to the LSPS – staff interpreted this to mean consultation on a ward basis and the draft that came to Council was a region wide LSPS. Council (23 March) resolved to include an additional Chapters for each Ward that includes a map of the Ward and outlines proposed Land Use for that Ward, the planning priorities and actions as they apply to that particular Ward
 - Council also resolved to write to the Minister for Planning requesting a 12 month extension for the adoption of the LSPS based upon the current enforced restrictions relating to the COVID 19 Pandemic to allow Council to undertake appropriate community consultation
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3. Planning and COVID-19

<https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Policy-and-Legislation/COVID19-response>

Some key points:

- **Planning System Acceleration Program – Dept of Planning** – “We're cutting red tape and simplifying the planning system to fast-track planning projects and allow for new construction jobs and construction work to continue where possible”. Not clear what this means yet
 - Councils no longer required to advertise DAs and notices in newspapers – can do this on website. This is a permanent change
 - The [COVID-19 Legislation Amendment \(Emergency Measures\) Bill 2020](#) removed the requirement for planning decision makers (such as councils) to display physical copies of some documents. Department of Planning, Industry and Environment has also approved the use of local council and state agency websites to display these documents. Councils do not need to provide physical copies at their offices. Digital documents include development applications, Environmental Impact Statements on exhibition, registers of development consents, complying development certificates and construction certificates.
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4. On Exhibition – Community Facilities Review – Draft Leasing Licensing Policy. Submissions close – 14 May 2020

<https://www.yourvoiceourcoast.com/community-facilities-review>

5. Useful tools on Council's website

- Roads and Drainage

<https://www.centralcoast.nsw.gov.au/residents/roads-and-water/road-and-drainage-capital-works-program>

- Water and Sewer

<https://www.centralcoast.nsw.gov.au/residents/roads-and-water/water-and-sewer-capital-works-program>

General Business

1. Development applications

- Issues about needing to go in to view documents – noted that Dept of Planning has changed this so that documents are available online
 - Noted that not all documents stay on the web – so should download any documents during exhibition period
 - Privacy issues – written submissions put on the website with personal details shown
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2. Roadworks

- Questions about scales of economy not being taken into account.
 - Part of a road done – why not do the whole job when all the equipment is on site? Eg. Araluen Drive, Hardys Bay
 - Oceano St, Copacabana – work being done
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3. Winney Bay – status

- Noted that State funding is no longer available – redirected
 - Current motion is to take out 3 options to community
 - Question about cost of formalising existing track
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4. MacMasters Beach

- traffic and speeding along Scenic Road – speeding also an issue along Lakeside Drive
 - Question about options for traffic calming measures
 - Group was trying to hire a trailer with a sign telling what speed people were travelling - however needed approval to do it
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5. Empire Bay

- Brown Water – Bensville in particular – was going to have a presentation from Council staff but delayed due to COVID-19
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6. Dredging

- Request for update on dredging along Brisbane Water – and future plan to maintain the channel – request for analysis / engineering re. Ettalong Channel
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7. MacMasters Beach

- Shark nets – acknowledgement that they are not effective.
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Wrap Up

Suggestion that groups keep in contact with each other – maybe through an email list. JS to include this as a follow up question and facilitate if interest

General consensus to continue with Ward Forum concept. JS to invite feedback and comments including

- How often?
- Are there groups missing?
- Keep to representatives of community groups – or open up to wider community?
- Invite agenda items prior to Ward Forum?
- Invite questions / issues from broader community?
- Once COVID-19 restrictions over – have face to face meetings? Rotate around halls?

Thank you all!

~ END ~