



TOMAREE RATEPAYERS AND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION INC
GENERAL MEETING 7.40 pm 8 April 2013
Crows Nest Meeting Room, Nelson Bay Bowling Club
MINUTES

Attendance: As per attendance book (22)

President Terry Wall welcomed members to the meeting.

1. **Apologies** – Cr Sally Dover, Frank Ward, Geoffrey Bassar, David Series, Geoff and Judy Washington, Mark Penn, Peter Quirk.
2. **Introduction of Guest Speaker – Wonona Christian, PSC Planner – LEP** – Nigel Waters welcomed Wonona and Emma Shanks (Media Unit) from Port Stephens Council. Wonona has a 23 years experience as a town planner with 10 years in development assessment and was actively involved in development of the Newcastle Council LEP. She gave a comprehensive Powerpoint presentation (abridged version as an **Attachment to these minutes**) on the various stages of bringing the LEP 2013 ready for approval by Councillors at the meeting held on 28 March 2013 and sending to State Planning on 4 April. Standard templates were used with mandatory zones and clauses. The plan is not only about zonings. 13 overlay maps guide what land can be used for. These are on Council's website. Extensive consultation took place and 97 submissions were received and these were addressed in the plan and/or contact made with owners. A 3-6 month approval phase is expected.
3. **Questions from Members** – Nelson Bay CBD – Will receive its own focus. Currently working with Department of Planning to get a better urban design outcome, similarly at Shoal Bay where the move is for more consistency with building heights. TRRA noted that there were 8 last minute amendments made to the plan at the Council meeting. Wonona reassured us that these were minor changes, some which had not been picked up in the multiple drafts of the document. Concerns were voiced regarding use of rural land for inappropriate tourism purposes. Recommendations are made by the Planning staff. It is up to Councillors to approve or otherwise. It was noted that some concerns, relating to rural zoning being changed to environmental, had been allayed by



advice about the biodiversity offsets now available which makes the land of financial value to the owner.

4. **Minutes of meeting held 11 February 2013** were confirmed
5. **Matters arising** – Deferred for discussion in Item 8.
6. **Treasurer's report** Balance of \$988.72 with expenses of \$23.90. Moved Brian, seconded Simon Brooke that the report be accepted. Carried.
7. **Correspondence In and Out** - The Secretary tabled a register of correspondence in and out and invited members to view any items of correspondence in which they are interested. Moved Margaret Wilkinson Seconded Dick Appleby that the correspondence in and out be noted.
8. **Current Issues:** A new format was trialled for this meeting and no formal reports were given by TRRA Committee members
Due to the limited time, members had been asked to review the TRRA website for 12 items listed on the agenda which were either matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting or new issues which had been identified. Postings had been made on most items.

Members were invited to ask questions about any of the items. Birubi Point Surf Club; Soldiers Point Marina; Holiday Parks Report; Apex Park – War Memorial Relocation; Tourism Forum – 11 March; Tourist Complex Lavis Lane; Big W Development/Subdivision at Salamander Shopping Centre and Sand to Diemars Quarry; Webcast; Mackas Sand Alternate Road; Integrated Plans and Resource Strategy; Hunter Region Action Plan; Landcom – Fishermans Bay

Questions asked related to

War Memorial relocation at Apex Park about perceived safety reasons. An expected start to be made in November according to advice from Council staff. TRRA would have preferred Council to take into account the extensive discussions and outcomes from the Nelson Bay Strategy which recommended a full re-development (with a plan) of Apex Park with view corridors to be maintained. Brian Watson-Will mentioned that a previous MP had acquired Anzac Park (opposite Harbourside at Shoal Bay) many years ago for this purpose.

Soldiers Point Marina – Objection letters were tabled for people to send off to Council.

Salamander Shopping Centre & Big W – Nothing further has been heard.

9. **Other Information** – Webmaster Dick Appleby advised that the TRRA website had been receiving an average of 6,000 individual hits per month. This is a great result and demonstrates that the community are looking for alternate views on the issues covered in the press.

10. General Business:

Meeting closed at 9.10 pm

NEXT GENERAL MEETING – Tuesday 11 June

(NB: Subsequently changed to Monday 3rd June & new start time of 7 pm)