



**TOMAREE RATEPAYERS AND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION INC.
DRAFT MINUTES – GENERAL MEETING – Tuesday AUGUST 16, 2016
Meeting held Crows Nest Room, Nelson Bay Bowling & Recreation Club**

- Attendance:** As per attendance sheet- 23
- Apologies:** John James, Bill Stedman, Ken Sadlier, Pam Mumford, Fran & John Digges
- Guests:** Ryan Palmer
- Opening:** President Geoff Washington welcomed all attendees to this bi monthly General Meeting and declared the meeting open at 7.12pm.
- Previous Minutes:** The minutes of the General Meetings held on April 19, 2016 and June 15, 2016 were approved as a true and correct record on the motion of Dick Appleby and Robin Williams.
- Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer reported that at the end of the 2015-16 financial year the Association had a credit bank balance of \$1995.
- The report was accepted on the motion of Denis Pittorino and Geoff Basser.
- Correspondence:** Correspondence for the period as recorded on the Association's website.
- President Geoff briefly canvassed the agenda for the meeting to inform members of the items to be covered.
- Guest Speaker:** He then introduced the guest speaker for the evening, Ryan Palmer, Manager Greater Bank in Nelson Bay and Salamander Bay and President of the Tomaree Business Chamber.
- Ryan addressed the meeting on the progress of the Tomaree Business Chamber, current issues and projects and expressed his passion to see the business communities thrive.

He was pleased to announce the formation of “Nelson Bay NOW” an organisation comprising representatives of Tomaree Business Chamber, Nelson Bay Marina, Destination Port Stephens, TRRA and Business owners. The aim of the organisation is to advocate for the Nelson Bay CBD and surrounds and to secure improvements which will ensure that Nelson Bay continues to be a great place to do business, to shop and to live.

Ryan also touched on the following:

- Tastes of the Bay Festival
- Donald Street Car Parks
- Yacaaba Street extension
- Tourism
- Strategies to attract Asian Tourists into the CBD

Ryan was thanked by President Geoff who wished him an enjoyable overseas holiday.

General Business:

1. Council Mergers.

PSC/NCC

Despite 745 submissions against the proposed merger the delegate reported to the contrary. TRRA opposed the merger.

PSC/Dungog

TRRA opposed this merger citing IPART’s assessment of Dungog Council as not being “fit for the future” and the different economic and social character of the communities involved. The majority of submissions to the delegate were in favour of a merger with Dungog if standing alone was not to be an option for Port Stephens. Delegate submitted his report on August 12, 2016

No decision from NSW Government at this stage.

2. Development Applications.

Nigel Waters reported on the following:

- i. Marina Resort, Magnus Street, Nelson Bay
Variation application to proceed with one apartment block mostly for permanent residents.
- ii. Dowling Street, Nelson Bay
15 new units, Section 94 requirements waived.
Variation to remove cycleway fronting Austral Street approved, but have queried rationale.

- iii. Community College, Church Street, Nelson Bay
Child Care Centre on garden site approved, with access only off Government Rd.
- iv. Soldiers Point Road, Salamander Bay
DA for two multi storeyed residential units (3 and 4 storeys) Variations applied for include two less car parking spaces and reduced setback to north and south boundaries. NFA by TRRA.
- v. Soldiers Point Marina
Jean Armstrong informed the meeting of the current situation in the fight to prevent any extension to the present marina layout. Marina has been granted another 4 weeks to prepare for the next round of negotiations.
- vi. Soldiers Point Bowling Club
Residential development at rear of Bowling Club considered a disaster – poor design, entire site cleared and non-compliance with approval. SPCG are pursuing. NFA by TRRA at this stage.
- vii. Trotters Road Caravan Park, Anna Bay
Approval on land zoned rural using ‘tourism’ loophole. No rezoning but variation now sought to allow significant increase in permanent residential use.

3. Salamander Centre:

Development proceeding and already interest from potential developers and tenants. Plans for a pedestrian crossing to existing Centre confirmed by Council but no provision for covered walkway included.

4. Mambo Wetlands:

Sold for \$250,000; unknown purchaser may seek to use all or part of the site as an environmental offset for a development in another location.

5. Donald Street Carparks.

TRRA has requested information on this project from PSC under the GIPA Act.

6. Koala Hospital Proposal.

A feasibility study is currently being undertaken by PSC who have allocated up to \$64000.

7. Cabbage Tree Road Sand Mine:

After community consultation the mine footprint has been reduced. There will be a 20% reduction in footprint with PSC receiving reduced royalties. There is a major concern regarding an increase in traffic flows in the area with significant numbers of truck movements the major focus of local concern.

8. One Mile Beach Surf Clubhouse:

Proposed new clubhouse is welcome for this very popular beach.

9. Other Business:

- a. Nigel Waters informed members of legal action being taken by Bruce Mackenzie against TRRA and its Media Officer. He also advised that the Association had arranged representation by a leading Sydney law firm who has advised us not to comment publicly on the matter at this stage.
- b. Request for action regarding the wrecking yard at 346 Soldiers Point Road, Salamander Bay which is an eyesore.
Motion by Robin Williams and Jean Armstrong for TRRA to investigate and write to PSC was passed.
- c. Denise Sharp requested TRRA write to PSC and ask when they will rectify the shoreline at Fly Point and at what cost. TRRA to seek information from PSC.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.00pm.

Next General Meeting: Tuesday October 18, 2016

Minutes accepted as a true and correct record of the meeting.

Signed:

Date: