



**TOMAREE RATEPAYERS AND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION INC
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – 17TH OCTOBER 2017 – 7 PM
Crows Nest Room, Nelson Bay Bowling Club**

MINUTES

Attendance: 50 attended and signed the attendance sheet

Apologies: Kate Washington MP, Peter Dundas-Smith, Jean Armstrong, Ken Shadler, Annie Howarth

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

President Geoffrey Washington welcomed recently popularly elected Mayor Ryan Palmer who is to address the meeting on his vision for the future of Port Stephens and on changes he may have in mind for a new era of governance. TRRA and the community welcome Mayor Palmer's election along with other fresh faces to Council and expressed an expectation that there could be an opportunity for a new era of open and constructive governance.

He then welcomed newly elected East Ward Councillors Jaimie Abbott and Cr Glen Dunkley and welcomed back Cr John Nell. Penny Amberg, Council's Integrated Strategic Planning Manager and responsible for preparing the Council's Community Strategic Plan was also welcomed. Members were asked to collect a copy of the newly released Discussion Paper on the Plan before they leave and participate in community consultations being arranged. Comments will be due by 1st December.

Annual General Meeting business was suspended and Mayor Ryan Palmer was invited to make a presentation to the meeting.

2. PRESENTATION BY MAYOR RYAN PALMER AND Q & A

Mayor Ryan Palmer opened with referring to his 4 point plan and vision for strong, fresh, ethical future for Port Stephens which he made freely available during the election campaign [HERE www.ryanpalmer.com.au](http://www.ryanpalmer.com.au)

He gave an interesting and informative presentation on current Council developments since his election (**Refer Attachment 1**) by -

- Outlining Council's highlights for 2016-17;
- Demonstrating the budget breakdown to illustrate where Council gets its funds to do what it does;
- Highlighting the major projects for East Ward over the next 12 months (as included in Capital Works list sent out with everyone's rates notices)
- Responding to several issues raised by TRRA, in particular, webcasting Council meetings, Council meeting cycle, Building Heights in Nelson Bay and the Nelson Bay Strategy, Community consultation; and the "hot off the press" Discussion Paper for the Community Strategic Plan.

He encouraged members to “Have Your Say” on the Plan, which will be implemented from July 2018, following a lengthy consultation process between now and then.

Q & A Following the presentation the Mayor responded to several questions from the floor
(Refer Attachment 2)

President Geoffrey thanked the Mayor for his excellent presentation and for making time to address TRRA and invited him to stay for the remainder of the meeting.

The Annual General Meeting then resumed.

3. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF AGM – 17th September 2016** (as per website) Moved, Geoffrey Bassar, seconded Nigel Waters. Carried.
4. **PRESENTATION OF ANNUAL REPORT 2016-17** – President Geoffrey Washington outlined the years’ highlights and main issues and thanked the Committee for their help. **Refer Attachment 3.** Adoption of report moved John James, seconded Nigel Waters. Carried.
5. **TREASURERS ANNUAL REPORT – (1st July 2016 – 30 June 2017) (Refer Attachment 4)** showed income of \$1,125.10 and Expenditure of \$769.50 with a closing balance of \$2,351.21. Adoption was moved by Denis Pittorino and seconded by Cath Norman. Carried
6. **ANNUAL REPORT - PLANNING SECTION ON YEARS’ ISSUES**
Nigel Waters and John James gave a comprehensive presentation of the main issues covered during year.

Full presentation – **Refer Attachment 5.** These included-

- (a) Yacaaba Street extension
- (b) Implications of Approval of High rise at 11-13 Church Street
- (c) Traffic and Parking Review – Nelson Bay
- (d) New Shops and Services – Salamander Centre – a mixed blessing?
- (e) Soldiers Point Marina – Developers don’t give up easily
- (f) Manufactured Home estates – massive expansion flies under the radar (500 homes)
- (g) Protection of public land and assets – Mambo Wetlands and Tomaree Lodge
- (h) DA Objection – 220 Soldiers Point Road – Impingement on supplementary koala habitat
- (i) Infill – A Difficult balance – (Leonard Avenue, Shoal Bay; 20 Government Road; 16 Church Street)
- (j) Other Submissions made included
 - Birubi Point Aboriginal Place (Traffic& parking)
 - Hunter Regional Plan 2036
 - State Government Changes to Planning – Environmental protection
 - Port Stephens Council – low level of transparency in planning and development assessment and weak enforcement of compliance.

The Planning report was adopted. Moved Geoffrey Bassar, seconded, Denis Pittorino. Carried.

7. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS 2017-18

President Geoffrey Washington handed over to Returning Officer Nigel Dique, Secretary, Econetwork. Nigel then declared all positions vacant. He announced that nominations were received for all vacancies, all nominations had been accepted and there was no need for an election as there was only one nominee for each position. Those elected were:-

Geoffrey Washington	President
John James	Vice President
Cath Norman	Secretary
Denis Pittorino	Treasurer
Geoffrey Basser	Committee - Strategy
Nigel Waters	Committee - Planning
Margaret Wilkinson	Committee - Membership Secretary
Steve Latta	Committee – General
John McInerney	Committee
George Allen	Committee
Alistair Waddell	Committee
Chris Muir	Committee

Re-elected President Geoffrey Washington took the chair and thanked the Returning Officer. Meeting closed 8.30 pm.

ATTACHMENTS - SUMMARY AND LINKS:

- 1 Mayor – Current Council Developments [HERE](#)
- 2 Mayor - Q & A Summary [HERE](#)
- 3 Annual Report – President Geoffrey Washington [HERE](#)
- 4 Treasurers Report – 1st July 2016-30 June 2017 [HERE](#)
- 5 Planning Section Report on Years Issues [HERE](#)