



GENERAL MEETING, MONDAY 18 JUNE 2018 – 7 pm NELSON BAY BOWLING CLUB MINUTES

1. **Apologies**, Kate Washington MP, John James, Fran and John Digges, Colin Howard, David and Elizabeth Morrow.

2. **Guest Speaker- Eileen Gilliland**, CEO Destination Port Stephens

The new CEO of Destination Port Stephens, Eileen Gilliland, provided insights into how digital, social and traditional media were being used to attract more new international and domestic visitors to Port Stephens.

She spoke about a visitor economy worth \$534 million, and a burgeoning Chinese market that is including an increasing number of independent travellers. She explained why many Korean and Chinese on group tours do not stay overnight in the Bay. She is keen to apply for as many grants as possible to build local tourist attractions.

3. **Minutes** of meeting 18 April 2018 (Posted on TRRA Website) Accepted Ben van der Wijngaart seconded Margaret Wilkinson

Correspondence In and Out was referred to by the Chairperson and noted.

6. Business Arising from Correspondence

Covered in other agenda items

7. Treasurers Report (DP)

Income \$339.40

Expenses GIPA Fees \$45, Photo copying \$96.90

Closing Balance April /May \$2801.11 approved Alistair seconded Nigel. Carried

8. Nelson Bay Delivery Program (NW)

Implementation and Delivery Program is expected to return to council in August. There were a large number of submissions for council planners to work through.

Meetings with new Planners

There were two meetings with the new planners on the 24th April 23rd May which lasted for a couple of hours. They appeared to be open to consider TRRA's proposals for a "fine grained" approach to building height controls rather than the proposed across the board 10 storey limit. They were receptive to suggestions regarding the improvements to public space such as street furniture, landscaping lighting etc.

Public domain workshop

Council has engaged consultants to prepare a Public Domain Plan for Nelson Bay Town Centre and Foreshore to improve the presentation of the town. Geoff and Nigel attended the introductory workshop held by the consultants . They drew attention to the relevant content in the 2012 Strategy and subsequently documented their views on what was presented.

Report on the meeting arranged by Nelson Bay Now with the Mayor and East Ward councillors.

Nelson Bay now met with the Mayor, CrsGlen Dunkley, and Sarah Smith regarding traffic management and the replacement of the Donald Street Car Park. The Mayor indicated that the proposals for developments arising from the expressions of interest for Council's two car parks had been taken off the table. Council will explore other options to replace and augment the parking including the concept advanced by Nelson Bay Now for Donald Street East (a Council development to include ground floor retail/commercial uses and parking above with provision to add decks to meet future requirements). Free parking on the foreshore in non peak times to be investigated.

Nominations for Panels Nominations for the implementation and delivery plan submitted by Nigel W and Geoff W. Council will invite members to Citizens Panel on Parking. Kate Washington has advised that there is an issue of fire management in high rise buildings noting that the nearest ladder capable of addressing fire in high rise buildings on the Tomaree Peninsula is in Mayfield and that there is no insurance cover for high rise buildings to cover water damage. Kate also mentioned that in general 85% of all high rise buildings have defects.

Nelson bay Now Report

- Yacaaba Street extension

This is almost complete. There will be a 10 km speed limit on the shared zone. The council has completed some landscaping. Nelson Bay Now proposals for traffic management at the entry from Magnus Street have not been implemented

- Contact with Council and Destination Port Stephens on transport and parking issues. Eileen has been working with the tourism operators regarding drop off points and coach storage and will liaise with Nelson Bay Now

- Civic Pride Group

- Tomaree Business Chamber has formed a Civic Pride Group to assess maintenance and needs for improvement of the town's facilities. A successful Working Bee with outstanding support from Council was held on 27 May with 70 volunteers who cleaned pavers, painted seats and renovated the garden beds. TRRA was well represented at this working bee. Judy Washington and Margaret Wilkinson are assisting on the organising group.

9. Town Gateway – Nelson Bay Road Signage

As per action from the last meeting, a letter requesting action was sent to Council on 3 June. This included photographs and a request for advice on how Council is enforcing the new regulations which came into effect in March this year..

11. DA Updates

- 1 Yacaaba Street (Donald St Temporary car park) DA
- The plan is for a ten storey apartment building consisting of 60 units with two commercial premises will be on exhibition for two weeks.
- Church St Apartments The developers have applied for internal changes to the original plan

- Government Rd Apartments next to the police station. The DA is opposed by TRRA because the plans are significantly over the high limit and the parking is not underground. It is understood that this DA is being withdrawn by the developer.
- Town Houses on the old Bunnings site on Stockton Rd have been approved with construction to commence soon.
- Colonial Ridge Resort, Fleet St. Demolition has begun of the small cabins which are part of stage one development. Stage 3 DA has been withdrawn. A Salamander Community Group has been formed to oppose the use of the high value bushland which is part of the development footprint and the high rise component of stage three of the plan.
- The development at 2017 Soldiers Point Road has reduced the number of lots but this DA still has not gone to council.
- The Birubi Beach Resort amended plan for development has been approved
- Bob's Farm Planning proposal for outdoor recreation. A zoning change is needed for this to go ahead. TRAA is not opposing this or raising any issues.
- High density Manufactured Home Estates, Bobs Farm, Anna Bay are being built on rural land. The DAs have already been approved but the developers are seeking modifications to the original plans. There will be a state government review of the use of rural land for this purpose.

Report on DAs accepted Roz Armstrong seconded Robyn Williams

12. Tomaree Sports Complex Master Plan has been released for discussion. No business case has been prepared for this and the whole proposal was not a priority in the Council's Works Plan. A Sport and Recreation Plan has been released and will be on the website for a three week period for community consultation. TRRA will make a submission.

- 109 Foreshore Drive, Cr John Nell has put a motion to council for reclassification from operational to community. TRRA and other community groups have opposed any automatic application of any sale proceeds to the Tomaree Sports complex project.

13. Cabbage Tree Sand Quarry Appeal

There has been an investigation into the possibility of revoking the development application for the Cabbage Tree Road sand mining operation.

The report to Council found that the cost of revoking is prohibitive.

The Williamtown and Surrounds Residents Action Group (WSRAG) are objecting to the mine because of potential PFAS contamination, damage to surface and groundwater, traffic, noise and dust. WSRAG have lodged an appeal in the Land and Environment Court with pro bono support from the Newcastle Legal Centre. The meeting approved a contribution from TRRA of \$200 to support this appeal.

General Business

Next Meeting: Monday 6th August 2018