



Tomaree Ratepayers and Residents Association Inc.

Interest in TRRA Sustained

Tomaree Ratepayers and Residents Association's Annual General Meeting, held on 15 October, was attended by sixty people who heard reports on the Association's activities and achievements over the past year.

President Geoff Washington said that he was delighted that all the executive positions were filled in the election of officers and that the Committee was strengthened with four new members with valuable skills and recent local, state and international experience. "We are now ready to continue our strong representation of the community's interests" he said.

Mr Washington said that TRRA's strongly-expressed opposition to lifting the lid on building heights in Nelson Bay was unanimously endorsed. Speakers were still highly critical of Council's repeated failure to take account of a clear majority community rejection of Council's proposal for a ten-storey limit across the entire town centre.

He said "We all know that there is a thin market for residential high-rise apartments on the Tomaree Peninsula and that such apartments have high vacancy rates, in excess of 70%, with very few permanent residents".

TRRA membership is not convinced that Council's compromise of retaining a 5-storey limit in the town core, flanked by 8 and 12-storey areas, will succeed in attracting the right kind of development or revitalise the retail performance of Nelson Bay. The fear is that the much-favoured coastal town character will still be under threat. Overshadowing and high season traffic and parking problems will be exacerbated.

TRRA will renew its efforts to improve the planning concepts in the revised Local Environment Plan to meet the community's expectations. This revision still needs State level approval.

Geoff Washington
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PRESS RELEASE

