



General Meeting Nelson Bay Bowling Club 1800 Monday 10 Dec 2018

Attendance

Committee Members: Geoff Washington (GW), Nigel Waters (NW), Cath Norman (CN), Denis Pittorino (DP), Bill Salter (BS), John James (JJ), Ben van der Wijngaart (BW).

Members & Members of the Public: 17

Apologies

Gail Ballantyne, John Ballantyne, Cr Glen Dunkley, Roz Armstrong, Nigel Dique, Pam Mumford, Bill Stedman, Christine Steadman, Rick O'Shea, Julie O'Shea, Dick Appleby, Geoff Bassar, Alistair Waddell, Jean Armstrong.

Previous Minutes

1. **Moved:** JJ, **Seconded:** CN that the minutes of the previous GM on 15 Oct 2018 be passed. **Agreed** by consensus.

REPORTS

Treasurers Report

2. The Treasurer presented his report, a copy of which is posted in the TRRA Dropbox.

Closing Credit Balance	End of November	Year to date
	\$ 2763.67	\$ 2763.67

3. **Moved:** DP, **Seconded:** BS that the report be accepted. **Agreed** by consensus.

CORRESPONDENCE

Emails from Mayor on Defamation Claims

4. BW outlined the contents of emails received on 27 and 28 Aug 2018 from Mayor Ryan Palmer, in a private capacity, complaining about him being defamed on the TRRA Facebook

'Save the Bay' and the responses made to this by the President of TRRA, seeking details of concerns.

5. The meeting was advised of further similar correspondence from the Mayor on Council 'letterhead', received 20 November. Details could not be disclosed on the latter correspondence owing to disclaimers it contained, but responses by the President had failed to elicit a clear indication of what specifically had caused the offence.

NEW BUSINESS

TRRA Administration - Facebook

6. The meeting was advised of the Committee's deliberations on the matter of the Mayor's complaints about the 'Save the Bay' Facebook page and the decision to suspend the Facebook page owing to the potential risk of legal action against individuals involved. They were also advised of the results of investigations with the Environmental Defender's Office, other R&R associations and the consequent resignation of two committee members.

7. The matter was opened for general discussion and the general feeling was that these threats constituted bullying behavior and an attempt to silence appropriate democratic discourse on matters affecting residents and ratepayers.

8. **Agreed:** TRRA to investigate options with the Eco-Network for collaboration in the use of their Facebook page or some other alternative such as a closed Facebook page and discuss these in Committee. **Action:** GW

Nelson Bay Town Centre and Foreshore Strategy Review

9. JJ briefed the meeting on:

- a. the current situation with the LEP rezoning submission on the Town Centre and the meeting with PSC planning staff on 8 Nov, and
- b. discussions concerning the membership and transparency of and access to the Implementation Panel.

Reports – Other Current Issues

Finance Sub-Committee Report

10. GW briefed the meeting on the formation of the Finance Sub-Committee and its initial activities to investigate PSC financial matters.

Special Rate Variation (SRV)

11. BW briefed the meeting on the attendance by several Committee members at the 29 Nov briefing at the Birubi SLC by the Mayor and staff on the outcomes of the SRV consultation and Council deliberations on these.
12. The meeting was advised that at a subsequent committee meeting, TRRA had resolved:
 - a. to investigate in more detail the projects affecting the East Ward,
 - b. challenge business cases for these, and
 - c. make a submission to IPART and propose a shorter-term SRV followed by a review before proceeding with further rates.

Other Updates

13. JJ summarized progress on other developments of interest; namely:
 - a. 1 Yacaaba St high rise,
 - b. Foreshore Drive upgrade and culverting,
 - c. Worimi Education Centre at Williamtown, and
 - d. The new sand mine at Bob's Farm

GENERAL BUSINESS

14. No matters of general business were raised.

MEETING CLOSURE

15. The meeting closed at 1932 hours.



Ben van der Wijngaart
Secretary

12 December 2018