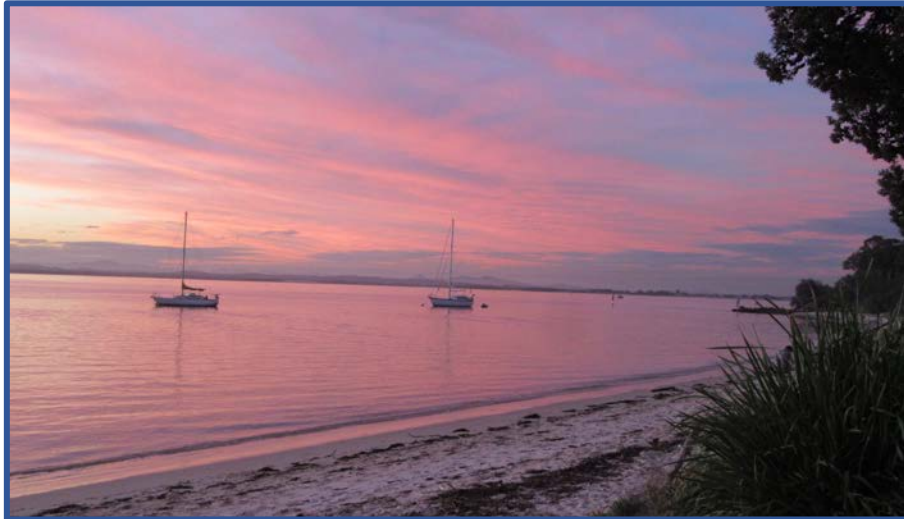




## **TRRA INC NEWSLETTER**

### **August 7, 2021**



#### **POSTPONEMENT OF MEETING**

**Due to the state decision to defer Council elections to December 4, 2021, the TRRA 16 August “Meet the Candidates” Forum has been postponed. The provisional date is Monday 15 November. This will be confirmed closer to the event depending on the pandemic situation.**

#### **A TRRA General Meeting will now be held on Monday 16 August using ZOOM.**

**This mode has been decided upon having regard for the current Situation with Covid 19 in NSW.**

**(To join the Zoom meeting you will need to be able to click on the link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81016869462?pwd=bllhL1pRMlNpTWFXcFh1Y2tFRXlQZz09> and enter the Meeting ID: 810 1686 9462 and passcode 724362)**

# **TRRA INC GENERAL MEETING**

## **Monday 16 August 2021, 7.00 p.m.**

### **AGENDA**

#### **Apologies**

- 1. Minutes of the previous meeting**
- 2. Business Arising**
- 3. Correspondence In and Out**
- 4. Business Arising from Correspondence**
- 5. Treasurer's Report**
- 6. Reports, TRRA Current Issues**
  - Port Stephens Council 'Planning for Your Place' - Shoal Bay Initiative
  - Shoal Bay Improvements to Public Domain
  - Major Projects and Storm Damage Restoration
  - Jetski Control Measures
  - Covid lockdown – local support. PSC website details community support and Council contact in case of hardship [HERE](#) . Need to support local jobs while staying safe/getting vaccinated.
- 7. Planning - DAs of Interest**
- 8. General Business**

#### **Reminder- Membership fees for 2021-22 fell due for renewal on 1 JULY 2021**

Membership fees (\$10.00 P/A) are due on 1st July each year. Details on how you can now **Join/Renew** your Membership or Donate Online [HERE](#).

**If renewing**, payment of the membership fee can be by post (cheque to TRRA Inc, PO Box 290, Nelson Bay, NSW, 2315), or by a transfer using your Bank's internet payment system to **Newcastle Permanent – BSB: 650000, TRRA Inc. Account Number: 984298400. (Your Last Name in 'Reference' Box Please)**

Membership also puts you on our mailing list. Your membership and participation are vitally important to the operation of the Association. There are significant overheads TRRA must bear. To remain viable it is essential that TRRA has a strong base of committed financial members, so you are urged to join or renew as soon as possible.

For those who have already renewed, many thanks for your support.

### **NEWSLETTER**

**Port Stephens Council Planning for your Place – Workshops**

A recent media release from Council invites those interested in this initiative to register for workshops to be held over the next few months see [HERE](#). Council describes this Place Planning initiative in the following statement: *“We will be holding workshops with our community to plan your place. It all starts with you – what you value and your priorities for the future”*.

On the Tomaree Peninsula, Shoal Bay is on the list for workshops to be held on 14 September and 21 September. Those offered a place would be expected to attend both sessions.

TRRA encourages local participation as the ultimate outcome will be a document which will be used in determining future planning strategies and priorities for public domain improvements.

### **Strategy to Enhance the Gateway to the Bays.**

The August Newsletter from the Williamstown Special Activation Precinct (SAP) is [HERE](#). While the final boundary for the Masterplan is not yet settled the Newsletter states: *We are working on refining the investigation area, which will be much smaller than the current investigation area and will focus on a confined area, south of the Newcastle Airport and Williamstown RAAF base.*

There will be a report to the General Meeting on latest developments including a photographic survey by Robyn Williams.

### **Priorities for the Implementation of the Nelson Bay Public Domain Plan**

Council at its meeting on 9 February 2021 resolved that PSC :

1. Borrows \$5 million over a maximum of 10 years to fund the beginning of the Nelson Bay Public Domain Plan and fund the construction of a new car park in Nelson Bay.
2. Repays the loan from the SMART Parking revenue collected in Nelson Bay.
3. Continues additional capital works, maintenance and marketing in Nelson Bay with the remaining SMART Parking revenue.
4. Continues Community Consultation regarding the allocating of the \$5 million loan in relation to:
  - a. Stages of the Public Domain Plan
  - b. Additional car parking

TRRA, awaits the community consultation which has been promised by Council on these priorities.

Council has indicated that decisions on these priorities and related works will now not be made before the end of the current Calendar year, having regard for the timing of the Council elections.

### **Report on P.S.C. Smart Parking Initiative**

A recent report to Council acknowledges that Council's Smart Parking Scheme has returned approximately \$800,000 to Council over the last 12 months. This year's Covid 19 Impact on visitors (both positive and now negative) makes it difficult to obtain a "normal" result.

In accordance with the priorities and timeframes outlined in the Program, thus far, funds have been used to complete road safety improvements, line marking and about 9000 square metres of resurfacing works across the Nelson Bay town centre.

Council has taken account of the widely expressed opposition to the original 7.00am to 7.00 pm application of the scheme and recent amendments to many areas of Nelson Bay now show 8.30am to 5.30pm as the period for the application of time restrictions.

Readers are reminded that resident and worker permits for free parking can be arranged online at <https://www.portstephens.nsw.gov.au/live/resident-services/roads/parking-in-port-stephens>.

## **Progress with Major State Initiatives**

A recent Newsletter reported on several major State level projects which are in the planning/assessment stage.

These include:

- Fingal Bay Link Road
- Nelson Bay Road Duplication
- NPWS Tomaree Coastal Walk

NPWS has advised that, having regard to the concerns raised in public submissions, consideration is being given to revising the draft master plan to locate the walk to the western side of the major headlands to minimise its visual impacts as well as to avoid possible geotechnical problems. They are also considering reducing the scale of the proposed viewing platforms proposed for key lookout locations.

There is no further progress to report at this time on the other Initiatives.

## **Jet Ski Controls**

Following a meeting with Kate Washinton on the matter of increasing jetski operator misbehaviour over the last Summer and Easter periods, TRRA also wrote to Council seeking their support. The Council's response stated that this was 'not something we can do anything about', citing the fact that controls are largely State responsibilities. This was challenged with a further letter and also at the recent (6 August) TRRA 'Catchup Meeting' with the Mayor. A more positive response was received at the latter contact and this will be discussed at the forthcoming General Meeting.

Your comments via our Website/Facebook or directly by email to the Secretary would be appreciated - ([secretary@trra.com.au](mailto:secretary@trra.com.au)).

## March Storm Damage Restoration

Port Stephens Council has made considerable progress with restoration of roads and other public assets which were damaged by the storms earlier this year. These works are detailed in a recent Council newsletter [HERE](#).

Of special interest are the plans for replacement of the culvert on Foreshore Drive which links the Mambo Wetlands to the Bay. The replacement structure will allow an increased flow and cater for cars, bikes and pedestrians and the aim is to complete the work by the end of 2021.

## Port Stephens Council Major Projects

The Council's June Newsletter provided details of a number of major works which are planned or in progress see [HERE](#). Projects on the Tomaree Peninsula include:

- Tomaree Sports Complex
- Shoal Bay Foreshore Revamp
- Boat Ramp at Little Bay
- Soldiers Point Revetment

## EcoNetwork's new initiative - EcoUpdate Newsletter covering Significant Local Environmental Issues

This newsletter may be viewed [HERE](#)

## Planning Report, August 2021

**Seniors Housing behind Soldiers Point Bowling club.** A 7-storey apartment building, was approved by staff under delegated authority. We were unable to get a third Councillor to support Cllrs Nell and Arnott to call it up to Council. Objections in 29 submissions, mostly objecting, were dismissed. The planners don't think it will change the character of Soldiers Point and deny that it will create a precedent.

On 27 July, Council considered an application for extension of **'The Boardwalk' 'caravan park' at 16 Trotters Rd, Bobs Farm** (behind the Sunrise lifestyle village). It is in fact another Ingenia Land-lease community like Latitude One, with the proposed modification to remove all but two of the short term sites. The proposal was called up by Cllrs Nell, Arnott and Jordan. Staff had recommended approval. After strong public access presentations from Port Stephens Koalas and a neighbour, and detailed questioning of planning staff, the matter was deferred, with staff instructed to negotiate with the applicant with a view to not increasing the development footprint into the wildlife corridor which includes the northern part of the site.

**The Bay Resort** proposal is for villa and cabin style tourist accommodation at Anna Bay – on low-lying land, northwest of the old timber church on Nelson Bay Road

opposite the servo/car-wash. The applicant has appealed against the 2020 refusal of the DA by the Department of Planning. TRRA and others made presentations to a conciliation conference of the Land and Environment Court.

Following the conciliation conference on 16 July (at which Nigel Waters, spoke along with very articulate neighbours), the applicant (Raphael Shin Enterprises) has discontinued their appeal, which the Department explains means that 'the appeal is no longer before the L&E Court. This also means that the Minister's refusal of the application stands.

**A 3 storey apartment building at 10 Tomaree Rd, Shoal Bay**, will be nearly 20% over the height limit for the site. This DA was approved by Council on 22 June (5:2, with Clrs Nell and Arnott voting against). A rescission motion on 13 July to reverse the approval was supported by Clr Abbott and Tucker but was then tied at 4:3 and lost on the casting vote of the Mayor. TRRA objected to this height variation which pre-empts a forthcoming public consultation on a 'Place Plan' for the future of Shoal Bay.

The Mayor has previously proposed the sale of Council owned **109 Foreshore Drive** - a de-facto half of a key waterfront reserve and view corridor at the northern end of Port Stephens Drive. On 22 June, a motion from Clrs Nell and Arnott to reclassify 109 Foreshore Drive as community land to remove the prospect of a private sale was lost (5:2) with no other Councillors willing to support the reclassification. It therefore remains at risk of a future decision to sell it for development.

A proposed **Heliport at Anna Bay** (behind the servo/car wash on Nelson Bay Road) has attracted strong community opposition, with around 80 objections to date, not least because of its close proximity to the Anna Bay Lawn Cemetery. The DA will now be assessed by Council planners, but will come to Council for decision as it has been called up by three Councillors.

Our submission is at <https://trra.com.au/hot-issues/>

TRRA made a submission objecting to a DA for modification of an already approved **business park at Williamtown airport**. In the context of our discussion with Council about improving the 'Gateway' to the Tomaree Peninsula we objected to the requested removal of a condition to preserve existing native vegetation along a 5 metre landscape buffer along Nelson Bay Road from the service station to the old school site.

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Date: 7 August 2021