

PEARL BEACH PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Saturday 4 September 2021 at 5.00 pm

Due to Covid-19 restrictions the meeting was held online via Google Meet.

Attendees – Russell Grove (in the chair), Greg McPhee, Vic Clarke, Libby Nelson, Lynne Lillico, Paul Barclaire, Victoria Crawford, Bev Kingston, Pauline Toohey, Malcolm & Dorothy McDonald, Adrian Thurlow, Karen Moses, Larry Nelson, Mary Knaggs, Peter Romey, Jane Borton, Gaby Porter, John Haymes, Louise Rowling, Cally Osmund, Peter Conner, Bronwen Young, Paul Toohey, Duncan Bridel, Ian Crawford

Apologies – Stephen Parsons, Robert Lillico, Jackie Bridel

Business Item
<p>Welcome & Acknowledgement of Country Russell Grove welcomed everyone to the meeting and acknowledged the traditional owners –</p> <p>As we gather in the name of the Pearl Beach Progress Association we acknowledge the GURINGAI people as the traditional owners of the land upon which we meet and pay our respect to their Elders-past, present and emerging.</p>
<p>Minutes of previous General Meeting – 7 August 2021</p> <p>Resolved – that the minutes of the General Meeting of 7 August 2021 be accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting. Proposed – Pauline Toohey, Seconded – Lynne Lillico</p> <p>There were no matters arising from the previous meeting minutes.</p>
<p>Finance – Financial Reports A link to the following financial reports was included in the Notice of Meeting email sent to members on 29 August 2021</p> <p>Treasurer Libby Nelson asked if there were any questions regards the reports -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Profit & Loss report for July 2021 • Balance Sheet report as at July 2021 <p>Resolved – That the financial reports for July 2021 be accepted. Proposed – Libby Nelson, Seconded – Greg McPhee</p>

Business Item
<p>Building Committee – Hall Deck Upgrade</p> <p>Larry Nelson provided an update regards progress with the Hall Deck Upgrade –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is about a week’s work required to complete the building works. • It is expected that this will be completed over the next 3 weeks based on availability of the builder and sub-contractors. • Volunteer work would be required to do painting on the poles prior to attaching the downpipes. <p>Resolved – that the Building committee report be accepted by the meeting. Proposed – Larry Nelson, Seconded - Paul Barclaire</p>
<p>Hall Committee</p> <p>Paul Barclaire reported that the leak from the tap at the front of the hall had been fixed. There were no other matters to report.</p> <p>Resolved – that the Hall committee report be accepted by the meeting. Proposed – Paul Barclaire, Seconded – Pauline Toohey</p>
<p>Safety Advisory Group</p> <p>Paul Toohey provided a report –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neighbour Alert – the Street Contacts are to contact new residents in their streets in preparation for the upcoming fire season once Covid-19 restrictions allow. • This year’s Neighbour Alert Bulletin will soon be posted on the website and distributed via email and SMS to members and Neighbour Alert residents. • Beach Safety – it is planned to have a face to face meeting with Central Coast Council representatives once Covid-19 restrictions allow. • Community Support Centre – a grant application under the federal government’s Black Summer Bushfire Recovery Grants program is being developed to provide funding for solar and battery backup power and the installation of roof sprinklers at the hall. • Mobile phone coverage – the results of the survey are with Lucy Wicks who is raise the matter with the minister but we have not yet had a response. <p>Resolved – that the Safety Advisory Group committee report be accepted by the meeting. Proposed – Paul Toohey, Seconded – Larry Nelson</p>
<p>Events & Publicity</p> <p>Lynne Lillico reported that due to ongoing Covid-19 restrictions the following Association events have had to be cancelled -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jazz in the Arboretum – scheduled for 23 October 2021 • Food & Wine Fare - scheduled for 30 October 2021 <p>It is hoped to re-schedule these events in 2022</p>

Business Item

Other events planned for later in the year are also dependant on the Covid-19 restrictions in place at the time.

Resolved – that the Events committee report be accepted by the meeting.
Proposed – Lynne Lillico, Seconded – Malcolm McDonald

Fundraising

Greg McPhee provided an update on fundraising activities –

The Pearl Beach Challenge has raised \$12,275 in individual sponsorships and \$2,900 in Event and Team sponsorships.

There are 7 teams and over 60 participants.

The Challenge event will take place between 3 and 6 September 2021 with participants walking the course as part of their exercise within the current Covid-19 restrictions.

Greg gave special thanks to two of the ambassadors -

Bev Lapacek for raising over \$3000 and Taras Mencinsky who has run the course 20 times completing 100 km

The Price is Right fundraiser is still collecting items for the prize basket, these are to be delivered to Alison Phillips – see website under News > Fundraising for details.

Resolved – that the Fundraising report be accepted by the meeting.
Proposed – Greg McPhee, Seconded – Paul Barclaire

Covid-19 Update

Vic Clarke advised that the Central Coast now comes under Regional and Rural NSW for the purpose of Covid-19 restrictions.

The current Stay at Home orders for the Central Coast are in place until at least 10 September 2021 and the Community Hall is still closed until further notice.

Welcome to New Members

Russell Grove welcomed the following new members who have joined since the last General Meeting -

- David Lancaster
- Simon Aveling

Business Item

Election of Executive Committee – method of voting

Russell Grove spoke regards the method of voting to be used if a ballot is required for the election of the Executive Committee at the upcoming Annual General Meeting.

At the Executive Committee meeting of 19 August 2021 it was agreed that -

- Given the uncertainty of Covid-19 restrictions and to allow those members who may not be allowed to travel to Pearl Beach to vote, the ballot will be conducted online, using appropriate software to ensure the confidentiality of voters.
- That candidates for election will be invited to write up to 250 words supporting their nomination, to be sent to members prior to the ballot and displayed on the online voting system.
- That in the event that the hall can be used for the AGM, that voting would still be conducted online.

Larry Nelson asked if an option would be available to those who are not computer savvy to vote manually prior to the meeting.

Following discussion it was agreed that the option to request a paper ballot is to be made available to members prior to sending out the electronic ballot.

Libby Nelson asked if the AGM had to be held in October, Russell Grove replied that it had to be held within 6 months of the end of the financial year.

The consensus of the meeting was that the AGM be held in October as planned.

Peter Romey expressed the opinion that a wholly electronic method of voting would be preferable to keep the system simple.

Discussion took place regards using a simple ‘first past the post’ method of counting or some form of ranked or preferential system.

Based on a show of hands the majority of attendees at the meeting indicated a preference for a simple ‘first past the post’ count.

Other Business – Government Support for not for profit organisations

Following an initiative taken by Davistown Progress Association, the Pearl Beach Progress Association has written to the following local Federal and State members raising the issue of Government support for not for profit organisations impacted by the Covid-19 Stay at Home Order.

- Lucy Wicks MP – Federal Member for Robertson
- Adam Crouch MP – State Member for Terrigal
- Liesl Tesch MP – State Member for Gosford

We have received a reply from Lucy Wicks.

Russell Grove also mentioned the substantial increase in Council rates charged to the Association this year.

Business Item

Other Business – Pearl Beach Environment Group

Mary Knaggs confirmed that the Pearl Beach Environment Group are now an incorporated organisation and are developing their rules and procedures.

If anyone wants advice regarding environmental issues the group can be contacted at - pearlbeachenvironmentgroup@gmail.com

Other Business – War Memorial Upgrade

Russell Grove provided an update regards renovating the hall war memorial. The local RSL branch are supportive of us making a grant application. The next steps will be to get quotes for the work.

Rebecca Cardy, Heritage Officer CCC had visited the site on Wednesday 1 September 2021 and was briefed on what was proposed in regard to rejuvenation of the War Memorial and that after quotes were received we would be in a position to apply for a grant from either the Commonwealth or State Government.

Mary Knaggs as a Heritage Architect offered to provide advice regards appropriate renovation options and this offer of help was accepted by Russell Grove.

The meeting closed at 6.05 pm

Next Meetings –

Executive Committee Meeting – Friday 17 September 2021 at 4.00 pm

Annual General Meeting – Saturday 9 October 2021 at 5.00 pm