

## **PEARL BEACH PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

**3<sup>rd</sup> September 2022 at 5.00 pm**

**Attendees** – Russell Grove (in the Chair), Tanya Masters (Secretary), Paul Wickham, Greti Rieger, Nigel Tisdale, Malcolm Davison, Lisa Wolbers, Peter Richardson, Gerarda Luck, Kerry Caloyannidis, Keith Wood, Luke Stevenson, Vicki Powell, Peter Doddrell, Duncan Bridel, Jackie Bridel, Bev Lapacek, Mary Knaggs, Jeanne Albrecht, Penryn Maddrell, Lindsay Boyd, Tamalah Boucher, Amanda Thomson, Vic Brown, Heather Brown, Frances Alter, Andrew Alter, Amanda Winley, Klaas Woldring, Malcolm McDonald, Bronwen Young, Peter Connor, Andrew Cordwell, Lynne Lillico, Kay Williams, Ian Crawford, Victoria Crawford, Annette Blinco, Gary Phillips, Alison Phillips.

### **Apologies**

Adrian Thurlow, Helen Thurlow, Elizabeth Nelson, Gabby Crompton, Paul Toohey, Pauline Toohey, Peter Romey, Vicki Davison, Stephanie Wood, Bill Blinco, Dorothy McDonald, Robert Lillico.

### **Business Item**

#### **Acknowledgement of Country**

Russell acknowledged the traditional owners –

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.

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#### **Minutes of Previous General Meeting**

A link to the minutes of the previous meeting on 6/8/22 was included in the notice of meeting sent to membership on 26/8/22, and is available on the website.

#### **Matters Arising from previous meeting minutes –**

Amendment to Attendees at last meeting to include Helen O’Loughlin.

It was requested at the last meeting that the Secretary provide the full correspondence relating to the diversion of the Green Point Creek to all members. Only the address was provided. Any member who wishes to see the full copy of the letter please email me and I will provide it.

## **Business Item**

There were no further matters arising that will not be dealt with later in the meeting.

Minutes of previous meeting were thus accepted as a true and accurate record.

Proposed Malcolm McDonald                      Seconded: Vic Brown

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## **Financial Reports**

Elizabeth Nelson had apologized for her absence, however a link to the financial reports for July had been including in the notice of meeting emailed to members on 26/8/22

There were no questions regarding the reports .

Resolved - "That the July 2022 financial reports be accepted".

Proposed: Penryn Maddrell                      Seconded : Bev Lapacek

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## **SUB COMMITTEES**

### **Hall**

Victoria Crawford reported that the new person to take over bookings was Jeanne Albrecht. Members acknowledged her attendance with applause.

Victoria advised that the hall committee was considering some possible refurbishments which would require fundraising eg re surfacing the floor, and painting the interior walls.

Moved : "that the Hall report be accepted ":

Proposed Lynne Lillico                      Seconded : Mary Knaggs

### **Safety Advisory Group**

Paul Toohey had apologized for his absence. The report was presented by Nigel Tisdale.

### **Traffic Flow**

At the previous General Meeting it was moved that the SAG committee proceed with their discussions with CCC about changing the speed limit and give consideration to the options seen as most workable for the change in flow of the traffic.

## **Business Item**

It was requested that a 3<sup>rd</sup> option be included, which would involve one way along Pearl Beach Parade, towards Amethyst Ave.

Nigel presented an overhead of the three diagrams. He advised anyone who may have further comments to do so via the Secretary who will pass them to the SAG committee. It was suggested at the meeting that the diagrams should include the current bus route.

Kay Williams noted that the CCC appeared to be going ahead with upgrading access to the Water Tower, with an egress to exit left. As the only option for drivers is then to turn down Pearl Beach Drive, or to continue on towards Patonga and make a U-turn, she suggested that a roundabout would be needed for safety.

### Mobile Phone Reception

This continues to be an issue for many residents. Communications have now been established with the new member Dr Reid, who has made representations to the new Minister. Progress remains slow.

The NBN has been installed with Wi-Fi now connected to the hall. There are 2 specified user numbers and 1 guest Wi-Fi. A suggestion was made from the floor that the Wi-fi number be displayed on the walls. The alternative is to give the code to all hirers of the hall. To be decided.

### Defibrillators

These are all in good order and working well. The defib message with instructions on how to open the box has now been linked to the hall NBN with a unique phone for the purpose.

There is some remedial work required on the power boxes in front of the Tennis Court and the Toilet Block.

### Rockpool and Walkway over the rocks to the pool

There have been several discussions with CCC about possible solutions but to date there is no resolution. The Umina Blue Swimmers have approached the council and the State member, Liesl Tesch. There has been recent advice that there may be an avenue to seek a grant for the work from a NSW Govt. program.

### **Community Support Centre**

#### Solar Energy System

Installation is completed and working. Nigel presented a schematic display of how the system works. Draws from Solar first, then Batteries etc. He reported that hall can be independently powered for up to 4 days using battery backup and generator. He also showed an informative graph about the day to day use since installation, identifying that the Hall was putting back electricity to the grid on a many days, despite the inclement weather. There is an anticipated saving of around \$3000 per year. A round of applause acknowledged the importance of this.

## Business Item

### Spearpoint

Outstanding is the installation of the spearpoint which was delayed by Water NSW initially requiring a license fee of more than \$7000. In the absence of any response from the Minister's office, an email outlining the issues was sent to Liesl Tesch MP to take the matter up on our behalf. On 15<sup>th</sup> August a letter from Minister Anderson advised a fee reduction of more than \$6000.

However, this involves a number of other complications including a hydrogeological assessment. There will be addition Water Access License fee and other issues.

Nigel displayed the budget breakdown on an overhead. A question was asked about budget overrun. Nigel advised he would take this question on notice for consideration at the next General Meeting.

It was resolved that the Safety Advisory Committees report be adopted.

Moved : Victoria Crawford

Seconded: Penryn Maddrell

### Events and Publicity

Lynne Lillico reported the September films would be Double Indemnity on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup>. The final movie for the year will be a surprise on 5<sup>th</sup> October. The Night of Song with the Pearl Beach singers on 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> August was a huge success, with the audience being enthusiastic. The night raised over \$3000 towards hall upkeep, which the President had advised earlier to be approximately \$30,000 a year.

#### OCTOBER

Saturday, 8 October - Food and Wine Fare 10 am to 5 pm. Seven of the regulars are returning and we welcome six new and exciting exhibitors. There will be catering on the back deck.

Lynne thanked Malcolm McDonald for renegotiating the price of the carry bag, which will now be \$10. A question from the floor was asked about the source of the bags. They are made in New Zealand

Sunday 16 - "An Afternoon of Australian Celtic Music" Featuring - "Tri - a Trio of Four" Tickets have been available since 15<sup>th</sup> August: cost \$25 from Andrew Alter, who was present at the meeting to take orders.

Saturday 22 October – Trivia Night. with Malcolm McDonald co-ordinating the evening. 7pm for 7.30pm start, BYO Drinks and Nibbles. Ticket cost \$15. Tables of 8 however we will encourage single or doubles to share a 'Locals' table. BYO nibbles and drinks.

Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> October at 2.30 in the hall. Bev's Birthday Bash. Celebrating her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday by raising money for Guide Dogs. ( see later notes)

## **Business Item**

### NOVEMBER

Saturday, 12 – Summer Jazz in the Arboretum. Emma Pask and Ian Cooper and Swingin' Jazz Combo, Jim Pennell – guitar; Matt McMahon - Piano; Phil Stack – Double Bass and Tim Firth – drums. Tickets now on sale now with Eventbrite. Early bird discount finished on 4<sup>th</sup> October.

### DECEMBER

Saturday 10 December - Community Christmas Lunch/Dinner now being finalized.

Friday 23 December - Community Christmas Carols in the Arboretum (weather permitting).

Bingo will commence on last Wednesday in December and go throughout January.

Lynne advised that the committee are now looking to 2023 and advised anyone with ideas to contact the committee.

Moved that the Events report be accepted.

Proposed: Malcolm McDonald                      Seconded; Gerarda Luck

### **Fundraising**

A question from the floor was asked about fund raising during the Art Trail, and whether the PBPA had considered offering afternoon tea in the hall.

Russel advised that the Art Trail was privately organized by the participating artists, some of whom may offer afternoon tea at their individual venues. However, it had not proved a practical or effective fund raising opportunity for the Progress Assn.

On previous occasions some of the artists have donated a painting or artwork to be include in the PBPA raffle.

The raffle will be situated outside the shop on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> October.

Russell advised that Adrian Thurlow, who has coordinated fundraising this year will not be continuing in this role next year , and has suggested that a Fund Raising Committee might be an option to consider for 2023.

### **Welcome New Membership**

Russell welcomed the new members below, and acknowledged those present.

He thanked them for joining the PBPA

Sarah Vallance

Sabine Lepoultier

Gerarda Luck

Nancy and Greg Incoll

### **Rural Fire Service and Community Fire Unit**

Lindsay Boyd ( Captain PB Brigade ) and Luke Stevenson ( President PB Brigade) spoke about the new Fire Rating Scales.

Lindsay advised that the PB RFS now has 15 locals ( both Pearl Beach and Umina)

## Business Item

who have completed training and that there are 5 people currently undergoing training. Volunteers for both the RFS and the CFU (Community Fire Unit) are always needed and there are a range of activities that people can participate in. He reported that although the weather has been wet, it will only take a few weeks of hot dry weather and the fire danger will increase again. In the meantime the crew have been busy helping with other activities. Some have been assisting with the checking and/or disposing of infected bees in the area. Members also were called to assist with a car accident on Patonga Drive.

Luke displayed and spoke to the new Fire Danger rating scales, which was extremely informative and useful.

He explained that the old system was based only on type of vegetation; forest or grassland.

Many people became confused about when exactly they needed to act in the event of a fire. Additionally, each state had their own rating scale, which was confusing for interstate motorists and visitors.

New model identifies 8 types of vegetation and has essentially four ratings, with the bottom being no rating.

1. MODERATE : Review your Bushfire Plan : check your equipment .
2. HIGH : be prepared to ACT. Decide what you will do if a fire starts
3. EXTREME: Take action NOW. Prepare your property. Check your fire plan. Consider evacuating. Especially if you have medical or mobility issues. It's never too early to evacuate.
4. CATASTROPHIC: Dry air, strong winds, high temperatures. There will be limited escape options from Pearl Beach. Leave bushfire risk areas. No homes are designed to with stand these type of conditions.

### THINGS YOU CAN DO

- Go to website [www.MyFireplan.com.au](http://www.MyFireplan.com.au)
- Download firesnearme app. The Emergence receiving alert no. is 0444444444.
- Consider the Pearl Beach environment : surrounded by bushland, single road in/out, Rocky pathway around the rocks; at risk electricity supply and mobile phone coverage

Anyone who wants further information come to the Fire station at end of Emerald Ave any Tuesday evening from 7pm or Saturday morning.

Get ready weekend will ( hopefully) be Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> September.

Paul Toohey is the leader of the Community Fire Unit. ( CFU)

There is also a neighborhood alert system in Pearl Beach.

Street contacts are to be updated in September with some previous contacts having moved from the area.

## Business Item

### COMMUNITY GROUPS:

#### Environment Group.

Mary Knaggs advised there would be an Environment Group meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup> October at 4pm. The topic for discussion is “Why we all like Pearl Beach; and how can we continue to enjoy it? “

#### Arboretum

Victoria Crawford advised that the next working bee would 18<sup>th</sup> September . These are held 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in the month. Please come along and join in. The 46<sup>th</sup> Anniversary was a fun afternoon with 35 people coming along.

Membership renewals are currently being sent out. The Arboretum AGM will be held on 22<sup>nd</sup> October at 10am in the hall, followed by morning tea.

We will be looking at a new Management plan for Arboretum. Where do we see Arboretum heading into the future. Mary K has been working on a masterplan.

We have just sent out a survey regarding your views about PBEAT. Please complete one if you attended the event, as we are interested in all comments.

On 1<sup>st</sup> October Words on the Waves have booked Arboretum for a literary event. Costa Georgiadis is coming to talk at the event.

#### Water Watch

Paul Wickham reported that water testing showed the area to be in generally good condition. Clearly further predicted heavy downpours will put the catchment under stress and impact on the water quality, with the Hawkesbury River likely to flood again. Paul reported that he would retire from this task after 10 years and called for volunteers to assist Jenny and Tammy with the task.

Russel thanked Paul for his dedicated contribution to our village in monitoring the water quality.

#### Bush Care and Dune Care

Malcolm Davison spoke about the important clearing and weeding that is done by these groups. He reported that previously the Central Coast Council had assisted the group with personnel, however this is no longer happening. The groups urgently need volunteers to assist. They are in talks to consider amalgamation.

#### Plodders

Bev Lapaeck advised that Pauline Toohey had asked her to thank everyone who participated and attended the Night of Song. A good time was had by all, and they raised \$3700 towards upkeep of the Memorial Hall.

She particularly wished to thank Stephanie for stepping in at the last minute to play the piano accompaniment.

Bev is about to embark on a trip to Mudgee to make plans for the Plodders trip there next March.

Then next walk will be 27<sup>th</sup> September. The Coogee to Bronte walk.



## **Business Item**

The Big Birthday Bash is on 29<sup>th</sup> October at 2.30. The CEO from Guide Dogs will present a brief video, and Dr John Irvine will be MC. Bev called for helpers on the day with setting up chairs etc.

Malcolm Davison thanked Bev for her generosity in raising funds for Guide Dogs on the occasion of her 80th birthday.

## **Other Business**

### **Tennis Club**

Jackie Bridel advised the meeting that the second tennis court will be out of action due to rewiring of the court. It is hoped that the rewiring will be completed before the upcoming school holidays.

### **War Memorial Upgrade**

Russell advised the meeting that the landscaping work around the upgraded War Memorial would require the removal of a small tree that is dropping vegetation and staining the sandstone. It will be replaced together with the landscaping around the area. Mary Knaggs is working on a landscaping plan.

### **AGM**

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October at 5pm.

### **CLOSING DATE FOR NEW MEMBERSHIP**

Next Executive meeting 15<sup>th</sup> September.

Nominations will open 17<sup>th</sup> September and close at 5pm on 30<sup>th</sup> September.  
Financial membership cutoff is in line with the current Constitution.  
Candidates may provide a 250-500 word statement in support of their nomination.

Voting will commence on 1<sup>st</sup> October and close at 5pm on 14<sup>th</sup> October.  
Voting will be Electronic. Brendan O'Reilly has agreed to be the Returning Officer.

Any unfilled positions will be announced at the AGM and nominations from the floor will be called. A further electronic vote will be held if required.

The next General Meeting will be held in the Memorial Hall on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> November at 5pm.

Meeting closed at 6.40 pm