

PEARL BEACH PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC GENERAL MEETING MINUTES-

5th November 2022 at 5.00 pm

Attendees – Karina Stafford (in the Chair), Tanya Masters (Secretary), Amanda Winley, Nigel Tisdale, Robert Lillico, Lynne Lillico, Paul Barclaire, Paul Toohey, Ross Lindsay, Jan Steinbeck, John Steinbeck, Robert Bellamy, Mary Bellamy, Victoria Crawford, Ian Crawford, Heather Brown, Vic Brown, Jeanne Albrecht, Jackie Bridel, Duncan Bridel, Stephanie Wood, Keith Wood, Peter Doddrell, Vicki Davison, Malcolm Davison, Kerry Caloyannidis, Alison Phillips, Gary Phillips, Andrew Alter, Frances Alter, Bronwen Young, Muriel Petersen, Bev Lapacek, Peter Connor, Don Hughes, Bev Hughes, Jo Davey, John Haymes, Gaby Porter, Bev George, David George, Paul Blinkhorn, Klaas Woldring, Aafke Woldring, Sabine Kirschke, Malcolm McDonald, Dorothy McDonald, Margaret Moore, Peggy Todd, Peter Connor, Sue Lancaster, Helen O’Loughlin, Bev Allan, John Allan, Narelle Maxwell, Tam Boucher, Penryn Maddrell, Margaret Brown, Stephen Parsons, Andrew Cordwell, Diane Swalwell, James Boyd, Barry Marks, Carolyn Marks, Valerie Taylor, Lindsay Boyd, Ann Parsons, Richard Stewart, Kay Williams, Sue Lancaster, Carolyn Meers, Bruce McCarthy, Luke Stevenson, Glen Taylor, Peter Romey, Mary Knaggs , Bev Kingston, Pauline Toohey.

Apologies

Helen Thurlow, Adrian Thurlow, Gabby Crompton, Rebecca Jacobs, Amanda Thomson, Douglas McDonald, Peter Richardson, Elizabeth Nelson, Vicki Powell.

Business Item

Acknowledgement of Country

Karina 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, and celebrate the diversity of Aboriginal peoples and their ongoing cultures and connections to the lands and waters of NSW”

Minutes of Previous General Meeting

A link to the minutes of the previous meeting on 3/9/22 was included in the notice of meeting sent to membership on 28/10/22, and is available on the website.

Business Item

Matters Arising from previous meeting minutes –

Helen O'Loughlin clarified her question from the previous meeting. She has asked that a representative from ACCOM be asked to come & present their strategy for Pearl Beach & answer questions residents might have in regard to holiday rentals, particularly in light of new legislation.

A representative from Accom will attend the February General Meeting.

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

Proposed : Penryn Maddrell

Seconded : Dianne Swalwell

Financial Reports

The Financial reports for September 2022 as well as the amended 2021-2022 Financial statements were emailed to members on 28/10/22.

The Treasurer ,Amanda Winley reported on the September 2022 P&L; Year to date and Balance sheet reports.

Questions from the floor.

1. Is the grant money an "expense" until it is all spent? Amanda replied in the affirmative.
2. When was the grant money recorded in balance sheet ?
Amanda replied this was recorded in the 2021-2022 financial year.
3. What was the budget for the Hall? The Budget was \$91.630. Confirmed by Paul Toohey (SAG)

Acceptance of the AGM Financial Statement.

Amanda reported that she had spoken with the Auditor after the AGM because "notes were incomplete and incorrect". The Auditor has now made the necessary adjustments and has provided an updated report as previously distributed to Members.

A motion to accept the amended Financial Statement was proposed and accepted by the members present.

Proposed: Russell Grove

Seconded : Kerry Caloyannidis

A Point of Order was raised stating that since the Executive had previously accepted the amended report; there should be no need for the General Meeting to do likewise.

The President advised that the Treasurer wished for it to be recorded that the issues raised with regard to the Annual Financial Statement were not the fault of the previous Treasurer but rather to do with the auditing of the Financial report.

Business Item

ON GOING SUB COMMITTEES and CONVENORS

Hall Management

Victoria Crawford has taken on the role of Convenor and acknowledged the very hard work and ever present support of Paul Barclaire, who has been in the role for the past 2 years.

Victoria reported she is grateful that Paul will continue on the Hall Management Committee alongside Pauline Toohey and Mary Knaggs. However Victoria asked for further volunteers to join the committee to please contact her.

Victoria acknowledged the hard work of Pim Sarti who has for many many years looked after various aspects of hall maintenance, including gardening and mowing the lawn. Victoria advised that Pim had decided to resign prior to the AGM and she will be greatly missed. A round of applause followed.

Victoria asked for a volunteer to take over this role.

Whilst there are no capital works planned for this year, Victoria reported some ongoing maintenance issues which need to be addressed.

1. Leak in the roof has been re-siliconed.
2. Floor is in great need of re sanding and a polyurethane finish. One verbal quote was \$15000.00. One written quote was for \$7,100.00. Currently in the process of obtaining a 2nd written quote.
3. Painting of the hall is under discussion. However the exterior requires washing in the short term.
4. New Lino to be laid in the office.
5. Landscaping the side and backyard area will be part of the War Memorial refurbishment.

Safety Advisory Group

Paul Toohey reported on the Community Support Centre and showed a brief aerial video of the extensive sprinkler system and solar panels.

- A safer location for residents during catastrophic events.
- Grant from Black Summer Bushfire Recovery of \$91,680. Funds remaining \$9,265. However, the estimated completion budget is \$11,595. The SAG committee is currently reviewing material costs in an endeavour to reduce the deficit of \$2330.00.

The Water NSW spearpoint licence remains an issue. Letters to the Minister - Lands and Water and Emergency Services have not provided a solution to date.

With the exception of the spearpoint, the system is operational. Testing and commissioning by Waterflow Plumbing shows the system is operating as expected.

Paul outlined a list of minor completion tasks and reported that the Official Launch will

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be Sunday 11th December at 10 am. Many dignitaries have been invited and media release prepared.

Paul reported that approval has recently been received for the CSC to be designated a Community Safe Place .

Other SAG Issues

- Defibrillators now have the **code** placed inside the unit. This is a result of problematic 5G connection. However it makes the defibs susceptible to vandalism. Following the changeover from 4G to 5G, the defibrillators were updated to the new service at considerable cost. However the 5G connection to Pearl Beach is variable and in some areas non existent, particularly near the Tennis Court. Aust. Defib. Have been formally advised of the issues with the service. The issues of connectivity is a common problem in many areas of Pearl Beach and was taken up with previous member Lucy Wicks and will now be followed up with Dr Gordon Reid.
- Street Contacts : These are being updated and residents will be requested to provide updated contact details shortly.
- Shared Zones and 40km speed limit in busy pedestrian areas has been submitted to CCC, and is being reviewed.
- Rock Pool; CCC has advised that the pool will be cleaned “ in a month or two”. The pool is generally cleaned in the lead up to the Christmas holiday period.
- Beach Safety Awareness; Council’s Craig Healy and Louise Lambert will again be conducting 3 Beach Safety awareness events during the summer holidays. Paul asked for volunteers with some expertise in the area to join the SAG committee.
- The CFU trailer is currently be re-furbished

Lynne reported about the effect on the Community at times of severe storms, and talked briefly about an instance when the power was out for 3 days due to the severity of the storm, highlighting the need for the CSC.

A question was asked about whether the PBPA has investigated something being done about the trees that hang over the southern end of the beach and lagoon. The meeting was advised that it is likely that ownership of the land above the beach goes to the high water mark, and therefore CCC council would need to contact the owners if they viewed these trees to be dangerous.

Some trees may be on public land however and this could be investigated further.

Russell Grove raised the issue of accessibility to the rock pool, acknowledging that for many years attempts had been made to secure a safe pathway for the elderly and people with disabilities. He further advised CCC had not submitted an application for

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a grant to support this project by the cutoff date in October.
Russell also asked that the SAG committee investigate a “new type” of defibrillator, that would not require the same technology and are likely to cost effective.

Victoria asked for a further explanation of the effect of 5G on our neighbourhood. Nigel Tisdale advised that as connections to the tower increased, the signal became weaker. He suggested that maintaining your phone on 4G is likely to increase the connectivity.

The possibility of joining forces with Patonga Progress Assn. as they have similar problems was raised. There has in the past been talk about having a mini tower placed in Pearl Beach.

Publicity and Signature Events

Lynne Lillico was appointed Convenor of this subcommittee. She advised that her role has been extended to include Publicity which she will focus upon, and advised that Malcolm McDonald would now Chair the Events subcommittee.

Lynne displayed the various events that had occurred or will be occurring over the next few months, and encouraged attendance.

These included the

Celtic music afternoon which raised \$853.

Trivia Night which raised a profit of \$ 1024.

Bev’s Birthday Bash which raised over \$3000 for Guide Dog Assn.

FUTURE EVENTS

Friday 11 November - ‘Remembrance Day’ ceremony 10.30am Memorial Hall.

Malcolm Davison co-ordinating the morning activities.

Saturday, 12th, ‘Summer Jazz in the Arboretum’. Emma Pask and Ian Cooper and Swingin’ Jazz Combo, Jim Pennell – guitar; Matt McMahan - Piano; Phil Stack – Double Bass and Tim Firth – drums. Tickets now on sale.

Saturday 10th December - ‘Community Christmas Dinner’. Please bring an *unwrapped* child’s toy to be donated to Salvation Army.

Sunday 11th ‘Community Support Centre’ launch. Paul Toohey co-ordinating

Friday 23rd ‘Community Christmas Carols’ in the Arboretum (weather permitting).

Need a volunteer to play “Santa”

Wednesday 28th ‘Family Bingo’, plus Bingo on Wednesdays in January. We need volunteers to manage each of the Wednesday evenings, Malcolm Davison has offered on Wednesday 28 December. Malcolm McDonald has also indicated he would be able

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to manage two of the January Wednesday evenings.
Need one more volunteer. Evidently the computer program is very easy to use.

Jute Shopping Bag looks terrific. Thanks Malcolm for following through with the project and is ready for sale at \$10 each. Sales to date : \$640.00

ADOPTION OF NEW ONGOING SUB- COMMITTEES

Fundraising and Community Engagement

Karina Stafford was appointed as the Convenor of this subcommittee. She advised that the purpose of the subcommittee was to reduce the pressure on the Events team; and is predominantly aimed at raising funds during busy holiday times.

The 2nd aim is to organize Community events ;

2nd Sunday of each month will be a Community BBQ breakfast from 9am to 11am.
The first one to be held on 13th November and this FIRST one will be free. Everybody welcome.

Last Friday of each month will be a community get together . BYO drinks.
Nibbles will be provided by the Committee. A sausage sizzle will be available for anyone who wishes to buy a sausage sandwich.

The first one will be on Friday 25th November from 5.30pm onwards.

External Liaison- Government & Grants

Peter Richardson has been appointed as the Convenor.

The aim will be to have proactive regular communication with various levels of Government; in particular Central Coast Council on matters including:

- Planned maintenance for roads and verges and roadside drainage
- Maintenance of existing infrastructure
- Investigating local, state and federal grants which may be relevant to PBPA objects and create submissions.

ADOPTION OF (TIME LIMITED) SUB-COMMITTEES

Updating of PBPA Constitution and Guidelines

Victoria Crawford appointed as Convenor.

The Constitution has not been reviewed for several years. The Committee will also review the PBPA Guidelines which are located on the Website.

Communication Strategy

Lynne Lillico and Karina Stafford will co-convene this short-term committee.

The aim of this committee will be to develop a coordinated approach to

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communicating with residents & visitors - 'What's on this week' or 'What's on this month', develop templates etc. This will also include the GEM & RFS communications.

It is also looking to utilise Lynne's publicity experience & contacts.

Welcome New Membership

Karina welcomed the above new members two of whom were in attendance introduced themselves.

- Patsy Pynn
- Elaine Pearce
- Geoffrey and Marilyn Cottrell
- Claire McCormick (Friend)
- Muriel Petersen
- Kim Burton
- David Booth
- Claire May
- Rick Assender
- Peter Slade
- Ryan Yari and Lucy Miller
- Katherine Lindsay
- Ross Lindsay
- Irene Butler
- Wayne McPhee
- Peter Elias
- Alan Willis
- Jennifer Goetz

Rural Fire Service and Community Fire Unit

Luke Stevenson and Lindsay Boyd spoke on behalf of RFS and made the following points.

- We are already into the bushfire season. It will only take a few very windy hot days for the bush to become dry and flammable.
- At the General Meeting in September the RFS gave full explanation of the reasons for the new fire warning sign. You can see that the sign is now in place on the corner of Diamond and PB Drive.
- Reminded the community that now is the time to check your Bush Fire Survival plans and review if necessary.
- Reminded the community to put the " FiresNearMe " APP onto your phone. This assists in distinguishing between a Bush fire and Hazard reduction burning.
- Remember "it is never too early to evacuate".
- Lindsay reported there had been 2 call outs in recent months with a full

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response team to Pearls. After the fire alarm activated.

- He also advised to check the safety of your mobile phone battery charger. He reported 75% of house fires are caused by faulty battery chargers.

Kay Williams asked a question about the safety for fire fighters of the current masks.

Luke replied that the PB RFS is now equipped with excellent half face and full face masks on the truck.

A 2nd question was asked about when would PB have another hazzard reduction burn, as there has not been one here for approximately 10 years .

Lindsay advised that PB is to be reviewed with District Office and National Parks and Wildlife.

COMMUNITY GROUPS:

Environment Group.

Mary Knaggs advised that the PBEG had held their AGM last month which is on their website. She reported that PBEG intended to keep having regular meetings, and will be giving consideration to becoming a subcommittee of the PBPA. (Subject to Terms of Reference and the majority of PBEG and PBPA being in agreement.)

Mary reported that PBEG had met twice with CCC and the group had written submission to CCC about concerns with the Exempt and Complying development process, the continuing loss of mature trees , and about particular DA's which were not in accordance with the DCP for Pearl Beach. PBEG believes there are always creative solutions to allow development that is in keeping with the character of PB.

Other Community Groups;

The Arboretum, Dune Care and Bush Care and Plodders group were provided with tables around the perimeter of the hall and those in attendance were invited to speak with individual convenors about their group and its activities at the end of the meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

War Memorial Landscaping and Proposal for garden

Mary Knaggs presented an overhead of the proposed landscaping around the refurbished War Memorial and down into the back yard area.

Mary explained that there was still a small amount of money left from grants, and it is hoped that with volunteer labour doing most of the work, there would be enough money to purchase materials.

There has been one quote for \$6500-\$7000 for the project. Compact granite is proposed for the walkway and back garden, with "tropical feel" plants being placed where appropriate, and a new Australian native specimen tree being placed close to the War Memorial.

Mary hoped this work could be completed for Anzac Day 2023, when invited guests

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would attend the official opening of the refurbishment.

A question was asked whether the continued placement of the Gazebo in the front yard would be hindered. This would not be the case.

Executive Committee Conflicts Register

Karina reported that any members of the Committee with a conflict of interest would be required to divulge this as is the usual practice. It is a requirement of the Constitution. She made members aware that she personally has no conflicts of interest that would impact on her role on the Executive.

Vote of Thanks to Previous Executive Members

Karina proposed a vote of thanks to the outgoing Executive Committee members; Russell Grove; Adrian Thurlow; Elizabeth Nelson; Paul Barclaire and Rebecca Jacobs. She delivered a short outline of each person's commitment to Pearl Beach and the Association.

The members present showed their appreciation by a round of applause and a motion was moved to thank them for their service.

Moved : Lynne Lillico

Seconded ; Jackie Bridel

Questions from the Floor

Andrew Caldwell wished to know whether the minutes from the Executive meeting would be put up on the website.

Karina advised that this would be discussed at the next Executive Meeting.

The Minutes of the meeting cannot be put up until after they have been passed and approved by the Executive at the following meeting.

Peggy Todd spoke to the meeting. She reported she is the convenor of the Pearl Beach Aboriginal history group, and she wished to raise the issues of Australia Day celebrations.

Peggy pointed out that more than 6 years ago, the previous Australia Day celebrations had been cancelled. In the place of the former celebrations it was decided to run children's races and sand castle building. Peggy reported that the Pearl Beach Real Estate had paid for BBQ with the proceeds going to Mingaletta. She asked was planning was in place for 2023.

Meeting closed at 6.30pm

All present were invited to stay for refreshments and general community socializing.