

## PEARL BEACH PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC

### GENERAL MEETING MINUTES- DRAFT

4<sup>th</sup> February 2023 at 5.00 pm

#### Attendees

Karina Stafford (in the Chair), Tanya Masters (Secretary), Amanda Winley, Nigel Tisdale, Paul Wickham, Pauline Toohey, Paul Toohey, Heather Brown, Paul Barclaire, Alison Phillips, Gary Phillips, Russell Grove, Peggy Todd, Kay Williams, Ian Crawford, Kerry Caloyannidis, Penryn Maddrell, Lynne Lillico, Malcolm McDonald, Dorothy McDonald, Ann Parsons, Stephen Parsons, Catherine O'Reilly, Margaret Moore, Sabine Kirschke, Douglas McDonald, Andrew Cordwell, Jeanette Sims, Diane Swalwell Duncan Bridel, Jackie Bridel, Stephanie Wood, Keith Wood, John Steinbeck, Donna Higgins, Tony Higgins, Adrian Thurlow, Helen Thurlow, Geoff Cottrell, Marilyn Cottrell, Meg McClaren, Judi Hurst, Peter Richardson, Lisa Wolbers, Geoffrey Hurst, Gerarda Luck, Lindsay Boyd, Luke Stevenson, Kristine Winley, Peter Willis, Bev Hughes, Don Hughes, Steven Drakeley, Malcolm Davison, Phillip Rich, Lorelle Savage, Larry Savage, Valerie Taylor, Helen O'Loughlin, Lynette Rich, Sandra Sherwood, Cally Osmond, Klaas Woldring, Aafke Woldring, Frances Alter, Andrew Alter, Lucy Miller, Ryan Yari, Jill Easterbrook, John Hill, Blair Swain, Hamish Duncan, John Haymes, Gaby Porter, Jane Borton

#### Apologies

Mary Knaggs, Peter Romey, Amanda Thomson, Bronwen Young, Peter Connor, Margaret Brown, Vic Brown, Jane Brown, Gabby Crompton, Greti Rieger, Victoria Crawford, Jan Steinbeck, Kate Lindsay, Ross Lindsay, Vickii Davison, Glen Taylor, Bruce Swalwell, Bev Lapacek.

<b>Business Item</b>
<p><b>Acknowledgement of Country</b>            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.</p> <hr style="width: 70%; margin-left: 0;"/> <p><b>Minutes of Previous General Meeting</b>             A link to the Draft Minutes of the previous meeting on 3/12/ 22 was included in the notice of meeting sent to membership on 27/01/23 and will be available on the website once ratified.</p>

## Business Item

### Matters Arising from Previous Meeting Minutes

There were no matters arising from the previous meeting.

It was proposed that the Minutes from the December meeting be accepted. All agreed

Proposed: Russell Grove                      Seconded: Anne Parsons

### Financial Reports

The Financial reports for November were emailed to members on 27/01/23. Notification was also given at this time regarding verbal reporting of December Financial reports. Secretary indicated they would be available to be emailed on request, following ratification at this meeting.

The Treasurer, Amanda Winley reported on the November and December 2022 P&L; Year to Date, Cash Movement and Balance sheet reports.

These were amended for simplicity.

There were no questions about the November reports, however Andrew Cordwell requested information about individual events profit and expenses.

Karina advised she would address this later in the meeting.

A question regarding the current land valuation and potential increase was asked. Amanda reported that this would be covered in the annual financial statement ; and the likely revaluation would be discussed at the Executive Committee meeting over the coming months.

Paul Toohey asked a question about the available remaining amount from the grant for the CSC, and advised that this amount was fully committed to various tasks.

Moved that the financial reports be accepted. All agreed

Proposed: Steven Parsons                      Seconded. Paul Barclaire

### REPORTS ONGOING SUB COMMITTEES

#### Hall Management;

Victoria Crawford had apologized for her absence, and had sent a report , which was addressed by Karina.

#### Maintenance and Hall Upgrade

- Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February there will be a working bee at the hall to clean the external building and complete some minor painting. Also a review of storage.  
Please contact Paul Barclaire if you are able to help.

## Business Item

- New signs have been placed in the kitchen with instructions for operation of the stove and dishwasher.
- Fire safety compliance is continuing to be addressed
- Minor maintenance is being addressed and quotes have been requested for clearing roof, keeping bamboo under control and mowing.
- A quote has been requested to fix the leaking skylight
- Quotes currently sought for the oil treatment of the floor. One quote was approx. \$10,000.00
- Painting the internal walls is under consideration.

Additionally, the issue of the neighbour on the southern boundary complaining about excess noise is ongoing. He has proposed building a higher "noise proof" boundary fence at his own expense.

The proposal will be presented to the next Executive meeting.

## Safety Advisory Group: Paul Toohey

Paul Toohey updated progress with a number of current projects.

- Community Support. Centre is almost completed. A successful launch occurred on 11<sup>th</sup> Dec.  
There remains \$6390 of unspent money, however this is fully allocated.  
The current ( \$9000) shortfall is hoped to be covered by a special Premier's grant.  
Spearpoint is still outstanding, but the matter is expected to be resolved over the next few weeks following a meeting with Minister Anderson and Premier's Office.  
Lean to shed requires painting.

**Volunteers will be required** . Looking for people who are willing to learn about the requirements for implementing procedures for setting up the Neighbourhood Safer Place in the event of an Emergency.

- Neighbourhood Alert Program has started, and the street contacts have been actively pursuing providing information to residents. However, progress has been slow over the summer holidays.
- Mobile Phone reception.  
Some progress being made, with letters to Dr Reid and others being responded to and confirming that PB is eligible for grant under Peri- Urban Mobile Program to upgrade tower coverage, and organizing an opportunity to meet with SAG.

## Business Item

Additionally PBPA has sent a letter to Communication Alliance to seek their assistance.

It was pointed out that Patonga appear to already have a new tower to facilitate better mobile phone coverage.

- Beach Safety

Paul advised that the Emergency Response beacon will go ahead, and is being constructed in cooperation with CCC. In an emergency activation will provide visual access to the situation, and will be powered by solar. It is likely to be positioned towards the middle of the beach around Agate Ave.

This area of the beach is dangerous as the waves are deceptively large with a strong undertow. Louse Lambert reported alerting a family who seemed unaware of this risk with their toddler playing on the water's edge, with poor supervision.

Initially the CCC had declined to provide a lifesaver for PB over the Xmas period, however Stephen Parsons reported that Umina SLSC had come to PB during Summer holidays.

- Community Fire Unit:

As reported previously the CFU is in need of more volunteers to maintain this excellent contribution to fire safety in Pearl Beach. New members can contact Paul Toohey or Lindsay Boyd ( Brigade Captain). There will be training commencing on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> February at 3pm at RFS building at the end of Emerald Ave.

- Speed limit and Shared Use Zone

Paul has spoke with CCC regarding this proposal, but no progress has been made. Reports that the an update from Transport NSW is pending.

## SUB-COMMITTEE changes

Karina advised the meeting, that following the previous General Meeting when an issue had been raised regarding the procedures necessary for ratifying sub-committees of the PBPA, this matter had been discussed at the Executive Meeting held on the 15<sup>th</sup> December. At this meeting, it was proposed that the two different community fundraising and event management committees be disbanded and a new single committee be formed.

The members of the two separate committees subsequently held a joint meeting where a new sub – committee, Fundraising and Events was formed : with Gerarda Luck being elected as the Convenor and Malcolm McDonald elected as the Secretary.

The draft terms of reference have been distributed to the Executive and will be discussed at the meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> February, and brought to the next General Meeting

## Business Item

on 4<sup>th</sup> March for ratification by the members.

Gerarda introduced herself and requested any one interested in volunteering to assist the committee for particular events to please advise her. She provided a worksheet for this purpose.

Anne Parsons queried the absence of Lynne Lillico as the convenor as this is a role she has held for many years. Karina advised that Lynne is a member of the new committee, but her main role is Publicity Officer for all areas of PBPA, not just Events and Fund Raising.

Karina outlined the extensive fundraising activities that had occurred, including Santa Photos, Raffles and Kid's Discos, which had been a huge success. Karina reported that approximately \$16000 profit had been made over the period. Combined with Bingo and Summer Book Fair almost \$20,000 was raised.

Lynne outlined all the additional community activities that had occurred over the holiday period.

- Community Christmas Carols. A great success. Thank you to Pauline Toohey for organizing Christmas carols and Annette Blinco for organizing donation of sweets from Umina Chemsave.
- Family Bingo Locals and visiting families enjoyed the 4 Bingo sessions. Thanks to Malcolm McDonald for organizing and Paul Wickham and Greti Rieger for organizing the sound. After expenses the Bingo raised over \$1000.
- Family Disco's held on 3 Tuesdays were also huge success and made almost \$2000 profit.

Unfortunately the Family Bush dance which had been well attended in previous years was disappointing, with low attendance.

- Australia Day celebrations was essentially a Kids Fun Day, with children's beach races and sand castle building being very popular. Thank you to all the volunteers that made the day and especially Malcolm McDonald and Peggy Todd. ( see later notes from Peggy)  
Dates for your Diary
- Bunnings Sausage Sizzle 5<sup>th</sup> February. Thank you to Russell Grove who successfully gained sponsorship from Pearly's Café of \$800 to buy all the ingredients
- Clean up Australia Day. Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> March; Registration 8.30 at the hall. Contact Stephen Parsons . Bring gloves and your hat and wear covered shoes.
- Opera In Arboretum ; Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> March  
Bookings [www.trybooking.co/CEAUX](http://www.trybooking.co/CEAUX)

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- Easter Saturday Book Fair Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> April 9am to 5.30 pm.
  - There will be a wide selection of books and food available .
- Lynne thanked Alison Phillips who is coordinating the fair.

Alison spoke briefly and said she is now accepting books for the day. Please do not just leave boxes of books on the hall verandah without contacting Alison. ( [alisonphillips@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:alisonphillips@hotmail.co.uk)) (ph. 0487 444 537) There will also be a “Homemade by Locals” store. If you would like donate something homemade please contact Alison; also please give an estimate for you donations value so it can be sold at a fair price.

As always, volunteers are needed to help with all aspects of the Fair; from setting up the books on Fridays 7<sup>th</sup> to helping on Saturday in some capacity. A couple of hours assistance by a large number of volunteers helps the day run smoothly .

### Updating of PBPA Constitution and Guidelines.

Victoria Crawford is convening the working party updating of the Constitution and Guidelines. This has not been done in the past few years due to Covid 19.

The group will bring suggestions about changes to the next General Meeting and hopes to have the final revised documents submitted to May General Meeting for approval. Victoria has asked any members with suggestions to contact her on [vfc1951@gmail.com](mailto:vfc1951@gmail.com).

### Communication Overview

Karina and Lynne are looking to ensure a consistent message goes to the community. A 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting was held to formulate guidelines around right channels, right audience and agreed responsibilities.

Consideration is being given to putting a stylized map on the amenities block, possibly with QR codes to provide further information by linking back to the website.

Karina asked if anyone has expertise in this field to please contact someone on the working party.

### **Welcome New Membership**

Karina welcomed Anthony Maestri as a “returning” new member, and thanked him for his contribution to the new landscaping around the hall.

### **COMMUNITY GROUPS:**

#### **Environment Group**

Mary Knaggs had apologized for her absence. Gary Phillips spoke on behalf of the PBEG.

- He highlighted the issue of the danger of letting go of balloons into the

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atmosphere, as they cause damage to many areas of the environment and if entering the water can create difficulties for sea life. He proposed a possible craft workshop to explore alternatives.

- Also showed a brief overview of the pamphlet about the Pearl Beach environment written and compiled by Chris O'Brien. Copies are available to purchase for \$4.99 for those new to Pearl Beach
- Comments about the CCC Plan of Management close on 1<sup>st</sup> March. Council Community land in Pearl Beach includes Paul Landa reserve at the top of Green Point Rd. and the Arboretum and Tennis Courts.

**Dune and Bush Care**

Stephen Parsons reported that Bush Care will work in Paul Landa reserve on 4<sup>th</sup> Feb. He showed a map of the original area which was barren and windy and scheduled by the Gosford Council to become car park. It is now a regenerated, beautiful environment. Thank you to all those volunteers that maintain the area.

He advised that a band of around 15-16 people generally work very hard to keep Pearl Beach clean and tidy. New volunteers are most welcome and needed. Reminded those attending Clean up Australia to please bring your mobile phone.

**Arboretum**

Next working bee is Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> Feb. There are also working bees most Thursday mornings between 9-11

**Plodders**

Will resume walking on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February with a leisurely stroll through the Sensory Gardens at The Entrance.  
 Reminder there is still a vacancy ( 1 queen room) for the Mudgee 6 night getaway.

**Australia Day**

Peggy Todd spoke about Australia day and the excellent "inclusive " speech given by Liesl Tesch. Peggy thanked Ross Hillyard ( PB/Accom. RE) who funded the ingredients for sausage sizzle. The day raised \$1400.00 for Mingaletta Early Intervention. She also thanked Malcom McDonald for his hard work in organizing the day.

Peggy spoke briefly about the VOICE and hoped that the community would organize gatherings to discuss this prior to the referendum.

**RFS**

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Lindsay Boyd and Luke Stevenson reported that the RFS had been happy to be part of the Australia Day activities with the fire truck bringing great delight to the many children who climbed on board. He advised that PB own fire truck is currently undergoing a complete rebuild.

With the current weather conditions there has not been fire rating level greater than Moderate, however it is important to be mindful that the bush can dry out very quickly with resulting fire danger increase.

He reported attending a couple of minor incidents (burnt out cars). Lindsay also took the opportunity to fully explain the response to the recent house fire in Beryl Bvde. He reported that PBRFS was first on the scene and within approximately half an hour there were nine other responses.

There had been a potentially very dangerous situation with a number of gas bottles on the premises which were contained safely and a disaster averted.

The RFS had also assisted in the recent search and rescue of a missing older woman. The headquarters had been utilized by Search and Rescue.

Malcolm Davison asked a question about the poor visibility of the "blue cats eyes" and yellow painted lines which are used to identify hydrants. Malcolm reported that these were very difficult locate because in some instances, people had grown grass over them or allowed gardens to become overgrown.

Russell Grove reported that during his term as President, PBPA had obtained a copy of plan of the location of all hydrants. Karina advised she would follow up the whereabouts and consider putting it on the website.

Luke reported that RFS are currently undertaking a village survey to expose hydrants. The RFS have trialed installing new "cat's eyes" in Emerald Ave. He suggested that PBPA could consider a joint venture and possibly assist in purchasing new ones for other streets.

Karina advised she will discuss this with the Executive.

Additionally CCC have been assisting by repainting yellow road markers to indicate hydrants.

It was suggested that members could "adopt a hydrant"; and maintain the clearance around a hydrant near to your home. (Hydrants are likely to be every 30 to 50 metres apart)

He spoke again of the need for new volunteers for the CFU. There will be an Information Day at the station on 25<sup>th</sup> March between 5-7pm.



## Business Item

### Condolences

Lynne Lillico informed the meeting of the sad death of Tom Sarti who had been a long time hard working member of the PBPA. He had been the Treasurer for 18 years. He will be sadly missed.

Karina also offered condolences to Cam Sojan and Alison Dew whose mother had gone missing in January between Pearl Beach and Patonga and was sadly found deceased .

### Other Business

#### *Central Coast Council Liaison Working Party*

Peter Richardson is convening a working party to consider ways of improving liaison with CCC and in particular our roads and draining .

He thanked the many volunteers who had assisted him in identifying the vast number of potholes in our streets, and adding them onto the CCC website.

Peter reported he had discussed the conditions of the roads in PB with CCC Director of Infrastructure, following the reporting of over 100 defects in December 2022. The Director visited PB and accepted a more sustainable treatment to the roads was necessary and asked the we ( PB roads team) put together some proposals for heavy patching that CCC could consider ( NB heavy patching typically involves repairs of areas of 10m<sup>2</sup> and above to treat a structural failure. It typically involves removal of asphalt and replacement with new hot mix, and any subbase strengthening if necessary.)

CCC is applying for grant money from the Government to cover increased repairs. Peter is asking for volunteers to now complete a more detailed survey of the PB roads to hopefully be part of this initiative.

- Karina advised anyone present who wished to reject their Land valuation for land tax purposes to contact Glenda Green from Pearl Pde , who has been doing extensive research into this.
- Paul Toohey advised that that Louise Lambert has offered to come to GM to talk about beach safety for older residents.
- Karina reported that the Accom. representative who was scheduled to speak at the meeting had sent an apology and would present at the nexy meeting..

The meeting closed at 6.30 pm

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