

PEARL BEACH PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES - DRAFT

2nd MARCH 2024 at 5.00 pm

Approval of these minutes was deferred at the last General Meeting on 6 April 2024 as there were several amendments requested and it thought best to provide clearer information to the membership for consideration.

The text in black is the original version as prepared by Nigel Tisdale (then Secretary) with names now presented consistently.

Where text is crossed out this is to insert changes as requested by either **Gary Phillips in red or **Cathy Lancaster in purple**.**

One green entry has been added by **Victoria Crawford to clarify the use of a question mark**

At the meeting we will ask for each amendment to be approved or not. We will not ask for the inclusion of the abstaining votes unless a member identifies an issue with the arithmetic.

Formatting will be corrected after any amendments are approved.

PEARL BEACH PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES - DRAFT

2nd MARCH 2024 at 5.00 pm

Attendees

Karina Stafford (Chair), Nigel Tisdale (Secretary), Jeanne Albrecht, Bev Allan, John Allan, Andrew Alter, Frances Alter, Paul Barclaire, Robyn Barrett, Philip Barrett, Annette Blinco, Bill Blinco, Jane Borton, Lindsay Boyd, Duncan Bridel, Jackie Bridel, Vic Brown, Peter Connor, Andrew Cordwell, Gabby Crompton, Jo-Ann Davey, Malcolm Davison, Vickii Davison, Van Davy, Peter Doddrell, Kathy Fortes, Sue Gibson, Barbara Grantham, Marijke Greenway, Russell Grove, Barbara Hastings, William Hastings, John Haymes, Donna Higgins, Tony Higgins, Hans Hulsbosch, Marianne Hulsbosch, Geoff Hurst, Mary Knaggs, Cathy Lancaster, Bev Lapacek, Lynne Lillico, Robert Lillico, Gerarda Luck, Barry Marks, Carolyn Marks, Chris Masters, Tanya Masters, Dorothy McDonald, Malcolm McDonald, Margaret Moore, Helen O'Loughlin, Catherine O'Reilly, Cally Osmond, Stephen Parsons, Muriel Petersen, Alison Phillips, Gary Phillips, Vicki Powell, Jennifer Price, Peter Richardson, Greti Rieger, Peter Romey, Larry Savage, Lorelle Savage, Robyn Stafford, Luke Stevenson, Bruce Swalwell, Diane Swalwell, Peggy Todd, Paul Toohey, Pauline Toohey, John Utting, Paul Wickham, Kay Williams, Amanda Winley, Aafke Woldring, Klaas Woldring, Keith Wood, Stephanie Wood, Bronwen Young, Kerry Caloyannidis(Z), Jennifer Goetz(Z), Katherine Lindsay(Z), Ross Lindsay(Z), Douglas McDonald(Z), Karen Moses(Z), Peter Slade(Z), Amanda Thomson(Z), John Urquhart(Z), Chris-Ann Urquhart(Z), Lisa Wolbers(Z). (Z) attended by Zoom. 91 total

Apologies

Adrian & Helen Thurlow, Mary & Coralie Kenny, Tom Glynn, Victoria & Ian Crawford, Gaby Porter, Ann Parsons, Judi Hurst.

Business Item

Acknowledgement of Country

The President 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 this area.

Minutes of Previous General Meeting (3rd February 2024)

Minutes showing the outcome of the vote taken to proceed with Stage 1A of the Hall Refurbishment – Alison Phillips wished the statement that 4 people voted NO to be corrected as she believed there were another 8 or 9 that voted NO.
 Nigel Tisdale (Secretary) responded that on the day, three independent counters had

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counted only 4 NO votes. In any case the minutes clearly stated that due to concerns raised by other members, the Executive Decision had decided to void the vote and put the matter to the membership again on the 2nd March as a formal vote. Minutes remain unchanged.

Proposed: Amanda Winley Seconded: Mary Knaggs

Matters arising – None

Motions

The President explained that she had asked Russell Grove to join her on the “top table” in the role as an expert on matters pertaining to meeting procedures”, in order to ensure that all procedural aspects of the meeting were handled correctly.

The President apologised to the guest speaker Chris Masters, for the extended time it was going to take to complete the General Meeting business, and the delay in the start time for his talk.

The President asked that any speakers / questioners in the General Meeting be succinct and respectful.

The President also apologised that a second vote was required on a matter already voted on in the previous General Meeting. The President thanked those members who raised constitutional concerns over the validity of the previous vote, and therefore the matter was being put to the members for a second vote, to ensure that correct protocol was followed.

The President asked for 2 official counters of the votes to be appointed: Robyn Barrett and Andrew Alter volunteered and were appointed as the counters.

The President continued to explain that the Memorial Community Hall is the main asset of the Association, who have a duty to the community to ensure it is maintained and looked after, making it as comfortable as possible for those that use it.

In the last 18 months more than \$97,000 had been fundraised to help maintain and upgrade the hall, with over \$30,000 of that being raised by volunteers specifically for hall upgrades. At the 3rd February General Meeting the members voted, by a majority, to commence Stage 1A of the hall ceiling upgrade. For reasons already explained a second vote was to be taken tonight. Following the last General Meeting Bruce Swalwell, local architect, on behalf of the Progress Association, reached out to a gentleman called Chris Arkins, mechanical engineer and Director of leading engineering firm, Steensen Varming Australia, and specialising in heating and cooling solutions in public buildings. Chris Arkins was asked to confirm that in his professional opinion, the

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recommendations proposed by the Hall Subcommittee for Stage 1A hall upgrade were appropriate & sensible both in terms of the passive insulation approach and the material intended to be used. Chris supported the proposed recommendations for Stage 1A as the first step, as well as going on to make a number of suggestions for subsequent works including installation of air conditioning. The President stated that whilst the proposals for Stage 1A had been agreed by the Hall Sub Committee and the Executive Committee, works beyond Stage 1A had yet to be agreed by the Executive and membership, and will require further investigation and professional advice.

Gary Phillips made a statement that in fact the proposals for Stage 1A had not been agreed and passed by the Executive Committee.

Cathy Lancaster then said that there was never an Executive Committee resolution made at its February meeting that recommended approval.

Nigel Tisdale (Secretary) responded that in the Executive Meeting of the 15th February, the proposal for Stage 1A and the motion put forward by the Hall Subcommittee, as presented by Victoria Crawford – convenor of the Hall Subcommittee, had been discussed at length. Following the discussion The President asked the following “So if everyone’s comfortable with that, we have a decision and there’s no other issues, concerns or questions?”. The following silence was taken as general agreement, and it was not deemed necessary to ask for a physical show of hands. The committee moved onto the next item on the agenda.

Cathy Lancaster then made a comment to the General Meeting that in her opinion the process followed by the Executive Committee did not constitute an agreement by the Executive Committee to proceed with putting the motion to the members at today’s meeting and therefore the motion and any vote of it was invalid. Cathy Lancaster also stated that the Hall Subcommittee had failed to provide her or the Executive Committee with the level of documentational detail that she felt was necessary.

The President responded that if the meeting should decide to approve the motion and if Cathy Lancaster could provide the necessary evidence proving it not to be valid then the Executive would have to take note of this.

~~It is also on the record that Cathy stated she was being discriminated against for not being allowed to project slides onto the big screen during the General Meeting. It should be noted that apart from the main motion, no speaker had slides projected. All speakers that had provided written copies of their material in advance (even when provided on the same day as the meeting) had had that material posted on the Association website and provided to Zoom participants. Cathy did not provide written copy even when requested. One speaker also distributed hard copy to the members at the meeting.~~

Hard copy material provided prior to the meeting by Dr. Van Davy and Gary Phillips had been published on the PBPA website and copied to the remote Zoom attendees. Dr Van Davy distributed hard copies of his material at the meeting.

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Cathy Lancaster explained to all that she has a disability which can cause slurred speech so she had prepared slides to assist but she was denied the opportunity to have them loaded before the meeting. These slides were explanatory not questions. Cathy Lancaster asked the President if she was continuing this stance of not allowing her slides to be shown. The President indicated 'yes' to which Cathy Lancaster replied "this is deplorable and amounts to discrimination".

Cathy Lancaster then again said that there was never agreement by the Executive Committee to put the motion forward and she had not received certain documentation that she thought was necessary for proper consideration. The President responded if that was the case why had Cathy Lancaster not raised this when at the Executive Committee meeting, everyone was asked if they had any questions or concerns.

Cathy Lancaster reiterated that she had never seen any plans, but was interrupted by the President stating that Cathy Lancaster was on her phone during the meeting.

Peter Richardson made the comment that there is clearly a difference of opinion within the Executive Committee, and if not careful a lot of time today could be wasted arguing. He suggested that the fact that this difference of opinion existed should be accepted, and the meeting should move on.

~~This suggestion was met by applause.~~

The President then asked the meeting to indicate by a show of hands whether they wished the argument to continue or for the meeting to move on. By a clear majority the members at the meeting confirmed they wished to move on.

The President then introduced Dr Van Davy who had submitted a procedural motion – ~~which is attached.~~ <https://pearlbeachprogress.org.au/notices/2nd-march-500pm-515pm-short-general-meeting/>

The President called for someone to second the motion : Nigel Tisdale

During an explanation of the motion by Dr Van Davy, a member Gerarda Luck called from the meeting "I call the question".

This request was seconded by Duncan Bridel. Debate was paused.

Vote called : 52 + 6 on zoom to stop the debate on this motion; 11 to continue. **Therefore**

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22 abstained

Meeting then proceeded to vote on Dr Van Davy's motion without further debate.
Vote called : 20 in favour; 53 + 7 on zoom against. **Therefore 11 abstained**

Motion submitted by Dr Van Davy Defeated

The President then introduced Gary Phillips who had also submitted a procedural motion – ~~which is attached.~~ <https://pearlbeachprogress.org.au/notices/2nd-march-500pm-515pm-short-general-meeting/>

The President called for someone to second the motion : Cathy Lancaster

During an explanation of the motion by Gary a member Amanda Winley called from the meeting "I call the question".

This request was seconded by Duncan Bridel. Debate was paused.

Vote called : 39 + 4 on zoom to stop the debate on this motion; 35 to continue. **Therefore 13 abstained**

Meeting then proceeded to vote on Gary Phillips' motion without further debate.
Vote called : 27 in favour; 49 + 5 on zoom against. **Therefore 10 abstained**

Motion submitted by Gary Phillips Defeated

The President then introduced Peter Romey (Victoria Crawford – Hall Subcommittee Convenor being absent) who as a member of the Hall Subcommittee, the originators of the motion, was speaking to the main motion

"As recommended by the PBPA Executive Committee, the Hall Sub-committee and the independent expert mechanical engineer, this meeting approves the hall ceiling upgrade project, comprising the installation of insulation to the underside of the roof between the rafters, and timber V-panelling then installed between the purlins, including required electrical work, and expenditure of up to \$50,000 (this includes a 10% contingency allowing for increase in the cost of materials and electrical work) to fund the work."

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Material for this motion ~~is attached~~ -

<https://pearlbeachprogress.org.au/notices/2nd-march-500pm-515pm-short-general-meeting/>

The President called for someone to second the motion : Tanya Masters

During an explanation of the motion by Peter and subsequent questions a member (AMANDA?) **Amanda Winley** called from the meeting "I call the question".

This request was seconded by ? (This person's name was not recorded) Debate was paused.

Vote called : 54 **47** + 7 on zoom to stop the debate on this motion; 29 to continue.
Therefore 8 abstained

Meeting then proceeded to vote on the main motion without further debate.

Vote called : 51+ 7 on zoom in favour; **23** against. **Therefore 10 abstained**

Main Motion Succeeded and therefore the following Resolution has been passed:

"As recommended by the PBPA Executive Committee, the Hall Sub-committee and the independent expert mechanical engineer, this meeting approves the hall ceiling upgrade project, comprising the installation of insulation to the underside of the roof between the rafters, and timber V-panelling then installed between the purlins, including required electrical work, and expenditure of up to \$50,000 (this includes a 10% contingency allowing for increase in the cost of materials and electrical work) to fund the work"

The President also requested one final aspect be considered and that was for the members by show of hands to indicate their preference on the ceiling paint colour- a preference for light or dark?. This was explained that it was not a final vote or decision but simply a guidance for the hall subcommittee.

By show of hands : 31 members preferred a DARK paint, and 33 + 2 on zoom preferred a LIGHT colour. **Therefore 25 abstained**

Peter Romey thanked Victoria and the Hall Subcommittee for their work over the last 12 months.

The President thanked everyone for their patience and perseverance during the meeting – the formal part of which ended at 6:06pm. The President introduced the evening's guest speaker Chris Masters.

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