

The Secretary & each Executive Member, PBPA

Dear Executive members

This letter is by way of notifying you of my intent, at Saturday 2 March, 2024 General Meeting where it is scheduled to consider a resolution to approve the expenditure of up to \$50,000 on an upgrading of the Memorial Hall's ceiling, to move the following Procedural Motion which, according to conventional meeting procedure, must be debated first.

PROCEDURAL MOTION: that the proposal to approve up to \$50,000 to upgrade the Memorial Hall's ceiling be deferred until after a ***"Village Forum: Promoting the Best Interests of Pearl Beach"*** has been completed. The Resident's Forum should be well-advertised, open to all Pearl Beach residents, and comprise 3 stages of consultation with at least 2 months between each stage for informal community discussion and analysis:

- |          |                                    |
|----------|------------------------------------|
| Stage 1. | All ideas on the table             |
| Stage 2. | Consideration & clumping of ideas  |
| Stage 3. | Debate & formulation of PROPOSALS. |

The PROPOSALS from Stage 3 will be available for PBPA Executive and General Meeting processes and determination.

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NOTES: The PBPA CONSTITUTION identifies three areas of responsibility. They are:

1. Promoting the best interests of Pearl Beach residents
2. Environment
- 3 Our hall.

What will come out of the Village Forum? The outcome is not clear, certainly not to me.

There will be some/many who will make the argument for **more tourism**, more internet **promotional activity**, more events **reliant on out-of-village customers** for profit, and **more commerce**, with **more jobs**, and higher and **higher property prices**, liquor selling **bottle shops** and late night/early morning hours **open bars**.

Some others, maybe many others, will argue for a **return to the strategy** designed to preserve the **domicile and weekender character of Pearl Beach** by persuading government that the commercialisation of Pearl Beach will necessarily bring with it: more commerce endlessly **generating more commerce**, more-then-more commercial **noise**; more **tree felling** and less habitat; more huge & **out-of-character houses** and less habitat, more **swimming pools** and less habitat; more **short-term rentals** and less habitat; more **concrete and lawns** and less finches, wrens and other small birds and native mammals, more **crime** – lots more **petty crime**, more **party-generated selfishness and noise**, more disoriented and unhappy **barking dogs**, more unleashed cats and **more native fauna killings**, more street-located **misbehaviour**, more **rubbish**, more commercial **signs**, more **traffic**, more **congestion** at the beachfront, more demands for **parking** and **shops** and population infrastructure, less access for locals to local swimming pool, beach, and facilities.

The vision of a protected Pearl Beach **heritage** village and a protected environment in which **native fauna and flora can exist** is not a new vision ... it is the vision formulated by the Pearl Beach community in 1990s and incorporated into Chapter 5.10 of the then Council's Development Control Plan. It included a Heritage Listing for the entire village and a range of restrictions on developments in Pearl Beach. THAT is much of the reason our Pearl Beach properties, including off-the-beach properties are now so valuable ... because unlike many beachside suburbs, the Pearl Beach environment has been relatively protected. It is now being rapidly destroyed by galloping commercialism.

If our General Meeting on 2 March, 2024 decides to hold a Village Forum, we will all be able to put forward our views. It has been my view for several years that the most important matters facing Pearl Beach are:

1. Commercialisation of Pearl Beach
2. Extinction of native species of fauna and flora
3. Progress towards reconciliation with Aboriginal people.

There are, of course, other matters of importance such as pot-holes, signing, beach safety, hall maintenance, traffic flow, and so on ... but, the Big Picture concerns, in my view, are: commercialisation; extinctions; reconciliation.

Prior to 2022 PBPA elections I had an exchange of letters with the PBPA Executive in which I asked the PBPA to consider running Forums, the nature of which I outlined in detail, of Pearl Beach residents, on each of these broad topics. In the end I was offered free use of the Memorial Hall for me, not the PBPA, to run Forums as I had outlined. I declined to do this because I considered to do so would be to divide, not unite, the villagers as I would be seen as an 'opposition' to the Executive which I've never wanted to be. The forums didn't proceed.

Because my efforts had come to nothing, I ran for PBPA Executive in 2022. I ran on policies. My three key policies were:

- [a] change the President
- [b] invite the Environment Committee to become an integral part of PBPA
- [c] run open-to-the-villagers Forums on each of my main concerns.

Now, in 2024 I continue to be concerned at the accelerating denigration of Pearl Beach's character and neglect of matters such as Reconciliation and Extinction of Species. The Village Forums I propose should comprise more than a meeting and/or a survey. It should comprise:

[a] a first gathering [Forum] at which all participants are asked to identify the major issues requiring attention. At this Forum there will be no key speakers, no recommendations, and no policy-shaping documentation presented by the organising organisation, the PBPA. This is an issues-on-the-table Forum with the emphasis on canvassing the entirety of community thinking. After this gathering the matters raised will be grouped under self-defining headings, published on 3 x Pearl Beach websites, & emailed to all PBPA members, for all to see and consider prior to ...

[b] a second Forum at least 2 months later, to formally discuss [but not consider any motion] each of the groupings arising from [a]. Where agreement seems obvious, a PROPOSAL may be prepared. Where no agreement can be reached, but the division is clear, alternative PROPOSALS may be prepared. Where division appears irreconcilable, the proponents are to be asked to prepare their PROPOSAL. Following the 2<sup>nd</sup> Forum, each PROPOSAL shall be listed on a LISTING OF PROPOSALS document, published on 3 x Pearl Beach websites, & emailed to all PBPA members, for all to consider prior to ...

[c] a third Forum at least 2 months after the 2<sup>nd</sup>, to formally debate the PROPOSALS.

**NOTE: PBPA could then, if it wished, consider endorsing each, or any, of the Forums' approved PROPOSALS.**

If the Executive, or individual members of Executive want, then I'm available for consultation. If adopted I would offer considerable time and energy to organisational matters, if requested.

Yours sincerely ... Vanlyn J Davy [PhD; BE[Cert III]; JP]

Dated: 28.02.2024