

Minutes of Basin Villages Forum General Meeting, held Monday 21st July, 2008 at St Georges Basin Community Centre, Meriton Street, St Georges Basin, 7.35 pm.

Welcome: Clr Green

Present: 21 people.

Apologies: Tom & Joan McDonald.
Sheilagh Smith. Clr Rudd. Liz Cullen.

Minutes of previous meeting were read by the Vice President.

Matters arising: Mathie Street. The gate has been installed at entrance to foreshore; this outcome is satisfactory to local residents & Council.

Corramy State Forest: Judy Edwards reported that she'd had a reply to her letter. Nat Parks Management committee will soon be making a decision on this area, and they will be sending letters to interest groups rather than individuals. E.g. camping will not be allowed in the reserve. Judy to give a copy of the next letter from Nat Parks, if the Forum does not receive one directly.

Minutes moved to be accepted, by Terry Smith, 2nd John Burns.

Treasurer's report: 30th June - \$680.89 cr balance in cheque account. Moved Judy Edwards – 2nd Norm Webb.

Correspondence In and out.

List Read by Maureen Webb, Secretary
In – Council Business papers, letters and DAs.

Matters arising from correspondence:

Heritage Estates. The available data & history of this land/development, and the proposed rezoning, were explained again to the meeting, and attendees encouraged to send submissions.

Shoalhaven Area Consultative Committee:
Clr Green handed a Media Release to the Secretary. **The 14th August in Nowra** has been advised as the first meeting of Council and interest groups/CCBs, in this project.

Group and individual submissions can be made at this meeting.

Moved Laura. 2nd Terry.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Basin Villages Forum website is now online.
www.basinvillagesforum.asn.au

The Vice President asked for Forum members to submit issues, news good or bad, relevant items, to be posted on this website. Judy will add a link to the Forums website onto other community group sites, and advise 'About' magazine.

Retirement Villages in City of Shoalhaven. Members of The Basin Villages Forum expressed concern at the number of approvals of new 'retirement villages', that do not provide in-situ medical facilities, nor high level Aged Care. 'Retirement Villages' can also eventually rezone down to 'high density'. Some of these proposals state that the new residents of their retirement villages can avail themselves of existing medical services in the Bay & Basin villages. This is false advertising as these medical facilities are already 'at capacity', i.e. these doctors & dentists "books are closed". With increasing aged population, there is growing need for true Aged Care facilities.

- Clr Green said that he would personally pursue this issue with the relevant department in Council.

Footpath from Masonic Retirement village to shops in Basin View.

This is a short stretch of unmade footpath, that is important to be completed to aid the mobility of residents of the nearby retirement village.

- Clr Green said that he would personally pursue this particular issue, and the overall completion of the general shared cycleway network within the Bay & Basin, with the relevant department in Council.

Question raised by Ron Tomlinson to Clr Green. How long does a developer have, to commence work at an approved development? Clr Green advised – up to 7

years. Any action – e.g. fencing, removal of trees, is considered ‘commencement’. Mr Tomlinson also asked for explanation of how the Aveo development (Island Point Road), could have been passed by Delegated Authority, after several Shoalhaven City Councillors had attended a packed public meeting regarding Aveo where the predominant sentiment of the attendees at that meeting was opposition to the development. Cllr Green stated he was acting upon recommendations from staff.

Traffic Issues: Kevin Dunne updated the meeting. He had sent letters to Council regarding Voss/Yallara/Maxwell traffic problems. On 20th he'd sent to letters Cllrs Green, Bates & Ward. Kevin has received NO response from any of these Councillors. Last week had sent email to Robert Sutherland. This email was returned as “deleted unread”. He had also sent his letter regarding traffic issues to Mrs J Gash, who'd advised him to take it all to the media. He had also sent email to Shelly Hancock, who has subsequently sent a letter on behalf of Kevin to SCC general manager.

- Cllr Green said he would personally bring this issue to Council's attention, for action.

- LETTER & EMAIL REQUIRED: to Mr Rob Sutherland to come to a Forum general meeting to answer a wide range of questions on traffic-related issues in the Basin villages.

Vice President brought to the meeting's attention, the ‘**Grow Me Instead**’ booklet produced by Shoalhaven City Council, which encourages residents to choose hardy, native, drought tolerant species rather than non-native garden plants.
Q. – Why were deciduous (non-native) trees planted by Council, in Anson Street?
No answer provided.

Myna Bird workshops:

Judy Edwards & Adele Farrant reported on two Myna bird workshops on previous Saturday; morning at Huskisson, pm at Sanctuary Point Mens Shed. Members of the Sanctuary Point ‘Mens shed’ have been instructed by Mr Bill Handke, in the construction of myna bird traps. The Mens

Shed members will make the cages, in return for donation. The issue of euthanizing of the birds, has not yet been resolved. Co-ordinators and Council are developing humane options, approved by RSPCA. It is imperative that correct euthanasia methods are complied with, when these methods are advised in due course.

Local co-ordinators are Meg Bishop, Peter Vincent, Terry Smith, with assistance of Anna Hershel from Council. Peter Vincent will bring a demonstration cage next meeting.

- The Basin Villages Forum extends its congratulations & appreciation to Huskisson Woollamia Community Voice, for its initiative in starting this project. Funds have been provided by Landcare grant.

Note from **Business Papers: DCP17** (Island Point Road), to be discussed at next Council meeting. Recommendations of staff were passed. An issue of concern – there is no written commitment in the Business Paper's reference to DC17, that Council will provide/upgrade stormwater management BEFORE developments commence. This question needs to be put to Mr Robert Sutherland.

Security Services for St Georges Basin

post office: Pamela Wells advised that staff at the Island Point Road post office, have major concerns regarding the Armaguard access to the post office, once developments in Island Point Road are well advanced or completed. For obvious security reasons, Armaguard will not park anywhere except immediately adjacent to the post office. If Council does not provide guaranteed parking for security services, the future of the post office could be in doubt.

- Thanks recorded to Laura Eringa, of Laura's Garden Café, for donation of vegetable box for raffle.

Meeting closed 9.10 pm