

# Scotland Island Residents' Association

## Minutes of Annual General Meeting

November 25, 2012

### Scotland Island Community Hall

Meeting opened at 10 a.m.



Welcome and acknowledgements by Bill Gye, President: acknowledgement of traditional owners the Guringai people. Welcome Councillor Sue Young, Chris Hunt, Director, Urban and Environmental Assets and Les Munn, Manager, Reserves, Recreation and Building Services, Councillor Ian White, and Michael Wiener, President, WPCA.

**Apologies:** Mike Molloy, Tom and Madge Gibbs, Tanya Costin, Tracy and Paul Smith, David Hegarty, Deryn Vokins, George Gaal, Leanne McLean, John Rumbold, Robert Finkeldey, Nadine O'Mara, Jay Savage; Pittwater Council: Mark Ferguson, Mark Eriksson; Councillors: Bob Grace, Kay Millar, Julie Hegarty and Selena Griffiths

### Minutes

AGM 2012 tabled. Moved: "that the minutes be accepted" Graeme Crayford, seconded Ian Souter.

### President's Address:

- Bill Gye announced that he would not stand for election as President this year; happy to accept nomination for the Committee. Encouraged others to stand as it is a rewarding and connecting activity; stressed the need for communication and responding to community concerns.
- Thanked all those who had given their time to various projects throughout the year with including Gordon Floyd and Michael Jones who are no longer with us; Ian Souter for his ongoing involvement with the Church Point Plan of Management and Michael Wiener, President, WPCA; the NSW Government for their contribution towards the construction of the Commuter Wharf and Pittwater Council for steering the project; Alan Gaines and the team for ongoing liaison with Pittwater Council and the implementation of the Roads and Drainage Masterplan; all outgoing Committee members for their time and effort; Auditor George Gaal;
- Particular thanks to Councillor Ian White, who gives a lot of time to the community and Pittwater Council and their staff for a positive working relationship

### Update: Church Point Plan of Management

Chris Hunt reviewed the history of the Church Point project:

- Many designs for the parking arrangement opposite Commuter Wharf have been reviewed. The current design in the CPPOM was chosen because it met certain criteria. The final design will depend upon the results of the geo-tech survey and report; varying parking arrangement options and costs that the survey results show as realistic affordable options.
- A recent plan received and to be tabled at Church Point Design Group meeting December 3 for consideration; design includes parallel parking and may incorporate savings to sea wall construction; objective good; requires examination; angle parking may result in loss of spaces.
- Realignment of parking spaces above Holmeport; necessary to comply with safety regulations as cars were overhanging the road.

- New additional parking area will include safe access across the road to Commuter Wharf.
- If vacant properties adjacent to the Cemetery are sold, this could provide seed funding for sea wall and scenic walkway along foreshore of main carpark, around the Waterfront Store and beyond Holmeport Marina.
- Thanks to Bill Gye for his work and liaison with PWC over many years.

#### QUESTIONS ARISING:

Q: The purpose of the new design was to avoid the second-storey car park and reduce the sea wall and reduce costs to the community; understand issues raised by the Traffic Committee are easily changed; would like to work with the Committee to find a compromise; questions the sale of the two properties; could this become medium-density housing which could bring more cars to the area?

A: Chris Hunt: Acknowledged point; still a work in progress; development should be in keeping with surrounding buildings, which are residential.

Q: Commuter Wharf shallow area for small boats and 40 metres for short-term tie-ups; more logical to have short-time tie-up space on the inner small-boat space.

A: Chris Hunt: Acknowledged; idea was to have short-time tie-ups near the gantry.

Q: Short stay one-hour parking does not work; need at least 2 hours for shopping.

Q: Why do we need short-time tie-up at all? Before this there was enough space for everyone.

A: Les Munn: It was a condition of the grant from Waterways that there is some public space.

A: Chris Hunt: suggested that it could be at certain times, e.g. during the day only.

Q: What obligation do the businesses at CP have to provide their own parking?

A: Chris Hunt: Things are approved at development application stage.

Q: What if the business keeps growing? Does that attract examination of car parking needs?

A: Chris Hunt: Growing a business does not necessarily mean a new examination of car park needs.

Q: How many places would be lost if we used the new proposed plan?

A: Simple geometry; parallel and angle parking lose spaces relative to perpendicular parking.

A: Comment: New design only 17 places lost; additional spaces can be created elsewhere

A: Disagree: If additional spaces can be created any plan can include these spaces.

Q: Understand that any cost blow-outs related to parking would be borne by community; in major infrastructure projects, there is cap on costs that the community will be expected to bear; discuss shifting some of the risk to the private businesses?

A: Chris Hunt: Packaged in stages; allocated \$500,000 of community money, but in the handover we were able to increase to \$1.4 million; \$800,000 in kitty and at this stage we are not dipping into these funds; should be able to complete the first stage without using these funds.

Comment: Cost of Wharf close to the estimate, but the risk is still a question.

A: Chris Hunt: There will be detailed design projections to keep cost low. Decked car park at Holmeport previously suggested, but not interested at the time; they may reconsider.

Comment: Cannot afford to lose any spaces; incrementally we have lost about 100 over the years.

Chris Hunt: May be able to alter sea wall design.

Q: Agreed originally to pay \$290 fee for car park improvements; reverse has happened; over 600 permits sold. What management is there on number of permits issued and, if not, why not; will we end up with the same problem we have now, if we pay more?

A: Chris Hunt: Pressure will reduce when additional parking is developed.

Q: Do not understand the numbers; why sell double the number of available spaces?

A: Chris Hunt: There are different community needs, more than the capacity does work, but perhaps the actual numbers can be reviewed. Les Munn: if there was a limit, some people from Offshore would be prohibited from parking there; we can review the numbers.

Q: Recognises the limitations on allocation of funds, but why are the community being asked to pay for what should be a natural right? We need a cap and need to know what that will be.

A: Chris Hunt: It has been acknowledged that this project is largely for the benefit of Offshore residents; the car park is a Crown Reserve; this outcome is what we were able to achieve; trying to find funds from other sources, but ultimately it needs to be paid for; the parking is on public land.

Q: We are paying the same as others; bottom line, we accept we have to pay, but we need a cap.

A: Les Munn: We will consider the cap question.

Bill Gye thanked Chris Hunt and Les Munn for their attendance.

#### Updates:

1 **Councillor and SIRFB Fire Captain:** Ian White:

**Fire Brigade:** Critically short of members; about 8 active members and have 8 new members signed up. We are getting a Community Fire Guard box which will be placed near Bell Wharf which will have a pump, etc and possibly a defibrillator.

**Community First Responders:** Emergency calls: do not give lot number, only house number. Put house number on your property to help CFR locate house in the middle of the night without delay.

**Fire Danger:** The summer is forecast to be wet.

2 **Treasurer's Report:** Auditor's Statement 2011-2012 received, accounts approved; annual statement to be lodged; balance sheet equity \$30,845.53 which includes CV working funds; P & L records small loss -\$504.61 following movement of EW working funds to EW Provision held in Term Deposit currently \$76,427.89; CV funding increase \$12,500 p.a.; annual financial statement lodged with NSW Transport; Watermarks loan \$748.50 repaid with SIRA contribution to event \$1,348.00, plus Hall use; Tennis Users Group surplus \$206.47 includes SIRA contribution \$1,200.00 for visitor spaces; memberships received 2011-2012 \$6,570.00 inclusive GST; thanks to Deryn Vokins for accounts support and George Gaal, Auditor. Moved: "that the report be accepted"; Alan Gaines; seconded Ian Souter. Report accepted. New POD planned 2013.

3 **Roads and Drainage:** Team Leader goal to talk less and do more; pleased to say there is progress; PWC have a list of works; sections of road completed with dish drains. Meeting next month with PWC to discuss work over the next two years; road survey complete for Sector 1. Bill Gye: thanks to Alan for his work and steady guiding hand. Ian White: funding from the Special Rate Variation Levy; by end of next cycle \$200,000 spent on works on the Island; 4 or 5 times more expensive to construct a road on Island; losing 80 cubic metres of road per annum and not acceptable.

4 **Communications:** As an outcome of implementing the SIRAC Communication Strategy, a Scotland Island Resident's facebook page was established; two Community Forums held this year; would like to see more residents attend forums to talk about unique Island issues. SIRAC is there to take notes and follow up on issues. Welcome anyone who has any other ideas about how to promote

community discussion. SIRAC and WPCA participated in Community Engagement workshop to develop vision for Pittwater into the future. Mayor Jacqueline Townsend initiated process. EC: Sydney 2020 also discusses broad vision and available PWC website.

- 5 **Parks and Reserves:** Regular Island Bushcare Groups; people encouraged to join. Elizabeth Park (first Sunday of month); Catherine Park (second Sunday of month); Pathilda (third Saturday of month); Leahvera Reserve: letter sent to PWC about appalling state of reserve;
- 6 **Water and Wastewater:** Check tanks; do not ring up at the last minute; inundated with residents running out of water; never been this hectic; complying standpipe connection required as posted in the PON; 25% of tank must always be for fire-fighting. Required to join SIRA to purchase water on legal advice for liability issues. Sydney Water will not connect sewerage without resolution of water supply; has agreed to contribute \$4,000 per property for water connection; insufficient to provide required infrastructure; need to lobby for additional funding; letters sent to State Government; Meeting with Sydney Water to be held; report will be issued and community opinion sought; Chris Hunt: Sydney Water may reduce water pressure which will have an effect on the supply to Island.
- 7 **Website:** In 2012 website updated and checked for accuracy; thanks to Karen Warburton and Dan Humphries. Since launch in 2011, 16,925 visits to the site; last 30 days 808 unique visitors. Upcoming events on the home page; if anyone has anything they want to include, click Contact Us at the bottom of the website.
- 8 **Community Hall / Island Café:** Reverse cycle air conditioning installed in Hall; PWC considering a new kitchen. Thanks to Kerry Borthwick for managing bookings and Hall Committee, Kerry Borthwick, Sue Dickson and Gordon Floyd
- 9 **Wharves, Boats & Marine Issues:** Cargo commuter pontoon to be installed generously funded by PWC; neighbour objected and filed legal injunction. Aim to get all boats off the beach and return area to recreational purposes; number of users reduced from 26 to 18 due to objection.
- 10 **Tennis Community Pontoon (TUG):** 40 members; plus 3 temporary for Cargo. Recent damage repaired by John Travers.
- 11 **Community Vehicle:** Additional funding received; increase to vehicle operation hours; new drivers and team of back-up drivers. Cargo Wharf no turning room at the bottom due to parked vehicles.
- 12 **Recycling:** Meeting to be held with PWC to review waste services.
- 13 **SIRA Office Bearers and Committee Election 2013:**  
Councillor Sue Young officiated: having attended many community meetings SIRA is a great example of good communication; wishes others had the same level of communication.
  - **Office Bearers:**
    - President:** Judy Readman; nominated Bill Gye; seconded Alan Gaines, accepted.  
No other nominations
    - Vice-Presidents (two):**
      - Betsi Beem; nominated Sharon Kinnison, seconded Penny Wise; accepted.
      - Bill Gye; nominated Judy Readman, seconded Graeme Crayford; accepted.
      - Graeme Crayford; nominated Dick Hughes, seconded Sue Dickson; accepted. WITHDREW
    - Secretary:** Carol Floyd; nominated Graeme Crayford; seconded JR; accepted
    - Treasurer:** Cass Gye; nominated by JR seconded Marjolyn Batt; accepted
  - **Ordinary Committee Members:** nominations accepted
    1. Sue Dickson; nominated Graeme Crayford; seconded Judy Readman
    2. Tim Turpin; nominated Robyn Iredale; seconded Shar Jones
    3. Alan Gaines; nominated Marjolyn Batt; seconded Betsi Beem

4. Emmie Collins: nominated Betsi Beem; seconded Bill Gye
5. Ruth Gaines: nominated Marjolyn Batt; seconded Judy Readman
6. Graeme Crayford: nominated Jon Maxim; seconded Cass Gye
7. Jon Maxim: nominated Graeme Crayford; seconded Bill Gye
8. Debbie Cordukes: nominated Robyn Iredale; seconded Cass Gye
9. Ian Souter: nominated Cass Gye; seconded Judy Readman. Absentee acceptance tabled
10. Paul Kinnison: nominated Colin Haskell; seconded Judy Readman DECLINED
11. Shona Forsyth: nominated Emmie Collins; seconded Jenny Cullen. Absentee acceptance tabled
12. June Lahm: nominated Col Batt; seconded Marjolyn Batt
13. Colin Haskell: nominated Sharon Kinnison; seconded Cass Gye
14. Sharon Kinnison: nominated Jenny Cullen; seconded Betsi Beem
15. Jenny Cullen: nominated Paul Kinnison, seconded Juliet Holmes à Court
16. Dick Hughes: nominated Cass Gye; DECLINED
17. Bill Stanley: nominated Cass Gye; DECLINED
18. Jon Duhig: nominated Emmie Collins; seconded Jenny Cullen. Absentee acceptance tabled

**Ballot Held:**

Maximum number of Ordinary Committee Members is nine; all nominees introduced themselves and presented their interest in being on the Committee; nominees listed numerically and projected on screen. Attendees voted by private paper ballot. Carol Floyd and Councillor Sue Young counted and recorded votes after the meeting; Bill Gye gave final check.

**Elected Ordinary Committee Members:**

The results of the ballot: Alan Gaines; Colin Haskell; Debbie Cordukes; Graeme Crayford; Ian Souter; Jon Maxim; June Lahm; Ruth Gaines; Sue Dickson; Tim Turpin

**Other Business:**

- **Governance:** BB: proposed that the meeting discuss the issue of governance; it was decided to bring this to the next SIRAC meeting in December **Motion:** “that the newly elected SIRA Committee and interested residents examine Governance issues with a recommendation to be presented for discussion at a Community Forum” Moved BB; seconded JR
- **Lucky Door Prize Draw:** one Annual Church Point Parking Permit; Winner: Lisa James

Meeting closed at 12:20; all invited to sausage sizzle in Catherine Park