

# **Western Adelaide Coastal Residents' Association Inc**

## **Minutes 27 July 2016**

**Attendance 25 - Apologies:** Elizabeth Preston, Paul Caica, David Schofield, Erica Jolley, Greg Cashel, Richard Smith, Marg Eason, Paul Laris.

**Minutes from previous meeting** - some written changes moved Pedro Schultz sec Julie Whitehead  
- Carried

### **Treasurer's Report**

Theo reported that our current Balance in our working account is \$3090 - we have paid our Environmental Defenders' Office membership and Conservation Council membership. Our books have been audited and the document will be put on our website. The report was circulated at the meeting. Moved Alan Goldsmith sec Anna Shepherd - Carried

### **Agenda Items**

We have 2 issue - the beach and the coastline and, the pathway and the dunes.

**Coast park** - the proposed 4.7 km path between Grange and West Lakes Shore.

We have produced a paper stating our position on the path - breaking it into 4 cells and creating a natural pathway - and sent it to all groups involved. The council has however come up with its own plan to put a concrete pathway through the swale on the west side (we believe) and sent their plan to the government. They are not prepared to conciliate on this. The Wedge Group is considering legal action because of a 'denial of natural justice' and the Tennyson dunes group is under a lot of pressure not to enter any agreement with us or anyone. Tennyson dunes is managed by the State, not the Council and while the Tennyson Dunes group has listened to us and will probably want a Discovery pathway. We have a meeting scheduled with the Council and are waiting to hear what they have to say. Science should over-ride everything - Rae - How can a few residents have such a say over such an important issue? Pedro thought that the path will put the dunes at risk with future storms and that the residents would lose. Theo said Jim and everyone had done almost as much as they could do for the Coast path.

### **Sand replenishment and West Beach**

We need an expert opinion on the whole-of-coast and its management. One of the options being considered is a parallel breakwater but the Coastal Protection Board is refusing to look at other options. THE CPB put breakwaters at Pt Malcolm to catch the sand in order to pump it south, unfortunately the Pipeline is not working and so they are using trucks to shift the sand - it costs \$35/ cubic metre and the CPB has shifted 30,000 cubic meters!

Dr Ian Dyson has proposed using off-shore strategically angled underwater groynes to prevent pocket beaches. The problem with West Beach is that the coast north of the boat harbour is being eroded and is starved of sand and the wind hits West Beach directly and hence there is no reduction in the wave power - there is no natural buffer. Murray Townsend from the CPB and Ian Dyson were interviewed on the radio and held markedly different views with Townsend seemingly thinking that everything was okay. The CPB is refusing to consider the groynes but this may change after the recent articles in the Sunday Mail and the Messenger press.

The situation is serious as Adelaide Shores provides 10% of Adelaide's tourism and relies heavily on West Beach which is now no longer a family beach - it is too dangerous, rocky bottom and unsafe water being spewed out through Barcoo Outlet etc- and visitors are having to go to Henley Beach instead. The sand at West Beach is like talcum powder.

We recommend an independent report that was commissioned by the Charles Sturt Council in 1998-1999 by Douglas Lorde from Manly Hydraulics who predicted all that happened when they built Holdfast Shores and the Boat Harbour. Rob Tucker from the CPD agreed at the time that it would happen but that it could be resolved with enough money(!) while Doug said the whole scheme was crazy and shouldn't happen! We want the Council to ask for another expert report rather than relying on the CPD's Living beaches strategy which is supposed to work til 2025.

We need more letters to the Messenger to ask about Ian Dyson's proposal. We should also email the councillors and Minister Ian Hunter.

### **Torrens River**

A letter from the Minister said negotiations with the Lockley's Riding Club will be drawn out to the end of 2017. The LRC is not cooperating and SA Water wants the horses being agisted at Adelaide rates but the Club is stonewalling - we really would love to see the final section of the Torrens as a wetland. Maybe microchip the horses?

### **Henley police station**

The new Minister has written to us and said 100 officers will be housed there between 9-5PM Monday to Friday. We have written to the commissioner about our concerns. Theo wanted a plan of the building but has not been able to get it - is there enough car parks. Heather said there needs to be a bigger window for people to contact the police about domestic violence etc - perhaps open to 7PM at night. There has been a massive increase in patrons at night at all the places around Henley Square.

### **Significant Trees**

There is considerable concern about a plan by Council to remove a big Morton Bay Fig tree from Somerset Reserve. The staff on the Asset Management Committee recommended that they keep most trees in the Reserve but believe this one should go. Local resident Kate spoke in defence of the tree and she wants Wacra to help. We would prefer the Council to give a 12 month moratorium to allow for the pruning etc.

Jim, Kate and Paul Laris have produced a general-purpose flyer asking residents if they are aware that a significant may be removed - contact details for the council are included. We want to explain why we believe most trees should be retained. The Council has a letter telling residents that the tree will be removed but Kate believes it is very neutral - our flyer would promote a more positive support for trees.

### **Antunes Development**

Over 82000 litres of groundwater is being spewed out onto the beach each day from the Antunes development. An enormous amount of water has been lost - in over 5 years, the amount is a 14 level building the size of Henley Square! We are concerned about possible subsidence and the property itself. We are trying to have another meeting with Mike Fuller from SA Water. There are currently 7 apartments available. There are confidential negotiations taking place between the Developer, the Corporate body, Council and SA Water. Chris Sumner is the independent conciliator

and they have met a few times. We have updated Mark Parnell with the latest developments and have had discussion with the EDO to see if WACRA could file an application to the ERD Court but risks are involved. A conciliation conference is possible but we need additional planning advice, however if there is no luck with the Mediation process, SA Water may take the Developer to court.

### **Telecommunications tower**

Wacra put in a statement of objections and Telstra has asked for a deferment - no date set for the Development Assessment Panel. Heather Flannigan said that Telstra had rejected an offer by the Henley Life Saving Club and is looking at Henley Oval. Linda Lacey from the Council has to be consulted over the heritage and historic conservation zone. If it looks like something happening we will gather the troops!

### **Any Other Business**

JetSkis - we have written to the Council reminding of the need to renew the regulation and they have responded tersely so we are planning to write to the Minister about jet skis. Some problems with the staff of the Water Transport Dept.

Meeting closed 9:15