

Western Adelaide Coastal Residents' Association Inc

Minutes of the **General Meeting** held on 31st July 2019 at the Henley Town Hall

Paul Laris welcomed everyone to the Meeting and acknowledged that we are on Kurna land and respected the indigenous people's heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land.

Attendance: 24 **Apologies:** Nancy Fahey, Lionel Edwards, Kelvin and Heather Brown, Peter Shaughnessy, Marilyn Bruhn, Tina Koch, Rob Whitehead, Helen Manning, Richard Smith and Rina Cohen

Minutes of previous Meeting passed - Moved Theo Ellenbroek, Sec Chrissy Schultz

Treasurer's Report - Anne Wheaton

Interest 90 cents - we auspiced for Care Radio - money has been dispersed and reimbursed we also gave \$341.18 to Tina Koch for expenses incurred with the History Project.

Our current total funds is \$5,636.52 Report accepted - moved Anne Seconded Theo

President's Report - Paul Laris

Thanks to Bert Brown for chairing the previous meeting.

Coastal Sand Management - no response yet from Simon Birmingham but the request to meet up with him sent only recently.

Dredging of Port River and Outer Harbour - it is being monitored

Meeting with Matt Cowdrey, our local state Member - Bert, Anne & Paul

Paul wrote to Minister Knoll expressing our concerns about the proposed **privatisation of trams and trains** but received the reply that it was not privatisation but 'outsourcing'. No assets sold just outsourcing management. Hmm.

Torrens River governance Review

We have also sent in to the Civic Trust a nomination for the **Brickbat Award** (awful designs) for the Telstra Tower on East Tce. No acknowledgement yet.

WACRA Exec will have a planning session in September to work out our priorities - we may be spread too thin.

Coastal Sand Management - Jim Douglas

West Beach is a disaster and Henley South bad. West Beach has lost 3m of sand from its beach (about 2km in length). Such has been the agitation about the beaches from Wacra, Save West Beach Sands and Surf Life Saving SA that \$48.4M has been provided in the State Budget to replenish the sands over a period of 4 years - added to Local Govt and their Waste Disposal costs. Over 500,000 cubic Metres of sand will be mined from the beaches between Semaphore and Largs Bay Jetties but locals there are concerned that the removal of such huge quantities of sand, 10 metres from the existing dune and reducing the height substantially, will cause irreparable erosion there, especially coupled with sea level rise.

Various dune care groups (Largs-Semaphore Dunes Group and North Havens Dune Group) had been setup and operating before the announcement had been made and they had done considerable planting of vegetation. Last week a meeting was held at the Port Environment Centre in Mundy Street Port Adelaide for a 2 hour session Q&A session - the Govt (Coastal Protection Board) met with the 10 groups to explain what was happening.

Sand naturally moves from South to North but is impeded by obstacles like the boat harbour. Much of the sand is dumped at Semaphore and needs to be trucked back to West Beach. The trucking is simply an

engineering solution not a scientific one. We think it is all a futile process since there will be nothing to retain the sand once it has been deposited on West Beach - a short-term fix so the trucking will go on forever.

The trucking of sand from Semaphore will take place between October and December and then re-commence in February 2020 and continue for 4 years - an access road will need to be built on the beach at Semaphore for trucks to access the sand. A pipeline is planned to carry sand from Largs Bay to West Beach and it will cost \$28M and will be built in 2021-22.

Jim thinks that it is a battle for the Port groups such as the Port Adelaide Resident Environment Group etc, but most people down there do not know anything about the trucking yet. We need to help spread the news about this through our Facebook page.

The source of the sand is also problematic and Dr Murray Townsend from the CPB suggested that some could come from Port Stanvac but 600,000 cubic metres of sand was mined from there in the 1990s. The Mobil Refinery took sand out to the middle of the Gulf and dumped it there which caused an enormous amount of damage. No-one seems to know how much sand really is at Port Stanvac but our sources suggest it is very limited.

There are also big doubts about the proposed pipeline - it requires massive pumps to push a slurry of sand and where would the pipeline be located? Dr Dyson's solution of building groynes would be 'unsightly'!!! but would stop the longitudinal drift. Pocket beaching is a potential problem.

Dredging of Port River

Turbidity has been a great concern - we have been watching the website and the various monitoring stations. The dredging regime had been altered a few weeks ago - it stopped for awhile - but now on schedule to complete it all by the end of September. Pedro reported that he needed to find what the EPA thought - and of course, land-base dumping would have been the preferred option.

Breakout Creek

The Federal Minister Susan Ley on the 10th July - just before the election - promised \$2M towards completing the Wetlands from Tapleys Hill Rd to the Outlet. We used to be considered a Stakeholder for the River Torrens but only found out about the announcement through the news. What concept plan is being used? The State Govt will tip in another \$2M but it requires \$10-12M - most of which will need to come from Councils. Matt Cowdrey thinks the work could start straight away. The horses may stay on the River but will be moved to stable areas at Apex Park.

Groundwater from H2O Baju - This has been going on for 8 years but the end may be in sight with plans to put in a re-circulating system and soakage trenches. The Developer, Antunes, Council, Dept of Transport etc have reached an agreement about 7 weeks ago. The plan is to capture the groundwater that is currently being dumped on the beach and pump it back into the aquifer and let it drain to the beach naturally. There will be seepage tanks placed along the westside of the building under the paving on Seaview Rd. Some parking spaces will go. The Council thinks it will take a week and will all be done by the end of September.

Anti-social behaviour in Henley Square - Anne Wheaton

With more than 21 licensees just located at or near Henley Square there is about 3,000 potential patrons able to consume alcohol there but there is no management plan to cater for any situations that might arise. Matt Cowdrey had checked if other Councils had management plans for these sort of situations and has confirmed there wasn't.

Adam Phillipy from the Council has grouped all the concerns associated with the Square on a spreadsheet and highlighted who has responsibility for them in Council and SAPOL etc. Anne went through some of the concerns such as:

Public Health and Safety such as smokers which may be fixed simply by signs. Footpath dining may be being abused. And still no fence to prevent children in the water feature running on the road. On-beach dry zone would be the shoreline?

Concern about pedestrian crossing - too slow and Zebra crossing too close to the car park exit. Car parking still a problem. Delivery area and bus layoff area still awkward.

Shade in Henley Square - Kenzie

A few constraints - traders do not want umbrellas but maybe use existing poles - some stunning shades were shown to the meeting - costing around \$100,000!! in a couple of summers. Kenzie would welcome any suggestions.

Ageing well strategic Plan Consultation - a dept of Ageing Well has been setup in the Dept of Heath - Tina Koch went to one of their workshops so we put in a submission which did not follow their format - we believe that it is not just about the health services but rather a combination of factors such as: housing, transport and things over an entire lifespan - we sent it to SA Council Of The Ageing etc It should go up on our website - 3 pages.

Planning & Heritage Review - Theo

Theo reported about the Community Alliance, a group of Residents' Associations, and its concerns about the current Review by the State Govt of the State Planning Laws and Heritage and Conservation Zones. The Govt is taking over the planning role from Councils and intends to create a Heritage overlay which means, much to the dismay of the Community Alliance, the Local Govt Associations and the National Trust, that many individual items (contributory items) which currently are protected may not be so in the future. Contributory items such as a building or park etc are those things that go to make an area special - an Historic Conservation Zone. Buildings in Historic Conservation Zones however can now be demolished without reference to the Council (or if the Council disagrees, it can be over-ruled by the Planning Commission) and replaced by 'acceptable buildings'. Some buildings in East Tce have been replaced already. The City of Charles Sturt has 7,600 items listed under the Heritage Conservation Zone. Theo has maps of where they are in the Grange/Henley area.

The Planning Commission is working on a 'Peoples & Neighbourhoods' Paper which was supposed to come out early this year but it has been delayed and delayed as lots of Councils and residents are unhappy with it. The 'Planning and Design Code' is also promised by the end of the year.

The Norwood/St Peter's Council has written a report highlighting many concerns about what is being proposed and essentially asked that there be a **moratorium** on any changes to the Act to allow the Local Govts and community time to scrutinise what is being proposed first. The LGA is also not very happy with it and has written its own report.

Paul has written to the Charles Sturt Council expressing our alarm that we may be about to lose some of our heritage but the response was that the Council does not yet know the final details of the proposed changes but that it all seems to be aligned very much with what now happens and things like demolitions etc 'would be assessed against performance-based criteria' - whatever that means. Not all Contributory Items are necessarily in an Historic Conservation Zone and so have no protection - possibly even less than those there already.

Jim Douglas suggested that we advise Council that we are very concerned and Paul paraphrased Jim's idea that we **"Write to Council, requesting that they follow the LGA report and the Norwood/St Peter's Paper, acknowledge that the Council has done well in recognising contributory items but there is a need for a moratorium due to the unseemly haste that the process is going through and which threatens to lock Councils and the Community out of any consultation about what the Design Code should look like."**

Drains at Melts

This has been on the nose of many residents for months but the Council has inspected it and assures us that the water going onto the street is from the storm water, not waste water from the kitchen. The storm water is stored in a sump and released slowly. Continued inspections. Leadwell has advised that a new system has been approved by SA Water to take advantage of the stormwater system and Council will approve when they receive it..

Marine Discovery Centre Deb Cashel has met with the new management and Wacra can use it for any meeting or an Open Day for the Community. We can probably use it for our Planning day. Theo suggested that there is great potential for the Centre and Jim reported that they have now employed a Marketing Officer.

Torrens Governance Workshop - Bert Brown

Paul and Bert attended this and learnt there was a review in progress of all the organisations involved in managing the river - there was general buck-passing as to who was responsible for what - A new Management structure is being discussed. There are 3 different models of management - the first Model is a collaborative round-table, 5 individuals and Kaurua participation and report to the Minister. The second Model is all the positions appointed by the Minister and the third Model - partnerships without central control but persons can be selected by lot - like the Uranium Waste Disposal. The State Govt needs to give it teeth and work out how it is paid for. More meetings are planned but interest may wane now that the millions promised by the Feds has been earmarked for Breakout Creek. It may be a cunning plan by the State Govt to shift the expense to the Local Govt. There are many interests involved including farmers and the various NRM boards.

Any Other Business

There is considerable concern about the rollout of the 5G network and its health implications. Cathy Crotti and Barbara Stott gave an impassioned presentation about the dangers of radiation from the new 5G towers which is used for the Internet of Things and claimed that many countries had stopped the rollout until it had been proven safe. A website called rfnsa.com.au will show you the radiation being emitted from various phone towers. All those located in the 5022 area are only 3G - 4G. The website explains what 5G is and any health implications. There will be many small 5G installations and currently 58 in Adelaide already. Referred to the Exec. Paul to do a literacy search.

Defibrillation Report - Rick Whiteman

We are celebrating the first anniversary of the installation in Henley Square - now we need to get them down at Grange etc.

Meeting Closed at 9:40pm