



GM minutes 2 December 2021

Welcome and apologies

Apologies: Greg Cashel, Pauline Crosby, Marg Easson, Lionel Edwards, Heather Flanagan, John Flanagan, Don Howie, Iris Iwanicki, Erica Jolly, Rob Loielo, Helen Manning, Tom Matthews, Pedro and Chrissy Schultz, Geoff Short, Kathryn Smith, Richard Smith, Angela Vaughan, Anne Wheaton

Acceptance of minutes

AGM and GM minutes 30 September 2021 <http://wacra.org.au/news-events/meetings/>

Moved: Sandy Ball

Seconded: Paul Acfield

Carried

Treasurer's report

Financial report (see <http://wacra.org.au/news-events/meetings/>)

Discussion about the film night fundraiser, future fund raising, term deposit and management of the My Tree Project sponsorship (SA Water)

Moved: Deb Cashel

Seconded: Sandy Ball

Carried

General business items

CLIMATE EMERGENCY

Julie Whitehead reporting

My Tree Project

SA Water sponsorship (\$2000) + \$500 donation = \$2500

Steve Fuller and Deirdre Knight are running propagation workshops in 3 primary schools, years 4/5 – West Beach and Kilkenny in 2021 and Grange Primary Schools in 2022 (TBC).

A forum was held with presenters from organisations and school students and teachers.

Seeds will be nurtured throughout the Xmas period by Steve and Deirdre.

Art workshops will be held in early 2022, run by Lara Lamnek. The launch of the artworks (Civic Centre) will be held mid-year 2022. There will also be a film of the project.

Tree planting of the seedlings will occur in mid-2022.

St Michael's College will join in – there is also likely to be take-up by other schools (a lot of interest).

Tree shading Henley Square

Bert Brown reporting

Lack of trees in Henley Square – council is seeking input. Submissions were open to all. WACRA put in a submission that supported Norfolk Island pines on the western side and coastal banksia integrifolia (fast growing) on the eastern edge of the lawn, plus growing low hedges to prevent sand drift. The pines will be removed from Point Malcolm, where they were planted in clusters to be used for replacement and establishment purposes, to be replanted in the square. Addition of benches proposed on eastern side. Temporary umbrellas will need better management if used.

Q: Council has already proposed umbrellas and they will be bigger and more solid?

A: Yes

Q: So the Point Malcolm pine trees can be transplanted easily?

A: They were planted as a reserve and botanical advice says they can be replanted.

Q: Concept plans for car park to the north of Henley Square – this showed trees, but it hasn't happened. Why not?

A: When HS was redeveloped a community reference group was set up to look at the concepts, which included shade trees in the car park. The community wanted more trees and more natural shading but the traders were opposed.

ACTION: A WACRA member on the committee will raise it.

Q: Wouldn't Norfolk Island pines be good in the car park?

A: We've undertaken to have a look at it (reference group and WACRA)

Q: We can put into council re planting street trees – a great idea. It's great to have a change of foliage. What is the rationale of council around street trees?

A: Mark Hannan is the person to speak to. There is also this information about (street) trees:

<https://www.charlessturt.sa.gov.au/services/home-and-property/trees>

COASTAL MANAGEMENT

Semaphore/West Beach sand replenishment project

Jim Douglas reporting

The plan is to mass fill West Beach and lay a pipeline between Semaphore and West Beach, WACRA's position: We supported a mass fill at West Beach and a pipeline with better considered research. Our position has been slightly different from other groups. We wanted to look at the whole of the coastline – with an environmental impact statement to ensure the science was fully considered.

Minister Speirs did not negotiate this. WACRA continued to be part of the reference group and hoped to have input along the way.

An independent report was conducted by an international company. Danish Hydraulics Institute was engaged to make recommendations of future management. They recommended a mass sand fill from external sources of 500,000 cubic metres in addition to a sand shifting pipeline from Semaphore North to West Beach. They also strongly recommended an Environmental Impact Study (EIS) of the coast to measure environmental, social and impacts as part of a total management approach.

Unfortunately, the government would not support the recommendation for an EIS. WACRA have not shifted from our initial request and believe that the issue would have been resolved if this had occurred.

This year there was an inquiry into the Coast Protection Board who have now made some suggested concessions but overall we have had to work with the department over a non-negotiable issue – that the pipeline will happen. The sand has been trucked up until now. It's a costly process.

WACRA has been in a difficult position as there are many stakeholders (West Beach to Semaphore). They now want to extract larger volumes of sand from Grange beach. WACRA questions: Have they really done the research?

The pipeline will go from Bower Road but they need sand that is further north than this (Largs, Outer Harbor). What are the environmental impacts on the dunes? Plus Henley Square where a pipeline is proposed to go underground?

WACRA has concerns but it's all happening – by early next year they will start to progress the pipeline.

There is a development application (DA) that is out for public comment plus 4-5 information sessions to inform people. The information is not always consistent. The department is calling for submissions which will be given consideration by each department that is involved. Their reports will go back to State Commission Assessment Panel (SCAP) and the minister.

With a state election coming up, it's complicated.

Robyn Ravalico reporting (representing residents in Terminus Street, Grange):

Grange Surf Life Saving Club information night – different from what she had imagined. They are going to be building a pipeline where they dig up a trench that is 30ms wide by 1.5ms deep for 10 kms. This could interfere with the root system of the Norfolk Island Pines in Henley Square. There will be a sand collection area at the bottom of Terminus Street – Grange Jetty to Fort Street. There will be 5 pump stations along the way. They are described as 'whisper quiet' – but this is unlikely to be the case. 75,000 cubic metres is a lot of sand and they will have to dig down 2ms. Yes there is a build-up of sand near the jetty but on the beach it isn't building up – it's being scoured by storm surges. There will be interference with nests of local birds. It's a plastic pipe that will run slurry through. It's abrasive to the internal workings of a pipe – microplastic particles will be deposited at West Beach. There is no environmental impact statement – no hard evidence to back up their statements. This is a serious dramatic change to our coastal and marine environments (eg turbidity). No cost-benefit analysis. Other alternatives have not been considered. 25-50 year program, environmentally reckless.

Noise level an issue (machinery on the beach). Big impact on people going to beach. Modelling used is a pipeline going from Glenelg to Brighton and one from Glenelg to West Beach. It only worked once (it blocked up). Their modelling is wrong. No account of storm surges, sea level rise etc. Poorly thought through.

ACTION: We can stop it. Submission by 6 December. Write to Susan Close, Stephen Mullighan, Matt Cowdrey etc to make them think deeper and harder.

ACTION: Robyn will send us the new submission that she's written and a form we can also fill out (taking names at the meeting), as well as asking us to support a petition.

ACTION: Add name to sheet that's been compiled to express concern.

Q: Re the briefing at the life saving club, did they say they were going to take 2ms off the surface?

A: No, but if you do the sums it's obvious.

Jim Douglas reporting (on behalf of WACRA)

There are some conflicts with the coastal reference group information.

An issue further north (Tennyson) is Moredun Street.

Q: Where is the department in relation to this situation? What is the process of putting in a submission and where does it go? How will the department deal with the disquiet in the community?

A: We have been told that a meeting has been set for Wed 8 December for Terminus Street group. There is also one for Moredun Street Mon 6 December. They want to know what the major concerns are with the 2 pumping stations.

The overarching impression is that it's a 'done deal'. How can they slow down the sand from drifting north – why not look at this? WACRA supported a series of temporary sand bag groynes as a trial. But they wouldn't listen. The DA design is 60-70% fixed and 30-40% is open to negotiation. Modification (from WACRA's point of view) is modification only. It will take the community to negotiate any changes to the 30-40%.

Robyn – we have a chance of stopping it because there is an election coming up. The microplastic particles are a huge thing in this debate. People will want to get behind it.

The issue for WACRA is where to go from here? How do we support the whole community that we represent? There are so many differing views and new information is just being presented.

Semaphore to West Beach Sand Recycling Pipeline

WACRA COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION to GENERAL MEETING 2/12/21

3 resolutions – to be voted on by members of WACRA.

Motion 1

We call on the Acting Planning Minister Josh Teague and the State Commission Assessment Panel (SCAP) to extend the closing date for submissions to the Semaphore to West Beach Sand Recycling Pipeline Development Application to 31st January 2022 to allow the Community sufficient time to gain a better understanding of the plan and its implications.

Moved: Julie Whitehead

Seconded: Becky Llewellyn

Carried

Motion 2

We make a request to the City of Charles Sturt to meet with Mayor Evans, CEO Paul Sutton and their Coastal Engineer to discuss the Council submission and to advise them of Community concerns.

Moved: Paul Acfield

Seconded: Sandy Schultheis

Carried

Motion 3

We request a meeting with CEO Craig Wilkins SA Conservation Council to discuss supporting an extension of time for submissions in addition to forming a consolidated submission response.

Moved: Becky Llewellyn

Seconded: Sandy Schultheis

Carried

Statement from meeting

How about a campaign to put placards on Esplanade houses?

We need to make sure we've got something we can actually live with, because it may not be very negotiable. We need confirmation on representative supports (political parties etc).

The media need to be involved to inform everyone. An extension may achieve this. Ill information and poor consulting the problem. What we are dealing with is very typical from governments to announce and then defend their position.

Linear Park Shared Coastal Pathway – Grange/Tennyson concept plan

Jim Douglas reporting

Between Terminus Street and Third Street is the area of concern – Tennyson Dunes Conservation Reserve sits in between this area. The sections south and north of the conservation reserve are defined as stages 1 and 2.

Bournemouth Street to Terminus Street (Section 2) – this area will be controversial due to residents' differing opinions. The 2nd stage has its ups and downs due to legal aspects. Some concerns have been addressed by where the pipeline is located (in the swale of the dunes).

Q: There is a consultation process about the pathway at the moment. A concern is that it's not actually on the coast as it goes into backstreets. Why can't the path go through the properties that are encroaching onto coastal areas?

Q: The Linear Park Act has a couple of clauses that could be used by the government to acquire land in the area mentioned. Worth following up on?

A: That land referred to south of Bournemouth Street was bought from the Woodville Council. The land in front is owned by the state. The lands titles say that it is not managed by or owned by the landowners. We think we need to look at this closely. Could a boardwalk be a possibility in this area? This is part of the negotiation process WACRA is looking at.

Torrens River Breakout Creek Wetland

Bert Brown reporting

This is going ahead. The work will commence in the spring of 2021. No signs of action yet. It will be time soon to knock on Matt Cowdrey's door.

COUNCIL CONNECT AND ADMINISTRATION

Henley Antunes drain onto beach

Paul Laris reporting

One lane is closed off at the moment on Seaview Road – this is engineering works to prevent water being pumped out onto the beach. It will take 3-4 weeks (completed by xmas). Antunes (Bayspring) will be sent the bill for this work. Bayspring is going to the ERD Court for a hearing in 2 weeks' time. The department will be seeking costs and damages from his company. This will end the water being pumped onto the beach. Instead, it will recirculate.

Well done, Paul Laris! Well done, WACRA!

Telstra tower (Grange)

Opportunity to have your say. Council meeting 13 December (7pm) where full council will make a final determination on the position of the Telstra tower. There is now a proposal to put it on the Grange recreational space. WACRA made a submission to support it being located on the Grange Reserve. It's not possible to stop a tower being built, but the Grange residents have forced Telstra to find another location (not the Bowling Club). But a large group of people are saying the oval is a good place, a smaller group says no towers anywhere. We support it being 100+ ms from the nearest home inside the reserve and shielded by the existing tree line.

People who have made a submission can make a presentation to council 13 December.

Community hub

Becky Llewellyn reporting

Henley Beach Library community hub. Recent consultation meeting 23 November.

The people using the Community Centre will relocate to where the library currently is. JPE consultants are really listening to the community. There was wonderful representation at the meeting – a genuine consultation. It's a very exciting project. This centre will be sold to pay for this project. What is needed is a community space.

The council did an asset audit and identified 3 buildings 'excess to use' that could be sold to add up to \$7.5m. One of these buildings is the 'white house' – there is contention around the sale of this house (cnr of North Street and Military Road).

The RSL has money to improve their resource – the Cheer Up Hut will be demolished. An extension on the western end will provide more entertainment space.

The Historical Society needs a space – where do they get placed?

The question was, how can everyone be a part of this project and be included?

The mayor and 4 councillors were at the meeting.

What will happen to the existing community centre on Military Road? It has been suggested that council develop it for socially appropriate housing.

Administration

WACRA History Book ('Listen to the people') grant application and progress: the book is almost ready to launch and we now have a grant from the History Trust of SA to print 100 copies. It will also be an ebook for download on the WACRA website. We might be able to lock into Writers Week (Festival of Arts 2022). Members will be updated and advised.

Any other business

Q: Who would we contact about getting the lights sequence at the Henley Square shortened (for pedestrians)?

A: It's the DPTI – crossing time is 38 seconds. But there will be a change in that crossing as part of the Main Street upgrade. There are lots of issues that WACRA has raised with the department and also Labor/Liberal reps. It is on the drawing board to reduce the width and timeline.

How do we get a level of police control over this? A witness needs to put their name to details about offenders (eg motorbikes). Not many would be willing to do this.

It's a very dangerous situation. Main Street will make it more dangerous.

Q: What influence does Greg Mackie have on getting Ayers House and getting the National Trust out? There is a lot of National Trust property there. What will happen to it?

A: To discuss after the meeting.

Next meeting: Thursday 3 March 7- 9.30pm

<http://wacra.org.au/news-events/meetings/>

Meeting closed 9.01 pm