

BAWLEY POINT/KIOLOA PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

GENERAL MEETING –MINUTES

Held at Kioloa Community Hall on 19 September 2011

The meeting was opened by Jane Harris, Committee Member, at 7.30pm.

Committee Members

Toni Sims	Vice President
Nina Rogan	Secretary
Claire Stephenson	Treasurer
Jane Harris	Committee member
Graham Lester	Committee member

**1. Apologies
(Committee members)** Mariah Beckett
Cettina Borg-Musin

Apologies (members of the public) Councillor Robert Miller, Marg Hamon, Maggie Mance, Malcolm Salmon, Bill Powell, Rae & Ian Riley, Garth & Meg Nicholson, Kimberley Coombes, Graham Sims, Margaret Lester, Cecilia Spence.

Present (members of the public) There was an attendance of 33 local residents and ratepayers (including Committee Members)

2. Minutes from General Meeting of 20 June 2011

Motion: That the Minutes be accepted.

Moved: Toni Sims

Seconded: Peter White

3. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer read through the April Report for the meeting.

(See Attachment B)

Motion: That the Report be accepted.

Moved: Toni Sims

Seconded: Graham Lester

4. Correspondence

Correspondence in and Correspondence out

(See Attachment A)

The general public are welcome to come forward at the conclusion of every General meeting to sight all in/out correspondence.

5. General Items of Business

1. **Mens Shed:** Following some initial investigating by Graham Lester he has called for expressions of interest as a committee needs to be formed to investigate the viability of a mens shed in the area

2. **Nippers:** Nina Rogan will meet with Regional Committee of SLSC and Mollymook SLSC regarding the proposal of starting a sub-branch of Mollymook locally. Nina stressed that this is not an indication or promise that such a venture will go ahead.
3. **Pathway Update:** Toni Sims addressed the meeting on behalf of John Ross. The PA supports the initiative being led by John Ross but explained that this is not a Progress Association project. Initially the pathway will run from the corner of Scerri Drive towards the Merry Beach Store on the side of the road opposite the houses.
4. **Recent Local Break Ins:** The community is advised to be vigilant and secure their cars and properties.
5. **Meetings will now be paperless.** If you require a paper copy of the agenda and meeting minutes, please print and bring your own.
6. **LEP Draft Shoalhaven Local Environment Plan:** Councillor Findley addressed the meeting, residents are encouraged to look at the website or go to Council and look at the documentation concerning heritage items, parks, zoning and environmentally sensitive areas. There is approximately 4 weeks left in the community comment period. Amanda Findley encouraged residents to have their say and ask questions.
7. **Telecommunications Tower:** A 50 metre communications tower is to be built on Forster Drive, Bawley, by American corporation Crown Castle, an international company that builds infrastructure for broadcasting and mobile telephony. Under NSW Government legislation enacted last year (SEPP (Infrastructure) 2007) no community consultation is required if a development 'complies'. This tower has been deemed as complying by a private certifier engaged by Crown Castle. However, Council does not consider the development is compliant and has written to Crown Castle about this, insisting that it comply or else Council will take legal action. There was widespread agreement at the meeting that the lack of community consultation engendered by the NSW State Government legislation is unacceptable, and that Crown Castle's lack of community consultation on this matter, whilst legal, is unethical. The meeting resolved that the PA writes to NSW Government representatives about our dissatisfaction with SEPP (Infrastructure) 2007. The meeting was in agreement that it was necessary to communicate this message with the hope that the legislation will be challenged and other NSW communities will not be excluded from consultation about important developments in the future.

There was a diversity of opinion at the meeting about the necessity or otherwise of a communications tower locally. The point was also made that technical reasons mean that mobile coverage and television signal is likely to decrease in quality in Bawley Point, though improvements are anticipated in Kioloa. Some attendees who have homes close to the planned tower (100 metres for some families) were positive about the area having a tower but believe it should not be close to residences. Many residents, including some not living near the planned tower, expressed concerns about potential negative health impacts of living close to a communications tower, although other members believe this concern lacks evidence. There was also a diversity of opinion about whether improved mobile communication is positive or negative for local tourism. Concerns were expressed about the visual impact on the area.

A representative of the PA's tower sub-committee said that there were not many suitable locations locally for a communications tower, and that the possible location identified by the sub-committee in the bush on Forest Rd/Dangerboard Rd, Kioloa has been recently dismissed by Crown Castle as technically unsuitable. The Chair noted that the tower sub-committee has made considerable efforts to finding a mutually acceptable location for a tower but that Crown Castle had not been responsive to the sub-committee's communications.

Councillor Amanda Findley reported that the Culbarra community had an excellent outcome through consultation with Telstra with the result being less intrusive monopole structures in the Culbarra area and improved communications. However, the meeting agreed that as Crown Castle have demonstrated an unwillingness to consult with our community about this tower, a negotiated mutually acceptable outcome of this sort is unlikely for Bawley Point and Kioloa residents.

It was noted that Peter White has now resigned as Chair of the Tower sub-committee.

Motion: That the PA write to Shoalhaven City Council and the NSW Government about our community's unhappiness with the SEPP (Infrastructure) 2007 legislation and its removal of community consultation from the development process.

Proposed: Rob Jansma, **Seconded:** Toni Sims

Affirmative 25 people; Negative: Nil; Abstentions: 8

CARRIED

6. Next General Meeting

General Meeting will be held on Monday, 21 November 2011 at 7.30 pm in the Kioloa Community Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm.

CORRESPONDENCE -- 20/6/11 - 19/9/11

IN

OUT