

MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING

Meeting Date: Monday, 18th March 2024
 Location: Community Centre Thomson Street
PRESENT: Jan Lang and John Lang, Sue Heycox, Judy Neeves, Russell Neeves
MEETING OPENED: 7.02pm

Chairman Russell Neeves welcomed all attendees and declared the meeting informal because there was not a quorum.

APOLOGIES: Daniela Tronson

MINUTES: The minutes of the February meeting were made available to all.

Business arising from minutes: Nil

Moved that minutes be accepted: John Lang
 Seconded: Judy Neeves

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Income and Expenditure for February 2024

	Opening Balance as at 01 February 2024		\$3881.19
INCOME	February Bank Interest	00.03	

	Sub Total	00.03	3881.22
EXPENDITURE			
	Scott Morgan – Web Domain Registration	36.25	

	Sub Total	36.25	36.25
	BALANCE as at 1st March 2024	Total	<u>\$3844.97</u>

Presented by- John Lang-Treasurer

Moved by John Lang
 Seconded – Judy Neeves

CORRESPONDENCE INWARD

Copies of all correspondence can be viewed at the end of the published minutes on the Forum web site or Council web site.

- 57/2 Council trials virtual fence to save wildlife at Bawley Point
- 58/2 Another notification from Council that the stage2 CMP reports were available for viewing.
- 59/2 Council notification that Community access improved at coastal erosion sites
- 60/3 RSPCA & Council are giving a chance to win one of eight Cat enclosures.
- 61/3 Update and report on St Georges Basin Flood Study & Plan.
- 62/3 A media release from Minister for Regional Transport and Roads – Hon Jenny Aitchison informing that work will commence next month to restore full access to traffic on Moss Vale Road Cambewarra Mountain.
- 63/3 Council launches responsible dog ownership campaign.
- 64/3 Invitation to seniors to join the NSW seniors Festival 11-24th March 2024

CORRESPONDENCE OUTWARD:

Nil

Correspondence Accepted by all

BUSINESS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE:

Nil

ADDENDUM REPORTS

CL24.68 Financial Sustainability Monthly Report

**HPERM Ref:
D24/90674**

Note: Deputations were received on this item.

Note: This item was discussed in the Committee of the Whole.

Clr Copley – less than significant non pecuniary interest declaration – knows the depute Mr John Lamont in a professional business capacity – remained in the room and took part in the discussion and vote.

Clr Copley – less than significant non pecuniary interest declaration – knows the depute Ms Jemma Tribe personally and via political affiliation– remained in the room and took part in the discussion and vote.

Clr Ell – less than significant non pecuniary interest declaration – knows the deputies Ms Jemma Tribe and Mr John Lamont personally and via political affiliation– remained in the room and took part in the discussion and vote.

Recommendation

That Council

1. Endorse placing the following projects on pause until Council’s financial position improves:
 - a. Bay and Basin Leisure Centre refurbishment planning and design works
 - b. Bob Proudfoot Pavilion construction
 - c. Bomaderry Basketball Stadium redevelopment
 - d. Sanctuary Point District Library construction
 - e. Boongaree stages 5 – 7 construction
 - f. Skate parks and pump tracks investigation, planning and design works (Sussex Inlet, Sanctuary Point, Bomaderry and Worrigege)
 - g. Berry Spinners and Weavers building construction
 - h. Berry Showground animal nursery construction
 - i. Kangaroo Valley playground investigation, planning and design works
2. Endorse the Community Donations program in the 2024/25 Financial Year to be \$0.
3. Endorse the reinstatement of the outdoor dining public footpath annual fee.

Recommendation from Committee of the Whole

That Council defer this report for consideration at the Financial Sustainability Workshops.

RESOLVED (Clr White / Clr Wells) MIN24.125

That Council defer this report for consideration at the Financial Sustainability Workshops, as well as a discussion about the composition of reports and the timetable for decisions of Council regarding the same.

FOR: Clr Norris, Clr Kotlash, Clr Copley, Clr Ell, Clr White, Clr Wells and Clr Kitchener

AGAINST: Clr Findley, Clr Boyd, Clr Christen and Clr Gray

CARRIED

Note: Clr Ell left the meeting, the time being 9:40pm.

REPORTS & UPDATES

Report of Joint CCB meeting on Wednesday 13th March.

Attended by John Lang & Russell Neeves

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss common concerns for the poor financial position of Council at present.

The major discussion was around the merits of requesting that a special finance committee be established within Council and two CCB representatives be appointed to that committee, and a second discussion on the merits of calling for a public enquiry.

There were 8 expert speakers who all spoke on their specialist topic but the common thread was that they were all pretty much explaining why Councils finances were failing.

Time constraints meant that the meeting concluded with no decisive future action other than to have a second meeting to arrive at a way forward.

Community led Resilience Action Strategy Shoalhaven (CLARSS)

The Shoalhaven Community resilience Network (SCRN) are meeting Wednesday 20th March 2024 and Russell Neeves will attend.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

Meeting Closed: 7.54

Next Meeting: 15th April 2024

Location: Thomson Street Community Centre

Council has installed virtual fencing in Bawley Point to reduce animal and vehicle collisions in the area as part of a 12-month trial.

No images? [Click here](#)



Council trials virtual fence to save wildlife

20 February 2024

Council has installed virtual fencing in Bawley Point to reduce animal and vehicle collisions in the area as part of a 12-month trial.

The trial is located along Murramarang Road, just south of Voyager Crescent. It is 1km long and has fence posts positioned at 25-metre intervals along the roadside, emitting light and sound when a vehicle approaches to deter native wildlife from the road.

Mayor Amanda Findley is optimistic about the trial, anticipating favourable outcomes particularly between dusk and dawn.

"The trial represents a proactive step towards enhancing road safety and safeguarding wildlife at Bawley Point," Cr Findley said.

"This area is known to have a lot of wildlife fatalities, which puts our motorists at risk of injury," she said.

"Eurobodalla has already reported astounding results from their trial with a significant reduction in the amount of wildlife strikes."

Eurobodalla's trial yielded impressive results, reducing wildlife strikes from five incidents per week to five incidents in eight months. Therefore, we anticipate a substantial decline in roadkill numbers throughout the trial period.

The trial was endorsed by council in 2023/24 as a means to enhance the safety of our road users and protect our valuable local wildlife.

To support the trial's data collection and identify future hotspots, community members are encouraged to use the iNaturalist App and website to document roadkill incidents, along with contacting Council on 1300 293 111 to remove deceased animals.



Stage 2 Reports are now available

Council is pleased to share the final Stage 2 Reports for the Sussex Inlet, St Georges Basin, Swan Lake and Berrara Creek Coastal Management Programs (CMPs).

The purpose of Stage 2 of the CMP development process is to determine risks, vulnerabilities and opportunities for the CMP study area. Stage 2 is a technical stage that requires gathering the background information, developing a conceptual model, defining the coastal hazards within the area, and modelling and mapping the region to create a risk assessment based on the hazard mapping models. Stage 2 requires the studies identified in the [Shoalhaven CMP Scoping Study](#) to be undertaken.

The following Stage 2 reports are published in the 'Document Library' on this web page:

- [Stage 2 Synthesis Report](#)
- [Tidal and Coastal Inundation Study Report](#) (main document) and [Appendices](#)
- [Foreshore Erosion Assessment](#)

Water Quality and Estuary Health Study:

- [St Georges Basin and Sussex Inlet](#)
- [Berrara Creek](#)
- [Swan Lake](#)
- [Stage 2 Detailed Risk Assessment](#)
- [Swan Lake and Berrara Creek Entrance Management Review](#)

If you have questions about these reports or the CMP development process, you can contact Council via e-mail to the Coastal Management Unit – coastal.management@shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au or by calling Council on 1300 293 111.

For more information about Coastal Management Programs in general, please visit the [Shoalhaven Coastal Management Programs](#) Get Involved web page.

For more information about this project, please visit the [Sussex Inlet, St Georges Basin, Swan Lake & Berrara Creek CMP](#) Get Involved web page.

Kind regards,

Community Engagement Team
Shoalhaven City Council

Community access improved at coastal erosion sites

29 February 2024

The beachgoing community is benefiting from a program to repair footpaths, stairs and jetties on the Shoalhaven's shores.

Following natural disasters in 2022, six coastal sites were earmarked for rehabilitation works thanks to state and federal government natural disaster funding.

Beorn Hulme, Natural Disasters Project Manager, said repairs were almost complete on the 38 major landslips which devastated the Kangaroo Valley and surrounds, with attention now turning to both local roads and coastal sites damaged by consecutive natural disasters.

"Last year was spent repairing the many landslips which destroyed roads and cut off communities across the region," Mr Hulme said.

"Our focus is now on beach access infrastructure to enhance public safety and the environment," he said.

Dr Michael Roberts, Manager Environmental Services, said Council's Coastal Management Unit was halfway through the program with three sites fully rehabilitated. Completed sites include:

- [Cudmirrah Beach](#) access path at Collier Drive – works completed on stairs and pathway following scouring (erosion at base of structure) and eroding dunes at the end point of the path.
 - [Cunjurong Point Beach](#) access stairs at Ottawa Street – works completed to replace eroded timber stairs over steep coastal bluff with fibreglass reinforced polymer (FRP) replacement stairway. New footings will mitigate the impacts of future erosion.
-
- [Berrara Beach](#) access stairs at Berrara Road – works completed to replace eroded timber stairs where the embankment was washed away and replacement of the Conjola National Park sign.

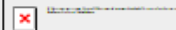
Sites to be completed in 2024 include:

- [Currarong Beach](#) access path at Warrain Crescent – works will soon begin to improve accessibility on two paths. Track 1 will see construction of a new FRP staircase to replace the existing timber ramp. Track 2 will see the extension and renewal of timber components for the existing staircase. Works are due for completion by June 2024.
- [Island Point Road Jetty](#) repair, St Georges Basin – the structure and decking of the jetty was severely damaged and is closed to the public. Tender preparation for the project has commenced and works are expected to begin later this year.
- [The Basin Road Jetty](#) repair, St Georges Basin – the structure and decking of the jetty was severely damaged and is closed to the public. Tender preparation for the project has commenced and works are expected to begin later this year.

For the latest updates on natural disaster reconstruction works head to [Council's website](#).

Supported by the RSPCA, Council is giving away eight cat enclosures to show that your feline friend can live a safe and fulfilling life indoors or in an outdoors structure.

No images? [Click here](#)



Choose your own (indoor) adventure in Council cat comp

5 March 2024

Everyone wants their cat to live their best life, but that doesn't have to mean roaming the streets, threatening local wildlife and putting themselves at risk.

Supported by the RSPCA, Council is giving away eight cat enclosures to show that your feline friend can live a safe and fulfilling life indoors or in an outdoors structure.

Jodie Parnell, Acting Lead, Ranger Services said the idea that cats need to roam outdoors has changed – owners can provide a safe and suitable environment for their cat at home all day, every day.

"We want to encourage cat owners to create fun, stimulating and enclosed adventure playgrounds that gives their moggies joy and keeps them safe from harm," Ms Parnell said.

"We know that cats safely contained at home are at less risk of injury from cars, dogs and other cats," she said.

"Get peace of mind and give your cat a better chance to enjoy a longer, healthier life by keeping them contained."

Ms Parnell said the competition was one element of the RSPCA campaign 'Keeping Cats Safe at Home' being supported by several councils across NSW. The community should expect to see more education and resources targeted at cat owners throughout the year.

Thanks to funding from the RSPCA, Council is giving away:

- eight [Catnet](#) vouchers (valued at \$500 each) redeemed to create a personalised outdoor containment system for your cat
- accessories valued at \$125 to bring the wow factor to their new enclosures – shade cloth, scratch post, catnip plant, cubby and litter tray.

Entrants need to live in the Shoalhaven and answer the simple question 'Why is it important to keep your cat safe at home?'

To go in the running head to [Council's website](#). Competition closes on Friday 22 March.

Dear Sussex Inlet and Districts Community Forum,

Council completed the [St Georges Basin Flood Study \(Cardno, 2022\)](#) in late 2022, following public exhibition and community consultation for the draft St Georges Basin Flood Study.

The next stages of the flood risk management process include the completion of a Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan (FRMS&P) for the St Georges Basin catchment.

Council has received financial support from the NSW Floodplain Management Program managed by the NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) to undertake the St Georges Basin Floodplain Risk Management Study & Plan. Council has engaged a consultant, Rhelm, to complete this investigation. This project will be completed over approximately 18 months.

The flood mapping and information developed in the *St Georges Basin Flood Study (Cardno, 2022)* will inform the investigation of potential mitigation options to reduce flood damages (impacts) and to assist to manage flood risk. This includes testing and investigating practical, feasible and economic management measures, including structural and non-structural measures, to manage existing, future and residual flood risk. Flood mitigation measures included in a Floodplain Risk Management Plan are eligible for financial support from the NSW Floodplain Management Program managed by DCCEEW for implementation.

The floor level information being collected as part of the [Shoalhaven LGA Floor Level Survey for Flood Planning](#) project will be used to assess the suitability of potential flood mitigation measures.

The study will provide valuable information for the community and emergency services to improve their preparedness and response to flood events. The last large flood events in the St Georges Basin floodplain occurred in the 1950's and 1970's. As a result, most residents living on the St Georges Basin floodplain have not experienced large flood events. However, these large flood events can and will occur again in the future and it is therefore important that the community and emergency services have strategies in place to manage the flood risk when they do.

Community consultation for potential mitigation measures to be investigated in the St Georges Basin Floodplain Risk Management Study & Plan was undertaken in late 2022 as part of the *St Georges Basin Flood Study (Cardno, 2022)* public exhibition and community consultation phase. As a result, initial community consultation will not be undertaken as part of this study, as this feedback has already been obtained from the community. Council will, however, consider additional mitigation measures, to what has already been identified on the Get Involved webpage (refer link below), that the community would like to be considered in this investigation. Feedback can be provided to Council at Floodplain.Management@shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au

It is noted that the St Georges Basin Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan will focus on riverine flood events. If the community have comments on stormwater management matters (such as stormwater inlets, culverts, pipes etc in the road reserve), then this feedback should be provided to Council via the [Report, request or provide feedback](#) link on Council's website.

Comprehensive and targeted community consultation and drop-in sessions will be held after the potential mitigation options have been investigated. Further information relating to this will be provided as the study progresses.

Further information can be found at the [St Georges Basin FRMS&P Get Involved](#) webpage. This includes a list of possible mitigation options that will be investigated based on previous community feedback.

Council would appreciate it if you could please inform the community about this project to increase the dissemination of this information.

Please contact Council if you have any questions or queries on this matter.

Regards



Floodplain Management

1300 293 111
 Bridge Road (PO Box 42) Nowra NSW 2541
shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au



**FIONA PHILLIPS MP
MEMBER FOR GILMORE**



**THE HON JENNY AITCHISON
MINISTER FOR REGIONAL TRANSPORT AND ROADS**

JOINT MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday, 12 March 2024

**WORK TO START ON MOSS VALE ROAD AT CAMBEWARRA MOUNTAIN TO
RESTORE FULL ACCESS**

Work will start next month on major repairs needed to restore full access to all traffic on Moss Vale Road at Cambewarra Mountain.

Specialist contractors The Rix Group and Retaining Specialists have been appointed to complete repairs to landslip damage caused by record-breaking rainfall in 2022, and work is expected to start on Tuesday 2 April 2024, weather permitting.

The Albanese and Minns Governments are funding this \$5 million project through Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA).

The terrain and landslip damage posed unique challenges and risks during the planning process, which Transport for NSW will continue to navigate as work is carried out.

For the safety of motorists and workers, the road will be closed to traffic while work is carried out at night between 7pm and 5am Sunday to Thursday, when traffic volumes are lower.

To maintain traffic access for those who need to use the road, work will be briefly suspended for five-minute periods at 8pm, 9pm, 10pm, 12am, 2am and 4am.

Motorists are advised to drive to the conditions and follow the directions of signs and traffic control.

Detours for light vehicles will be via Kangaroo Valley Road. Motorists should allow 25 minutes additional travel time. Vehicles longer than 7.5m or heavier than 12t GVM can detour via the Illawarra Highway and Princes Highway, adding 90 minutes travel time.

Transport for NSW is managing a total of 50 landslip damage sites on Moss Vale Road at both Barrengarry and Cambewarra mountains as part of its Natural Disaster Recovery Repair Program.

The landslip damage was caused by record-breaking rainfall in 2022, which saw four times the average monthly rainfall in March and more than six times the July average.

Since the initial damage occurred, Transport for NSW has managed more than 150,000 work hours across Moss Vale Road and completed repairs at 24 of the 50 landslip sites.

Council launches responsible dog ownership campaign

13 March 2024

Tips for Shoalhaven residents to keep their dogs healthy and secure is the focus of an educational campaign being launched today.

Director of City Development, James Ruprai, said the campaign was developed to support the council's zero-tolerance policy towards anti-social dog behaviour introduced in 2020. Aiming to help over 60,000 dogs registered in the NSW Companion Animals Register who reside in the Shoalhaven area.

Jodie Parnell, Lead Ranger Services said the community expects dogs to be on their best behaviour and emphasised the importance of responsible dog ownership and integrating with the community.

"We all want a positive experience for our dogs and by being prepared and following our tips, we set dogs up for an enjoyable outing," Ms Parnell said.

The campaign includes five videos that cover key topics essential for current and aspiring dog owners, covering the journey from microchipping to training.

"The videos take a fun and engaging approach to show that responsible dog ownership is easily achievable," she said.

"Catering to your furry friends' basic needs and wants will encourage them to be on their best behaviour – this makes their lives better and certainly has positive outcomes for the community."

"If this isn't followed, your dog may try to escape, bark excessively, or act out of character. Potentially resulting in an upset neighbour, an injury to your dog or them being involved in a dog attack."

The video series focuses on how to be a good pet owner while at home or out in the community, with short films on:

- Chip, snip, register
- Understanding body language
- Securing your yard
- Exercise
- Training

To watch the videos and learn more about responsible dog ownership click here, [Responsible Dog Ownership | Shoalhaven City Council \(nsw.gov.au\)](#)

** End **



Seniors across the Shoalhaven are being invited to celebrate NSW Seniors Festival (11-24 March) with a series of trivia events at local libraries and 'bring a friend for free' fitness classes through Shoalhaven Swim Sport Fitness.

The libraries in Nowra, Sanctuary Point and Ulladulla are offering an hour of trivia, fun and games with the opportunity to win some great prizes. Free tea and coffee will be provided.

The trivia events will be held at:

- Nowra Library on Monday, 18 March from 11am-12 noon;
- Sanctuary Point Library on Tuesday, 19 March from 10.30am to 11.30am;
- Ulladulla Library on Thursday, 21 March between 2pm and 3pm.

Seniors are invited to register as individuals or with friends. Bookings are essential at <https://www.shoalhavenlibraries.com.au/Whats-on>

Local seniors may also be interested in a free Seniors Rights community information session being held at Ulladulla Library between 2pm and 3pm on Tuesday, 19 March.

The session will provide an opportunity for people to learn more about the Seniors Rights Service and what it does, how to access aged care services and how to resolve concerns relating to in-home and residential aged care services.

Shoalhaven Swim Sport Fitness will be running a 'bring a friend for free' promotion from 18 March through to 23 March at the Bay and Bay Leisure Centre, Ulladulla Leisure Centre, Bomaderry Aquatic Centre, Shoalhaven Indoor Sports Centre and the Sussex Inlet Aquatic Centre.

The promotion will apply to a range of Aqua Lite, Aqua, Fitstart, Aqua HIIT, Aqua Circuit, Gentle Fitness, Fitstart Circuit, Pilates Fitball and Pilates sessions across the five venues.

As the name suggests, those people paying for a class are invited to bring along a friend free of charge.

The promotion has been extremely popular in previous years and has helped introduce a number of Shoalhaven seniors to the programs on offer through Shoalhaven Swim Sport Fitness.

For a full list of the classes included in this year's promotion – including dates, venues and starting times <https://www.shoalhavenssf.com.au/Home>

Bookings are essential.

The theme of the 2024 NSW Seniors Festival is 'Reach Beyond'. The festival is designed to inspire seniors to be active, to socialise and to share their skills and wisdom - all while connecting with their community.