

Administration

1. Welcome & Attendance
 - Attendance as per Attendance Book.
 - Apologies Matt Kean, Nathan Tilbury, Lyne Kelleher, Jeanette & Brian Neary.
2. Minutes
 - Minutes of the meeting of 19th November 2016 were read by Robert Arnold.
 - Moved to be accepted by Anthony Broome and seconded by Nancy Davis.
3. Treasurers report Robert Arnold
 - Treasurers report as at 25th February was presented by Robert Arnold.
 - Balance of \$1,126.76 in the account.
 - Moved to be accepted by Jo Scarsbrick and seconded by David Brown.
 - A Financial Statement is attached.

Key Brooklyn Issues

4. Brooklyn Master Plan
 - President Di Bowles summarised the current position:
 - Community workshop and Community Reference Group meetings were held in November 2016.
 - The Draft Constraints Analysis Report was presented by McGregor Coxall consultants.
 - Submissions on the Report were made by BCA and river community associations.
 - There was considerable focus in the communities on parking, but many other issues to be addressed. However, it's time to get parking resolved.
 - No outcomes and solutions had been presented to date.
 - The BCA remained committed to the current process and relying on the consultants to suggest solutions.
 - Perceptions by some river communities that they haven't had the opportunity to participate were not correct. Hornsby-area community associations were represented on the Community Reference Group, and had participated in consultants master planning events.
 - The BCA met with Hornsby Council officers in January to present the results of the BCA Residents survey (earlier submitted to the consultants).
 - Subsequent to the meeting, the Council had provided a schedule of Master Plan activities through to June 2017. These were published in the BCA Gateway Newsletter of February 2017. Next public consultation was expected to be in May 2017.
 - President Di Bowles advised that the Lower Hawkesbury Coalition (of Brooklyn and River Community Associations) was now meeting monthly.
 - The Coalition had met with Hornsby Council Mayor Steve Russell, Councillors and Council Officers on 15 February 2017, to discuss the concerns expressed in their letter of 16 December 2016 (copy attached).

- Vice President Miriam Moloney advised that the BCA had prepared a Position Paper to direct its Executive Committee in their dealings with the Council and Community Groups. In particular, the Committee agreed:
 - Before making significant proposals or decisions in the master planning process with Council, the consultants and the coalition, the BCA executive will canvass BCA members' views and, if possible, the broader Brooklyn community.
 - President Di Bowles advised that the BCA had recommended to Council that there should be direct consultation with business owners in Brooklyn, and would hold a BCA business workshop if Council/Consultants did not go ahead with business consultation. The BCA will provide a list of businesses to Council to encourage the business consultation event.
 - Bob Davis expressed disappointment with the outcomes to date from the Master Plan, considering the cost to Council and ratepayers.
 - President Di Bowles opened discussion and sought views from members on potential rezoning in Brooklyn, in preparation for potential proposals in the Master Plan. [Members' comments have been retained by BCA members of the Master Plan Community Reference Group, for input to the plan at the appropriate time. The BCA also notes that there will be further opportunity for members to comment on rezoning at the Master Plan progresses].
 - Di Bowles noted that the Anglers Rest Hotel was for sale. It was understood that there were 2 interested parties.
5. Peat Island Rezoning Proposal
- John Andrews from the Mooney-Cheero Progress Association advised:
 - Representative from NSW State Property had informed us that throughout 2016 Property NSW had prepared a revised Planning Proposal (rezoning) for Peat Island and Mooney Mooney.
 - The concept remains consistent with that presented to community representatives in Minister Kean's Hornsby office in August 2016. In late 2016, detailed consultation occurred with Central Coast Council (formerly Gosford Council) and the Department of Planning & Environment. These agencies have requested further clarification in relation to traffic impacts, and this is currently being sought from the NSW Roads and Maritime Services. Once the revised Planning Proposal is endorsed by Council and the Department of Planning & Environment, it will be placed on public exhibition for comment and at that time there will be community engagement.
 - The State by-election (expected end-April) in the Gosford area might affect decision-making.
 - Brian Scarsbrick (BCA member and National Trust CEO) had updated John and the BCA committee prior to the meeting that registration of Peat Island properties on the National Trust Heritage Register was likely in March 2017. A submission was being made to the NSW Minister responsible by the National Trust to put Peat Island properties on the State Heritage Register.

6. Footpath update
 - Di Bowles advised that:
 - The boardwalk between Seymour Creek and Kangaroo Point was held up by a Native Title claim along the NSW coast.
 - Design of roadworks between the new footpath at 41 Brooklyn Road and Seymour Creek was funded in the current financial year, and had commenced. Funding will be sought by Council in the 2017/17 financial year, noting the high cost of road and drainage work.
7. Council Amalgamation update
 - Ward A Councillor Nathan Tilbury had advised the President prior to the meeting that Hornsby Council amalgamation remained on hold pending Ku-ring-gai Council's court appeal.
 - Under current NSW Government plans, the amalgamation is likely to proceed, with Council elections in September 2017 or March 2018.
8. Media officer
 - Di Bowles asked if any member would like to perform the role of a media/ social media officer.
 - Jayne Donnelly expressed interest and will meet with Di to discuss.
9. BCA 2017 Priorities, introduced by Miriam Moloney:
 - Brooklyn Master Plan the key priority
 - Peat Island
 - Oral History Project . comments included:
 - Interview older local residents and families
 - Interview people constructing major infrastructure (when it occurs)
 - Produce a tourist guide, potentially for sale to visitors
 - Include an indigenous history of the area
 - It was noted that Tom Richmond and Bob Davis had created a booklet for visitors some years ago, and also the BCA prepared information material for the Easter Bunny steam train in 2014.
 - The project needs a BCA sub-committee of interested people: [Carolyn & John Farbrother, Karen Arnold, Bob Davis expressed interest].
 - Possibility for grant funding.
 - Agreed that the sub-committee need to speak with Tom Richmond, our local historian and educator, given his years of service to the history of Brooklyn and the lower Hawkesbury, published works and his significant collection of material. Tom be approached to advise relevant gaps, and assist direction and scoping of any project.
 - **Motion:** To form a sub-committee to scope the history project
Moved by Di Bowles and seconded by Cynthia Hughes.
 - BCA Membership Drive
 - Di Bowles suggested all members should visit 10-20 properties, to explain the purpose of the BCA and encourage membership.
 - We need to get more email addresses of residents
 - We need to expand the BCA's Masterplan Facebook page, to a BCA overall page.
 - Suggestion: establish a young BCA Committee member+, in conjunction with Primary School activities and perhaps give out an Annual reward

10. Any Other Business

- Brooklyn Bushcare: Karen Arnold reported on the inaugural meeting of the bushcare group, sponsored by Hornsby Council.
 - First bushcare working event: Thursday 23 March 2017 (rear of Baden Powell Hall).
 - Plan to meet monthly.
 - They are looking for volunteers.
- Rail noise
 - Chris and Cynthia Hughes represent the BCA on the northern area rail noise community group.
 - There has been progress in identifying the source of the noise and responsibility of rail operators.
 - EPA is investigating and planning to regulate rail operators for rail noise.
- The BCA supports a move to include the Mooney Progress Association on the Hornsby Council CRG.

11. Future Meeting dates

- May 13
- August 19
- November 18 - AGM