

Brooklyn Community Meeting
hosted by
Brooklyn Community Association, Inc
General Meeting of Saturday 3rd March 10:00 am - 12:00pm
Brooklyn Community Meeting Room
Minutes

Administration

1. Welcome & Attendance
 - Attendance as per Attendance Book, including:
 - Matt Kean NSW Member for Hornsby and Minister for Innovation & Better Regulation
 - Ward A Councillors Warren Waddell (representing the Mayor), Nathan Tilbury and Mick Marr
 - Apologies
 - Liz Surrest, Tom Richmond, Chris & Cynthia Hughes
2. Minutes
 - Minutes of the meeting of 18 November 2017 were read by Robert Arnold
 - Moved to be accepted proposed by Jo Scarsbrick and seconded by Terry Sands.
3. Treasurers report
 - Treasurer's report as at 3 March 2018 was presented by Lyne Kelleher.
 - Balance of \$2,244.02 in the account. A Financial Statement is attached.
4. Correspondence
 - Information regarding a proposal for the installation of a 4G small cell for Telstra at 99 Brooklyn Rd (part of the Mobile Black Spot Program).
 - Letter from the Coalition of Lower Hawkesbury Community & Progress Associations to the Mayor, to ask the Council to re-initiate the Brooklyn Master Plan.
 - Email response to the letter from the Coalition of Lower Hawkesbury Community & Progress Associations from the Mayor:
 - "My understanding is that it is still a work in progress. Regards Philip Ruddock"

Presentations & Discussions

5. **NSW Government Update - Hon Matt Kean**

Member NSW Member for Hornsby and Minister for Innovation & Better Regulation

 - Matt recognised the contribution and efforts made on behalf of the community by BCA President Di Bowles.
 - He spoke about the financial strength of the state of NSW, and the initiatives in the local area:
 - Funding the Stage 1 of the rebuild of the Hornsby Hospital, as a state of the art facility, future-proofed for growth.
 - Pennant Hills Road Upgrade, building the NorthConnex tunnel, and removing 5,000 trucks per day off Pennant Hills Road. The tunnel is now more than 60% completed.
 - Rehabilitation of the Hornsby Quarry with the tunnel construction spoil
 - Matt announced a campaign to deliver the lift at Brooklyn Station in this year's State budget.
 - He needs a petition from the community to support the campaign.
 - He staked his job on getting funding for the lift
 - He (later) mentioned that some funding was available for senior/disability access.

➤ *President Di Bowles said that the BCA will help Matt Kean with any requests for advocacy, letters etc.*

- Matt recognised the need for improved car parking in Brooklyn, and he had asked Transport for NSW/RMS to look at the use of the area on the western side of the Railway.
- He recognised the issues on the Old Pacific Highway, with 5 people killed and 96 recorded instances over the last 5 years. He had initiated a 5 point plan for the road:
 - Bolstered enforcement, including increased police patrols
 - More education, including input to the local high schools
 - Increased community engagement with riders and residents
 - Hazard reduction, fixing the dangerous points in the road
 - Deterrence measures, including deterrents for photographers
 - Di Bowles requested that they invite BCA to be involved in the community engagement
- Peat Island had gone through the Gateway Process and requires additional studies in the first half of 2018.
 - Further input will be required from the Lower Hawkesbury community

6. Hornsby Council Update – Councillor Nathan Tilbury

- Brooklyn Master Plan
 - A briefing for Councillors was scheduled for March 2018
 - The Council is awaiting a report from Council staff at end-March
 - The Master Plan will incorporate traffic flow
 - The master plan will involve more community consultation
 - The next Consultants report is due in early April
- Mr Steven Head has been appointed General Manager of Hornsby Council. He was formerly employed at the RMS and will commence in late March 2018.
- Mediation is taking place between Hornsby and Parramatta Councils over rates and Section 94 funds, in relation to the Epping area. The NSW Government has advised that ratepayers won't be disadvantaged.
- Nathan advised that a meeting had taken place between Hornsby and Central Cost Councillors
 - Chris Heywood, representing the Volunteer Rescue Association, invited all Councillors to take a tour of the Lower Hawkesbury area.
- Councillor Tilbury was writing to member Tom Richmond about disabled parking at the Brooklyn Community Health Centre.
- *President Di Bowles said that the BCA will write to Councillor Tilbury, the Mayor and the General Manager regarding disability parking and ambulance access Brooklyn Community Health Centre.*

7. Hornsby Independent Hearing and Assessment Panel

- BCA Committee Member Brian Scarsbrick gave an account of his application to become the community representative on the Hornsby Independent Hearing and Assessment Panel.
 - He had formerly applied for the role. He had not been interviewed by Hornsby Council.
 - Subsequently, Council officers confirmed that he had been selected and the Hornsby Advocate published an article confirming his selection.
 - On the night of the Council meeting to confirm IHAP member selection, Brian's name was changed for another candidate, who was approved by the Council committee.
- President Di Bowles said that the original selection process had been properly followed, and that Brian Scarsbrick was a worthy and non-controversial selection. The change of candidate at the last minute was "wrong".
- Matt Kean summarised the Governments reasons for the IHAP approach
 - There had previously been many cases of corruption in the planning process, and there was a recommendation from the ICAC for independent planning committees, resulting in the decision to establish the Independent Hearing and Assessment Panels.
 - Hornsby Council has a Panel of 4 members, 3 expert planning members and a community representative.

- A Ward Councillor Warren Waddell summarised Council's actions in selection of Panel members:
 - The IHAP process was imposed on Hornsby Council by the Government.
 - He was the A Ward Councillor on the selection committee.
 - In relation to the expert planning members, "at the last moment" the General Manager had advised that one member was "not appropriate" and an alternative member was identified.
 - Councillor Waddell said that the dynamics of the panel had changed, and that they had determined that a community member from the rural community was preferred. On the evening of the selection meeting, Mr Tony Jones from Dural was nominated, and Brian Scarsbrick's name was removed from the Council papers.
 - Councillor Waddell acknowledged the process on the evening was not ideal, because of the urgency. Councillor Waddell also said that they should have held an interview process for the community applicants.
- There was considerable discussion in the BCA meeting of the failure of fair process, and the last minute change to the nomination for the community member.
- President Di Bowles asked the Councillors whether it was possible for the decision to be changed.
 - Councillor Marr stated that he too was confused about the process and it was very last minute and he did not have much information. He said that he was unhappy with the outcome and wished they could vote again.
 - Councillor Tilbury advised he was not in attendance at the selection meeting, and would have supported Brian Scarsbrick's nomination.
 - Councillor Waddell agreed he would approach Mr Jones to ask him if he would step down in favour of Brian Scarsbrick.
- *Motion: the BCA should write a letter to the Planning Minister and the Mayor expressing concern on the selection process and seeking Brian Scarsbrick's appointment to the Panel.*
 - Proposed by Bob Davis, seconded by Tom Montgomery

Brooklyn & Lower Hawkesbury Issues

8. Brooklyn Community Health Centre and Health Services
 - Request from the floor whether any changes were proposed to the Health Centre in the consultations for Hornsby Hospital.
 - Miriam enquired about a consultation done with the Cowan community and asked if we should have been notified and attended.

The community needs better information about when health services are available. There is a shortage of palliative care services. Matt Kean said the Government is putting more funds into palliative care services.
 - *Matt Kean will speak to Hornsby Hospital to see if there are any changed plans for the Health Centre and whether a consultation can be held at Brooklyn*
9. Lower Hawkesbury communities
 - There is a continuing problem with delays in Ambulance services in water-access communities.
 - Di Bowles noted that the Lower Hawkesbury communities had been seeking improved ambulance services for the river communities. They have been numbering jetties so it is easier to find the houses. Lindsay Johnston from Milsons Passage is leading this initiative.
 - Matt Kean advised that he represented the whole river community.
10. Parking and Transport Issues
 - Suggestion from the floor that better use of the bus service might reduce the need for increased parking. "On demand" transport services might be worth considering.
11. Old Pacific Highway
 - Suggestions from the floor:
 - Reduce speed limits
 - Install speed cameras, possibly average speed cameras

- Accident survivors clean-up the debris
- Matt Kean said that there were already many facilities for managing speed, and that the Police and RMS were the experts.
 - He had suggested speed cameras. The Police had alternative solutions.

12. Brooklyn Road

- Members stated that Brooklyn Road has become increasingly dangerous.
- Matt Kean said that there was no funding for widening the road.
- Kerbing and guttering had improved the road and had reduced the risk.

13. Peat Island

- John Andrews from the Mooney~Cheero Progress Association reported on the status of Peat Island redevelopment plans.
- Central Coast Council continues with the rezoning of the Peat Island area, in two parts:
 - West of the M1 with broad community interest
 - East of the M1, primarily of interest to Mooney residents
- Central Coast Council are consulting with Government agencies, and will run a three month community consultation process later in the year.
- The rezoning is likely to take most of 2018.
- Chris Haywood stated that
 - There was nothing in the plan for Peat Island for the Volunteer Rescue Association
 - There was very limited public access to the waterfront, especially for educational purposes. He asked is Peat Island possible for the location of a co-ed high school?

14. History Project

- *Jo Scarsbrick and Karen Arnold will organise the first meeting of the BCA history project.*
- Lucy Milne from Mooney, formerly the NSW State Librarian, and other BCA members have been invited to participate.

15. Recycling Depot

- Bob Davis spoke about the need to promote recycling.
- Matt Kean noted that 100 million cans had already been collected in NSW.
- *Motion: the BCA should investigate the establishment of a Recycling Depot in Brooklyn.*
 - Proposed by Bob Davis, seconded by Brian Scarsbrick
- President Di Bowles said that BCA Sustainability committee member Ingrid Segovia will lead the investigation.

16. Any Other Business

- President Di Bowles expressed thanks to Jo Scarsbrick for running the Chair Yoga Group, with sponsorship from King Tide Café, and assistance from Karen Arnold.
- Suggestion from the floor to investigate the possibility of using the old railway piers to join the Great North Walk by building a footbridge over the Hawkesbury River. Matt Kean didn't consider this the best investment for the community.
- Suggestion from the floor for a permanent stage in Brooklyn Park. Matt Kean said a request could be made for a Community Grant.

Future Meeting dates

- Saturday, 16 June 2018 -10.00 am
- Saturday, 8 September 2018-10:00 am
- Saturday, 1 December 2018- Afternoon meeting/Christmas celebration