

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 6th FEBRUARY, 2023

Meeting commenced at 7.05pm

Welcome

Apologies: Carol Fortey, Tony Magnus, Wal Portelli, Rob McVie, Nick Welch, Belinda Clark.

Attendance: 27

President's Report:

Steve Thanked Robert and the Committee for their work on several sub committees.

Treasurer's Report:

General Account:	\$11,616.35
Petty Cash on Hand:	\$ 75.00
Total:	\$11,691.35

Saltwater Estate:

ABCA have asked the Central Coast Council for clarification, as sixteen tourist cabins have turned into what appears to be seventeen substantial permanent homes. It appears Council is not able to prevent this.

Landslip:

Michael Scobie reported that Council have had a Geotech inspection, and the advice is to use mesh to anchor into the rock face to stabilize it. Funding this will take time.

Dog Policy:

There is not much in the latest report which affects Avoca Beach. Council have changed the southern boundary near the Shark Tower and Fitzgibbon Close may become dog-free. Any further action has been suspended in order to have further discussions.

North Avoca Swimming Pool:

Ian: The application for the swimming pool on the ocean side of the building line has been approved by the Land and Environment Court. This decision could affect residents of Avoca Beach in the future. The Coastal Zone Management plan is being reviewed at present. Although very substantial and permanent in nature, the swimming pool was classified as an 'ancillary' structure and therefore construction was approved completely on the ocean side of the building line. At the time of the meeting, no decision had been made by CCC on an appeal of this decision. Council will need to address this apparent loophole.

Water Quality in the Lagoon:

Ian: The monitoring programme has now been going for a year and the plan is for the buoy to stay in position for a while longer. ABCA have asked for a draft report and would like to meet with CCC in order to make recommendations. The water quality has been upgraded from "Poor" to "Good" in the latest reporting year.

The Rock Pool:

The original pool was built in the 1940's by a local community group and revamped in the 1960s. The sand tends to be washed out and back due to tide and weather conditions. There was debate about the recent construction of the rock wall and the effect it has had on the sand. The meeting was divided on solutions for the current situation. Council has been approached by the ABCA on many recent occasions and it seems to be in the too hard basket. Bulldozing the loose rocks and pushing them against the rock wall may help. Steve has asked before but will chase it up with Council.

Rabbits:

The eradication programme by the Council a year ago has not been successful. They hope to try a new chemical. There is an App (Rabbitscan) available to download that allows the public to help monitor rabbits and hopefully help deal with hot spots.

General Business

Bangaloe Stud:

Tess Green from the Kincumber Picketts Valley Group advised that Living Choice has sold the land, zoned C4, with settlement in May. The new developers have proposed twelve x 2 hectare lots. There is a long way to go before anything will happen, as there will be heritage, indigenous and Geotech studies carried out. It has been proposed that the new development will be Community Title, with a new Development Application to be submitted. The entry to the estate will move further east of the present driveway. Meeting reaction was generally positive, although the detail in the DA will answer further questions. An invitation to speak at the next meeting of the ABCA to be extended to new owner John Stevens. A report on this from Tess is attached as well as a map..

Council website:

Difficulties have been experienced by anyone trying to access DA submissions and applications on the CCC website. The amalgamation of the two systems from the previous separate Councils has caused a number of problems. ABCA wrote to Council Executives requesting them to address the problem. In reply, Council agreed the issues need addressing. The new Council has set up a working group and ABCA has volunteered to work with Council to make this more accessible.

Council Community Lands in Avoca Beach:

Council own approximately 100 blocks of community land in Avoca Beach. Council has placed on exhibition a draft plan as to the future management of these sites, and the ABCA will make a submission. Heazlett Park is not listed on the Council's list of Community Land, because it is State Crown Land (but managed by Council). Everyone can have a say on Your-Voice-Our Coast website (by 1 March). (Text deleted)

Traffic and Road Safety:

Council have, unfortunately, refused permission to install a mirror outside the Service Station, saying the 40 km speed limit zone is sufficient. Safety considerations were cited as the reason.

- Bus down Austral Avenue:
- There is a submission in to change the route, and divert the buses through the village.
- The Round Drive/Avoca Drive Intersection:

An appeal will be made to Adam Crouch, the local member, for funds to move the power pole at the junction of the Round Drive and Avoca Drive (near Fire Station and Scout Hall), to allow cars to pass on the inside of traffic waiting to turn into the Round Drive coming into Avoca Beach.

Flood Victims:

The ABCA together with George Brand are trying to arrange respite accommodation for victims of the recent floods. (Similar to the respite accommodation provided to victims of the bush fires.)

Newsletter:

Available online and also on the Friends of Avoca Facebook page. Hard copies are available for distribution through local shops.

Virginia Riley enquired about wheelchair access to the Rugby Club. Robert acknowledged there was some difficulty, but this would not be resolved until the extension have been completed. The Rugby Club is still awaiting approval of the application by the Council.

Margaret Bull expressed her concern about children jumping off the bridge into the lake. It is extremely dangerous. Council will need to be approached to remedy the matter.

Meeting closed at 8.40pm

Note from the president: The Bangaloe development is only a proposal at this stage, not a DA.