

Greenwich Community Association General Meeting

Held at Greenwich Memorial Community Hall, Greenwich Road
19 August 2015

Minutes of Meeting

The meeting opened at 7:35pm

Present: As per the attendance book

1) Welcome

President Tom Gervay welcomed Councillor Pam Palmer and all others attending.

2) Apologies

Apologies were received from Mayor David Brooks Horn, Councillor David Karpin, Rod Tudge and Liz Gill.

3) Confirmation of Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the GCA Annual General Meeting held 17 June 2015 were tabled.

Motion: The minutes are accepted.

Moved by John Southwood, seconded by Patricia Quealey and passed.

4) Matters arising from the Minutes

Any matters arising from the minutes were discussed during the meeting.

5) Report on the Activities of the Association

a) President's Report

The President noted the Lane Cove Council decision to proceed with the St Leonards South Draft Master Plan, which will be discussed later in the meeting.

b) Secretary's Report

Since the General Meeting held on 17 June 2015 the following correspondence has been received:

<i>Date</i>	<i>To</i>	<i>Subject</i>
27 July 2015	Greg Sheehy, Acting Director Metropolitan, Environmental Protection Authority	Response to GCA letter of 17 June 2015 (Gore Bay Terminal, Review of EPA Licence 661) and follow up on meeting with GCA representatives 28 April 2015

10 August 2015	Michael Mason, Executive Manager Environmental Services Lane Cove Council	Finalisation of the St Leonards South Master Plan
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The following correspondence has been sent:

<i>Date</i>	<i>To</i>	<i>Subject</i>
24 June 2015	General Manager Lane Cove Council	Greenwich Baths Liquor Licence DA
29 June 2015	General Manager Lane Cove Council	Request for Meeting with Council, Status of Gore Bay Terminal Project and Community Concerns
29 June 2015	The Hon Mark Speakman MP, Minister for the Environment	Gore Bay Terminal, Fuel Sulphur Content
19 July 2015	Email to The Hon Mark Speakman MP, Minister for the Environment from Tom Gervay President GCA	Environmental Issues at Gore Bay (follow up to meeting held 14/7/15 with departmental staff)
24 July 2015	General Manager Lane Cove Council	Osborne Park Traffic Study - SU5586

c) Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer, Patricia Quealey presented the report:

SUBSCRIPTIONS

We have received 34 member subscriptions since the last General Meeting making the total of voting members now 217, which is similar to numbers at this time last year.

\$42355 has been received so far \$1555 via EFT, \$1750 cash and \$930 by cheque. The preferred method of payment is still via the Pharmacy box.

OPERATING FUNDS

Cash in bank	\$4,682.00
Term deposit balance	\$12,135.80
Rolled over for another 4 months at interest rate	2.45%
Maturity date	14 December 2015

No unusual expenditure, just Newsletter, Internet provider and reimbursements. No donations or major expenses this year to date.

6) Notified Business

a) Better Planning Network

The GCA was an affiliate member of BPN last year but the organization has changed its structure recently and the GCA now needs to apply for membership. BPN is a volunteer-based organisation formed at the end of August 2012 by community groups concerned about the NSW Government's planning reforms. BPN has a focus on community wellbeing, residential amenity, environmental and heritage protection across NSW.

Motion: That the GCA apply to become an associate member of BPN and in addition make a donation of \$500 to BPN.

Moved by Ian Meller (on behalf of Liz Gill), seconded Tom Gervay and passed.

b) Draft St Leonards South Master Plan

Peter Sweeney addressed the meeting:

- Lane Cove Council has resolved, *"to adopt the Draft St Leonards South Master Plan with the addition of the area up to Park Road east side, subject to the B3 Commercial Core zone west of Canberra Avenue remaining as currently zoned"*.
- A petition with over 500 signatures has been submitted to Council requesting that the planning process be deferred until such time as effective community consultation has taken place.

Motion: That following the decision to adopt the Draft St Leonards Master Plan by Lane Cove Council, the GCA write to Council stating the following:

- The GCA notes that some sections of the community continue to object to the Council proceeding with the Draft St Leonards Master Plan as they hold the view that they have not been involved in the preparation of this plan to the extent appropriate for such a transformational development and the plan has not taken into account their views. A petition with over 500 signatures has been submitted to Council requesting that the planning process be deferred until such time as effective community consultation has taken place.
- The community acknowledges the intent of the Council to obtain firm commitments from government agencies that the necessary improvements to infrastructure will be fully funded and carried out, particularly in regards to schools, roads and traffic improvements. The GCA requests that the Council clearly state how such 'firm commitments' will be obtained to a level that provides assurance to the community that government funding will be irrevocably allocated for school facilities, roads, and other infrastructure.

Moved by Tom Gervay, seconded by John Southwood and passed.

It was noted that coordination with adjoining councils has been minimal. The traffic studies carried out indicate that there will be congestion. Council included the area up to the east side of Park Road against the advice of the Council staff. Lane Cove has met the State Government housing targets without the up zoning of St Leonards South. Lane Cove is on track to meet the new population targets for 2031.

The up zoning in the Draft Master Plan was a result of a request from some residents in the area.

The North Shore Councils' grouping NSROC has requested that the Planning Minister not overrule a Council's decision not to approve a particular development as has happened in the past.

c) Osborne Park and Gore Hill Traffic Study

Lane Cove Council has approved a proposal to have 3P parking on one side of the street and unrestricted parking on the other generally in the area except for Bellevue and Innes Roads. Council will increase policing compliance with the parking restrictions. The proposals will be reviewed after 6 months operation.

Neither the volume of traffic nor the average speeds of traffic using the roads in the area have been considered in the study. These should be considered in the 6-month review.

Resident parking permits will be retained but the RMS imposes limitations on who can receive a permit. Council is looking at ways in which the requirements for resident permits can be relaxed to give residents more flexibility.

d) Stop the Chop 10/50 Legislation Review

Gaye White addressed the meeting:

- The original 10/50 legislation was a knee jerk reaction to the Blue Mountains bushfires.
- Following a review there have now been 30 changes to the original legislation.
- Under the changes trees can be removed but only after expert assessment and the 10 metre clearance from neighbouring buildings can only be applied with the neighbour's approval.
- Individual reserves have to be assessed by the RFS for their bushfire risk, which will add to red tape.
- Stop the Chop will lobby Fred Nile to gain his support.

Motion: The GCA thanks Gaye White for her efforts and achievements with the Stop the Chop campaign.

Proposed by Tom Lawson, seconded by Tom Gervay and passed.

Gaye White will draft a pro forma letter in support of the Stop the Chop campaign addressed to the Minister for use by community members.

e) Proposed Council Mergers – Tom Gervay

Recent press reports suggest that 50% of Sydney councils will be forced to merge. Lane Cove is opposed to any merger, as are most of the surrounding councils. Councillor Palmer said that it seemed likely that the State Government will force mergers. There was a view that Greenwich is a better fit with North Sydney with its tradition of independence than a merged Lane Cove/Ryde.

7) Report of Subcommittees

a) Gore Bay Terminal Subcommittee – Merri Southwood, Convener

A full report of the activities of the Subcommittee is included in the attachments to these minutes.

Representatives of the GCA met with members of the White Bay community to discuss sulphur emissions from ships while in port. The White Bay situation is different from Gore Bay in that the Cruise Terminal is a new use, it had Development Consent with conditions, it is located in a swinging electorate and it already had an established regular forum with relevant Government agencies.

The GCA made a submission to the EPA asking that the requirement for low sulphur fuels be extended to ships using Gore Bay. The EPA has decided that the restriction will be limited to cruise ships only until at least 2020.

Viva has stated in the past that they voluntarily require ships using the terminal to use low sulphur fuel while in the Harbour. EPA staff at a recent meeting with GCA representatives undertook to approach Viva to obtain a formal commitment to this. The EPA staff also undertook to request that Viva agree to release the draft Human Health Risk Assessment Report and to formalise their undertaking not to store petrol at the site.

The EPA Licence will be reviewed between now and the end of the year. This will be the first review since the change in operation. The Sub Committee is developing a list of wants for submitting to the review. The EPA has already said that they will not restrict the storage of petrol on the site.

Motion: That the GCA agrees to host a public forum for the residents of Gore Bay and Wollstonecraft to:

- Outline conditions of the current EPA licence as it applies to the current operations of the terminal,
- Outline EPA standards that apply at other similar sites and
- Seek input as to their opinions and requests for the licence review.

Moved by Merri Southwood, seconded by Patricia Quealey and passed.

Tom Lawson addressed the meeting and commented as follows:

- Ships berthing at Gore Bay do not use 3.5% sulphur fuel while berthed.
- The ships engines are stopped 30 minutes after arrival and are not restarted until 30 minutes before departure. Marine diesel is used power boilers and generators while the ships are in port.
- At White Bay the cruise liners' main engines powered by heavy fuel oil are used while they are in port.
- There is no health risk at Gore Bay because of sulphur in fuel.
- The recent Newsletter article on the topic was misleading.

d) Environmental Sustainability

The bagshare bags need to be replenished in the bins. Helen Smith is the Convenor and will be assisted by Meg Gervay.

e) Bicycle/Active Transport Subcommittee – Michael Ryland

The Subcommittee is focusing on the website subpage and the building of a consensus on the optimal bike routes to be targeted.

The Sub Committee will follow up with North Sydney Council on the need for more bike racks at Wollstonecraft Station.

The Big Family Fun Ride with a barbeque at Blackman Oval will be held Sunday 13 September 11am-3pm as part of the Cameraygal Festival 2015.

f) Social Media – Michael Ryland

The Working Group has four volunteers at present and is seeking additional volunteers of interested people to act as the core group to set up and manage a Facebook page for the GCA. When they have 6-10 people they will start work on planning and setting up the page with a target of going live by September.

g) Newsletter – Liz Walton

There is always a balance between light and serious content in the Newsletter. Community groups are requested to submit material.

8) Councillor's Reports – Councillor Pam Palmer

The Cameraygal Festival 2015 was launched Saturday 8 August. The programme of events is on the Council's website.

Council rejected a housing development in the Lane Cove Business Park on the grounds of density and the loss of employment land. A 55 storey residential development at Nicholson Street St Leonards was rejected on the grounds that Council did not want any more residential in a commercial area.

A new railway station is currently being proposed in the Artarmon industrial area with others at Crows Nest and Victoria Cross.

The new parking for the Aquatic Centre will be complete by Christmas.

The Rosenthal Avenue development by Council is progressing.

Many of the GCA's letters to Council do not get a response.

The Greenwich Baths interest group is still operating and anyone interested in the Baths is welcome to join the group, by just contacting Pam Palmer.

9) General Business

The public liability insurance taken out by the GCA last year has expired and will not be renewed as the Greenwich Hub insurance will cover any activities.

10) Next Meeting

The next General Meeting will be held on Wednesday 21 October 2015 at 7:30pm at Greenwich Memorial Community Hall, Greenwich Road.

11)Close

The meeting closed at 9:20pm.

Attachment

Gore Bay Terminal Subcommittee Report Report to General Meeting 19 August 2015

Sub-Committee Membership

The sub-committee membership is as follows:

- Jenny Bowen
- Karen Coleman
- Garry Draffin (Joint Deputy Chairperson)
- Tom Lawson
- Penny Mabbutt (Joint Deputy Chairperson)
- Ian Meller
- Stuart Warden (Secretary)
- Han Xiao
- Merri Southwood (Chairperson)

Meetings of the Sub-committee

Since the last GCA general meeting, the sub-committee met on:

- 6 August 2015

Action arising from last meeting

To be discussed below.

Cancellation of SSD for Gore Bay

At the June meeting of the GCA the following resolution was passed.

That the GCA write immediately to the Mayor and General Manager of Lane Cove Council to request an urgent meeting of GCA representatives, all Councillors and key Council staff. The purpose of this meeting is to advise Council of the key concerns around the operation of the Gore Bay Terminal and to update Council as to community expectations of Council as consent authority for Gore Bay Terminal now that the SSD has been cancelled. The GCA authorises the sub-committee to prepare a report to Council in respect of the matters to be raised at the meeting and to provide this to Council at or in advance of the meeting.

At the GCA Committee meeting in July it was agreed that a letter should not be written until Council's authority and responsibilities in respect of Gore Bay were clarified. No letter has yet been sent.

Meeting with White Bay Community Representatives

As authorised at the June GCA meeting, GCA representatives met with White Bay representatives on 12 July 2015 with a view to sharing information and resources related to public health and safety issues arising from proximity of residential communities to commercial shipping vessels.

The issues affecting the two communities are similar in many ways but they differ in significant respects:

- There have been big changes at White Bay through the opening of the White Bay Terminal ie people can see big differences between the “then” and “now” scenarios
- There is a planning consent document in place for White Bay against which the operation can be assessed but there is no document in place for Gore Bay and there will not be for the foreseeable future, given the cancellation of the SSD
- The White Bay community has managed to get all relevant regulators talking to one another.

A key message coming out of the meeting is that Australian standards in respect of sulphur emissions from shipping activity are well below international standards for comparable economies.

Notes of the meeting are attached to this document.

Submission to the Minister for the Environment Regulation of Sulphur Levels in Shipping

As reported to the previous meeting the GCA made a submission in respect of proposed regulations to limit sulphur content in marine fuel used by cruise ships in NSW ports. It was hoped that the regulations could be extended to cover commercial vessels in order to regulate tankers berthed at Gore Bay.

The GCA also sought support of Council for the GCA submission on 12 June 2015. An officer of Council advised that this was done but no copy of Council's submission has been received.

The EPA has advised that the regulations will not be amended to cover vessels other than cruise ships –see below email the Air policy Unit 27/6:

Air Policy have advised that the focus in NSW is to reduce population exposure to shipping emissions. Cruise ships produce 38% of total PM2.5 emissions from all ships in Sydney Harbour. Around two-thirds of emissions (and 90% of SO2 emissions) occur at berth, near residential populations. Cruise ships' relative proportion of ship emissions

at berth is higher than other vessel types due to their higher energy requirements while hotelling. As such, the draft Regulation amendment targets cruise ship emissions.

However NSW is continuing to explore other (state-based) options for reducing emissions from shipping of all types, and is working with the Commonwealth and other jurisdictions on potential national measures to address broader shipping emissions. Work is intended to ramp up on this aspect of broader shipping emissions from September this year onwards.

If you haven't already seen references to this broader work see the EPA site at <http://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/air/ports.htm>

Although I know the Greenwich Community Association will be disappointed with the scope of the Cruise Ships amendment, it would appear that your concerns will be addressed steadily over the coming months.

Meeting with Advisers to Minister for the Environment/Jamie Parker MP

On receipt of the advice that the proposed sulphur regulations would not be covering commercial ie non-cruise vessels the GCA wrote to the Minister for the Environment on 29/6 seeking an urgent meeting – see attached.

On 14/7 a meeting was held with Brand Black (Chief of Staff) and Mark Egelstaff (the Minister's EPA delegate) – Tom Gervay, Penny Mabbutt and Merri Southwood attended on behalf of the GCA.

The Minister's staff explained that the sulphur regulations would not be extended beyond cruise ships for the purpose of the current amendments but the Minister was planning to make changes to controls for other vessels – 2020 was mentioned but no specific time frame.

The Department understood that Viva is already using low sulphur fuel at Gore Bay and it was agreed that the Department would follow up to secure confirmation of this.

The GCA representatives also sought support from the Minister for a prohibition on petrol storage in the review of the EPA Licence 661 for Gore Bay and in securing access to the Human Health Risk Assessment Report prepared by Viva for the EIS for Gore Bay.

The following email was sent by the GCA on 19/7.

To: Hon. Mark Speakman MP

Minister for the Environment

Dear Mark,

Thank you for facilitating our meeting with Brand Black (BB) and Mark Egelstaff (ME) last Tuesday and I would ask that you convey our thanks to them for listening to our concerns.

We are comforted in the knowledge that the Minister is committed to moving Australia's current regulations closer to world's best practice. There is no conscionable reason why Australian citizens, in 2015, should be subject to anything less than the

protections available in the developed world from technological advancement and knowledge of pollution on human health.

Protection of the Environment (Clean Air) Amendment Regulation 2015

We note the advice of BB and ME that Vitol has advised the EPA that it is utilising low sulphur fuels while their vessels are berthed at Gore Bay. We confirm that they are contacting Vitol to seek written confirmation as to the sulphur content currently being used in fuel to operate both the refuelling vessel The Destine and the berthed petrol tankers.

1. Review of EPA Licence

(a) We were advised at the meeting that the Protection of the Environment (Clean Air) Amendment Regulation 2015 will not include commercial vessels as requested in our recent submission to the EPA.

The reason for the decision not to include commercial vessels at this point was explained at our meeting and that NSW is continuing to explore other (state-based) options for reducing emissions from shipping of all types.

Given the location of the Gore Bay terminal in the heart of a residential area without a buffer zone and your advice that Viva has indicated to the EPA that it is already using low sulphur fuel (content of sulphur not confirmed to date), we consider that it is reasonable for the Minister to direct the EPA to include the Ultra Low Sulphur Fuel level (0.001%) as a new requirement for all vessels in its review of Licence 661 in November.

(b) We also seek the Minister's intervention to require the Licence Review to include that of Viva Energy, and any future operators, do not store petrol at the Gore Bay facility.

2. Access to Human Health Risk Assessment Report

We welcome your agreement to seek release of an un-redacted copy of the Human Health Risk Report regarding the Shell/viva operations at Gore Bay that is with the Department of Health, to the GCA or the applicant under GIPAA, Friends of Gore Bay. Release of the report is currently the subject of an NCAT appeal which is scheduled for a planning meeting on 21 July 2015.

In the event release of this report is refused, we seek written assurance for is to circulate to the Greenwich community, that there are no human health risks revealed in the document when compared against international standards.

Please convey our thanks for the professional help and input of your staff.

Regards,

Tom Gervay,

President, Greenwich Community Association (GCA)

Tom, Penny and Merri then met with Jamie Parker MP. He emphasised that Australian standards are inconsistent with international best practice and suggested that Lane Cove forge an alliance with other harbourside councils to push for elevated standards.

Human Health Risk Assessment Report

Viva continues to block release of the draft Human Health Risk Assessment Report that is with the Department of Health and was prepared for the now cancelled EIS. Viva has appealed to NCAT to block the report and it had until 18/8 to make its submissions.

The matter will go to another planning meeting on 6/10.

EPA Licence Review

The EPA Licence 661 for Gore Bay is due for review in the latter part of 2015.

The GCA wrote to Council 29/6 seeking a meeting seeking a meeting and support in respect of the forthcoming review but no response has been received.

A response has been received from the EPA to the GCA letter to the EPA 17/6 following up on a meeting with Penny Mabbutt and Ian Meller and seeking information preparatory to the licence review.

This letter will be tabled by the Secretary tonight.

In essence the letter confirms that:

- There will be a review later this year
- The EPA is willing to meet with the community before the licence review is finalised
- It does not intend to remove from the licence the right to store petrol and will be guided by WorkCover as to appropriate conditions if petrol is to be stored
- It does not regulate ships at berth so has no role in sulphur level regulation.

The GBTSC is in the process of identifying those relevant items for amendment or inclusion in its submission for the upcoming review of Viva Energy's EPA Licence 661.

Support for the following motion is sought:

That the GCA agrees to host a public forum for the residents of Gore Bay and Wollstonecraft to:

- 1. Outline conditions of the current EPA licence as it applies to the current operations of the terminal,*
- 2. Outline EPA standards that apply at other similar sites and*
- 3. Seek input as to their opinions and requests for the licence review.*

It is envisaged this forum will be held in the week commencing 14 September 2015 to allow for enough time to make appropriate submissions to the EPA.