

GREENWICH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
Minutes of Meeting
18 December 2013

Meeting opened at 7.40pm at GMCA Hall, Greenwich Road.

Apologies: Peter and Liz Walton, Rob and Libby Hunter, Jill Pain,
Mayor David Brooks-Horn.

Present: As per the attendance book

Minutes of previous meeting:

Tabled and accepted by Rod Tudge, seconded by Tom Lawson subject to point 3 being amended to read as follow 'Julie-Anne Lacko, resident, expressed her support of the proposal'

Matters arising from Minutes:

None

Reports on activities of the association:

President's report: Covered later in the meeting

Treasurer's report: Treasurer is currently overseas and Tom Gervay provided an update.

Secretary's report: Will need to undertake a review re production of the GCA newsletter with Todd McHardy of Bluefit in January 2014.

Reports Of Sub Committees:

Newsletter: Already covered

Environmental Sustainability Subcommittee (ESS): Re bag share, John May updated that the project was going well and that there are plenty of bags. Congratulations and thanks to Helen Smith, who has been actively ensuring the bag bin is kept full.

Update on proposed new NSW Govt planning changes:

John May advised that the white paper had been rejected by the Upper House and has now gone back to the Lower House. A resident raised the issue re problems with an adjacent development and issues with the Private Certifier. Councillor Pam Palmer said as long as it was compliant, there is nothing Council can do but suggested resident plus architect should view plans at Council.

Shell Gore Bay Reference Group: John May provided an update.

As a consequence of more and more information being required, the DA is still to be submitted.

Roads and Maritime Services have received an application from Shell for

an additional marine loading arm and an additional berthing fender.
Large tank has recently been refurbished to take diesel.
Installation of a new VECs unit to take out odours from tanks being filled.

Waverton Hub: The development of the Waverton Hub is an organisation of residents that have come together to help older residents maintain a quality of life, staying in their own homes for as long as possible.

It is proposed Councillor Pam Palmer, John May and Tom Gervay look at the possibilities of a Hub for Greenwich.

**Action: Need to have discussion with Greenwich Senior Citizens.
Patricia Quealey suggested we invite Waverton Hub to GCA meeting.**

Reports from representatives of Community Groups:

Friends of Gore Bay: The prime objective for Friends of Gore Bay is to make sure that Shell's DA, will ensure the safety of Greenwich residents. Merri Southwood highlighted their major concerns:

a) the volume of technical information and detail that is being submitted by Shell to the Environment Protection Authority, which is not being made available to Friends of Gore Bay.

Although this has been requested, Shell has continually blocked access.

This raises concern that when this information is finally made available to view, because of the sheer volume of technical material and the limited time that will be given, it will be very difficult to be able to provide a constructive response.

b) Consideration should be given for extending the time for review.

c) Concern also re pipes which are old and will have to handle an increase in the volume of fuel.

d) Whole process needs to be analysed as Shell has never been monitored by any Govt. body, apart from Lane Cove Council.

e) the SSDs for the Clyde Refinery and Gore Bay should be interlinked, the exhibition end for Clyde being 23 December 2013 should be delayed until after the SSD for Gore Bay is on exhibition.

Rod Tudge suggested that because of ongoing community concerns re health and safety for work already being undertaken by Shell, a letter from GCA be sent to the Premier's Dept. and to all other relevant Govt. Depts.

Action: Merri Southwood to draft a letter to Tom Gervay as GCA president, setting out the concerns of Greenwich residents to the changes of Shell's operation at Gore Bay and that it should be no less than world best practice.

Motion to write to the Premier as GCA re community concerns, proposed by Dion Weston and seconded by John May

Lane Cove Community Alliance: Tom Gervay advised meeting that the

Alliance had sent 2 letters to Lane Cove Council highlighting residents' concerns re the Bicycle Plan and the Plaza upgrade.

Greenwich Library: no report.

General Business:

Greenwich Baths Lease Renewal Consultation Update:

GCA supports the renewal of the lease for Bluefit.

John Southwood raised concerns re serving of alcohol at the Baths as he said this would be in breach of Council and State lease agreements.

Action: moved that this be put on the agenda at the next GCA meeting.

Bicycle Plan update: Rod Tudge moved that a sub-committee be formed to develop a professional well developed bicycle plan for cyclists on Greenwich peninsular. Seconded by Dion Weston

Action: to provide paid up Greenwich residents with the opportunity to be part of the committee, this will feature in the next GCA newsletter.

Piet de Jong, a resident of Greenwich, then spoke to the meeting re concerns and questions he had re GCA's position on the information and material that was distributed to the Greenwich community. A summary of the questions raised by Piet de Jong is attached.

Councillor's Report:

New Year's Eve: Councillor Pam Palmer provided advice from Council that the same area as in previous years has been declared an Alcohol Free zone and will have a police presence, closing off streets from 5pm. Residents will be allowed access on proof of identity.

Meeting closed 9.45pm

Next Meeting AGM Wednesday 19 February 2014

Summary of Questions raised by Piet de Jong.

- What processes are followed by GCA to reflect a diversity of community views and opinions in material distributed to the community under its name? Particularly the following 3 examples.
 - The October 2013 GCA newsletter article titled 'Bicycle Plan: Dangerous and Destructive'.
 - About 2 months ago, a two sided glossy leaflet entitled 'Bicycle Plan: Dangerous, Destructive and Costly'

- The 2013 December GCA newsletter, heading 'Sanity Prevails'
- What due process do GCA office bearers follow to authorise the narrow and selective agenda with respect to the Bike Plan as evidence in the above publications?
- I understand material reflecting alternative views was forwarded to GCA re the Bike Plan, why didn't this material appear in any GCA publication?
- Was any attempt made by GCA to canvas and make available in the GCA publications, the wider public interest and issues relevant to the Bike Plan proposals?