

Minutes of Meeting
Greenwich Community Association
24 April 2013

Meeting opened at 7.35pm at GMCCA Hall Greenwich Road

Apologies: Merri Southwood, Rob Hunter, Todd McHardy, MaryEd Hartnell

Present: 16 members as per attendance book.

Minutes of the previous meeting: Tabled and accepted, moved by Rod Tudge, seconded by John May.

Business arising from the Minutes:

John May sought to update the meeting re the issue of ongoing liaison with Shell pertaining to the noise generated by pumps on decks of different tankers at the Shell Gore Bay terminal.

Tom Lawson raised the point that the link between the Shell Gore Bay Reference Group website and the GCA website is yet to be reinstated, as agreed at the last meeting.

Councillor Pam Palmer reiterated that the vote of thanks to Rod Tudge for stepping in as the interim GCA President, was in fact from all GCA members.

Correspondence in: Bush Care's impressive newsletter, the 'Golden Whistler' received. Tom Gervay proposed GCA contact Lane Cove Bushcare and other similar community groups to discuss the possibility of distributing information from their circular via the GCA distribution network.

President's Report: As Tom Gervay has only just been elected President he had nothing specific to report but thanked GCA for having nominated him as President.

Treasurer's Report: Peter Walton read and tabled the report and provided an explanation re current income and expenditure. Karen Macalister-Hohnen had a question on subscriptions and how the income generated is utilised. Peter Walton explained that out of approximately 650 GCA members, approximately 200 pay each year. During the last year GCA has contributed to purchasing a Heritage seat at the Greenwich Public School and donated \$500 to BPN. Peter undertook that the next GCA newsletter will present details of how GCA funds are utilised.

Secretary's Report; Started with a comment from Karen Macalister-Hohnen who felt that the current newsletter format and content was generally too uninteresting for residents. Patricia Quealey proposed that the format of the newsletter needed to be changed. In response Alan Winney explained that the GCA Committee were already looking at the possibility of changing the newsletter format to an A4 size and would revise the layout etc. The objective will also be to encourage other organisations within Greenwich, to use the excellent distribution of our newsletter, as well as the GCA website, to promote and inform all Greenwich residents of their specific activities.

Jill Pain advised she had found a large amount of historical correspondence of the Greenwich Progress Association. Proposal is to see if Lane Cove Library would be interested in including this correspondence in their archives.

Report of Sub Committees:

ESS: John May updated on the ESS (Environment Sustainability Sub-Committee) progress of the Bag Share concept at the Greenwich shops. Bag Share is already operating in Lane Cove (under Coles) and is proposed to operate at the Greenwich shops at Hooked and the IGA. Lane Cove

Council has provided funding for the two boxes and a large batch of bright yellow bags with the GCA logo.

Lane Cove Council has already provided funds for the production of yellow bags with the GCA logo. John May suggested that when the program starts, Committee members should be available at the shops to explain the concept.

As there are problems with people returning the bags, Helen Jones suggested not to over fill the boxes to allow space for expected returns.

Tom Gervay proposed that additional exposure could be gained for GCA by publicity through the North Shore Times.

Better Planning Network: Councillor Pam Palmer provided an explanation of BPN as the White Paper has now been released.

Of primary concern is that 85% of development applications will have no input from the community or from Council, as the process will go through Private Certifiers.

As elements of the White Paper will be of considerable concern to many in the community, John May proposed that GCA hold an extraordinary community meeting to be addressed by BPN and LC Council to provide residents with an understanding of the content of the White Paper. Agreed unanimously.

Rod Tudge proposed that Greenwich and Osborne Park community associations amalgamate for this meeting.

The BPN have requested funds from its members to better address current issues. Tom Gervay moved we donate \$500 to BPN at the community meeting, being payment for their representation and participation at the meeting. Seconded by Peter Walton, motion passed.

GCA is to register as an interested party to attend the NSW Government forum on the White Paper. GCA representative would be Tom Gervay and it was also suggested, Merri Southwood be invited to be a GCA nominated representative.

Council being briefed on the White Paper and will advise dates for two council information meetings thereafter.

It was proposed that the special GCA meeting to inform Greenwich and Osborne Park residents re the planning changes be held on Wednesday 29 May 2013.

Wardrop Street Parking: John May advised a site meeting was held with the P&C and School Principal (who also represented GOOSH) and both parties were willing to endorse moving the bus stop and kiss and ride parking into Chisholm Street, subject to the following conditions:- Lane Cove Council pay for the work needing to be undertaken for a new entrance in Chisholm Street / light to be installed / ramp for wheelchair access.

Councillor David Brooks-Horn to take up the proposal with Council

Tom Gervay thanked John May for his perseverance in negotiating improved parking solutions.

GCA newsletter deliverers:

The GCA Newsletter is currently distributed by 23 volunteers to approximately 2,000 Greenwich households. Tom Gervay to clarify with MaryEd Hartnell as to which areas are not covered and record these in the Minutes.

Distributors are required for Carlotta Street and for River Road, east of Greenwich Road and also for occasional distributors.

Karen Macalister Hohnen said she would be willing to deliver in Carlotta Street, if required.

Please contact Tom Gervay 0418230889 if you can assist.

Shell Gore Bay Reference Group

Shell Gore Bay Community Group: Peter Walton updated meeting on Shell Gore Bay issues pertaining to both groups.

Main topic is the continued delay of the DA application submission by Shell. Shell said that the delay is as a consequence of the increase in requirements by the NSW Health and EPA for odour emission and noise monitoring, beyond that previously envisaged.

Tom Lawson highlighted the issues pertaining to the cost of overcoming the bottleneck with the pipes between Ship and shore.

He advised part of the problem with Shell not addressing any of the issues that could be addressed prior to DA, is that they feel they do not have community support.

Tom Gervay suggested that GCA should approach Shell to encourage them to undertake those forms of short term remedial action that would address some of the issues that can be done now prior to the DA, such as acoustic covers for pumps, etc. This will assist Shell in mitigating some of the problems that are affecting the community. Proposal moved by Peter Walton and agreed unanimously.

Greenwich Library: Council is currently seeking a new librarian.

Councillors Report:

Councillor David Brooks-Horn updated the meeting on the Rosenthal development with Council looking for community consultation re additional parking and a below ground level retail option of 4500m².

A DA for Little Street car park and associated retail and residential components has been approved and Expressions of Interest invited.

Council is putting free WiFi access into areas of Lane Cove, including Greenwich shops.

Marshal Ave development has been approved with a 23 story tower at the railway end and lowered building heights elsewhere.

Councillor Pam Palmer updated the meeting on the release of the Draft Metropolitan Strategy for Sydney, which can be accessed on the NSW Planning and Information website.

She advised that the Sailing Club to swimming pool walkway was being developed. She also advised that Lane Cove Council now require residents to obtain Council approval for planting of trees and shrubs on residential verges. She proposed this issue be explained further in the next GCA newsletter.

Other Business

Karen Macalister-Hohnen raised concerns re the traffic safety problems at the junction of Gore Street and St Vincents Road, exacerbated by commercial vehicles being parked in Gore Street. She has already raised the issue with Council re a proposal to have a roundabout or some form of traffic control at this junction, due to the volume of traffic using these streets. Council is looking into the issue and GCA invited Karen to update her progress at the next GCA meeting.

Alan Winney raised what has become a major problem with traffic and parking in Innes Road, Ronald Ave, Crowther Ave and Balfour Street, with the massive influx of 400 plus Foxtel workers into the Gore Hill development, who use the area as an all day parking lot. This is compounded by construction workers from the Nield Ave development, who also park in these areas all day.

The issue with Innes Road has been brought to the attention of Council, as cars parked on both sides of the street create a dangerous situation for residents reversing out of their respective drives, particularly due to the steepness of the hill and the speed cars travel down it. A number of residents' parked cars have been damaged.

Council's response has been to increase visits by the rangers but as rangers acknowledge, they only have time to do it on an ad hoc basis. The issue of controlled short term parking and Resident only parking permits was raised. Additional rangers could be paid for from the fines revenue raised.

Councillor David Karpin said he was aware of this issue and has requested a letter from GCA for him to take it up with Council.

Jill Pain has asked that GCA write to Lane Cove Council regarding problems with the trimming of creepers on the palm trees situated in Lower Serpentine Road and Mitchell Street above the wharf and the problem of defective lights above the path and requested Council attend to these matters.

Meeting Closed at 9.50pm