

NIRAG Quarterly Meeting Minutes, 7 pm, Wednesday 1/2/2023

Bulli Community Centre Hall

Present – Jo Page (Director Infrastructure and Works) , Cr Richard Martin, Maryanne Stuart (guest), John Croker, Ross Dearden, Susannah Cavill, Stephen Young, Stephen Kennard, Neil Walker, Annette Jones, Murray Jones, Will Tibben, Mathew Wall-Smith and Cherrida Hardaker.

Apologies – Ian McKinlay, Jill Walker, Cr Cameron Walters, John and Angela Penhallow, Hayley Nault, Tony Horneman and Simon Pinn.

Minutes of last meeting: 2nd Nov 2022: Accepted by: Neil Walker/ Stephen Kennard

Business arising:

1. **Objection to DA2021/1324 Amy St**, Thirroul (and Panmills Dr) A new notification was received and circulated with comments required by 27th January. (NIRAG made a submission reiterating our safety concerns, and concern for the loss of the connection between Corbett Ave and Amy Street).
2. **DA 2021/796, 2 Weaver Tce**: This development application for a double block extension and pool was refused on 8 March 2022. NIRAG objection was sent on 16/11/2022. The Land & Environment Court approved the development on 29 December with conditions to maintain a view sharing corridor to the public foreshore to the west of the proposal.
3. **Ocean Park Woonona**: Plans to extend the Bulli Cemetery, at Owen and Carrington St , Bulli unresolved land claims for this site and although council has asked Crown Lands, no definitive advice has been received. Cr Martin confirmed that there has been no advice received to date.
4. **Point St Footbridge** : Awaiting further advice from WCC on scope of work (subject to design assessment) with work scheduled for the FY 2024.
5. **Sandon Point Vegetation Plan of Management**: Maintenance is needed to control growth on the Sandon Point headland. *“Council is not resourced or planning such work, unlikely to meet the requirements of the AHIP”*. Crs Martin confirmed this advice / NIRAG letter 15/3/2013 refers and J Page agreed to list this concern for future works meetings.
6. **Pioneer Dr to Woonona Beach Cycleway** reconstruction. Email advice received from Jeremy Morgan (29 November CR0139253) Awaiting new information from Project Delivery on cost alternatives. Alternative designs to be discussed with Councillors favouring low key actions in the same location.
7. **Draft Stuart Park Master Plan**: NIRAG response was sent 2/11/2022.
8. **Lower Escarpment Walking trail**: Request from Mathew Wall-Smith (Seacliff Coasters Founder) for NIRAG / WCC support to legalise a right of way for runners and walkers through the colliery lands was supported unanimously. Secretary to write to Council and Wollongong Resources.
9. **Grant application Sandon Point Surf Club supported** (letter 27/10/22). Grant has been approved.
10. **Sandon Point carpark entrance** has been linemarked (following the bike accident in June). Additional consistent signage is requested here and along all along the coastal cycleway accesses, to ensure vehicles Give Way to pedestrians and cycles on the shared way.
11. **DA 2022/1023, 20 townhouses in Nicholson St** behind the Woonona Bulli RSL. Considered an overdevelopment of the site. NIRAG/ TVC assistance was requested and an objection sent 16/11/22.
12. **WCC Heritage Reference Group**. Susannah Cavill has nominated. Council is asked for a reply.

General Business

1. Meeting held with Jo Page at Sandon Point on Friday 16th December to discuss various outstanding local issues including: Pedestrian refuge at Blackall /Beach Rd has made a pinch point for northbound cyclists; northbound shoulder widening requested to improve safety between Slacky Creek and Beach Rd; Point St LATM linemarking incomplete; Fill to eliminate ponding along the

cycleway just north of the Sandon Point carpark is required; Edges of cycleway becoming dangerous; and Bulrushes growing tall again at Tramway Creek.

2. Climate Change Mitigation Plan comment sent 15th December following input from several members
3. Draft Tree Management Policy. NIRAG response sent 16/12/2022 and comments were included in the joint Neighbourhood Forum submission. New policy unlikely before April or May.
4. Kuradji (SPATE) 22nd Anniversary was held on Saturday 17th Dec 12pm to 6pm
5. SPATE Survival Day event at Kuradji on 26 January 2023 was well attended.
6. Suggestion to have inland playgrounds at Bulli Point and Sublime Point etc because coastal playgrounds are overcrowded especially at weekends. Action for Councillors, It was explained that already \$2.1 was allocated this FY and with \$3.4m in the next 4 years on the basis of cost/benefit.
7. Section 134 (5) of the NSW EP&A Regulation requirement for Private Certifiers to notify neighbours prior to issuing Complying Development Certificates. Stephen Young pointed out that Private Certifiers in Wollongong LGA are currently not required to give notice to neighbours but many other LGA's require notification. Cr Martin advised that this had been raised at the WCC briefing last Monday, and he would advise further. Secretary to request Council how to change this.
8. Neil Walker proposed a halt to High Risk Development: In view of the long-standing community concern for the need for access for emergency services along Lawrence Hargrave Drive, the meeting agreed to oppose major development of high risk facilities in Thirroul and the northern villages such as hospitals, schools and housing development for Seniors/People with Disability as these facilities require multiple responses by multiple agencies. Article for Illawarra Flame suggested.

Reports

Treasurer's Report: ICU account (General A/c) Balance \$452.73
(\$100 received for Rise and Shine clean up; \$20 expenditure (2 /11/22) Better Planning Network fee)

CBA account was closed on 30 Nov 2022 (Coastal Park Fund) after purchase of equipment for LALC revegetation work at Sandon Point. Acknowledged by LALC with thanks 9/11/2022.

Final Register of Environmental Organisations Statistical Return submitted 12 January 2023.

Late Business:

1. NIRAG received a request to participate in **Clean Up Australia Day**. It was agreed to nominate Monday 6th March for the clean up of Hewitts Creek estuary and McCauley's Beach to Sandon Point at 8.30am.
2. **Maryanne Stuart**, Labor candidate for Heathcote in the State election on 25th March, attended and addressed the meeting briefly. The Heathcote boundary now extends to Farrell Road Bulli. She also advised that there will be an Education forum on 16th February.
3. Bulli Hospital WCC DA for ground remediation on public exhibition (DA 2022/1364) until 14th February with a Planning Panel on 7th March. There will be a drop in information session at the Bulli Senior Citizens Centre, 8 Hospital Road from 10.30am - 1.30pm on Saturday 4th February.

Notices:

1. **Neighbourhood Forum 3** needs a Convenor; NIRAG is acting as the interim WCC community contact. Anyone interested could contact Tom Mccoll, WCC Engagement Coordinator.
2. **Thirroul Village Committee (TVC) meetings** are held at the Railway Institute Hall in Thirroul. (Murray Jones, Secretary: tvcc@internode.on.net). The next TVC meeting is 4pm Sunday 25th February. Come to meet candidates in the State election to be held on 25th March
3. **Our next NIRAG/NF3 quarterly meeting**, is Wednesday May 3rd, 2023, at 7pm

Meeting concluded at 8.50 pm