

## Meeting Minutes Stockton Community Group Meeting Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2021

### Present:

Members: Chris Baldwin, Carolyn Baldwin, Fred McIntire, Les Moran, Shelia Moran, Alan Newberry, Alison Rigby, Mark Rigby, Ian Taggart, Melanie Taggart, Barbara Witcher, Keith Craig, Sue McIntire, Willow Forsyth, Sheldon Newey.

Non-members: Carol Percival, Lynne Groves, Peter Groves.

Apologies: Vicki McDonald, Jenny Allen, Boyd Allen, Ron Boyd, Anna and Renato Flamminio, Scott Brooks, Wendy Hughes, Rainnie Carter, Lloyd Davies

TIME COMMENCED: 7:15pm TIME COMPLETED: 8:50pm CHAIR: Alison Rigby

CHAIR: AR

MINUTES: Melanie Taggart

Item 1: AR Acknowledgement of country and welcome.

Item 2: Present and Apologies.

AR COVID RULES as per Stockton Surf Life Saving Club

Thanks to members of Stockton Surf Life Saving Club to allow SCG to meet in their premises and anticipate an ongoing partnership.

**Item 3: Declaration of Conflicts** of Interest and Confidential items. Nil

**Item3.1 Minutes.** Accepted by Sheila Moran, Ian Taggart

**Item 4: Speaker:** Dr John Lewer, Friends of King Edward Park Community Group

**Item 5: Outstanding Actions**

### Outstanding Actions/Items

1. Treasure Island proposal:  
For noting Draft description, criterion, and purpose written for fund. Requires further work & drafts.
2. Stockton Bike Hire proposal  
SM /KS are working on a proposal for bike hire in Stockton. Inquiries made to Bykko, electric bikesharing. They are geared more to commuters. Initially Bykko had thought of Stockton as suitable location but a concern with Stockton is vandalism and local police would have to be involved. One option to set up stations by SCG, \$50000 and then Bykko could maintain etc. the bikes. Awaiting further input from Bykko and reconsider options.

3. Men's Shed Update: Peter Groves spoke to the topic. He has experience setting up Men's sheds and liaising with the governing body. Peter stressed that any funding from this body has to be used exclusively for men's physical and mental health. A proposal based on a sharing model would have difficulties in achieving funding. It was also stressed that setting up a Men's shed is an immense task and from his experience can take up to 10 years to achieve, it requires a dedicated team. There would need to be two different projects launched.
- a) mens shed b)community centre/ makerspace
- Possibility of using the project proposals as a forum topic later in the year

### **Held over until July meeting.**

Communication strategy update

Memorials on rocks

HW site: possible fencing options discussed. Need to follow up with options for comment from SCG.

## **6: Standing Agenda Items**

### 6.1 Treasurers Report

Club Account \$2384.53

Treasure Island Account \$1325.00

### 6.2 Stockton Community Liaison Group meeting

See attached summary by BW

### 6.3 Taskforce Report Nil

### 6.4 Port Authority Report Nil

### 6.5 NCCCE Air quality quarterly report to be distributed to members.

Working Party reports: (see reports at end of minutes)

### 6.5 Stockton Beach inclusive of Newcastle CMP –IT report submitted

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6.6 Orica – Ammonium Nitrate Storage/ Kooragang Island KC. Canola oil smell obvious again. Will follow up with Cargill Canola Refinery, bio filters need replacing. Anyone who smells this encouraged to lodge complaint with EPA

### 6.7 Stockton Community Environment-MT report submitted

## **7. Correspondence list available**

## 8. General Business & Business without notice

1. Newsletter proposal – Sue McIntire has volunteered to create a newsletter for regular circulation, via facebook, hard copy, website etc. Peter Groves offered assistance.
2. Environmental Defenders Office- Recent contact has been made with EDO.( 18 months ago EDO was approached by SCG to investigate what were the legal steps required before offshore sand could be placed on Stockton beach and secondly if the NSW state government had a duty of care to maintain Stockton Beach as it is accepted that State infrastructure has caused the erosion of Stockton Beach). EDO advised us that they thought we had received the offshore sand and their help was no longer required. We advised them that this was not the case and wished for their help still. Awaiting response from EDO.
3. Proposal received for feasibility of offshore surf reef by ICE, see Stockton beach working party report. To be considered.
4. SCG executive proposal, motion to propose that SCG Inc. exec increased to at least 7 members as per protocol of incorporation. This is open to any members including working party leaders. Motion passed.
5. Update on Protest Planning- PR and media group approached at UON to help with media . Awaiting response from UON.
6. Go fund me page proposal-TBD at SCG Exec meeting.
7. AGM proposed date – August 11<sup>th</sup> 2021 meeting will be the AGM . All positions will be vacant.
8. Any Other Business
  - Willow Forsyth advised the group on the updated Erosion Package used for educational purposes.
  - Guest speaker in July is from NSW Police . AR suggested that members could send questions to the scg email prior to the meeting . Questions would need to be submitted by 30<sup>th</sup> June, so the speaker can prepare update/responses.
9. Postponed: April Forum repeat (8:30-8:45pm) Opportunity for SCG members who didn't attend previous meeting to contribute to feedback. RC provided opportunity for SCG members to contribute to developing feedback for the future Crown Lands management plan

Next meeting 14<sup>th</sup> July 2021, guest speaker from Police Area Command Stockton Surf Club 7:15  
Questions in advance requested from SCG members.

**Meeting closed 9.00 pm**

## Dates, Time, and Venue of SCG meetings 2021

**Venue:** Stockton Surf Club  
**Time:** 7:15pm - 8.30pm

Date /Month

14<sup>th</sup> July 21  
11<sup>th</sup> August 21  
8<sup>th</sup> September 21  
13<sup>th</sup> October 21  
10<sup>th</sup> November 21  
8<sup>th</sup> December 21 (3 weeks)

## Tabled Reports

### Beach Interest Group April 2021 Activity Summary

Current Members: Ron Boyd, Willow Forsyth, Ron Holbrow Amanda Plumsted, Peter Twining, Ian Taggart.

- a. EDO contacted re status & restart. *Awaiting response.*
- b. Ongoing rally preparations. UoN contacted for media assistance. *Ongoing awaiting student interest.*
- c. 2-part Quote received for surfing reef study by ICM (*see below*)
- d. ICM report put on website ( under what we do)
- e. Ongoing questions over timelines and possible Herald opinion piece. Our view remains that Stockton Beach cannot see mass sand nourishment ( under the most optimistic of scenarios) for at least 2 years – with the probably range extending beyond that.
- f. An ongoing concern that CoN continues to table unfeasible options. When is an option not an option? (CMP's are meant to select feasible option).
- g. News that Warilla beach is the latest to receive ~7 Million under the CMP process to undertake a 15 Million dollar upgrade. ( Making them the 3<sup>rd</sup> council to have a certified NSW CMP)
- h. 9 months after Stockton beach certified CMP works have started on ..... ? ( Kowya bags come under emergency funds separate from 2020 CMP so don't count.)

### C. Quote for Design/Assessment Surfing Reef structure off Stockton Beach

ICM: responded to an enquiry regards design of offshore surf structure (reef) as follows:

- Agree best [essential] to have a very clear primary objective.
- Yes, we have artificial reef experience and are presently working on one in Caribbean.
- I agree that the explanation of past train wrecks is vital and I have been writing a journal paper on history of surf reefs and reason for failures / successes so there will be a lot of work there that won't cost you.
- Proposal:
  1. Feasibility report:
    - a. Site suitability / wave climate / surfable days per yr
    - b. Example and history of surf reefs and reason for failures / successes
    - c. Present surf reef proposals and approaches
    - d. NSW reports on surf reefs [why nsw not in favour]
    - e. Options and preliminary estimates - this would include the airwave and similar "off the shelf" products
    - f. Recommendation
  2. Site inspection / meetings – if required
  3. Concept design and costing
    - a. modelling

- b. configuration
- c. estimates

Stage	Description	Cost (ex-GST)	GST	Cost (incl GST)
1	Stage 1: Feasibility study	\$ 12,860	\$ 1,286	\$ 14,146
2	Site inspection & meetings	if required		
3	Stage 2: Concept design and costing	\$ 15,350	\$ 1,535	\$ 16,885

### **Stockton Community and Environment Report. Meeting held 6/5/21**

#### **New issues**

Contact made with president of Stockton Soccer Club, to be invited to SCG meeting to hear of their

concerns re: Corroba Oval and find out how we can support the soccer club.

Investigation of possibility of "Welcome to Stockton" signs at north Stockton approach and at Ferry

Wharf. Possibility of dual signing, Guraki Committee (sub branch of First Nations People in council)

contacted, awaiting response.

Possibility of fenced dog park.

Discussion of extension of Ferry Wharf parking. To be discussed with SCG members.

Items still being followed up.

Ferry Wharf Maintenance

Shopping centre cleanliness

Caravan park Cabin relocation possibilities

Ausgrid sub station screening

Skate park fencing

Bike path lighting

### **SCLG Summary - BW**

#### **Informal Meeting with Philippa Hill and Andrew Staniland on 12 May 2021**

Ron Boyd, Ian Taggart and I met with Philippa Hill and Andrew Staniland today to obtain a progress report and discuss issues. A full SCLG workshop meeting is proposed for Thursday

1 July at Stockton Surf Club (if available) from 8-11 am but this will be confirmed. A

summary of most discussion points is below.

1. Three short educational videos will be produced, hopefully by the 30 June, and

placed on the CN website. Various suggestions were made to increase usefulness.

2. The CN funding application for the rock bags has been knocked back so CN will now

have to pay for the complete cost (50/50 the usual division of costs).

3. Harbour Sand Source: The Feasibility Study on the South Arm, which has been approved and funded, and the approval process for sand on Stockton beach should be completed by the end of the year.

In response to Philippa's request on 5 May 2021, Port of Newcastle hosted an important meeting to discuss sand management opportunities in preparation for the dredging permit approval process (due March 2022). Leo Rose (Department of Agriculture, Water and Energy) gave federal support to Stockton beach being the priority for harbour sand. This was a positive outcome despite an invitation not being given to community (SCG) representative Ron Boyd. Ron also emphasised that the Technical Advisory Consultative Committee (TACC) needed a community representative.

4. Medium Term Management Survey (the four options for the northern section of the beach from Meredith Street) closed on Friday and it was suggested that the results when available from Bluecoast should be published in the next Stockton Works Update. A small number of people visited the CN staff at the library on the two occasions.

5. New Terms of Reference have been drawn up for the Newcastle Coastal Planning Working Group which will include five community representatives across Newcastle. It will probably meet four times a year and concentrate on big picture priority actions. The intention is to hold the first meeting by the end of June and opportunities to nominate will be advertised soon.

The Hunter Estuary section of the Newcastle CMP is not likely to be completed until 2023.

6. The next meeting of the SCLG (most likely 1 July at the Stockton Surf Club) will include consideration of the Cost Benefit Analysis of the four management options. Ron reminded everyone of the importance to the CMP of the Hunter Water Land Submission (now supported by the SCLG, the SCG, the Stockton Historical Society and the Stockton Branch of the ALP). Some North Stockton residents have been in consultation with Hunter Water about serious concerns over illegal entry impacting on their lives. Bitou bush will be removed from the entire HW land soon. CN asked to investigate whose responsibility it is to police activity in that area and on the beach.