

## Stockton Community Group Inc Meeting Minutes

**Date:** 8<sup>th</sup> February 2023

**Venue:** Stockton Surf Club. Pitt St, Stockton

**Co-Chairs:** Alison Rigby and Melanie Taggart

**Minutes:** Carolyn Bailey

### 1. Meeting Opened: by Alison Rigby at 7.30 pm with Acknowledgement of Country

### 2. Housekeeping: items addressed

**3. Agenda and Actions:** The standing agenda, outstanding actions & general business from November 2022 held over to the March 2023 meeting.

### 4. Overview of Meeting

An overview of the meeting format was provided. The meeting to be in a question and answer format with the panel of invited guests. The invited guests are the candidates for the seat of Newcastle in the upcoming NSW State Election:

Tim Crakanthorp (ALP), Nico Leka (Socialist Alliance), John Mackenzie (The Greens), Thomas Triebsees (Liberal Party).

Candidates will be asked four pre-prepared questions. Each candidate will have 2 minutes to address the question. The pre-prepared questions were provided to all panel members a week prior to the meeting. Candidates will then take questions without notice from the floor.

Pre-prepared questions to the panel:

1. Please tell the group about yourself & your candidacy
2. What is your vision for Stockton & the electorate of Newcastle?
3. What is your party's policy on restoring Stockton Beach and how will you facilitate mass sand nourishment?
4. a) What is your position on the storage of large quantities of potentially explosive ammonium nitrate at the Orica plant within 800 m of residents of Stockton?  
b) Expansion of industry on Kooragang Island is increasing pressure on roads. What risk mitigation strategies are needed to ensure safe access for Stockton, airport and tourist destinations?

Questions without notice from audience members related to:

- Future commitment to community involvement on the EPA Committee
- Public transport: impact of proposed extension of ferry service, lack of reliable school bus service into Stockton, infrastructure and planning
- Future of the former Stockton Centre site, progress of the proposed North Stockton development plan
- Affordable housing needs
- Beach repair: timeframe for work to be undertaken post-election. Challenge that within 6 weeks a transparent plan be developed with timeframes and costings
- Community consultation: how will local knowledge and expertise be recognised and valued going forward

### 5. Meeting closed: 8:55 pm.

**Next Meeting: Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March Stockton Surf Club @ 7:30 pm**