

Stockton Community Group Inc Meeting Minutes

Date: 8th March 2023

Venue: Stockton Surf Club. Pitt St, Stockton

Chair: Alison Rigby

Minutes: Carolyn Bailey

1. Meeting Opened: by Alison Rigby at 7.35pm with Acknowledgement of Country

Present: Alison Rigby, Carolyn Bailey, Garry Cullinane, Jeanette Dib, Scott Brooks, Lloyd Davies, Willow Forsyth, Mike Hocking Gill, Ron Holbrow, Mark Mulholland, Alan Newbery, Lindy Nisbett, Barbara Whitcher. **In attendance for item 4** Nathan Juchau & Wade Covey (NCIG)

Apologies: Keith Craig, Anne Clarke, Melanie Taggart, Ian Taggart, Margaret Raphael, Rainnie Carter, Sue Macintyre

2. Declaration of conflict of interest: nil declared

3. Confirmation of previous minutes: due to election candidate forum held 8th February 2023.

Business from November 2022 meeting held over to this meeting.

November minutes accepted by Barbara Whitcher Seconded by: Jeanette Dib

February minutes accepted by Alan Newberry Seconded by: Lloyd Davies

4. Guest Speaker - Nathan Juchau, Manager Sustainability NCIG

NCIG staff Wade and Carly also in attendance

Nathan presented an overview of NCIG including:

- Role in global energy transition
- Overview of NCIG Sustainability Strategy Framework and environment governance
- Discussion of dust suppression strategies and move to sustainable water management
- Community engagement, grant applications currently open
- Community open day scheduled for 7th May 2023
- 24 Hour phone line available for enquiries and complaints Ph: 1800 016 304

Further information available at <https://ncig.com.au/>

Presentation attached to email.

5. Outstanding Actions

5.1 Art Competition – Alan Newbery provided an overview of the art comp to the group. 63 Entries were received & all were very positive reflections on Stockton Beach. A vote of thanks was given to Alan & Jeanette for the concept & delivery of the competition which kept the beach in the mind of Stockton residents (& beyond). Certificates and prizes were presented to the winners. Pictures available on SCG Inc website.

5.2 Letter Writing Campaign - Thanks to all those who wrote letters to elected members of NSW Parliament. Responses have been received from both Government and Shadow ministers. The campaign was certainly effective and has highlighted the cause of Stockton Beach. The combination of letter writing and the fight goes on campaign has continued to keep the issues of Stockton Beach Erosion in the eye of elected representatives, Novocastrians & holiday makers.

5.3 Candidates Forum in February – The candidates forum at the February meeting was a great success, some 60 people attended. Candidates provided overviews of their policies and platforms. The questions from the floor were insightful and covered the range of issues & concerns facing Stockton. Thanks to the SCG Inc members Gary Cullinane, Alan Newberry, Jeanette Dib, Carolyn Bailey, Willow Forsyth Lindy Nisbett & Ian Taggart for their assistance in setting up the hall, sign in, sound, timing & questions from the floor.

6. Standing items

6.1 Treasurers Report: Lindy Nisbett updated the group on finances. See Appendix 1 for details.

Notes on expenditure:

- Website, newsletters, letter writing - Spent \$940 (partly covered by grant*)
- Art Competition - Spent \$735 (covered by donations)
- PA system - Spent \$1207 (covered by grant*)
- Donations received - \$510 in December.
- Christmas Party event - 63 people attended, a small surplus of \$263.
- *Note that grants received & reported last FY total \$5,400.
- The SCG Inc website has been previously administered on a volunteer basis. As activity grows and as our primary communication tool the Executive felt it reasonable to fund a website developer to maintain the site.

Working party updates

6.2 Stockton Beach Group: (Alison Rigby and Willow Forsyth)

- Next campaign will focus on holding the government of the day to account for commitments made in the lead up to the March State election
- The next SCG newsletter will be the vehicle for detailing our expectations of the elected government
- Another rally is proposed for 8 weeks after the election, dependant on the actions by government or another weather event
- It is essential that we see allocation of promised actions against the responsible agencies

6.3 Air Quality & Environment: held over to next meeting (Keith Craig)

6.4 Community/Crown Land (Carolyn Bailey)

- Correspondence currently in progress with CN and government departments re the cabins on Crown Land and shopping centre car park and related issues

6.5 Stockton Community Liaison Group (SCLG) update (Barbara Whitcher)

- SCLG meetings held 11/12/22 and 2/3/22.
- Willow Forsyth is now a member of the SCLG
- Work continues on the extended Stockton Coastal Management Plan
- There are a number of actions in the plan that have no allocated responsibility or funding source, it is imperative this be addressed for the plan to succeed

7. Correspondence – available upon request

8. General business/Business without notice

8.1 Windfarm development off Newcastle: AR, LD & LD attended a federal Dept Climate Change, Environment & Water community briefing today

- The wind farm/s will be located 40-50 kms offshore from Stockton and will take up to 7 years to be active
- More information needed about the location and size of the on-land substations
- A feasibility proposal is being prepared for community consultation, SCG Inc will respond when report available. SCG members are urged to look at the website & provide feedback on the project. <https://consult.dcceew.gov.au/oei-hunter>

8.2 Ammonia nitrate storage Kooragang: Newcastle Herald ran an article about Worksafe NSWs proposed change to the level of Ammonia nitrate storage in proximity of residential areas. Orica is not in agreement with the proposed reduction. SCG Inc responded previously in support of the reduction and will continue to monitor the situation and respond accordingly

8.3 Pedestrian Crossing: BW Reported that the Stockton Branch of the Labour Party (ALP) has raised 2 issues with relevant departments requesting installation of a pedestrian crossing between Griffith Park West and the General Washington Hotel side of Hunter St, and action on the growing number of dogs on Stockton Beach

5. **Meeting closed:** 8:55 pm. **Next Meeting:** Wednesday 12th April Stockton Surf Club @ 7:30 pm

Appendix 1: Treasurer's Report

28 Feb. 2023	Stockton Community Group Inc Treasurers Report		
		\$	\$
28/2/23	Current Balance		4,565.77
	Expenses		(1,986.50)
	PA System	(1,207.00)	
	Art Competition prizes	(500.00)	
	Copy paper	(29.50)	
	Graphic Design	(250.00)	
	Income		0.00
	Membership fees	0.00	
	Donations	0.00	
	T Shirt Sales	0.00	
1/1/23	Opening balance		6,552.27
31 Dec 2022	Stockton Community Group Inc Treasurers Report		
		\$	\$
31/12/22	Current Balance		6,552.27
	Expenses		(1,896.32)
	Christmas Event	(1,230.32)	
	Postage stamps	(66.00)	
	Website Qtr, WP Tech Support	(600.00)	
	Income		2,103.36
	Membership fees	6.00	
	Donations	510.00	
	T Shirt Sales	80.00	
	Christmas Event ticket sales	1,507.36	
31/10/22	Opening balance		6,345.23
			0.00