

# Lake Macquarie Sustainable Neighbourhood Alliance

## Ordinary Meeting

### MINUTES

Tuesday 15 November 2016, 6.50 - 8.00pm

Committee Room, Lake Macquarie City Council Administration Building, Speers Point



<b>Present:</b>	Robyn Charlton, Indra Deamer, Steve Dewar, Norbert Lica, Jean McGarry, Colin Mondy, Dot Seiffert Rachelle McConville (LMCC) + AGM attendees, Barry Shepherd, Ken Stokes, Robynne Curnow, Bruce Tozer
<b>Apologies:</b>	Avril Lockton

## 1 Welcome & acknowledgement of Country

*We would like to acknowledge the Awabakal people who are the traditional custodians of this land. We would also like to pay respect to Elders both past and present of the Awabakal nation and extend that respect to other Aboriginal people present.*

## 2 Apologies

Avril Lockton

## 3 Conflict of interest

None stated.

## 4 Previous meeting

### 4.1 Ordinary meeting minutes, 18 October 2016

MOTION: *That the previous meeting minutes dated 18 October 2016, be confirmed as an accurate record.*

Moved: Steve. Seconded: Colin. Carried.

### 4.2 Business arising from the minutes

- Paper/cardboard 'I heart my Dog' poop scoop bags. Colin contacted the suppliers in the Netherlands to see if they are available in Australia. The cost for 750 bags is AUD\$73 (= \$0.09/bag). But with the shipping it would be AUD\$204 for 750 bags (= \$0.27/bag).

**ACTION: Colin will follow up with manufacturers to investigate possibility of licencing a similar product in Australia. Or to find existing Australian manufacturers.** Carry over to December meeting.

## 5 Correspondence

- Sustainable Neighbourhood News, 19 October
- Plastic Pollution letters (300) posted to Minister Mark Speakman
- Confirmation from the Boomerang Alliance that we have been formally accepted as any ally organisation.
- Invitation to SN membership to the Alliance AGM
- Australia Day Awards submitted for Cardiff Area SNG (Community Group), and Wangi Centenary (Event).

- Request submitted to ‘Stronger Communities Programme’ with project variation request for Pit Pony Park project.
- Request to SN groups for updated membership registers.
- Request from Pelican Area SNG re local drainage issues was submitted to Hunter Water. Declan on leave until 14 November. Manager at Hunter Water is currently responding to the request. Yet to hear back on outcome.
- Notes from the Boomerang Alliance’s Teleconference (10 November)
- Invitation to the ‘Hunter Special Infrastructure Contributions Plan Discussion Paper Workshop’ for 23 Nov 2016. From NSW Planning and Environment. Steve and Robyn plan on attending.
- Support indicated to the Boomerang Alliance to include Sustainable Neighbourhoods as a signatory on their letter to Ministers, urging action on a plastic bag ban. ACTION: Rachele to circulate to network.

*MOTION: That the correspondence be accepted.*

Moved: Steve. Seconded Jean. Carried.

## 6 Treasurers report

### 6.1 Treasurer’s report for October 2016

See report attached, below.

*MOTION: That the Treasurers Report is accepted.*

Moved: Jean. Seconded : Robyn. Carried.

## 7 For discussion & decision

### 7.1 2016 Shortland Volunteer Awards

The Shortland electorate covers Cardiff to Swansea only. The other federal electorate is Hunter, but can’t find any reference to their awards...

A number of ideas were suggested for nominations for:

- Youth Volunteer (18-25)
- Senior Volunteer (65 and over)
- Volunteer Group
- Emergency Management Volunteer
- Environment Volunteer

**ACTION: Rachele to research, and submit. Nominations are due Friday 25 November.**

## 8 Requests from member groups

### 8.1 Supermarket Trolleys

Request from Toronto Area / Warners Bay Area SNGs.

Dumped shopping trolleys are an issue around the city; recently in particular at Scrubby Creek Windale, Stony Creek, Toronto, and North Creek, Warners Bay.

There are examples of Council protocols (eg Waverly Council) that put onus onto supermarkets to implement trolley a management system. Examples of measures include coin locks; the supermarkets being required to demonstrate they are being proactive about the collection of trolleys; and supermarkets being required to submit a plan to Council every 2 years.

Suggestion that Lake Mac Council should adopt a similar policy / protocol to address issue associated with dumped trolleys locally.

**ACTION: Steve to circulate the Waverly Council Trolley Management Policy.**

**ACTION: Steve will approach local Councillors to talk with them about the issue, and report back.**

## 8.2 Promoting Australian Native Trees

Request from Toronto Area / Morisset and Peninsula.

There are concerns about loss of native trees and habitat on both large and small scale in areas around the city. Suggestion to hold an education / awareness event early next year, focussed on the value of local native trees, their importance, associations, habitat etc (including street trees, backyards, remnant bushland etc.). The idea would be to have an event in conjunction with Landcare, and other experts (eg Trees in Newcastle, Umwelt staff and others), possibly early next year.

**ACTION: Steve to talk with Landcare and other relevant groups eg TIN, etc. And Robyn can help from perspective of Awaba / Scribbly Gum Centre.**

## 8.3 Dog Education Day at Redhead, Saturday 19 November

Risk assessment circulated via email (late this afternoon).

Council rangers are holding a dog education day at Webb Park, Redhead, and have invited participation from Redhead SNG volunteers. Focus on education rather than enforcement.

Approved.

# 9 Report backs from member groups

## 9.1 Wangi Centenary Celebration, Sunday 23 October

Wonderful success. Estimated attendance about 1500 over the day, and across 10 venues along the 'Centenary Trail'. True community collaboration, and very high level of participation from local businesses, community groups, the primary school, and individual residents. Great results for local businesses, and has brought the community together.

## 9.2 Backyard Birds BBQ – Cardiff Area SNG, Sunday 23 October

Promoted bird count to schools in 2015. Resources provided by Aussie Backyard Bird Count. Weather was cold and windy, and had 8 residents along to the BBQ and birdwatching. Likely to do it again next year. Hunter Bird Observers Club rep also attended and assisted with bird ID. Only bird count event in the Hunter.

## 9.3 Cardiff SNG stall at Halloween

Successful and busy day. CASNG held stall with kids craft activities (making traditional Halloween straw dolls) etc out of recyclables / reusable.

## 9.4 Stall at Toronto Spring Fair, Saturday 22 October

The fair was cancelled because of bad weather.

## 9.5 Sustainable Neighbourhoods review so far

Little progress to report this month. Same as for October.

# 10 For information

## 10.1 Networking and 'Show and Tell' Event

The Landcare Resource Centre is booked for **Saturday 3 December, 2-5pm.**

Councillors have now been invited.

Agreed that the most valuable component is for volunteers from across the city to have discussion based around particular topics. For example:

- How have you successfully recruited new members?
- What projects should we be addressing at a citywide level?
- What resources or other organisations have you found useful?

- How do you manage your group dynamics?

Plan to circulate questions beforehand to give participants some time to think about the topics.

Also to circulate a list of everyone's projects from the last 18 months, prior to the event.

A project presentation could be good to break the ice a bit, and provide some context for discussion to follow. Gavin has agreed to talk about Cardiff's Car Boot Sale events.

Will also include a plastic free afternoon tea (avoiding single use packaging and plastics. Tupperware and reusable plastics are good.) Rachelle to provide some basics, and also to ask participants to bring something plastic free.

**ACTION: Rachelle to continue to organise including run sheet, promotion etc.**

## 10.2 Holidays

Avril is in India, back 30 November.

## 11 Meeting close.

Meeting close: 8.03pm. Next meeting date: Tuesday 20 December, 6-8pm

**Treasurer's Report:**

**LAKE MACQUARIE SUSTAINABLE NEIGHBOURHOODS ALLIANCE**

**GENERAL MEETING**

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

**1 October, to 31 October, 2016.**



Account 06 2806 10352969 with Commonwealth Bank of Australia, Charlestown Branch.

**Balance** **\$ 18,999.64CR**

**RECEIPTS**

Interest 0.41c

Total Receipts \$ 0.41c

**EXPENDITURE**

Total Expenditure \$ NIL

**BALANCE** **\$ 19,000.05CR**

This is a true statement of accounts for the Lake Macquarie Sustainable Neighbourhoods Alliance for the period 1 October to 31 October, 2016.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Name Jean McGarry

Title Hon Treasurer

Date 13 November, 2016.