

## Agenda of meeting to be held at Redhead Library at 5.15 pm Tuesday 12 April 2022

1. Welcome by (Chairperson). Brief social catchup.
2. In attendance
3. Who said they couldn't come:
4. Financial Report: Balance at March 2021. Income. Expenditure. Current balance
5. June Newsletter - EnergyWave edition:
  - articles – Redhead's support for flood victims, Brian Hilton wins Gerald Carnie Memorial award (<https://landcarens.w.org.au/2022-gerald-carnie-memorial-award-recipient-announced/?fbclid=IwAR0guLT6wnx4TE6vxPPIWndS6j0qtbK-EYJlb6Yc-aYEvvvqBzWObg25dgY>)
  - Energywave content (Colin, Lindsay)
  - advertising and/or grant funding
  - survey questions and logistics
  - deadline dates
6. Clean Up Australia Day Report (Paul/Alison)
7. Redhead BMX/pump track update (Alison)
8. The Alliance – Business Supporters program (Alison – below)
9. Recycling unusual items through Go For Zero (Alison) <https://goforzero.com.au/pages/recycle-with-us>  
(see information below)
10. Plastic free cafes – Alliance initiative – is this worth pursuing with the coffee van on Cain Street?
11. The Queen's Jubilee planting trees funding
12. How is new development on Kalaroo Road being powered – will manufactured houses have solar?
13. Tiny Forests – some information below about LMCC's proposal (for information only)
14. Proposed changes to LMCC bulk waste service – for information only, see below
15. Sustainable Alliance visit within the next few months
16. AGM – proposed date 14 June 2022 at 5:30 pm, before the main meeting.
17. Other ideas brought to the meeting

Next meeting: Tuesday, 13 September 2021 at 5:15 pm for 5:30 pm AGM, followed by main meeting at Redhead Community Library, followed by dinner?

## **Tiny Forests**

- Video introducing tiny forest concept: <https://www.weforum.org/videos/these-tiny-urban-forests-could-be-a-secret-weapon-against-climate-change>
- The proposed Lake Mac Tiny forest project is a anticipated collaboration between local community groups - ReLeaf Lake Mac, The Sustainable Neighbourhood Alliance, Trees In Newcastle, Lake Macquarie Landcare, Local businesses, Lake Macquarie City Council & Earthwatch Australia - <https://www.earthwatch.org.au/tiny-forests>
- If successful in securing a Council approved site – the Lake Mac Tiny Forest will be one of 12 Tiny Forests nationwide to include a citizen science research component, as part of a research study being led by Murdock University on the benefits of Tiny Forest for biodiversity .
- Biodiversity lose due to human activity is leading to species extinction, upsetting the balance of nature, and making ecosystems fragile and less resistant to disruptions. Biodiversity plays a pivotal role in supporting local economies, food production and improved human health. Lake Macquarie City Councils Environmental Strategy and Action Plan 2020-2027 outlines Councils commitment to protecting and enhancing local biodiversity.

Community consultation, community planting days, media coverage and public events are an integral part of the project plan.

## **Business Supporters**

The Alliance board has been working on a key action in the Strategic Plan to ensure we have reliable financial resources for the long term, and have developed a Business Supporters program to help seek small contributions from local businesses.

We are seeking assistance from Sustainable Neighbourhood groups to help recruit local Business Supporters. We anticipate that the exercise will strengthen our relationships and connections with the local business Lake Macquarie community as well.

A guide for SN groups, and an example of the recruitment brochures has been sent to all groups. Can post brochures to groups as needed.

We are conscious that many local businesses continue to struggle with the impacts of covid, and now may not be the best time to be seeking donations. We would encourage your group to be selective about which businesses you want to approach, and/or the best timing for specific businesses in your neighbourhood.

<http://www.sustainableneighbourhoods.org.au/business-supporters.html>

## **Plastic Free Cafes**

Plastic Free Cafes aims to reduce the amount of litter and waste created by single use plastic items such as takeaway coffee cups and plastic straws. We are encouraging our community to Choose Reusable alternatives over single use plastic items.

Participating cafes were able to offer good quality reusable cups at a subsidised price of just \$2, thanks to a NSW Government Community Litter Grant.

Our first roll out of the reusable cups was completed in March 2020 in participating cafes in Warners Bay and Toronto, and we have now completed a second round in early 2021 at a number of cafes throughout the City.

## **Proposed Changes to Council's Bulk Waste Collection Service**

Lake Macquarie City Council has been operating on a neighbourhood-based, scheduled bulk waste system for some time now, but that could be about to change.

Council is proposing that individual households instead could have the option of booking in two collections each year at a time that suits them.

The ABC's Dan and Jenny spoke to Hal Dobbins, the waste strategy coordinator for Lake Macquarie Council, to find out more.

## **Recycling – Go For Zero**

Go for Zero has partnered with Terracycle to recycle (the company that recycles everything – particularly unusual items) to become a collection hub.

From used coffee pods to bread closure tags, check out the range of products we accept for recycling below.

Terracycle

1. Coffee pods (plastic, aluminium & compostable)
  2. Disposable razors
  3. Dental care (plastic toothpaste tubes, toothbrushes & more)
  4. Electric toothbrushes
  5. Dish & air care products
  6. Contact lenses
  7. Go For Zero Silicone Products
- Aussie Bread Tags For Wheelchairs  
- Plastic Bread Closure Tags

Collect a full box (shoe box or larger) of items from the list and post to Go For Zero, 2/8 Tectonic Crescent, Kunda Park QLD 4456

Aside from saving resources, GFZ receives points from Terracycle, which are turned into donations to Planet Ark, WWF, Bangalow Koalas, Seashepherd.org.au, Ten Little Pieces, 1 Million Women and Clean Up Australia.

