

Lake Macquarie Sustainable Neighbourhood Alliance

Ordinary Meeting

MINUTES

Tuesday 16 February 2016, 6.00 – 8.00pm

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



Invitees:	Indra Deamer, Steve Dewar, Norbert Lica, Jean McGarry, Colin Mondy, Dot Seiffert, Robyn Charlton (arrived 7:35pm) Rachelle McConville (LMCC)
Apologies:	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

As above.

3 Conflict of interest

None reported.

4 Previous meeting

4.1 Ordinary meeting minutes, 15 December 2015 as circulated

MOTION: That the previous meeting minutes dated 15 December 2015, be confirmed as an accurate record.

Moved: Steve

Seconded: Norbert

Carried.

4.2 Business arising from the minutes

- **Sponsorship proposal:**

- **Update from Umwelt.** No response just yet. Colin's contact there is not available at the moment. They were very positive about the program and possibilities for a partnership, though, so Colin will pursue further when appropriate.
- Steve made contact with Suez Environnement, and sent them our Sponsorship Proposal and a request for a meeting. They suggested we look at their [Community Grants Program](#), or considered approaching Council's residential recycling collection contractor. (Council has 2 waste contractors:
 - Solo – their website <http://www.solo.com.au/> doesn't seem to suggest any sponsorship opportunities
 - Remondis - <http://www.remondis.com.au/en/reau/compliance-and-sustainability/community/> they currently sponsor KAB, and their website says "we hope to expand our sponsorships to support a greater diversity of worthy social and environmental enterprises." ACTION: Steve to contact Remondis with the Alliance Sponsorship Proposal.

Some discussion about the need to determine how any possible sponsorship funds should be spent / planned for.

- **2014/15 Accounts Audit**
 - Request sent to Huw Thomas 17 December 2015. ACTION: Steve to remind Huw.

5 Correspondence

- Notification of successful grant project: TASNG Footpath Improvement Project – Awarded through the Community Building Partnership (NSW Government), and subsequent submission of Funding Agreement.
- Submission of 2 x final grant reports for the MAPS Eco Health Expo to Council and to Hunter LLS. Subsequent request from LLS for additional materials (eg posters, program, newsletters etc). ACTION: Norbert to send materials directly to Carolyn.
- Notification to Sustainable Neighbourhood groups about upcoming round of the Stronger Communities Program (Federal Government)
- Request to Sustainable Neighbourhood groups to use Eco Angel Site Inspection and Litter Survey forms for Clean Up Australia Day sites.
- Child Protection Toolkit for Not-for-profit organisations, developed by Our Community. ACTION: Rachelle to develop draft policy and circulate for discussion at the next meeting.
- Request from Greg Piper's office to meet with TASNG representatives about their Footpath Improvement project.
- Invitation from Neighbour Day to be involved in their media launch on 29 February.
- Invitation to hold a stall at the Charlton Seniors Expo in Cardiff, Friday 15 April, 9am – 1pm. ACTION: Rachelle to register. Dot is available 9am-12noon Jean 11 – 1pm. Any other helpers are welcome, and to find some handouts to giveaway. Eg reusable bags, butt bins etc. ACTION: Norbert to send Rachelle details of the leaflet stand.
- Sustainable Neighbourhood News, 11 February

6 Treasurers report

6.1 Treasurer's reports for December 2015 and January 2016.

See report attached below.

Moved: Jean

Seconded: Steve

Carried.

6.2 Updating bank signatories

The form to update the bank signatories to the current office bearers (Jean, Dot, Colin and Indra) was completed. ACTION: Jean to submit the changes to the bank.

7 For discussion & decision

7.1 Neighbour Day, 27 March

1. Neighbour Day Media Launch event, 29 February – see notice in SN newsletter. Looking for people to take photos of themselves with the Neighbour Day sign.
2. Need to confirm and register Neighbour Day events asap. Known events so far include:
 - Cardiff Area SNG – Community Day, 30 April, details TBC
 - others?

ACTION: Rachelle to send email to groups to notify about neighbour day and suggest possible activities.

ACTION: Board members to take photos with the Neighbour Day signs and send to Rachelle. Also encourage others to do the same.

7.2 Draft Hunter Regional Plan – Alliance submission – due 28 February 2016

Background information from Robyn

- Two draft plans are currently on exhibition:
 - Hunter Regional Plan
 - Draft Plan for a Growing Hunter City
- <http://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Plans-for-Your-Area/Regional-Growth-Plans/Hunter/How-to-Get-Involved>
- 3. Link to petition circulated by Robyn: <https://www.change.org/p/nsw-department-of-planning-and-environment-nsw-government-office-of-environment-and-heritage-the-nsw-government-to-acknowledge-gazette-the-proposed-awaba-conservation-area>

Thank you to Robyn for drafting the submission. Added mention of need for active transport network (eg pathways) to include the Westlakes area as well.

Discussion about whether it is appropriate to include mention of waste management in the submission

ACTION: Rachelle, Robyn and Steve will continue discussion via email to include mention of waste management in the submission.

8 Requests from member groups

8.1 Eco Angel Clean Up – Caves Beach-Swansea Area SNG, 31 January 2016

Risk assessment circulated and approved via email prior to event.

8.2 Fastfood Tossers Can Be Binnners – Launch and Clean Up event, Sunday 6 March 2016

Risk assessment and Eco Angel Site Inspection circulated via email.

- Clean up and publicity event at Toronto Macdonalds.
- New signs (designed by high school kids) are being installed on garbage bins around Toronto. Education and handouts (eg bumper stickers / promoting “Hey Tossers” app). Fold up bags for fast food rubbish in the car.
- Have NBN and ABC, 2NUR etc lined up for media / promotion
- Hoping that other SN groups can use the project as a model to work with fast food franchises in their local community.

Approved.

ACTION: Rachelle to gather relevant leaflets together for Steve.

8.3 Clean Up Australia Day – Eco Angel sites, 6 March 2016

A number of groups have submitted their risk assessments for Clean Up Australia Day events.

- Toronto Area SNG, (as above)
- Cardiff Area SNG, circulated via email
- West Wallsend SNG, circulated via email
- Greater Charlestown SNG, circulated via email

All Approved.

8.4 Grant Application – Wangi Area SNG – Memories Making Mosaics project

Application for funding to the Stronger Communities Programme (Federal Government through Pat Conroy MP). Draft application circulated via email.

Approved for submission.

9 Report backs from member groups

9.1 Australia Day Award Winners

Congratulations to the 2016 Australia Day Award winners:

- Redhead SNG was awarded 2016 Community Group of the Year.
- West Wallsend District Sustainable Neighbourhood Group was awarded 2016 Community Event of the Year for their 'Old Waste, New Art' Competition.

9.2 Bunnings BBQ Fundraiser

West Wallsend, 14 Feb – Cancelled due to lack of volunteers for an expected very busy day.

9.3 Eco Angel Clean Up – Caves Beach-Swansea Area SNG, 31 January 2016

Event went well but relatively low volunteer numbers to split over 2 sites.

9.4 Dudley Nature Play project update

Looking at doing a series of workshops at the Dudley Healing Haven Markets. (Similar to what they did in November 2015.) Risk assessment has been requested to cover potential dates.

9.5 Hunter Water Community Consultative Forum

Norbert and Jean are registered as participants, and can add extra Alliance representatives as required.

Sustainable Neighbourhood groups can raise relevant queries or issues with the forum by contacting the Secretariat. Questions can be received up to a couple of days before the forum, but better to have some lead time for in-depth questions (eg 3-4 weeks). The next meeting of the Forum is 24 May.

Report back from Norbert who attended the first meeting on 2 February 2016, including:

- Contamination at the RAAF base at Williamstown. Detected by Hunter Water. Implications from contamination of the Tomago sand beds, and for the local community.
- Botanic Gardens – Hunter Water sponsors them. Biobanking credits.
- New Managing Director at Hunter Water – currently recruiting.
- IPART pricing review for Hunter Water's rates currently underway.
- + other items.

ACTION: Norbert to forward the meeting minute to Rachelle for circulation.

9.6 Plastic Bag Campaign

TASNG has approached every business along the Boulevarde to see if they are willing to go plastic bag free. Many (eg 60%) are already using paper bags, encouraging customers to bring their own etc. Have also publicised the campaign in the business chamber's newsletter. Remaining problem is with the big supermarkets. Also difficult to get butchers to find alternatives to plastic.

ACTION: Steve to resend Rachelle the list of Toronto champions to add to the website.

Redhead is also considering possible campaign to promote shopping locally, perhaps providing reusable bags to local businesses. Redhead volunteers have also been approaching their local businesses to develop a campaign.

9.7 Celebrate Dora Creek, 12 Dec

Fantastic day, with Mayor, Greg Piper and range of emergency service organisations. ~200 people attended over the course of the day.

9.8 Toronto Pathway Link - Successful grant (Community Building Partnership) – TASNG

The TASNG have received a grant from the NSW government for their project, "Improved pedestrian access and safety along Brighton Avenue, Toronto". The group have been notified that the costings originally provided by Council are inaccurate, and the funding provided is inadequate to complete the

project as planned. After a meeting on 16 February, Council staff and the group have agreed to work together to develop a solution. The group are now awaiting advice from Council about what the possibilities are to see the project completed to achieve the objectives of the grant.

10 General business

10.1 Training session for SN groups:

Recruiting and Managing Volunteers - training session

Wednesday 2 March, 5.30 - 8.30pm

Find and keep new volunteers - This training session is tailored specifically for Sustainable Neighbourhood groups to show you the best ways to attract new volunteers; define volunteer roles; keep volunteers engaged and utilise their talents; and reward participation.

Council Administration Building, Main Road, Speers Point

Bookings essential by 19 February via email or phone 4921 0117.

Book early. Places are limited. Any spots remaining after 19 Feb will be offered to all Lake Macquarie community groups.

10.2 Idea for future campaign about discouraging use of disposable coffee cups.

10.3 Redhead Village Newsletter – February edition.

Noted item about junk mail and regulations that ensure it doesn't become litter, and also included phone number to call to report inappropriate junk mail.

11 For information only

Summary of website statistics November 2015 – January 2016. See chart below.

12 Next ordinary meeting date: Tuesday 15 March, 6-8pm

13 Meeting close. 8.50pm

Attachment 1: Treasurer's Report, 1 – 31 December 2015

LAKE MACQUARIE SUSTAINABLE NEIGHBOURHOODS ALLIANCE

GENERAL MEETING

TREASURER'S REPORT

1 December, to 31 December, 2015.



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

Balance \$ 6,252.82

RECEIPTS

01 Dec Interest Credit	0.04c
11 Dec 032106 LMCC-988281	\$1,915.51
Total Receipts	\$ 1,915.55c

EXPENDITURE

Chq 000055 Guild Insurance	\$ 1,915.51
Chq 000056 Jasmine Sullivan –Eco-Hlth	\$ 170.00
Total Expenditure	\$ 2,085.51

BALANCE **\$ 6,082.86**

This is a true statement of accounts for the Lake Macquarie Sustainable Neighbourhoods Alliance for the period ended 31 December, 2015.

Signed _____

Name Jean McGarry

Title Hon Treasurer

Date 16 February, 2016.

SN website stats, Nov15 - Jan16

