

Lake Macquarie Sustainable Neighbourhood Alliance

Ordinary Meeting

MINUTES

Tuesday 21 March 2017, 6.00 - 8.00pm

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



Present:	Robyn Charlton, Steve Dewar, Norbert Lica, Jean McGarry, Dot Seiffert Rachelle McConville (LMCC)
Apologies:	Colin Mondy, Avril Lockton, Indra Deamer

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

Colin Mondy, Avril Lockton, Indra Deamer

3 Conflict of interest

None stated.

4 Previous meeting

4.1 Ordinary meeting minutes, 21 February 2017

MOTION: *That the previous meeting minutes dated 21 February 2017, be confirmed as an accurate record.*

Moved: Steve. Seconded: Robyn. Carried.

4.2 Business arising from the minutes

Outstanding actions from previous meetings:

- 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. Carried over from November meeting.
- ACTION: Suggestion to approach / research plastic manufacturers / packaging associations to tackle plastic packaging and pollution from the other end. – Carried over from November meeting.

5 Correspondence

- Sustainable Neighbourhood News, sent 22 February and 16 March
- Local Litter Check results and invoice (for Rathmines Area SNG) were submitted to Keep NSW Beautiful
- Grant application for the Holmesville Community Garden (West Wallsend District SNG) was submitted to Council's Environmental Sustainability Grants
- Reminder from NSW Family and Community Services. Due date for completion of Brighton Avenue Footpath project in Toronto.

- Additional correspondence between Council and TASNG relating to the Brighton Ave Footpath project, soon to be completed.
- Presentations from the Greater Newcastle Metropolitan Plan workshop (Tues 28 February)
- Introduction from Julie Wicks, Business Development Manager at Umwelt

MOTION: *That the correspondence be confirmed as an accurate record.*

Moved: Steve. Seconded: Jean. Carried.

6 Treasurers report

6.1 Treasurer's report for February 2017

See report attached, below.

MOTION: *That the Treasurers Report is accepted.*

Moved: Jean. Seconded: Steve. Carried.

7 For discussion & decision

No items listed.

8 Requests from member groups

8.1 Plastic Bag Information Booths

Risk assessment circulated via email. Approved.

Dates include:

- Toronto Town Square, Thursday 6 April, 4-6pm
- Possible additional date at Morisset Square, Friday 7 April, 4-6pm
- Belmont Citi Centre, Monday 10 April, 4-6pm
- Charlestown Square, Thursday 13 April, 4-7pm
- Glendale Stockland, Saturday 15 April, 9am-12pm

Request for volunteers has been included in the SN news. Would be great to have additional volunteers for each of the dates.

Rachelle and Steve will organise displays and materials for the booths. Focus on positive messages about simple alternatives to single use plastic bags and other disposable plastics. Have calico bags to give away.

8.2 Cardiff Area SNG - Eco Angel Clean Up – Cardiff South

Risk assessment circulated via email. Approved.

8.3 Rathmines Area SNG – Local Litter Check and Community Litter Grant application

Draft grant application circulated via email. Approved.

9 Report backs from member groups and projects

9.1 Redhead ANZAC Centenary Project – Book launch

The book developed as part of Redhead SNG's ANZAC Centenary Project has now been completed, and the group is planning launch events in April and May. The book is called, 'Marching for Honour, Recognition and Adventure: The story of the participation of Redhead soldiers in World War 1' by Robert Neil Bowd.

More detailed info circulated via email.

9.2 CEN Networking event

Good to have an event based in Lake Macquarie. Networking was very valuable. Good feedback about Lake Mac Council being so proactive. Was good to see 'Students of Sustainability' students there as well.

9.3 Rathmines Area SNG launch event

Successful event with Mayor and Councillors attending. Estimate about 100 locals attended over the course of the day, and some new sign ups.

Approx 20 surveys collected to contribute to review information.

Photos and more detail here: www.sustainableneighbourhoods.org.au/celebration-2017.

Mention of potential for walkway between Rathmines and Kilaben Bay.

9.4 Greater Newcastle Metropolitan Plan workshop

Report back from Steve. Part of the Hunter Plan process. Was good to be present to be able to talk about the value of the local environment and importance for local economy. At the meeting, Steve also raised the Awaba Conservation Area, and the Lake Macquarie Coastal Wetlands Park; and transport issues and need for better public transport services.

9.5 Clean Up Australia Day

Clean Up sites were organised by Sustainable Neighbourhood groups including: Toronto Area, Redhead, Greater Charlestown, LT Creek and Caves Beach - Swansea Heads.

For the whole of Lake Macquarie, more than 10 tonnes of rubbish was collected, as well as 96 tyres. At the Redhead site, they had 59 volunteers and collected 39 bags of rubbish (incl 18 bags of recyclables).

Toronto West – not so much rubbish (mainly fast food)

31 Bags – Warners Bay

Lake Mac photos: www.facebook.com/lakemaccity/posts/1563036063729159

Cooranbong 'litter free': www.theherald.com.au/story/4517611/cooranbong-litter-free-but-plenty-to-do-at-dora-creek-clean-up/

9.6 Warners Bay Area SNG launch event

Original date (17 March) was rained out. Event has been postponed to this Friday, 24 March.

9.7 LT Creek SNG

LT Creek SNG had its first event at the Scribbly Gum Reserve – Clean Up Australia Day. Thanks to Mark H. for organising it. Most of the illegal dumping was removed on the day. A week later, the fairies removed the rest somehow.

Glinda continues to share the love and awareness to the Scribbly Gum Reserve.

- She has been down to a Senate Hearing to 'give' evidence into the retirement of coal- fired power stations.
- Glinda got meet the people from the Rathmines SNG, as they debriefed from a successful launch.
- She attended the CEN networking event and the Lake Mac Walks Forum, having photo opportunities with Federal Member for Shortland, Pat Conroy, Prof Rod Tolley and Steven Burgess.
- Visitors to the Scribbly Gum Reserve include Cr Adamthwaite, Cr Langford, Representatives from Myuna Bay Sport and Rec Centre, Representatives from the Hunter Bird Observers Club.
- Research is continuing.
- From Feb meeting:

The LT Creek Sustainable Neighbourhood Group have agreed for any funding received for the Scribbly Gum Reserve / Centre, to be managed through the Alliance's bank account.

ABC local 1233 radio interview this Thursday, 8:50am.

9.8 Native Trees Talk – Landcare Super Saturday Session

Landcare Super Saturday Session - 8 July – Native Tree Information Day – ID of native trees, street trees, backyard trees. Possible speakers include Graham Pritchard (LMCC), Suzanne Pritchard (Coal Point Progress Association), Anne Loughram (Landcare).

Possibly at Coal Point Progress Hall.

Noted recent Gardening Australia segment about benefits of trees, and positive impacts on wellbeing. Timely, given the number of trees being lost to development across the Lake Macquarie.

9.9 Sustainable Neighbourhoods review

We have engaged a consultant to survey people who attend SN events, to get an outside perspective about the impact of the program, how people find out about our events, and what people know/don't know about Sustainable Neighbourhoods. First lot of surveys was completed at the Rathmines launch.

Looking for more suitable SN events scheduled for Feb – Apr.

Stakeholder surveys (eg Council staff and Councillors) are currently being prepared.

9.10 Dog management brochure

The final draft was circulated, with no further amendments. It will now go to Council staff for review, before being approved for printing.

9.11 Council Sustainability Grants Committee

Jean attended on behalf of the Alliance. Twelve out of the fifteen applications were recommended. The recommended projects now need to be reviewed by Councillors, and will be formally approved and announced following the next relevant Council meeting.

9.12 For information

- Next Coastal Zone Management Committee Meeting, Wednesday 5 April
- Hunter Water Community Forum – Jean was an apology for the February meeting.
- Possible project idea: Education targeting fishers about littering of fishing lines / rope etc.

10 Meeting close.

Meeting close: 7:40pm

Next meeting date: 18 April 2017, 6-8pm

Treasurer's Report:

LAKE MACQUARIE SUSTAINABLE NEIGHBOURHOODS ALLIANCE

GENERAL MEETING

TREASURER'S REPORT

1 February to 28 February 2017.



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

Balance **\$ 22,946.69CR**

RECEIPTS

Nil

Total Receipts \$ NIL

EXPENDITURE

Chq 000066 Simon Mudge 200.00

Total Expenditure \$ 200.00

BALANCE **\$ 22,746.69CR**

This is a true statement of accounts for the Lake Macquarie Sustainable Neighbourhoods Alliance for the period 1 February to 28 February 2017.

Signed _____

Name Jean McGarry

Title Hon Treasurer

Date 20 March, 2017.

Sustainable Neighbourhoods website activity

November 2014 - March 2017

