

# Lake Macquarie Sustainable Neighbourhood Alliance

## Ordinary Meeting

### MINUTES

Sunday 15 November 2015, 11.50am – 12.15pm

Belmont Neighbourhood Centre



<b>Present:</b>	Dot Seiffert, Jean McGarry, Indra Deamer, Gavin Ord, Steve Dewar, Colin Mondy, Christine Aus, Ross Woods, Norbert Lica, Avril Lockton Alec Roberts (CLEANaS), Rachelle McConville (Council)
<b>Apologies:</b>	Robyn Charlton, Kate Newman, Suzanne Reaney, Anika Learmouth, Barry Shepherd, Ken Stokes

Note: This ordinary meeting followed on from the AGM, so included only time sensitive agenda items.

## 1 For discussion & decision

### 1.1 Hunter Water Consultative Forum

Norbert circulated and email invitation from Declan Clausen on behalf of the Hunter Water Consultative Forum.

The Forum is seeking additional community representatives – particularly from Lake Macquarie. The Forum “provides advice on the interests of customers and consumers of Hunter Water, the Customer Contract and other key issues related to Hunter Water’s planning and operations as Hunter Water may determine.

Colin and Avril have experience in participating in the forum in the past and noted that the role involves significant effort to digest and communicate the data received.

The forum may be relevant to our Sustainable Neighbourhood members in terms of Hunter Water’s activities in Lake Macquarie.

No decision was made, but the item will be added to the agenda for next the ordinary meeting of the Alliance.

**ACTION: Norbert to seek clarification about whether the invitation is for the Alliance to become a member as an organisation, and therefore be able to nominate different individuals to attend as required.**

Avril also mentioned her role representing the CEN on Council’s Estuary and Coastal Management Committee, and suggested that it might be suitable for the Alliance to have a representative on this committee.

**ACTION: Rachelle to ask about the process to join.**

### 1.2 Sponsorship proposal

Colin has arranged a meeting with the Ecology Manager at Umwelt to see what opportunity there might be for sponsorship, about the Belmont Wetlands Park, and a possible list of other sponsors.

Steve is following up with Suez environnement to see who would be best to contact there.

## 2 Requests from member groups

### 2.1 Request: Dudley Nature Play workshop - Dudley SNG, 21 November

Risk assessment circulated via email.

Approved.

### 2.2 Seniors Expo Risk assessment – Alliance stall, 19 November

Risk assessment circulated via email.

Approved.

## 3 Report backs from member groups

Note that a summary of Sustainable Neighbourhood projects and activities for the previous 18 months was summarised as part of the AGM.

### 3.1 Local pathway in Toronto

TASNG seeking to have pathways improved and working with Council to have alternative (crushed rock) installed in small sections.

### 3.2 Plastic Bag Campaign

TASNG approaching businesses in Toronto to see if they are willing to go plastic bag free.

### 3.3 Fast Food Litter project

Targeting fast food outlets in Toronto. High school students designing signs to be installed at the fast food outlets.

## 4 Meeting closed, 12.15pm

## Guest Presentation from Alec Roberts, CLEANaS

Alec gave a presentation detailing the activities of CLEANaS (Clean Energy Association of Newcastle and Surrounds). They are a not-for-profit association who aim to drive the uptake of clean energy in the Newcastle region.

They support community groups to establish community owned solar installations which generate clean energy for direct use by local businesses, by:

- developing an effective community energy financing mechanism
- undertaking community engagement
- identifying appropriate project sites.

Alec also outlined a number of their projects including:

- 48 community funded solar panels now installed at the Hunter Wetlands
- And possible future / pending projects with:
  - Hunter Surf Life Saving Clubs with club buildings between Catherine Hill Bay and Birubi Beach
  - Margaret Jurd Learning Centre
  - Compass Housing

CLEANaS has some funds for project management and otherwise run by volunteers.