

Minutes of meeting held 5.15 pm Tuesday 14 June 2022 at Redhead Library

1. **Welcome** by Alison Cleary (Chairperson).
2. **In attendance** were: Alison Cleary, Lindsay Black, Tim Woicek and Lidija Terzic. Also in attendance was a guest from the Sustainable Neighbourhoods Alliance, Steve Dewar.
3. **Who said they couldn't come:** Paul Hubbard, Kerry London.
4. **Annual General Meeting and election of Office Bearers**
The following were nominated, seconded and declared as the new office bearers effective from 14 June 2022:
 - Chairperson – Alison Cleary
 - Treasurer – Tim Woicek
 - Secretary – Lindsay Black
 - Community Liaison Officer – Isobel Hubbard.

The AGM closed at 5.30pm and the rest of the meeting continued.

5. **Financial Report**

The Treasurer reported that the balance of the Redhead Sustainable Neighbourhood account stands at \$2445.97, with the only outgoing since 12 April 2022 being \$10 for the library room rental.

It was also noted that an invoice for \$384.00 was received from Colin Mondy in relation to the Energy Wave Project grant, and will be forwarded to Rochelle to apply against the grant monies held with the Alliance (the April 2022 balance pre this invoice was \$1,270.00). The final report regarding this project is due to be submitted to Council at the end of June and Colin Mondy has undertaken to submit this.

6. **Sustainable Alliance Visit**

Steve Dewar from the Sustainable Neighbourhood Alliance visited the meeting as part of his role in visiting members of the Alliance, including some newly started groups in Charlestown and West Wallsend. He gave a rundown of various initiatives and focus areas for members of the Alliance including:

- The Living Smart Festival: there will be a focus on the Waste to Art program, especially following Covid disruption to the exhibition last year. The overall theme at the hall at Speers Point this year will be 'circular economy', with alternatives to plastic being brought by Toronto. He asked we submit any other Lake-Mac wide ideas.
- Steve outlined Toronto Sustainable Neighbourhood's project distributing reusable bamboo cups with silicone tops to 35+ cafes across Lake Mac so far – including our new coffee shop 'Redhead Gather' at the Redhead Scout Hall. This initiative was funded through grants from the EPA and a Council Environment Grant.
- He also covered the initiative to increase trees in Lake Mac, starting with re-treeing a small park in Blackalls Bay and also the Tiny Forest idea for street verges.
- Steve also mentioned the Repair Café initiative where community members can bring in tech repairs, simple electricals, furniture, tools and sewing repairs.
- Toronto and Warners Bay have face mask collection points, the masks then being sent to Terracycle for recycling. He also mentioned a new app – Recycle Mate – where you can enter a locality, like Lake Macquarie, and recycling options and locations come up.

More details about these projects is available online from the Alliance website and/or the Eco Advocate and Council newsletters.

This segment of the meeting finished with our Chairperson updating Steve that Redhead Sustainable Neighbourhood is still here for our community if issues arise that fit our mandate, we continue to produce a quarterly community newsletter and support our Cain Street Landcare group. The Chairperson also commented that Redhead had more community events and projects, including the Redhead Gather project and the Made and Found Markets held once a month at Webb Park.

Discussion was also held around the significant use of the Redhead Community Facebook page and the lack of information provided to residents about the proposal to end the Council bulk waste collections across Lake Mac. Steve noted this as an Alliance representative and undertook to speak further with the Council about this change.

7. Newsletter

Feedback was received that the editor was progressing articles, with several story inputs being finalised with contributors. The copy deadline looked like being extended and Tim Woicek undertook to speak with the editor about advertising.

8. BMX Pump track

As far as Redhead Sustainable Neighbourhood Group (RSNG) are aware, the work on the track is still proceeding despite further protests from residents.

9. 'Redhead Gather' and plastic free initiative

RSNG have completed the actions noted last meeting and residents will now be able to purchase an Alliance Keep Cup from Kylie Amos and her team at the new coffee shop at the Redhead Scout Hall.

10. No-interest loans for Community Energy

Information was sent to RSNG about a Community Rooftop Revolving Energy Fund. This will be forwarded to our newsletter editor and Redhead residents and community groups will be able to read all about it in the next newsletter – and online.

11. Powering 'Oasis' - Kalaroo Rd development

In answer to our enquiries from last meeting, the developer responded that solar power can be installed by individual home owners.

12. Other ideas

- Urban heat and urban greening information from Council to be shared via email
- Awaba Battery – opportunities for community consultation re a proposed battery storage facility
- Rubbish on our beaches following bad storms: the Facebook group will be approached asking residents to bring a bag on their next walk and collect some plastic rubbish off our beach.

The meeting closed at 6.30pm.