

Minutes of the meeting of HBVA CCB 24th February 2018 in Erowal Bay Hall

33 members attended the meeting. Apologies were received from 21 members.

Mark Crowther stood in as chairperson of the meeting to assist the president, Morgan Sant. The meeting was opened at 3.01pm.

1 Minutes of Previous meeting.

The minutes of the previous meeting approved, moved by Di Moller and seconded by Michelle Schlosser.

2 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising

3. Morgan Sant noted with great sadness the death of Malcolm Eade just before Christmas. Malcolm was a much valued member of the Hyams community and former committee member of the HBVA. He had been the editor of a village newsletter. His daughter had designed the HBVA logo which is still used today

4 Treasurers report

In the absence of Vicki Fortescue, the Treasurer's report, prepared by Vicki, was given by Mark Crowther.

Opening balance at 2nd December 2017 was \$2,679.00 in our Commonwealth Bank cheque account. There has been no income since this date and expenses of \$300 for GPS to Crossroads Fire Brigade as agreed at December meeting. Current balance in cheque account is \$2379.00
IMB Term Deposit had an opening balance at 2nd December 2017 of \$10,695.27. This was rolled over on 7th February 2018 with interest of \$55.38 paid (interest rate of 2.10%). New maturity date is 08 May 2018 and term deposit balance stands at \$10,750.65.

Total assets as of 24 February 2018 are \$13129.65

Applications are now open for possible community funding from 2 sources.

- The IMB Bank has funds available through its Community Foundation. Information and applications are available at imb.com.au/community-foundations
- Club Grants (a shared State Government and Registered Clubs programme) managed by Shoalhaven Council. Community organisations can apply for funding towards local community service needs and priorities. Applications close 25th May 2018.

Vicki suggested that anyone who has project ideas contact the executive committee of the HBVA

Motion to approve the Treasurer's report was accepted. It was moved by Bridget Sant and seconded by Ken Renwick.

5 Update on traffic issues and council meetings

a) **Lois Sparkes** reported on the major stakeholders meeting at Council on February 15th. This was attended by about 50 people, councillors, senior council staff, police, national parks and fire service plus a delegation from HBVA – Morgan Sant, David Campbell, Lois Sparkes, Kate Friis, Mark Crowther and Chris Allison. There were other business representatives and observers from other CCBs.

Lois reported at the Feb 15th meeting on what had worked over Christmas and what had partially worked, and measures that had been unsuccessful. Of particular note was the fact that the Variable Message Board was not updated in a timely manner

b) **Kate Friis** then reported on the walking meeting with Daniel Dunstan on Thursday 22nd February with six others, and the decisions made for Easter. She emphasised that there were two strategies to managing congestion:

- The primary strategy is to seek to turn vehicles around at the top of Booderee when rangers declared that the village was full – indicatively after 100 cars had turned south and 400 cars had turned north.
 - A temporary roundabout with appropriate signage would be installed at the top of Booderee and cars would be instructed that the village was full.
 - This measure would be supported by two Variable Message Boards, one before the Huskisson turn off and one near the Hyams Beach turn off.
 - The aim would be to Divert and Disperse to other beaches before reaching the top of Booderee.
- A secondary strategy, kept as a contingency only, would be to implement the temporary one-way system first trialled on the Australia Day long weekend. Lessons were learnt from the trial, with the expectation that the arrangements could be improved, but the arrangements would only be implemented if the Divert and Disperse strategy is unable to limit vehicle numbers sufficiently.
- There will be three traffic controllers within the village as before, one at the bottom of Booderee, one at Seamans and one at Hyam Road. There will be a strong ranger presence and they will be encouraged to desist with their soft approach to issuing fines.
- The Boat ramp road will be closed again.
- Kate also indicated that longer term solutions might include more line markings to make it clearer where tourists could legally park. Double yellow lines (internationally recognised as no stopping areas) could be painted on all the corners. White lines could be painted to delineate legal parking spots and to support enforcement.
- Kate indicated that it had been suggested that by extending the Aster Street parking area into the bush longer recreational vehicles could have a designated parking area.
- As cars are being directed to park further away from the beach access point, 5 minute drop off zones need to be provided at each beach. These will be necessary when the proposed shuttle bus service is implemented next October. Pioneer Coaches have placed a tender to operate this service from out of town parking areas as well as from accommodation.

Mark asked for comments on these proposals.

- Paul Renwick thought a boom gate should be hired
- Margaret Kinsella asked for the temporary slip road at the top of Booderee to be closed when no diversion is needed as cars were using it and causing a major hazard for those following the road into the village.
- Frank Smith wondered why a park and ride solution would not be implemented for Easter. and was told that arrangements had not yet been made with Vincentia High School as a short term option
- Ken Renwick wanted to know how the figure of 500 legal parking spaces had been derived and asked if we could do our own count to ensure the figure was accurate. It was explained that it was legal to park on verges provided that 1.8metres was left for a pedestrian walkway.

- c) **Morgan Sant** had opened the proceedings at the meeting in Council on February 15th with the ACA film clip and stressed the focus was on managing traffic congestion. He stressed that our problems are seasonal so the solutions must not change the village year round. Residential amenity is paramount and visitors must have a good experience.

Solutions would need to be multi-pronged which includes the following:

- Communication to motorists
- Enforcing regulations
- Improving infrastructure and possibly using pricing, subject to council decisions
- Using smart technologies in a flexible way, particularly to assist with the control of numbers of cars

But for effective control an objective measure as to how many cars are let in is essential and this will also require an overflow car park.

6 Overflow carparks

On February 23rd **Morgan Sant** had a meeting with Alfred Wellington the CEO of the Jerrinja Land Council and Councillor Nina Cheyne. He proposed that Hyams Beach's parking problems were potentially an opportunity for JLC, as they own the land on the southern side of Booderee Avenue, including the old Hyams Beach tip site. Mr Wellington welcomed this proposition and will raise it with the JLC. Morgan emphasised that it is important to have the overflow in place by October.

Marie Ellis questioned the environmental impacts of this proposal, and was assured that only a small parcel of land was needed and the first suggestion was for the already degraded and grassy area of the old tips site to be used. No hard surfaces would be created.

Paul Renwick asked for all advertising of Hyams Beach to cease

David Campbell stressed that if we wanted a better environment in the village there will be a need to provide alternative viable ways of access the village without the need to drive in and park. He stated the view that development of new off-site parking was only likely to be considered in detail after trialling of park-and-ride arrangements using existing parking facilities, such as within Vincentia High School. Any proposed new sites would be subject to scrutiny in terms of environmental impacts.

7. Fireshed

On February 13th **Morgan Sant** gave a presentation to the Council's Development Committee on the HBVA's wish to retain and use the Hyams Beach fireshed/community hall. Council had a motion to approve the aboriginal land claim over lots 78 and 79 Rose Street. Council owns lots 79 on which the fireshed is built, lot 78 is crown land. Morgan made a very strong statement that lot 79 should not be approved. The motion was thus amended by Greg Watson so that council should retain lot 79 plus an easement and curtilage round the annex to the fireshed which is partly on lot 78. The General Manager was then asked to get the land use changed to community use and to investigate a way to appoint a committee, such as a Section 355 Committee, to undertake restoration and renovation of the building – and its subsequent management. Thus HBVA could become a management committee of Council for this purpose. This would allow the HBVA to determine how the hall and fireshed are used.

8 Environment Group

Kate Friis informed the meeting that the next meeting of this group would be on March 29th at 10.30am at Vicki Fortescue's house. The aim will be to prioritise and start acting on actions defined in the strategic plan. All interested parties are welcome.

9 Bush Care

Julienne McKay expressed her concern at the level of dune degradation occurring with excess pressure from tourists seeking shade and setting up camps in the dunes. One strategy to help prevent this is to add brush to the open dune areas to deter people. For this to be successful large quantities of brush are requested from the village gardens. They must be native and large bushy pieces, not logs. The second strategy is to restore the fence beside the little track to Seamans beach. For manpower to assist with this she requested that the group involved in setting up the men's shed help with labour and tools even if the facility for the men's shed has yet to be accessed.

Bubi Gerber notified the meeting that he had spoken to Ray Massey from Council and he mentioned that this path to Seamans beach was being considered to be rerouted more directly across the dunes, which bush care are trying to restore. Some discussion reminded the meeting of how this proposed route had previously been used, and had failed when a storm surge had moved the creek much further south and had cut into the dune, leaving the track several metres above the beach. It was at that point that the new track had been built parallel to the dunes, so that the end of the track was protected from both storm surges and the southern flow of the creek when it changes course.

A motion was then put to the meeting proposed by Bubi Gerber and seconded by Lois Sparkes:

HBVA should write to Council strongly supporting the route of the existing path. This route should be retained and repaired. They strongly oppose any rerouting over the dune.

The motion was passed unanimously.

Julienne McKay reminded the meeting of Clean Up Australia Day on March 4th and that she would be coordinator.

10 Other Business

- **Bridget Sant** referred to the letter which had been circulated from Brad Davis requesting feedback on his proposals for three time frames for toilet planning.

He has suggested two portaloos for Chinamans for Easter.

We should request that these are screened from the houses opposite with a simple shade cloth contemporary construction.

Mr Davis's three year plan was for major redevelopment at Seamans and to replace the boat ramp toilet block. He has already responded positively to serious reservations expressed by members of HBVA in relation to the proposed siting of these facilities, which all agreed would reduce resident and visitor amenity, by being in the view of all and destroying the iconic view from the Seamans carpark. He has now suggested alternative siting:

- Two small cubicles could be added to the existing large cubicles at Seamans and relocating the shower.
- The existing toilet block at Little Hyams Beach could be replaced in situ, with appropriate access for disabled people.

After discussion a motion was put to the meeting, proposed by Bridget Sant and seconded by Kate Friis. It was passed unanimously.

That we write to Brad Davis with the above proposals that have been agreed to after full consultation with the HBVA. i.e.

- *The revised proposals for Seamans and Hyams Beach facilities*
 - *Request for a small permanent, secluded facility at Chinamans*
 - *To fast track these proposals for next summer or provide extra portaloos if not possible*
 - *Screen the two portaloos at Chinamans and that they be located more discreetly further into the bush with their doors opening onto the pumping facility*
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- **Mark Davoren** raised the issue of noisy rental houses. He had had several guests to his Band B who had been very disturbed by the house next door and were unable to enjoy their stay. Considerable discussion followed.
 - a. Paul Renwick alerted people to Bethany in the Environmental Services section of Council which deals with noisy houses. SCC 44293610.
 - b. It was also mentioned that notifying the police was also a good idea.
 - c. If there are constant formal complaints about a particular house there are provisions to prevent the house from being rented out. This is only permissible if it does not affect the amenity of residents.
 - d. Before contacting Council it would be a good idea to notify the agent.
 - e. Byron Bay had similar problems and they have instigated a noise bond.

The meeting closed at 4.55