

COOLUM RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

MAY 2024 NEWSLETTER

Dear CRA members and friends,

CRA Annual General Meeting

Current and prospective new members are invited to attend the annual general meeting which will be held at **5pm Thursday 30 May** at the Coolum Croquet Club, 25 Seacove Lane, Coolum Beach. The meeting will elect the management committee, and present the President's and Treasurer's reports to members.

The meeting agenda, minutes of the previous AGM and minutes of the previous general meeting are provided as attachments at the end of this newsletter.

Light refreshments will be provided after the AGM.

Management Committee

The current members of the management committee (listed below) have indicated they are willing to stand for reelection.

- President: Ray Barber
- Vice-president: John Fuller
- Treasurer: Pam Vagg
- Secretary: Gary Lee

The management committee thinks it would be a good idea to refresh the committee. Other members are invited to nominate for a position on the management committee. The nomination form can be downloaded from the Downloads section of the CRA website www.coolumresidents.org

Annual Membership Fee Reminder

All members should have received an email request and reminder about payment of the \$10 annual membership fee which was due to be paid by 30 April. If you have not paid and wish to remain a member and eligible to vote at the AGM, please make a direct credit payment to the following account, and put your full name as reference.

BSB: 124-079

Bank: Bank of Queensland

Account Number: 23363838

Account Name: CRA Inc

Be sure to receive future newsletters

CRA newsletters will in future be sent as an attachment to an email from the CRA email account:

coolumresidents@gmail.com To prevent these emails from being sent directly to your spam folder you should ensure that your email program recognizes the CRA email address as a "safe sender". The steps to

do this in a Gmail account are as follows (other email programs have different approaches. Try searching for “create a safe sender” under Help for your particular email program).

1. Open the Gmail website from your computer.
2. In the search box at the top, select the Down arrow.
3. In the From field, enter the sender email address i.e. *coolumresidents@gmail.com*
4. At the bottom of the search window, click Create filter.
5. Select Never send it to Spam.
6. Click Create filter.

Local Councilors

At the local government elections held on March 14, Cr Maria Suarez was returned as councilor for Division 9, and Taylor Bunnag became the new councilor for Division 8. Maria was also selected by fellow councilors to be the new Deputy Mayor. CRA looks forward to continuing our good working relationship with Cr Suarez, and developing a similar relationship with Cr Bunnag.

Priority Project Updates

Nambour to Coolum Rail (N2C) Trail

The Nambour to Coolum Rail Trail is a project that CRA has endorsed and is actively advocating for. The concept was presented at an open public meeting in early March and it was quite successful with a large turnout of 50+ people. The title - ‘N2C Trail’ has been adopted to create a simple ‘brand’ for the trail.

SCC is moving towards being the lead agency for the project. CRA has written to local councillors and State government members expressing support for the project, and formed a "N2C Trail Joint Working Group" with representatives from local communities.

We are currently organising a meeting for late May which should include members of the joint working group and Council officers who are appointed to coordinate the project. This wasn’t possible earlier due to the local government election.

Norrie Job - Lions Park

CRA has actively participated in the consultation stages of this project. Construction will be undertaken in 2 stages commencing in 2024 and 2026 respectively. Stage 1 works will also be undertaken in 2 stages. The initial works comprises drainage works, landscape, civil, hydraulic and electrical works but not removal of existing amenities. These works are expected to begin in May 2024.

Design of the new amenities is expected to be finalised by the end of June 2024. A contractor has been engaged for the design work. Construction of the new amenities is expected to start before December 2024.

Lows Lookout Trail

Construction of the first stage (pedestrian path and steps linking Scrub Road and Grandview Drive) were scheduled to start in February but this has been delayed because of issues with the contractors and parking of construction vehicles and equipment (due to major works on an adjoining residence). No further information is currently available on a revised start date.

Mt Coolum NP – Upgraded Facilities

This has been a longstanding need which CRA has been actively pushing for the last 2 years. Queensland Parks and Wildlife Services has been liaising with SCC and has provided funding support for Council to progress design work. SCC has engaged a private consulting company to undertake a due diligence/options assessment to support the future design & construction for this project. QPWS/SCC have selected a preferred option for further development. It is expected that planning and design will continue this financial year with the proposed construction taking place in the 2024/25 financial year.

Coolum Walkable Street Verge and Pathways

CRA has been advocating for safe pedestrian access along Pacific and Coolum Terraces. In late 2023 after 18 months of discussions with Council progress was being made with the SCRC Transport Infrastructure Management Branch to find a solution for the severe side fall on the verge on parts of the western side of Coolum Terrace. The matter was then handed over to the Civil Asset Management Dept, but their focus is on maintenance of roadways, drainage and sometimes verge vegetation.

The Asset Mgt Dept is not willing to accept that there is a safety problem let alone come up with some solutions to the un-walkable verge. Usual excuse of not enough money. Another email was sent to the relevant Council departments on the 6th April, no response yet.

If there is not a positive response from the SCRC, then the matter needs to be taken to the Council CEO and Mayor with the question of, why 100 years of rates is not enough to provide a walkable verge on the western side of Colum Terrace and at least one side of Pacific Terrace.

Grandview Lane access and safety issues

CRA continues to work with local residents and SCC in an effort to resolve these issues. The issues relate to the extreme narrowness of the lane, type of permanent fence to the development and bin collection issues. As the development approval was granted by the Planning and Environment Court in 2007, Council cannot amend the approval and there appear to be no reasonable legal avenues through which the issues could be reconsidered. CRA has previously negotiated with the developer on behalf of residents. The developer has rebuffed these approaches. CRA has put forward some possible ways to alleviate the access and safety issues through targeted land acquisition. These were rejected by Council due to the cost of acquiring high value residential land.

CRA continues to liaise with Senior officers from SCC who are negotiating with the developer and his representatives. These negotiations have had only limited success to date. Recently the developer agreed to move the safety barrier back from the lane for a distance of about 75 metres where it did not affect the proposed residential lots. This has benefited a small number of properties in the lane. The developer has advised Council that he will not relocate the fence elsewhere along the lane. Council officers continue to negotiate about the permanent fence design, and to investigate ways of resolving the waste collection issue.

Jack Morgan Park

The new amenities building (near the Bowls Club) is on track to be completed by the end of April 2024.

Service Requests to Sunshine Coast Council

Sunshine Coast Council has an app which enables users to make service requests. You can download the app by searching for Sunshine Coast Council in your phone's app store (called Play Store on my Android phone). Alternatively, you can set up a "My Council" account on the SCC website (requires an email

address and a password). When you log in, a dashboard screen opens which includes a Service Requests option. The latter method is probably better as it will maintain a record of all of your requests.

CRA Supporters

Please remember the local businesses that provide financial sponsorship to CRA - Mitre 10 Hardware on William Street, Birtwill Physiotherapy on Heathfield Road, 7 Day Doctors in the Coolum Village Shopping Centre, Quality First Constructions (Coolum industrial estate) and Ray Barber Solicitor (Heathfield Road).

COOLUM RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION INC

Agenda for Annual General Meeting at 5pm, Thursday 30 May 2024 at Coolum Croquet Club, 25 Seacove Lane, Coolum Beach

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of previous AGM
3. President's report
4. Treasurer's report
5. Update on membership
6. Election of office bearers – President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary
7. Consideration of appointment of auditor or verifier
8. Other business
9. Next meeting

COOLUM RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION INC

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

25 May 2023 at the Coolum Croquet Club, Seacove Lane, Coolum Beach

Attendance: Gary Byrne, Patricia Byrne, Peter Brown, Joan Brown, Mark Bizzell, Gary Lee, Richard Koerner, Ray Barber, Tony Philbrick, Margaret Lee, Robin Bishop, Amy-Rose West, Brian Raison, Angela Hatfield, Pam Vagg, Mark Jones, Paul Stichbury.

A quorum being present, President Ray Barber declared the meeting open at 5.00pm. Copies of the meeting agenda and minutes of the previous AGM were distributed.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Jackie Seljak, Bronwyn Jackson, John Fuller, Jim Moore.

2. Minutes of the previous AGM

Margaret Lee moved that the minutes be accepted, Tony Philbrick seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

3. President's Report

Ray Barber presented a verbal report on the previous year's activities. The report is attached. Ray concluded that it had been a very active and successful year for the CRA. The meeting endorsed Ray's remarks and noted the report.

4. Treasurer's Report

Pam Vagg presented the Treasurer's report. A small loss of \$61 was incurred over the 12 months to 31 March 2023, due to the \$500 contribution to The Gully art project. The association had \$3964.06 in the bank as at 31 March. Pam moved that the report be accepted. Motion seconded by Angela Hatfield. The motion was carried.

5. Election of Officer Bearers

Ray Barber vacated the chair and asked Tony Philbrick to conduct the election of office bearers.

President: Ray Barber was nominated by Pam Vagg, seconded by Margaret Lee. There being no other nominations, Ray Barber was duly elected President.

Vice-President: John Fuller was nominated by Angela Hatfield, seconded by Mark Bizzell. There being no other nominations, John Fuller was duly elected Vice-President.

Secretary: Gary Lee was nominated by Pam Vagg, seconded by Amy-Rose West. There being no other nominations, Gary Lee was duly elected Secretary.

Treasurer: Pam Vagg was nominated by Tony Philbrick, seconded by Richard Koerner. There being no other nominations, Pam Vagg was duly elected Treasurer.

Following election of the office bearers, Ray Barber assumed the chair.

6. Consideration of appointment of Auditor or Verifier

Gary Lee advised that according to the requirements of the Queensland Office of Fair Trading, CRA is a small incorporated association (assets and annual revenue less than \$20,000). The association was not required to appoint an auditor, and its financial statement can be verified by either the President or the Treasurer of the association. Pam Vagg moved that an auditor not be appointed, and that the financial statement be approved by way of verification. Motion seconded by Margaret Lee. The motion was duly carried.

7. Other Business

Life Membership

Peter Brown was awarded a certificate of life membership. Ray Barber said Peter had provided outstanding service over 25 years of membership including a long stint as President, and had also been Secretary for several years and acting Treasurer on occasion. Ray also said that Peter's partner Joan Brown had been a great support, including as secretary of the association for a time. Peter responded with gratitude, said he had been impressed with the organisation since his very first involvement, and had enjoyed his experiences.

Annual Fees

Pam Vagg moved that the CRA institute a \$10 annual fee for members which would cover fixed costs such as memberships of other organisations, website hosting charges and annual return to government. It would also allow annual updating of the membership register. Ray Barber seconded the motion, which was duly carried.

Opportunities for broader participation

Gary and Ray had been discussing this and suggested that in future, when members are preparing submissions on behalf of CRA, the Secretary would email all members advising them of the contact persons to enable those who wished to make a contribution to do so. The suggestion was widely supported.

Local Issues

Mark Bizzell advised of a number of matters he had become aware of through his participation in Coast Care and the Coolum Road Reserve Action Group:

- There had been several incidents of poisoning trees including on the hill behind the Third Bay carpark and at the new coastal subdivision at Marcoola
- Proposal to install wildlife habitat boxes on land adjacent to David Low Way
- The Coolum Community Nursery is currently on a month-to-month lease and is looking for a new, larger site.

8. Next Meetings

The schedule of meetings for the next year is:

24 August 2023, 23 November 2023, 29 February 2024, 30 May 2024 (AGM) - all Thursdays at 5pm at the Croquet Club, 25 Seacove Lane, Coolum Beach.

There being no other business, Ray Barber declared the meeting closed at 5.30pm.

President's Report - May 2023

Vision for Coolum

A committee submitted recently to Council's call for input into Lions/Norrie Job Park. Calling for more activities for young and less boring pathways. Active transport masterplan has been called for to Council and a committee has told Council what we think. There are wonderful opportunities in the town for more linked walkways and bikeways – and then to link under the Motorway to points north, west and south.

Our vision includes transport, art and lifestyle which are mentioned below.

Transport

A committee submitted to TMR's request for input into the proposed upgrades of the Sunshine Motorway. We had very good ideas about transport linkages under the motorway and for the use of the north-south Unitywater easement for active transport. These were acknowledged by TMR.

Art & Culture

Art committee obtained a grant and CRA chipped in for highly decorative Gully Lane public art exhibit. It was always intended to be a replaceable art show. However, body corporate bureaucracy caused it to be a temporary art show only. Highly successful, however, and showed the way for things to come. My thanks to John Fuller and his hardworking committee.

We will be pursuing opportunities for public art at Norrie Job Park.

Getting to Lows Lookout by foot will be a great part of a future Coolum. CRA asked for it and Maria Suarez succeeded in having money allocated to Scrub Road to Lows Lookout paths and a significant upgrade at Lows Lookout. Thank you to Maria: this is no small victory.

Caring for Coolum

This committee lobbied Council about David Low Way plantings, among other things. Let's call our lobbying for amenities at Mt Coolum National Park as a caring act. This has been difficult but slow progress is apparent at SCRC and QG levels.

We care. To that end, we have dived in to fixing the February, 2023 emergent safety issue in Grandview Lane. The developer of Grandview Horizons estate had pegged and temporarily fenced his land directly abutting the narrow lane. Members have spent hundreds of combined hours researching this; surveying the lane dwellers; creating an alternative plan; getting Council's officers to respond; having meetings and advocating for the lane dwellers to council and the developer. This is a work in progress.

We await the decision of the P&E Court on the reheard planning appeal of Sekisui House.

My heartfelt thanks to my Secretary, Gary Lee, and my Treasurer, Pam Vagg. My executive is the impetus to the active year that CRA has enjoyed. That is, they prod me into action and I am grateful. The executive is going around again this year and I thank them and all the members for their dedication.

Let's care about where we live for another year.

Ray Barber

COOLUM RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION INC

MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING

29 February 2023 at the Coolum Croquet Club, Seacove Lane, Coolum Beach

Attendance: Gary Byrne, Patricia Byrne, Peter Brown, Joan Brown, Rob Seljak, Gary Lee, Richard Koerner, Amy-Rose West, Ray Barber, Tony Philbrick, Angela Hatfield, Richard Newport, Brian Raison, Pam Vagg, John Fuller, Fiona Hughes, Bronwyn Jackson, Margaret Lee, Lyn Cosgrove, Mark Bizzell, Bill Evans, Sean Byrne.

A quorum being present, President Ray Barber declared the meeting open at 5.00pm. Copies of the meeting agenda and minutes of the previous meeting were distributed. Ray said the meeting would be kept to essential club business only to provide time to hear from 8 local government candidates immediately following the meeting.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Bernie Caffrey and Jackie Seljak.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting

Mark Bizzell moved that the minutes be accepted, John Fuller seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

3. Other Business

a. Annual membership fee

Pam Vagg advised that in accordance with the decision at the previous AGM, requests for payment of the \$10 annual membership fee would be sent out by email in March with a requested payment date of 30 April. Non-financial memberships would lapse, and would not be entitled to vote at the AGM and future general meetings.

b. Quarterly Newsletter

Gary advised that the introduction of the membership fee would make it easier to keep track of members which was the main benefit of using the MailChimp app for the newsletters. To remove the need to maintain a separate subscriber list, future newsletters would be sent from CRA's email account – coolumresidents@gmail.com – to ensure these do not go into your spam folder add this email account to your email program's list of contacts.

4. Next Meeting

Next meeting will be the AGM on Thursday 30 May 2024 at 5pm at the Croquet Club, 25 Seacove Lane, Coolum Beach.

There being no other business, Ray Barber declared the meeting closed at 5.10pm.