

# **COOLUM RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION INC**

## **MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**5 June 2025 at the Coolum Beach Surf Club**

**Attendance:** Peter Brown, Joan Brown, Gary Lee, Richard Koerner, Ray Barber, Tony Philbrick, Margaret Lee, Amy-Rose West, Brian Raison, Angela Hatfield, Pam Vagg, Graham Simpson, Fiona Hughes, Jim Moore, Bronwyn Jackson, John Fuller, Jo Justo, Jackie Seljak, Nicole White, John White, Bernie Caffery, Taylor Bunnag, Graham Cosgrove, Lyn Cosgrove.

During a slight technical delay, Ray Barber invited Taylor Bunnag Councillor for Division 9 to provide the meeting with an update on local issues. Taylor's update is appended to the end of these minutes.

A quorum being present, President Ray Barber declared the meeting open at 5.10pm. Copies of the meeting agenda and minutes of the previous AGM had been distributed with the May 2025 newsletter.

### **1. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Bill Evans, Cr Maria Suarez, Mark Bizzell, Stehen Moore, Ian Vagg.

### **2. Minutes of the previous AGM**

John Fuller moved that the minutes be accepted, Tony Philbrick seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

### **3. Minutes of the previous AGM**

Margaret Lee moved that the minutes be accepted, John Fuller seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

### **4. President's Report**

Ray Barber presented a verbal report on the previous year's activities. The report is attached. Margaret Lee moved that the report be accepted. Tony Philbrick seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

### **5. Treasurer's Report**

Pam Vagg presented the Treasurer's report. During year ending 31st March 2025, CRA had

- A profit of \$1,014.14 which included the CAP projects
  - Expenses involved subscriptions, fees, website charges, CAP projects and meeting expenses of \$1,215.86, and
  - Income involved CAP projects grants, memberships and sponsorships totalling \$2,230.00
- At year end our bank balance was \$5,222.97
- Currently we have \$5,781.92 in our bank account, which includes all CAP monies received, with another \$300 to be paid out tomorrow to the CAP projects committee. They will then still have \$543.27 in their sub account.
- Our paid-up members as of today number 29

Pam moved that the report be accepted. Motion seconded by Tony Philbrick. The motion was carried.

Pam said that as CRA would also be receiving additional funds from the Boardwalk Committee which was closing down, it would be worth putting some funds in a term deposit to earn some interest as we currently have only a transaction account with no interest. *Gary Lee moved that Pam be requested to investigate term deposit options, and that the management committee be authorised to deposit funds in a term deposit ensuring sufficient funds*

were available for the normal expenses of the association. Tony Philbrick seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

## **6. 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 Bernie Caffery. There being no other nominations, Ray Barber was duly elected President.

*Vice-President:* Fiona Hughes was nominated by Tony Philbrick, seconded by Pam Vagg. There being no other nominations, Fiona Hughes was duly elected Vice-President.

*Secretary:* Gary Lee was nominated by Pam Vagg, seconded by Bronwyn Jackson. There being no other nominations, Gary Lee was duly elected Secretary.

*Treasurer:* Pam Vagg was nominated by Tony Philbrick, seconded by Gary Lee. There being no other nominations, Pam Vagg was duly elected Treasurer.

Following election of the office bearers, Ray Barber assumed the chair. Ray thanked John Fuller for his contributions as outgoing Vice-President.

## **7. 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 Tony Philbrick. The motion was duly carried.

## **8. Other Business**

### ***Discussion about Personal Mobility Devices***

Bernie Caffery led the discussion as Chair of the Pedestrian Safety and Amenity sub-committee which has been addressing this issue. Bernie said there is an opportunity to make a submission to the State government's Inquiry into E- Mobility Safety & Use - June 2025 which is *Looking at Safety, Regulations, Enforcement & the Responsibility of the 3 levels of Government*. The sub-committee put forward the following for consideration:

#### Issues

- All types PMDs on narrow Footpaths – can't work – safety problem for pedestrians and riders.
- E-Bikes - Heavy "Fat" ones & Bigger E-Scooters – the problem machines
- Quietness, weight, speed – momentum 50-60kgs, young inexperienced riders
- Traveling everywhere – no restrictions
- No licencing, no identification- policing near impossible.

#### Proposed changes to regulations:

##### ***Heavy E- Bikes***

- Treat like Motor Bikes - Only on Roads, Riders Only over 16yr - Max speed same - 25Km/hr, Rider Licencing and identification for Heavy E-Bikes

##### ***E-Scooters & Conventional E-Bikes***

- Over 16yrs + speed limits 10Km/h Footpaths & Shared Paths, 25Km Separate/Bike Paths; Machine Identification & Rider Age Identification

#### Compliance proposals:

- Firstly - Clear Out the Illegal E-Bikes
- More Monitoring Cameras
- As now - fines, confiscation
- Delaying car driver licence for repeat offenders.

Quite a bit of discussion ensued. Key points raised were:

- The key issue is how to define the problem vehicles. With or without pedals is not sufficient. Needs to be a combination of weight of device (maybe 30-35kgs as some conventional e-bikes can approach this weight) and/or the maximum speed of the vehicle.
- Investigate the potential for all PMDs to be registered to a mobile phone.
- Needs a change of culture to recognize and prioritise safety (but how, maybe education program).
- State government has funding available for local governments to install monitoring cameras. It seems SCC has not taken up this opportunity.

Tony Philbrick proposed the following motion which was seconded by Pam Vagg: *That the Pedestrian Safety and Amenity sub-committee be requested to (1) prepare and lodge a submission to the State government inquiry, and (2) write to SCC requesting the installation of monitoring cameras in potentially high PMD/pedestrian conflict locations.* The motion was carried.

#### **Coolum Art Project (CAP)**

John Fuller directed people to the art project updates on the CRA website: [coolumresidents.info](http://coolumresidents.info) and highlighted the importance of community spaces like the exhibition space - **the Galley** between Yum Gelato and Heirloom Cafe - opposite the Surf Club on Coolum's Esplanade. The Galley is the central starting point for CAP initiatives.

The recently completed exhibition in the Galley was a joint mother and daughter exhibition showcasing their very different styles and media. The exhibition opening was well attended and John said that the project had also been commercially successful for the artists.

In March, CRA launched The Exceptional Tree Project, a community arts project resulting in a small exhibition in the Galley starting on June 6. Fiona Harding, an artist who is passionate about trees, has been asked to creatively develop and manage the project. The process will involve workshops, outings, interviews & discussions, with a wide range of community input and creativity. The project is very much about 'research and develop' as we go, with the intention to have a very broad community reach and fun! The Exceptional Tree Project is supported by Sunshine Coast Council Division 9 discretionary fund.

#### **9. Next Meetings**

The schedule of meetings for the next year is:

4 September 2025, 4 December 2025, 5 March 2026, 4 June 2026 (AGM). All 5pm Thursdays at Coolum Beach Surf Club.

There being no other business, Ray Barber declared the meeting closed at 6.00pm.

## **Cr Taylor Bunnag - Update on key projects in Division 8**

Taylor opened by expressing his appreciation for the opportunity, and advised that Division 9 councillor Maria Suarez was unable to attend due to a serious health issue in her broader family.

### ***Mt Coolum NP Facilities***

Council will be building toilets at the base of Mount Coolum with construction scheduled to start in August and be finished by November 2025. Taylor secured a funding commitment from the previous the Environment Minister, Leanne Linard MP, on the understanding that Taylor would find a way for council to make a financial and planning contribution if the state would provide the bulk of the funding.

On the day before caretaker period ahead of the State Election, Minister Linard signed off on providing \$400k in funding towards these amenities and I have also committed to providing funding from my Minor Capital Works Budget in 2025/2026. Taylor expressed his appreciation to both previous state government and current state government for honouring the funding of this project, and acknowledged the support provided by Fiona Simpson MP.

### ***South Coolum Road Pathway***

Construction work to deliver the much needed South Coolum Road Pathway between Warrack St and Scottlynd St is expected to start in July. Council officers have revised the plans which will result in the road being widened to avoid the need to build a costly retaining wall on the eastern side of the path although there will be a small impact on vegetation. Taylor said he fought hard to secure funding for this project in his first year in Council when many said it would never happen after years of advocacy from the community.

### ***Suncoast Beach Road and South Coolum Road***

Council has allocated money in this year's budget for detailed design of these roads which are currently programmed for delivery in 2036 and 2041 respectively. This is to ensure that Council is able to respond quickly whenever TMR delivers the south facing ramps connecting to the Sunshine Coast Motorway.

### ***Coolum Stormwater Upgrade and Road Closure - Tanah Street West***

From June 2025, works will commence to upgrade stormwater infrastructure at Tanah Street West in Mount Coolum. These are works being undertaken by a private contractor for the Yaroomba Beachside Development, not Council.

The main impact is the closure of the Tanah Street West intersection. This means that all traffic will be diverted down Jarnahill Drive and Suncoast Beach Drive. The contractor estimates the road closure will be 7 weeks. Pedestrian access will also be restricted at Tanah Street West to the David Low Way for a period of approximately 4-5 weeks (within the 7 week project period). Taylor raised concerns about this but was informed that from a WHS perspective, a full closure of this area is needed for this duration to complete the project.

In conjunction with the road closure, the contractor has delivered a permanent pedestrian refuge on Jarnahill Drive prior to the stormwater works commencing. This project was to be delivered by council in future years and this is one positive aspect that will benefit residents into the future.

## **CRA President's Report - June 2025**

### ***My thanks first up***

Thanks to secretary Gary, who is like having a co-Captain in rugby union. He is assiduous in his attention to the paperwork. He calls on strategy meetings when he sees issues upcoming.

Treasurer Pam cheerfully keeps the books and accedes to all reasonable requests from the Art Project that I not be allowed to spend their money. Thanks, Pam.

V-P John and our subcommittees do stellar work. Thanks to our subcommittee chairs for a successful year. John's frenetic activity sometimes looks like the Tassy Devil in Disney cartoons.

Thanks to our wise owls who are ready to consult whenever asked.

### ***Constructive year***

This is a happy place because members are encouraged to find their special interest and to pursue it. E.G. -

- Pedestrian and traffic safety for Coolum Beach
- Trafficability and amenity in Grandview Lane
- The N2C Trail
- Coolum Art Project
- Coolum's street trees.

The environment and liveability are such 21<sup>st</sup> century motherhood concepts that I hope they colour everything we do.

### ***What is the vision?***

Isn't the vision for a walkable town?

A cyclable town.

A driveable town.

Safe streetscapes.

Clean water, forests and beaches.

A visitable tourist town.

A viable economy.

And, of course, Coolum has always been a live-and-let-live place.

### ***Have your say***

Our chances are arriving soon to have your say on the draft new town plan. It is important that you put your bib in, as will Coolum Residents Association.

### ***Please bring***

Please bring your neighbours along: we'll give them a job to do! We really need some Gen X and millennials to bolster our ranks. They're busy but there must be some who want to join the mission.

Ray Barber

5 June, 2025