

COOLUM RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION INC

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

30 May 2024 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, Graham Simpson, Fiona Hughes, Lincoln Twine, Richard Newport, Jim Moore, Stephen Mawn.

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, Suellen Fuller, Ian Vagg.

2. Minutes of the previous AGM

Ray Barber moved that the minutes be accepted, Mark Bizzell 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 profit of \$233.72 was achieved over the financial year to 31 March 2024. The association had \$4197.78 in the bank as at 31 March. This has since increased to \$4294.43 due to receipt of membership fees. Pam moved that the report be accepted. Motion seconded by Margaret Lee. The motion was carried.

5. Update on Membership

Pam Vagg provided an update on membership. At the previous AGM members voted to introduce a \$10 annual membership fee. Up to the date of this meeting CRA had received membership fees from 28 persons giving a total active membership of 31 (including one life member). A list of active members was passed around at the meeting to enable attendees to verify their membership or suggest others who may not have received notifications. Pam will follow up on any of these.

6. Election of Officer Bearers

Ray Barber vacated the chair and asked Brian Raison to conduct the election of office bearers.

President: Ray Barber was nominated by Tony Philbrick, seconded by Richard Koerner. There being no other nominations, Ray Barber was duly elected President.

Vice-President: John Fuller was nominated by Tony Philbrick, seconded by Gary Lee. There being no other nominations, John Fuller was duly elected Vice-President.

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

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

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

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 Pat Byrne. The motion was duly carried.

8. Other Business

Nambour to Coolum active transport trail

Fiona Hughes provided the meeting with an update. A joint Working Group (JWG) has now been established comprising representatives from: CRA, CB&T, Nambour CoC, Olympic Legacy Group, Active Transport Committee, Maroochy Farmers and Land Owners Assn.

After some delay while Council was in Caretaker mode for the Election, a JWG meeting was held on 28 May with the Council officers working on the Trail. The meeting was also attended by Mayor Natoli, Deputy Mayor and Div 9 Councilor Suarez, Div 10 Councilor Law and Div 8 Councilor Bunnag.

The meeting was informed that Council is currently pursuing funding from the \$35.3M Cities Deal project for the Blue Heart. \$5M of that funding is earmarked for tracks and trails in the Blue Heart. When funding arrives from the State, Council is seeking to use that funding initially to design and construct the active transport link from Coolum to the Blue Heart and River Rd.

At the Nambour end of the Trail, Council is working with the State on a possible active transport connection from Nambour Station or Yandina Station to the Olympic Mountain Biking site at Parklands.

The Maroochy Landowners received an undertaking from the Mayor that there will be no compulsory acquisitions of private land for the Trail.

Council also pointed out that they are presently renewing their Council wide Active Transport Plan. Council urged JWG members to make representations for the N2C as part of the consultation process for the Plan.

The JWG was very pleased to receive clear and enthusiastic support from the mayor and each of the councilors present. The Mayor urged the Group to seek as much publicity as possible for the Trail. The JWG will meet again in a month to discuss lobbying of local State Members and candidates for funding commitment to the Trail.

Other local project updates

Mark Bizzell provided the meeting with updates on a number of local projects.

- a) The budget allocated for Lions/Norrie Job Park project upgrade is \$444,000 for construction. There are 4 stages of the project with works due to start in FY 25. At present all recreational funds for Coolum are being directed to the Lions/Norrie Job Park project or Asset Renewals as assets reach their end of life.
- b) Jack Morgan Park - The cost estimate for construction of the Arbour, back in 2021, was calculated at \$340k – which would have escalated considerably over that time, as Council have seen industry costs increase greatly over the past few years.

- c) 2nd Bay Coolum Beach – A replacement set of timber stairs will be constructed from the 2nd Bay car park to the beach below. The existing stone stairs will remain and the new stairway will be constructed over them.
- d) The Coastal Community Native Nursery in Warran Road is negotiating with SCC Infrastructure Delivery and Place Making Design departments with the assistance of Cr Taylor Bunnag. The nursery lease is due to expire on Clive Palmers land. They are eager to expand their area of production and look forward to the relocation to new premises in the next few years.

9. Next Meetings

The schedule of meetings for the next year is:

29 August 2024, 28 November 2024, 27 February 2025, 29 May 2025 (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 5.40pm.

President's Report - May 2024

I think that we are very lucky to live in Coolum or environs. Our group seeks to enhance what's good about the place and ask fellow travellers, such as governments to help us do so.

First, thanks to my hardworking secretary Gary Lee and my ever-reliable treasurer Pam Vagg. Thanks to the executive committee for its enthusiasm and constancy.

Thanks also to the wise heads, the so-called reference group, that stands ready to consult on the intricacies and histories of civic matters. Our thanks to the subcommittees that do valuable work on their specialist areas of interest.

Finally, thanks to our business sponsors for helping us with our finance and to the Coolum Croquet Club, particularly Gary and Pattie Byrne, for this amenable venue.

Our recent and current projects include-

1. Walkable street verges and pathways for Coolum
2. Mount Coolum National Park toilet facilities
3. The upgrade of Norrie Job-Lions Park
4. Lows lookout Trail
5. N2C: Nambour to Coolum Rail Trail.

Our projects enjoy various amounts of enthusiasm and progress at government levels but all of them are worth our attention this year.

We have a very limited remit regarding criminal or dangerous behaviour in town. We can, however, do our best to make the Coolum environment liveable in its natural surrounds, transport, services and built environment. The messages we send in these things tells Coolum residents and visitors how much we value them as people.

I have some ideas about renewal at CRA Inc and growing our members with the Next Gen's that I will share with you next meeting.

Congratulations on the election of Taylor Bunnag to Council's division 8. Congratulations on the return of Maria Suarez to division 9 and her election as deputy mayor.

Maria walked a difficult road with us this year regarding the safety issues in Grandview Lane. There is finally a glimmer of hope for some rational traffic solutions in the lane.

So, thanks for what each of you has done and please join us this year in the mostly enjoyable jobs on our plates.

Ray Barber

30 May 2024