

## MINUTES OF THE SHOALHAVEN HEADS ESTUARY TASKFORCE

**Meeting Date:** Monday, 12 December 2016  
**Location:** Jervis Bay Rooms, City Administrative Centre, Bridge Road, Nowra  
**Time:** 4.01 pm

The following members were present:

Clr Andrew Guile – Chairperson  
Clr Annette Alldrick  
Clr Nina Cheyne  
Bob Williamson  
Mike James  
Brian Allen  
David Lamb  
Steve Short  
Phil Guy  
Robyn Flack

Others present:

Clr Patricia White  
Clr John Levett  
Clr Bob Proudfoot

### SH16.3 Address from the Mayor

Clr Findley opened the meeting and advised that the Committee will be required to elect an Acting Chairperson for the meeting of Monday 12 December 2016.

Note: Clr Findley addressed the meeting, and raised the following matters.

- The Committee needs a united direction for the objective and purpose of the committee going forward.
- The State Government has not provided any funding for the opening of the entrance at Shoalhaven Heads
- If the Heads is opened at the wrong time there will be an impact on residents who will be at risk of flooding.
- Possible ways forward are as follows:
  - The Committee fold as no opening of the Heads is foreseeable in the near future
  - The Committee re-evaluate the purpose with the assistance of staff
  - The Committee cease and a few of the members join the Shoalhaven Natural Resource and Floodplain Management Committee (SNRFMC)

The Committee and staff provided feedback in relation to the discussion with Clr Findley

**RESOLVED** (Robyn Flack / Clr Cheyne)

That Cllr Alldrick be appointed as Acting Chairperson for the meeting of Monday 12 December 2016.

CARRIED

### Apologies / Leave of Absence

Cllr Wells, Jessica Zealand, Allan Richardson, Gerald Groom

Note: Cllr Guile arrived 4.25pm assumed the Chair

### Confirmation of the Minutes

**RESOLVED** (By consent)

That the Minutes of the Shoalhaven Heads Estuary Taskforce held on Wednesday 30 March 2016 be confirmed.

CARRIED

### Declarations of Interest

Nil

## REPORTS

### SH16.1 Status update on the recommendations of the Taskforce

HPERM Ref:  
D16/359037

The Committee held an open discussion on their opinions of a way forward for the committee.

Cllr Guile – Chairperson addressed the meeting with positive comments on what the committee has achieved thus far. However has reservations about rolling this committee into the SNRFMC.

Cllr White addressed the meeting and stated that a positive way forward would be to re-evaluate the purpose of the Committee and push for future funding.

A suggestion was made that the committee could have Tourism and Economic Development input/representation into the committee.

David Lamb left the meeting at 5.15pm

Cllr Cheyne left the meeting at 5.24pm

### Recommendation

That

1. Council review the membership of the Shoalhaven Heads Estuary Taskforce and in particular Council staff to ensure the Taskforce has access to professional advice on matters related to tourism and economic development

2. Council in consultation with the Shoalhaven Heads Forum organise a public meeting at Shoalhaven Heads in March or April 2017 where Dr Will Glamore will present the findings of the Water Research Laboratory studies and Rafael Carvalho will present findings of his PhD research on the Shoalhaven River sediment compartment.
3. The Shoalhaven Heads Estuary Taskforce endorse the content of the brochure attached to this report for public distribution.

**Recommendation** (Phil Guy / Stephen Short)

That:

1. The Chair of the Committee writes to the Federal and State Local Members asking them whether or not they support the Committee to source funding of a scale that would enable the Committee to meet its objectives (below) to create a marine environment through permanent or semi-permanent opening of the entrance at Shoalhaven Heads and report back to the Committee
  - a. Address the current build up of sedimentation and sand levels within the estuary.
  - b. Investigate the viability of options to create greater flow and movement of water within the estuary, including a Permanent Opening.
  - c. Update and review the Shoalhaven River Entrance Management Plan to include provisions that restore, maintain and sustain the health of the Shoalhaven Heads estuary; not just for the purpose of Flood Mitigation.
  - d. Ensure the objectives and actions for sustaining the Shoalhaven River within the Shoalhaven River Estuary Management Plan are effective.
  - e. Challenge the Healthy River Commission assertion in the Shoalhaven Estuary Management Plan (Clause: 4.3.1.2) as unacceptable to the community of Shoalhaven Heads.
  - f. Formulate a time lined programme of actions to achieve the above requests.
2. The Committee further consider staff representation from Tourism and Economic Development at future meetings, and further consider representation from Shoalhaven Chamber of Commerce.
3. Council in consultation with the Shoalhaven Heads Forum organise a public meeting at Shoalhaven Heads in March or April 2017 where Dr Will Glamore will present the findings of the Water Research Laboratory studies and Rafael Carvalho will present findings of his PhD research on the Shoalhaven River sediment compartment.
4. The Shoalhaven Heads Estuary Taskforce endorse the content of the brochure attached to this report for public distribution.
5. In light of the review of the upcoming management plan, the progress be reported to the Committee for consultation.

**SH16.2 Occupancy rates - Shoalhaven Heads Tourist Holiday Park**

**HPERM Ref: D16/364334**

**Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)**

That the Shoalhaven Heads Estuary Taskforce receive the Occupancy Rates – Shoalhaven Heads Tourist Holiday Park report for information.

**RESOLVED** (Clr Guile / Clr Alldrick)

That the report regarding Occupancy rates - Shoalhaven Heads Tourist Holiday Park be received for information.

CARRIED

There being no further business, the meeting concluded, the time being 6.23pm.

Clr Guile  
CHAIRPERSON