

MINUTES OF THE SHOALHAVEN COAST & ESTUARY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Meeting Date: Tuesday, 20 August 2019
Location: Jervis Bay Rooms, City Administrative Centre, Bridge Road, Nowra
Time: 4.02pm

The following members were present:

Clr Patricia White – Chairperson
Clr John Wells
Clr Bob Proudfoot
Chris Wheeler – SES
Joanne Humphries – SES
Bill McInnes – SES
Jillian Reynolds – DPI Fisheries
Danny Wiecek – OEH
Jason Carson - LLS

Others present:

Phil Costello – Director Planning Environment and Development
Kelie Clark – Environmental Services Manager
Samantha Walsh – Coastal Management Project Officer
Greg Howarth – Environmental Health Officer
Ray Massie – Coast and Estuaries Officer
Peter Swanson – Bushcare Coordinator

Election of Chairperson

Clr Wells nominated Clr White as Chairperson.
Clr White accepted the nomination.

RESOLVED (By Consent)

That Clr White be appointed as the Chairperson.

CARRIED

Apologies / Leave of Absence

Apologies were received from Clr Pakes.

Confirmation of the Minutes

RESOLVED (Clr Wells / Clr Proudfoot)

That the Minutes of the Shoalhaven Coast & Estuary Management Committee held on Wednesday 27 March 2019 be confirmed.

CARRIED

Declarations of Interest

Nil

REPORTS**CE19.3 Shoalhaven Coastal Management Program Preparation Update****HPERM Ref:
D19/246672**

Note: Kelie Clarke - Environmental Services Manager addressed the meeting and made the following comments:

Council has received grant funding from the NSW Coast and Estuary – Planning Stream Grant program to prepare CMPs for the following locations across the Shoalhaven:

1. Open Coast and St Georges Basin
2. Shoalhaven River Estuary (including Crookhaven River system)
3. Lake Conjola Estuary

Council received advice from the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) and the NSW Coastal Council that councils should undertake a Scoping Study for the open coast and all estuaries. The Scoping Study is the first stage of the five step process in preparing a CMP.

Based on this advice, Council sought to amend the Grant application and has received back from OEH, and proceeding with the Scoping Study. Council has appointed a consultant and is undertaking citywide Scoping Study.

Seeking various methods of community consultation, from Workshops, CCBs, previous NRFMC Members, network frontline news, email networks, deep dive sessions and online surveys. Will target stakeholders for some focus groups.

Clr Proudfoot and Clr White raised concerns regarding community consultation.

A presentation was made in relation to the Community Consultation areas.

A discussion was held in relation to the Grant funding and the Council contribution.

Clr Wells suggested that Council request RPS for an additional two (2) consultants to assist with more drop in sessions and workshops.

Kelie Clarke, Environmental Services Manager, advised that Council wishes to engage the public and doesn't want to exclude any members or interested parties. Council is seeking a diversity of views and is proposing to use a number of different methods to engage with the community including on-line survey, focus group workshops and drop-in sessions. The purpose of the scoping study is to identify what is working well, what is not, gaps in knowledge and develop a community engagement strategy for the preparation of a CMP.

The Community Engagement Strategy is then implemented during preparation of the CMPs. This engagement strategy will be reported back to Council to be endorsed with the Scoping Study.

Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That the Committee receive the Shoalhaven Coastal Management Program Preparation Update report for information.

RESOLVED (Clr White / Clr Wells)

That the Committee receive the Shoalhaven Coastal Management Program Preparation Update report for information.

CARRIED

CE19.4 Shoalhaven Citywide Coastal Management Program Scoping Study - Community Engagement**HPERM Ref:
D19/276616**

The members discussed the importance of consulting with Collingwood Beach Preservation Group, Shoalhaven Heads Forum, Sussex Inlet, Lake Conjola and all Coastal CCBs.

Various Stakeholders need to be included such as: Shoalhaven Heads, Oyster Farmers, Wine Growers, Dairy Farmers, Riverwatch, Bushcare/Landcare, Dunecare, Chambers of Commerce and Tourism, Industry Groups and the Agriculture Industry.

Recommendation

That the Committee:

1. Receive the Shoalhaven Citywide Coastal Management Program Scoping Study - Community Engagement report for information, and
2. Endorse the community engagement strategy for the Citywide Scoping Study.

RECOMMENDATION (Clr Wells / Clr Proudfoot)

That the Committee:

1. Receive the Shoalhaven Citywide Coastal Management Program Scoping Study - Community Engagement report for information, and
2. Suggest Council review the resourcing and delivery of the community engagement strategy for the Citywide Scoping Study.

CARRIED

GENERAL BUSINESS**CE19.5 Various Projects Update**

Ray Massie, Coast and Estuaries Officer, provided the following information in relation to various projects:

Currarong Beach:

Council is still waiting for the short term license and fisheries permit to undertake beach scraping, however ready to go, just waiting on final approval.

South Mollymook Coastal Protection:

South Mollymook cost benefit analysis (CBA) is still to be finalised. The consultants have received advice from DPIE to assist in the economic analysis and have been requested to finalise their draft report.

Burrill Lake:

Burrill Lake entrance dynamics have shifted since the new bridge has been completed which has caused some erosion. This area needs some assessment. An on-site meeting has been arranged with agencies.

Blenheim Beach disabled access – grant:

Going out to community consultation for the disabled access ramp at Plantation Point.

Shoalhaven Heads Surf Club – Dune Survey:

Shoalhaven Heads Surf Club Dune Survey, to be arranged; it was agreed that a survey would take place every year.

Flood Program:

Kelie Clarke advised that Millards Creek and the Tabourie entrance flood studies are progressing, and will email information.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded, the time being 5.06pm.

Clr Patricia White
CHAIRPERSON