

MINUTES OF THE SHOALHAVEN HEADS ESTUARY TASKFORCE

Meeting Date: Wednesday, 26 June 2024
Location: Jervis Bay Rooms, City Administrative Centre, Bridge Road, Nowra
Time: 4.10pm

The following members were present:

Clr Serena Copley - Chairperson
Clr Patricia White – left 4.23pm
Clr Matthew Norris
Clr Tonia Gray (Remotely)
Mr Phil Guy
Ms Jessica Zealand (Remotely)
Ms Natalie Lloyd (Remotely)
Ms Robyn Flack (Remotely) – left 5.05pm

Others present:

Dr Michael Roberts – Manager Environmental Services

Apologies / Leave of Absence

Apologies were received from Mr Rob Russell, Ms Jan Turbill and the City Services representatives.

Confirmation of the Minutes

RESOLVED (Robyn Flack / Clr White)

That the Minutes of the Shoalhaven Heads Estuary Taskforce held on Wednesday 20 March 2024 be confirmed.

CARRIED

Declaration of Interests

Nil

PRESENTATIONS

SH24.6 Ongoing Item - Update From City Services

HPERM Ref:
D24/166593

Due to relevant staff being on leave and unavailability of the Director, the Taskforce were advised that the City Services Representative provided an apology for this meeting.

Note: Due to the unavailability of a City Services representative, this update was deferred to the next meeting.

REPORTS

SH24.7 Action Table Report - Shoalhaven Heads Estuary Taskforce 26 June 2024

HPERM Ref:
D24/249230

Note: C/r White left the meeting 4.23pm during discussion on this item.

Note: The Committee discussed the Action Items, the below comments were noted:

- SH24.1 – Staff attended the Forum as requested and presented a summary of the Dredging Feasibility Study
- SH24.3:
 - Council is looking at entrance intervention in the Lower Shoalhaven River Coastal Management Program (CMP) and have recently engaged a consultant to prepare a Review of Environmental Factors.
 - Question on Notice – Will Council engage another consultant to update the Entrance Management Plan?
 - The CMP's and Flood Studies work hand in hand to provide the best solution in terms of flood risk management.
- SH24.4:
 - In relation to west of the boat ramp, Council received advice from DPI Fisheries that the area had been traversed and there are nil to negligible mangrove seedlings in that location.
 - The Lower Shoalhaven River CMP will go out on public exhibition in late August/September 2024
 - The permit to remove mangrove seedlings will expire on 4 October 2024
 - **Action – Council seek an extension from DPI Fisheries regarding the permit.**

Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That the Shoalhaven Heads Estuary Taskforce:

1. Accept and receive the Action Table Report (Attachment 1) for information.
2. Acknowledge the following actions as complete and remove from the action table:
 - a. SH24.1 - Report Received - Outcomes of Lower Shoalhaven River Pre-Dredging Feasibility Study - Staff Attend Shoalhaven Heads Forum Meeting 1 May 2024.
 - b. SH24.3 - Coastal Protection Works - Shoalhaven Heads - Dry Notch Maintenance - Relocate Clean Sand - Tidal Flats in Front of Holiday Haven Caravan Park - Annual Basis.
 - c. SH24.4 - Shoalhaven Heads Estuary - Mangrove Seedlings Removal Extension request

(West of the River Rd Wharf to Storm Water Drain).

- d. SH24.5 - Business Arising From Previous Minutes - Ongoing Heading Only Item - Update from City Services.

RESOLVED (Robyn Flack / Phil Guy)

That the Shoalhaven Heads Estuary Taskforce:

1. Accept and receive the Action Table Report (Attachment 1) for information.
2. Acknowledge the following actions as complete and remove from the action table:
 - a. SH24.1 - Report Received - Outcomes of Lower Shoalhaven River Pre-Dredging Feasibility Study - Staff Attend Shoalhaven Heads Forum Meeting 1 May 2024.
 - b. SH24.3 - Coastal Protection Works - Shoalhaven Heads - Dry Notch Maintenance - Relocate Clean Sand - Tidal Flats in Front of Holiday Haven Caravan Park - Annual Basis.
 - c. SH24.4 - Shoalhaven Heads Estuary - Mangrove Seedlings Removal Extension request (West of the River Rd Wharf to Storm Water Drain), and seek an extension from DPI Fisheries regarding the permit.
 - d. SH24.5 - Business Arising From Previous Minutes - Ongoing Heading Only Item - Update from City Services.

CARRIED

GENERAL BUSINESS

Dr Michael Roberts provided the following updates for the members:

- On 22 April 2024, Council adopted the Sea Level Rise Projections. Council is required to update the Sea Level Rise Projections every seven (7) years. The previous projection for 2100 were 0.36 metres, now by 2100 the projection has been estimated to be 0.85 metres.
- The Open Coast and Jervis Bay CMP was adopted by Council on 6 May 2024 and now this has gone to the relevant Minister for Certification.
- Revegetation – Shoalhaven River Foreshore (River Road) – Council has engaged a contractor to map trees in that location, look at the maximum growth potential and the trigger level of when trimming would be required so the viewing corridors are not impacted on.
- An email that was provided to the Councillors in response to the flood in June was read to the meeting.

SH24.8 Additional Item - Action SH24.6 - City Services Update

It was noted that the City Services Representative was an apology.

The Members raised the following questions and points for discussion for the next meeting.

Members raised the following to be addressed by the City Services staff at the next meeting:

- Debris along the beach area preventing beach access and fallen trees
- Flood debris clean up, currently on River Road Reserve which affects the mowing of the Reserve and the public space.
 - **Action – City Services to investigate any potential clean-up of debris from**

recent flood on the River Road Reserve.

- Who is responsible for floating debris in the Harbour?
- Pathway along River Road, date of completion, and feedback on the preventative cycle fencing opposite 11 River Road and the completion date?

RESOLVED (By consent)

That City Services provide an ongoing update in addition to the below questions:

- Update on the debris along the beach area preventing beach access and fallen trees
- Update on the flood debris clean up, currently on River Road Reserve which affects the mowing of the Reserve and the public space.
 - **Action – City Services to investigate any potential clean-up of debris from recent flood on the River Road Reserve.**
- Who is responsible for floating debris in the Harbour?
- Pathway along River Road, date of completion, and feedback on the preventative cycle fencing opposite 11 River Road and the completion date?

CARRIED

Note: Robyn Flack left the meeting at 5.05pm.

Note: The meeting lost quorum at 5.05pm.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded, the time being 5.05pm.

Clr Serena Copley
CHAIRPERSON