

# Kingborough Community Consultative Forum General Meeting

9.30am 10<sup>th</sup> March 2018  
Civic Centre, Kingston

## MINUTES

### Present:

Initials	Organisation	Representatives present
KCCF	Kingborough Community Consultative Forum Executive	Wayne Burgess (Chair)
		Tony Ferrier (Secretary)
BBPA	Blackmans Bay Progress Association	Wayne Burgess
BHCA	Bonnet Hill Community Association	Malcolm Wells
BICA	Bruny Island Community Association	John Kobylec
CALSCA	Coningham & Lower Snug Comm Ass'n	David Bonny, Mike Jackson
FNB	Friends of North Bruny	Di Blackwood
HPA	Howden Progress Association	Deborah Chadwick
KCA	Kettering Community Association	Shona Taylor, Sue Hoyle
KLAG	Kingborough Landcare Advisory Group	John Cox
TCA	Taroona Community Association	Roger Kellaway
	Unaligned	Rob Crosthwaite

**Council:** Cr Richard Atkinson, Cr Sue Bastone, Gary Arnold (General Manager), Tony Ferrier (Deputy General Manager), Sarah Wilcox (Communications and Media Officer)

**Apologies:** Peter Laud (KCA), Taroona High School Association, Mayor Steve Wass, Cr Dean Winter, Cr Flora Fox, Cr Graham Bury, Cr Mike Percey

### Business:

#### 1. Welcome (Chair)

Wayne Burgess welcomed everyone in attendance and called for apologies.

#### 2. Minutes of the General Meeting held 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2017

It was agreed that the Minutes were an accurate account of the previous meeting.

#### 3. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the Minutes from the previous meeting.

#### 4. Reports from Community Organisations

Sue Hoyle (KCA) reported on concerns about the speed limits on the highway within Kettering and Ferry Road. They will be approaching DSG to review them. Drivers appear to not see the 40km/hr sign on Ferry Road and it should be reinforced by having it written on the road tarmac. The CEO from Crime Stoppers (Ron Franks 61732172) addressed their group and is keen to speak to other local groups about crime prevention. Council was asked as to when Oxleys Road will be sealed.

David Bonny (CALSCA) reported on the ongoing concerns about the private jet-ski operation on Coningham Beach. There are still some local concerns about the proposed relocation of the public toilet block. Beach erosion is also a problem and more planting of protective vegetation is needed. The road centre-line marking that has been done is appreciated, but the sign to Coningham Beach needs to be made more obvious as some drivers take the wrong turn and go down the gravel road at the sharp bend.

Di Blackwood (FoNB) reported on the general concerns that this group has in regard to the current proposed expansion of salmon farming in the vicinity of North Bruny. Speed limits on North Bruny also need to be reduced and there is some confusion as to whether it is DSG or Council that should receive requests. DSG have said that the group should approach Council. Council's advice is that it is DSG that determines all speed limits on all public roads and that in making that decision they consult with the local council. In the past the normal process has been that Council responds to the request for information from DSG.

John Kobylec (BICA) reported that a coordinated response will be provided by local Bruny community groups (BICA, BIEN, FoNB) to the proposed expansion of salmon farming in Storm Bay. They are seeking a moratorium on any such expansion until more is known about the impact on the marine environment. Council was asked as to whether it would be again matching the \$50,000 from Robert Pennicott as part of the Bruny Island DAP program. This occurred in 2017/18 (\$50K was provided each by RP, Council and State Govt for local works that improve the visitor experience) and the offer has been made for subsequent years. John suggested that projects be pursued at Quiet Corner and at the Mavista Falls (upgrade the track to the falls). Council responded by saying that a decision had not been made in regard to a commitment in next year's budget, but only half the currently available funds have been spent and two of the projects due to be completed are the first stages of the two suggested projects at Quiet Corner (including local community consultation) and Mavista.

Malcolm Wells (BHCA) reported that the carpark at the Christopher Johnson Park still does not drain properly and the gravel has too much clay and gets very boggy after rain – despite being recently upgraded by Council. It needs to be regraded and resurfaced with more suitable material. He also stated that the local community strongly opposes the combining of a cycle track on the Alum Cliffs Walk. Some cycling does occur but this dual use should not be encouraged as most parts of the track are only wide enough for one person. The track receives a high level of pedestrian traffic and any more use by cyclists would be dangerous. Cyclists would need to be on a designated separate trail. The BHCA want to be involved in any further consideration of such a proposal.

Roger Kellaway (TCA) reported that most issues of concern at Taroona had been reported at previous Forum meetings. However he added that he would endorse the concerns raised by the BHCA about the use of the Alum Cliffs Track by cyclists and that this should not be allowed.

Deborah Chadwick (HCA) reported on the Howden community being very upset about the Council's decision to approve the Villa Howden development (despite a staff recommendation to refuse). The HCA is not opposed to the existing facility or any minor extension that might be necessary – it is a pleasant asset to the area and in keeping with local character. However the current proposal is regarded as being excessive and of a scale that is inappropriate. The HCA sees it as a test of the planning scheme and an appeal is being considered – though this is an extremely expensive proposition due to the need to employ various expert consultants. The HCA also sees it as something that tests community resilience as it will be difficult to organise an appeal and such issues do create local divisions.

Wayne Burgess (BBCA) reported on the local interest in what will be done in the Blowhole area once the Coroner's report is provided. He asked whether Council is considering the implications for other potentially dangerous coastal locations. The response was that Council still does not know when the Coroner's report will be available. Kingborough has an extensive coastline and it is not possible to make every location completely safe and nor can Council control people's behaviour. Council has commenced processes to have the land in the vicinity of the Blowhole transferred to Council's ownership though this may take some time due to complications with the private ownership. Wayne also asked about an instance in a recent Council report where a shed was converted to a dwelling but that this was "No Permit Required". The response was that this was in a residential zone where the proposed construction of the new residence did not trigger any discretions in the planning scheme (that is, it meets all acceptable solutions). Wayne also asked whether Council has experienced much vandalism recently (eg the bendy roadside guideposts seem to be often broken). The response was that vandalism is a relatively common occurrence and does vary considerably across the municipality – though is currently not occurring any more than usual. Graffiti is a particular concern and Council tries to remove it as quickly as possible.

## **5. Reports from Council**

### **(a) Greater Hobart Strategic Alliance and Hobart City Deal**

On the 16 January the Prime Minister and Premier signed the Hobart City Deal. Similar Deals were subsequently signed for Geelong and Darwin (previous Deals had been signed for Townsville, Launceston and Western Sydney). These City Deals coordinate the three levels of government in order to meet the particular challenges that each city faces. For Hobart the councils involved include Hobart, Clarence, Glenorchy and Kingborough. Launceston has already benefited from \$200M of Federal funding for the UTAS relocation. In Hobart there will be opportunities to address strategic issues such as transport and housing affordability.

A working group has been formed with the respective General Managers from the four councils and officers from State and Federal departments. This group reports to a steering committee which contains the Mayors and a State Minister and Federal Minister. Regular reports will be provided to Kingborough Council that provide updates. A Capital City Act may be one result of this process and it will involve the further development of a Strategic Alliance between the four councils.

Cr Atkinson asked how councillors can contribute to the process and the response was that engagement processes were still being developed. Rob Crosthwaite commented on how decisions about worthwhile projects are based on a cost benefit analysis that mainly considers financial aspects rather than social and environmental impacts. A response to this was that this is not the case at Council where every effort is made to give due consideration to all aspects.

Wayne Burgess (BBPA) asked about the Strategic Alliance that was identified in the previous SGS report and whether this has effectively replaced the possibility of forced amalgamations. The response was that the proposed Strategic Alliance has received formal support from both Clarence and Kingborough councils – and amalgamations are not being pursued. This collaborative mechanism would also aim to lock in the State Government and a framework of regular meetings. There is currently a very good working relationship between the four affected councils. A scoping exercise will be conducted during 2018 and this should tap into some of the benefits emanating from the City Deal, including the need for greater coordination in addressing a number of regional problems. Cr Atkinson commented on how the SGS report identified notional economic benefits from a Strategic Alliance (eg reduced travelling time) rather than cash savings to councils.

### **(b) Update on Kingston Park**

A Powerpoint presentation on the Kingston Park project was provided and a copy is attached to these Minutes.

### **(c) Planning Scheme Update**

Council is currently preparing the Local Provisions Schedule (LPS) following the State government's release of the State Planning Provisions (SPP). This mainly involves the conversion of the zones in the existing KIPS2015 in accordance with the Tasmanian Planning Commission's guidelines. This work is supported by various mapping exercises (such as for agricultural, biodiversity and landscape values) that will in some cases form overlays for the existing Codes. Any deviation away from the guidelines will need to be justified by a strategic analysis – which in our case will be included within an updated version of the Kingborough Land Use Strategy. The existing version of this Strategy (Dec.2013) is being rewritten and will be presented in conjunction with the LPS.

The SPPs have resulted in a number of changes to the way land is currently zoned in the existing planning scheme (eg there will be no Environmental Living Zone). One challenge for Council has been in the conversion of the Low Density Residential Zone, where it was applied in locations to suit the existing lot size and the retention of native vegetation (that has scenic and biodiversity values). This zone in the new scheme will have a significantly reduced lot size (encouraging further subdivision and higher densities) and no scenic or biodiversity constraints. Consideration is being given to the inclusion of a Specific Area Plan (SAP) in such situations.

Such SAPs are also being considered for the Blackmans Bay Bluff area and Kingston Beach (to deal with future inundation risk), plus a major review of the existing Kingston Park SAP has been done. The LPS is to be completed by about June and submitted to the Planning Commission and then publicly advertised. The Council receives all submissions and the Commission subsequently conducts public hearings, before the new scheme is declared – probably early in 2019.

Rob Crosthwaite asked about the need to protect good agricultural land, particularly in the North West Bay area (such as at Brookfield). In response, it was stated that the new Agriculture Zone would be applicable to various properties in this area, though it is constrained somewhat by the current zoning – noting that land currently zoned for future residential development would not be zoned for agriculture. It was also noted that the application of the Agriculture Zone will discourage residential use of the zoned land and offer no protection for remnant native vegetation.

Cr Atkinson asked for confirmation that the Natural Assets and Scenic Protection Codes do not apply to the Low Density Residential Zone. This is correct and is based on the assumption (within the SPPs) that if land is zoned for a residential purpose then this should over-ride any other development constraints.

David Bonny (CALSCA) asked about the disposal of vegetation from properties like those at Coningham. In response, it was stated that this can be taken to Council's waste transfer station. Burning off on-site is constrained by the size of the property (re potential impact on neighbours) – Council's By-law prevents burning off on properties less than 2,000m<sup>2</sup> or within a residential zone.

Cr Bastone asked about the potential for over-development in the marina area of Kettering and whether a SAP would be appropriate. In response, it was stated that this may be the case in order to control the height of development for that area between Ferry Road and

the water – in that the Port and Marine Zone (which is what this area is most likely to be zoned) has a permitted height of 20 metres which would be very inappropriate in this particular area.

Wayne Burgess (BBPA) commented on the fact that the previous SPP hearing process generated 300 public representations and all councils expressed concerns, and yet there were only very few changes made. He asked about the recent proposal within LGAT from Clarence City Council about the need for a priority review of the residential provisions within the SPPs. In response, it was reported that this proposal received unanimous support from councils represented at a LGAT general meeting last week.

#### **(d) Determining Community Priorities through Public Consultation**

Sarah Wilcox, Council's Communications and Media Officer, described Council's proposal to provide an on-line forum for public engagement. This will be used to assist in setting priorities for future budgets. In the short term, it will be used to gauge public comment on the upcoming one-way trial at Kingston Beach and the review of youth strategies. Previous public consultation identified that Council needs to consult more.

Sarah conducted a brief workshop with the Forum members and sought responses in regard to the following:

- What is your top reason for living in Kingborough?
- What are your three top priorities for Council's main service delivery areas?
- What types of major projects should be included within Council's next budget?
- Where do you information from about what Council is doing?

Sarah will provide a summary of the responses to these questions.

There was a general discussion on the Strategic plan and the Annual Report. Information was sought on what types of questions should be asked of the community in order to obtain information on Council's services and priorities. A few commented that the current range of services is excellent and a broad range is necessary – in that Council should not revert to a limited "roads, rates and rubbish" type range.

Wayne Burgess (BBPA) commented that the Annual Report should be made more accessible – possibly by way of a supplementary simplified statement of Council's financial position. Rob Crosthwaite referred to "communications literacy" and how complex documents can be better presented, acknowledging that an over-simplification can sometimes result in misleading information being provided. Sarah said that Council is exploring the options in this regard and has signed up for the 26TEN program that ensures messages are more easily understood. All Council communications will be reviewed and opportunities to use more visual aids will be explored rather than solely relying on text. Malcom Wells (BHCA) commented in a similar manner and said that the published summarised version of the Annual Report should be more accessible and succinct (the detailed version that Council must provide could be available on-line).

John Cox (KLAG) commented that requests are made to Council but feedback on what is being done in response is often not given. There doesn't appear to be any formal process in place to record all of these requests and a record what has happened as a result. He requested that an internal review be conducted in this regard. The response was that all such requests are in fact recorded and registered to the appropriate carriage officer, but it should be noted that Council receives about 3,000 such requests each month on average. Council's internal systems are being reviewed and greater accountability and community reporting will be part of this.

John Kobylec (BICA) commented that the on-line forum is a good idea and the same type of forum for the Bruny solar battery trial worked very well. It provides a good way to find out what others think as well.

Mike Jackson (CALSCA) asked for a breakdown of the 3,000 requests a month. It would be very informative to know what the main issues are. Internal records are being adjusted to categorise the requests and this will in future provide a clearer picture (noting that the kerbside waste collection service has prevailed lately).

## **6. Other Business**

An update was provided on the current situation with the disruptions to the kerbside collections due to the Aussie Waste trucks being destroyed. Veolia has been able to assist. The backlog has been collected but there will be some ongoing short term difficulties in maintaining normal services. The community will be kept informed and bins should be put out as normal and left out if not collected the next day. Council is calling for tenders for a new kerbside contract that will commence later this year.

Gary Arnold reported on the need for electoral signs to be removed within 7 days of the election. Council will be confiscating any signs not removed in time.

## **7. Next KCCF Meeting**

The next Forum meeting will be at 9.30am on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2018.

The meeting closed at 12.20pm.