

KINGBOROUGH COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE FORUM

General Meeting

9.30am 12th September 2020
Civic Centre, Kingston

MINUTES

Present:

Initials	Organisation	Representatives present
KCCF	Kingborough Community Consultative Forum Executive	Wayne Burgess (Chair)
		Tony Ferrier (Secretary)
		Mike Jackson (Deputy Chair)
BBcA	Blackmans Bay Community Association	Kathy Holland
BHCA	Bonnet Hill Community Association	Paul Rapley
BICA	Bruny Island Community Association	Wayne Darby
CALSCA	Coningham & Lower Snug Comm Ass'n	Mike Jackson
FNB	Friends of North Bruny	Di Blackwood
HPA	Howden Progress Association	Leslie Frost
KCA	Kettering Community Association	Chris Ireland
KLAG	Kingborough Landcare Advisory Group	John Cox
SLiK	Sustainable Living in Kingborough	Clare Glade-Wright
SLACC	Snug Landcare	Rob Crosthwaite
TCA	Taroona Community Association	Jill Hickie
WW	West Winds Community Centre	Warwick Lee

Council: Deputy Mayor Jo Westwood (by Teams), Cr Sue Bastone, Gary Arnold, Tony Ferrier, Sarah Wilcox

Apologies: Mayor Dean Winter, Cr Amanda Midgley, Cr Flora Fox, Cr Steve Wass, Alan Gluyas (KCA), David Bonny (CALSCA), Luca Vanzino, (WCA), Megan Weston (BICA)

Business:

1. Welcome (Chair)

Wayne Burgess welcomed everyone in attendance and called for apologies.

2. Minutes of the General Meeting held 14th March 2020

It was agreed that the Minutes were an accurate account of the previous meeting (other than June Walker was representing Howden Progress Association rather than Deborah Chadwick as recorded).

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

Nil.

4. Reports from Community Organisations

WW – Warwick Lee reported that West Winds had recently employed a new Community Development Coordinator, Carey Shaw. WW had been providing a number of local community support programs during COVID. In regard to Woodbridge more generally,

Warwick noted the proposed improvements by Council at Silverwater Park and that there are growing community concerns about the speed of traffic through the centre of the village. There is a view that it should be reduced from 50km/hr down to 40km/hr and a submission in this regard is likely.

BHCA – Paul Rapley reported on a community BBQ that was held in March and that the group has not been very active during the COVID period but had its AGM just this week and the Executive was appointed. The future public exhibition of the LPS will be of local interest and they are also keen to ensure that the Harpers Road stormwater upgrade is completed in the 20/21 Council works program as scheduled.

TCA – Jill Hickie reported that the TCA had still been meeting via Zoom though had most recently met in person at St Lukes Church. A large 20-page newsletter had been recently published which reported on how all of the local groups in Tarooma had functioned during the COVID period. TCA is working with Council on a master plan for the community hall so that there will be projects ready for future grant opportunities. There has been some damage to local bushland areas where makeshift mountain bike trails had been installed and Council has helped in removing some of these. Council has provided a grant to develop a local tracks map and is helping TCA in defining a use for the Louisa Hinsby Park on Jenkins Street. There are some local planning issues that have emerged, such as the commercial rock lobster hatchery DA on the IMAS site on Nubeena Crescent. Jill also reported that the local Fire Brigade is establishing a new local communication system.

SLiK – Clare Glade-Wright reported that SLiK has had a break during COVID and has only met once recently. They are interested in the results of the KWS bin audit and how to minimise the contamination that is occurring in the recycling bins. One suggestion is to put some additional resources into educating the community and local commercial establishments like cafes (who could also have their own FOGO bins. SLiK is keen to pursue some further projects on this waste reduction area. They are also applying for a grant to form a book club enabling local access to useful sustainability texts. Council is to be congratulated for being a finalist for the EPA Sustainability Award (Tasmanian Community Achievement Awards).

FNB – Di Blackwood reported on an earlier very productive local workshop on preparing for the next bushfire season, as run by Council and the Tas Fire Service. A community protection plan for North Bruny is being prepared. She noted that there are properties on North Bruny that should have abatement notices issued. Phone 'trees' are being compiled to help in contacting older residents. The advice was that a major wildfire on North Bruny is inevitable. Di recommended that other local groups should see to conduct similar workshops. She also noted that a large truck is still coming up to Dennes Point to empty the waste bins during a very quiet COVID/winter period.

HPA – Leslie Frost said that HPA welcomes the release of the DSG Channel Highway Corridor Study and would advocate a reduction in speed limit from 90km/hr to 80km/hr (eg near the Howden Road junction). They held their AGM last week at the NW Bay Golf Club – first time since 1952 away from the Howden hall. It was a good meeting with good attendance. Some local environmental issues of concern include a weed infestation in Black Swan Bay and the need to support the Tas Land Conservancy purchase of land on the Tinderbox skyline. HPA have held their annual picnic and clean-up days and now plan to hold a BBQ to thank the local Fire Brigade. A defibrillator was installed at the Fire Station by Rotary. HPA is looking at the best way to communicate with local residents for fire emergencies (eg phone tree). The Council's bin strap trial at Howden was successful and the new green waste bins will be welcomed.

KCA – Chris Ireland on how Kettering is much more than just a gateway to Bruny and has its own local attractions, such as many walking trails. There is a nice walk from the

Kettering bush gardens on the northern edge of the Oval (50 more trees were planted by locals this week), over a bridge, round to the marina and then onto Ferry Road, then to Kettering Point and Trial Bay. Council is thanked for the drainage improvements and maintenance on the Point track. A community tree planting day was held in August down behind the Fire Station on Saddle Road – where Council facilitated the planting of over 500 trees. There is a walking track here that links Saddle Road to Watsons Road – though there is a boggy section that needs some drainage/gravel.

The toilet and change facilities at the cricket club room and community hall need to be improved. The club is seeking a second change room and the toilets are a poor standard. There is a suggestion from the club to construct a new toilet block and convert the existing toilet space into a new change room. The existing septic system is also in a poor condition and Council is currently looking at alternatives. Alan Gluyas is meeting with the local State member and the Minister for Infrastructure to seek some safety improvements to the Channel Highway (speed reduction, rationalise parking, bus stops etc). A local artist (David Hopkins) is preparing local information/interpretation signage at the start of the Point track (re history of Kettering and the Bruny ferry). Chris also noted that Council is advertising the Snug Falls track in its tracks and trails brochure but that it is currently in a very poor condition.

BBCA – Kathy Holland reported on their meeting on 27 August at which the Mayor and Deputy Mayor attended. She complimented Council's environmental health staff on the improvements to water quality at BB beach and the lifting of restrictions. Further work could be done elsewhere in improving stormwater quality. Council's Urban Designer has assisted BBCA in progressing a range of foreshore maintenance programs. The foreshore has been very popular during COVID. More work is required in upgrading the Suncoast Drive track and around the Blowhole point where some seats could be installed. BBCA would be interested in having some early engagement with Council on such matters. Some meetings with Council have been held on the LPS and earlier input was provided into Council's budget. Input was also provided to the Huntingfield master plan. BBCA has also had some very useful communications with other local community groups in order to obtain fresh ideas and new activities. It is noted that the fence construction at the Blowhole has commenced.

Some assistance from Council's Safety Committee is being sought into an emerging drug problem in the vicinity of the beach (at the southern end and on the Suncoast track) with local youth. It seems to have got much worse in the last 6 months and it would be appreciated if Council could facilitate a discussion with the Police and other relevant organisations. This issue is currently the BBCA's number one concern. The second most important issue is to encourage Council to conduct more focused and timely community engagement, such as is happening with the beach maintenance projects. Council's Sarah Wilcox noted that most proactive engagement usually relates to new works or proposals, rather than maintenance (in that Council does not normally report back following normal maintenance activity). Kathy also mentioned the BBCA interest in establishing a community garden in Blackmans Bay. Potential sites are being investigated and Council will be contacted to discuss this further.

SLACC – Rob Crosthwaite reported that Snug landcare is looking at the future rehabilitation of the Snug Rivulet and monitoring runoff in rural areas above the Snug Tiers Road bridge – particularly in regard to downstream estuary and bird life impacts. There is to be a working bee soon to clean up along the Highway from Esplanade South to Od Station Road and to help with a future walking track. There are pedestrian safety concerns for the highway bridge at Lower Snug. The group is holding its AGM in a fortnight. Rob also said that the proposal to put the new Kingston interchange on Goshawk Way near the Community Hub is quite unpopular – as it too far away from the main CBD activity area and shops and may turn people away from using public transport in Kingston. It was

subsequently confirmed that no decision has been made to place the main bus interchange at this location. Discussions are currently being held with Metro and DSG in regard to the location/design of the bus interchange in conjunction with the implementation of the Kingston Place Strategy.

BICA – Wayne Darby reported on BICA’s concerns about the water quality of the only public potable water supply on Bruny. TasWater maintain this facility. Traces of salt and wastewater have been reported. BICA is seeking to understand who the main users of this water supply are. A public forum on this issue is proposed (an earlier one had to be cancelled). BICA is also appreciative of the Mayor’s intervention that resulted in addressing the peat fire that was burning for a long period just north of the Neck. It was a real health hazard for local residents. COVID has changed the way respite care is delivered on the Island. Meals on wheels are being provided. The Bruny Island News is coming up for its 40th year and it has been an important revenue earner enabling BICA to fund a range of community activities, BICA is also keen to better understand the new Visitor Education Program as it may be able to address a range of environmental issues and get visitors to slow down and stay longer on Bruny.

CALSCA – Mike Jackson said that CALSCA met last week for the first time in 6 months. They are developing a proposal for a shared pathway between Coningham and Snug that can be presented to both Council and the State Govt. They are thankful for Council’s work in widening the road verges on Old Station Road – though the section alongside the water could still be done. Construction of the new public toilets at Coningham commences next week. Mike also asked about the joint council composting operation and it was reported that, following the receipt of tenders, it has stalled during COVID. The councils involved are Hobart, Glenorchy and Kingborough and further progress soon resume.

KLAG – John Cox reported on his ongoing concerns about weed control alongside the Channel and Huon highways. He suggested that Council serve notices on the State Govt. Gary Arnold stated that Council has raised with the State Govt their obligations in this regard. John said that none of the bridges on the Channel Highway (eg Margate, Snug etc) have pedestrian access. People are being asked to exercise but the necessary safe public infrastructure is not being provided.

5. Reports from Council

(a) Community Engagement.

Council’s Communications and Engagement Advisor, Sarah Wilcox, provided a brief report on the matters that are currently out for public comment. There has been a very strong response to date in regard to Council’s draft Memorials Policy (closes 24 Sept.). Detailed information about recent flood studies is also being provided for comment (including FAQs) (closes 21 Sept.). More information is being provided on the roll-out of the green waste bins on 5 October. A number of other reports are being done that wrap up previous public engagements – such schools engagement, Silverwater Park and the NW Bay multi-use trail proposal. Additional communications are also being prepared in regard to the Council’s use of recyclables in road construction (aforementioned EPA Award) and general information about waist avoidance. The Kettering plant a tree day was promoted and Council is working with the Derwent Estuary Program and the Kingston Beach Surf Life Saving Club on educating people about the impact of litter and stormwater on the marine environment.

(b) COVID-19 – Council’s response

Council has responded both internally and externally. Internally, staff were dispersed out of the Civic Centre to other work-places and many people worked from home. This minimised

the risk to business continuity if there were any COVID cases. This proved to be very successful and there was very little impact on service provision, other than the fact that the Civic Centre was closed to face-to-face customer contact. Interestingly, the number of general enquiries increased and there was no drop in development applications. There were safety plans prepared for all Council premises and there were rigorous cleaning regimes implemented. Internal communication was a high priority and every effort was made to reduce isolation and keep staff informed. Since the beginning of August, all staff have come back to the Civic Centre, though Environmental Services are now housed at the former Family Day Care building. Social distancing and cleaning requirements are being maintained for the foreseeable future.

Externally, Council has focused on providing public information and a range of community support services. The information was provided in the Chronicle, via social media and the website and a community support leaflet. The support services came in the form of targeted community grants, a hardship policy (for deferred rate and rental payments), public health advice to local food businesses, a Kind Acts program, a Kindness Card, a photography competition and suggestions for things to do for isolated residents. Relevant signage was installed where necessary around the municipality and Council meetings were held on-line. More recently these meetings are being live streamed as a public gallery is not possible. Council officers continue to be actively involved in the regional social recovery committee.

Sarah Wilcox noted that Council will be commencing contact tracing procedures next week. Close contact with the State Govt Health Dept is being maintained. Jill Hickie asked about the impact on Council's budget and noted that there had been no rate increase. Gary Arnold explained how Council was anticipating a budget surplus but that this is now more likely to be a deficit of about \$1.7M. Many ratepayers are seeking a deferral of their rate payments. Gary also noted that the lack of a rate increase (rates were frozen in response to COVID) will have a cumulative effect in future years, plus TasWater did not pay its dividend last year resulting in a loss of \$600K. No dividend was budgeted for this year and this has added to the deficit. Clare Glade-Wright asked about grants available to Council and Gary reported that Council has applied for anything it could, but the amounts are very limited and smaller councils seem to be being targeted.

(c) New planning scheme update – upcoming public exhibition of Local Provisions Schedule

The Local Provisions Schedule (LPS) was submitted to the Tasmanian Planning Commission (TPC) at the beginning of the year. Some further information was required but they have subsequently confirmed that they have all of the information they need for them to conduct their initial assessment. The LPS contains all of the Zone maps, Code overlays, Specific Area Plans – any part of the planning scheme that is unique to Kingborough. The bulk of the scheme is made up of the State Planning Provisions which are mandatory.

The LPS process from hereon is that:

- (1) The TPC checks that it meets all of the statutory requirements – if it does, then Council is instructed to publicly exhibit the draft LPS.
- (2) Council publicly exhibits the draft LPS for a period of 60 days – it is likely that this will be during the last few months of 2020.
- (3) Council receives all of the representations and a report is presented to Council for endorsement – this will include any recommendations to amend the draft LPS based on those submissions or other information obtained by Council.
- (4) This report and all representations are provided to the TPC – the TPC then conducts public hearings in order to hear all representations on the draft LPS.

- (5) Following the hearings, the TPC prepares details their response to all submissions and states what changes should be made to the draft LPS.
- (6) The final LPS is declared by the Minister. It is then combined with the State Planning Provisions to constitute the new Kingborough planning scheme.

At this stage it is not yet known when the TPC will instruct Council to publicly exhibit the draft LPS. They have had it for about 7 months but are currently processing the LPSs for all councils in the State and are running well behind schedule. In the meantime, Council is finalising a communication strategy. This involves information being provided by way of local media, social media and on the website. There will be public meetings and local drop-in sessions, plus counter enquiries. A direct mail out will be done for those individuals that have made specific enquiries. There will be fact sheets and an online interactive mapping tool, plus more detailed information both on the website and for hard copy viewing at Council and at drop-in sessions. Guidance will be provided for those that wish to make representations.

It is worth noting that the current format of the Kingborough Interim Planning Scheme (KIPS2015) is quite similar to that required by the State Planning Provisions. For most people, the actual changes will be minimal. It will not be as drastic a change as when the old Kingborough Planning Scheme 2000 (6 Zones) was converted into the KIPS2015 (24 Zones) about 6 years ago.

Rob Crosthwaite asked whether Council had put a submission in on the Govt's proposed Major Projects legislation. Council officers contributed to previous submissions lodged by LGAT. Jill Hickie asked about the Huntingfield project and it was confirmed that the Minister intends to have two public meetings in the last week of September (at the NW Bay Golf Club) – the Govt will be advertising the details soon. The Minister will also be attending a councillor workshop on this project (5 Oct.). Any changes to the previously advertised master plan will be explained. Mike Jackson noted the relevance of the recently released Channel Highway Corridor Study to this Huntingfield project.

Leslie Frost asked as to whether there was any update on the Howrah Villa development. There wasn't though they may apply for an extension to their planning permit which will soon expire. Kathy Holland was also informed that the Mary Knoll development application had been lodged since the last meeting of the BBCA with the Mayor (DA for 38 dwellings lodged 2 Sept.).

(d) Kingston CBD redevelopment – City Deal funding and implementation of the Kingston Place Strategy

Council has managed to secure \$20M under the Hobart City Deal for the Kingston Congestion Package. Most of this will be expended by the Department of State Growth on improving public transport services within the municipality – in particular, park-and-ride facilities will be provided at Huntingfield and Firthside, bus stops will be improved in order to meet DDA and other requirements and additional express buses will be provided into Hobart. Council has been allocated \$800K to upgrade the bus interchange within Kingston and \$7M for other transport improvements within the central Kingston area.

The City Deal funds have been previously utilised to prepare a Kingston Place Strategy for the CBD precinct – a copy of which is on Council's website. It aims to greatly improve the amenity, safety and look of the CBD in general, and for pedestrians in particular. The abovementioned \$7M is to be primarily utilised in implementing a first stage of the Place Strategy. This will focus on the upgrade of the main street (Channel Highway) and the connections to surrounding streets and areas (such as Kingston Park) for vehicles, cyclists and pedestrians.

Council has recently signed the Grant Deed for the allocated funds and this CBD project will now be implemented over the next three years. It meets the City Deal requirements as it reduces traffic going into Hobart (by improving local services and employment), addresses local congestion, supports local bus travel (particularly for those travelling into and out of Kingston – remembering that our priority is to support Kingston businesses and services, not necessarily those in Hobart) and the creation of a “smart, liveable and investment ready” CBD.

A Program Manager will be employed who will be focused on community and business engagement, economic and social development and coordinating the activities of Council officers who are responsible for the delivery of the various infrastructure projects and the transport and land use planning. Council is currently developing the work program for the next three years, budgets, project plans, community engagement strategy and governance framework.

Rob Crosthwaite asked, what does “smart, liveable and investment ready” mean? It was explained that this is the terminology in the Hobart City Deal – with “smart” referring to use of contemporary technology, “liveability” referring to convenience, amenity, healthy etc and “investment ready” referring to the creation of conditions that enable greater public and private investment (new services etc). Leslie Frost commented on the impact that the Huntingfield and other large residential developments will have on the Kingston CBD and that this needs to be considered as part of its redevelopment (and public transport needs). Wayne Burgess commented that the COVID experience will also have an impact on design and the type of activities that people will participate in. Council will need to monitor this and respond with appropriate technology. John Cox asked about the dedicated stormwater monitoring officer used to identify the problems at Blackmans Bay beach and whether that person would be now looking at other rural waterways as they are impacted by urban development (eg Whitewater Creek) – it was confirmed that this would be the case.

(e) Kingston Park update

Recent activity on the Kingston Park site has included:

- Rectification works at the Community Hub, where concrete slabs had to be replaced because of unacceptable cracking. This will be completed in early October after which the Hub will be reopened to the public.
- Continued construction of the playground. It was to be completed in November, but completion will be delayed because all of the sculptural elements are being manufactured in Melbourne and cannot be delivered and installed until after the Tasmanian borders are reopened. An adjoining road and public parking area will be constructed over summer.
- The private developer, Traders in Purple, has resumed their marketing and has had pre-sale commitments confirmed. There is a sales office located within the Community Hub – which will be later converted into a large café. The land parcel for the townhouses has been subdivided and title will be issued by the Titles Office soon. This can then be sold by Council to the developer with construction expected to commence early next year (the development of this large site has already been approved).
- Council has joined with the developer in coming up with a combined stormwater solution for the whole of Kingston Park that utilises the existing Kingston Wetlands. This is the most efficient and effective solution and also provides an opportunity to improve the treatment of stormwater for the whole CBD catchment.
- The design of the second stage of Goshawk Way is being finalised and will probably include a roundabout on the Huon Highway. This construction will also include a replacement of the John Street roundabout (also yet to be designed). Traffic

modelling is being conducted to inform these designs together with other road intersections nearby – all based on an assumption that the main street will need to have improved pedestrian amenity and safety.

- Planning scheme changes are being made to ensure Zone boundaries are consistent with property boundaries and that development standards match the envisaged site developments.
- Council continues to produce quarterly Implementation Reports which provide update information about the project and they can be viewed on Council's website.

(f) Green waste kerbside collection

The green waste kerbside collection is to commence on 5th October 2020 for all residents that are registered for this fortnightly service. The bins are to only be used for garden waste. Council will be initiating a food waste service (FOGO – food organics garden organics) in the near future.

All properties within the existing kerbside waste collection catchment that are more than 400m² and less than 4,000m² (or have three or less units) are automatically included. Other properties within the catchment area can opt-in and the included property owners can opt-out if they wish. Most of the bins have now been delivered. Council's customer service staff have been very busy for the last few months answering questions about the roll-out and dealing with the opt-ins and opt-outs.

Questions have been asked as to what Council is doing with the green waste that is collected and the following information can be provided in this regard:

The green waste collected through the kerbside service will be transported to the Pure Living Soils composting facility at Interlaken for processing. The facility operates under the guidelines of AS4454 – Compost, soil conditioners and mulches. The operation of the site includes rigorous monitoring during the composting process, including temperature, moisture and oxygen. The aim of composting is to get the windrow to a temperature above 55 degree Celsius for a time period of three days, then turn the windrow which puts the outside of the windrow into the middle of the windrow. This is done five times instead of the standard three as the site also accepts and processes commercial organic materials such as fish, dairy and chicken. The temperature profile is critical and when at a temperature above 55 degrees Celsius is called the "thermophilic stage". This is the stage that kills off all pathogens and weed seeds. At the end of the composting process, normally around 15 weeks a sample of the product is also sent to a laboratory for analysis, which includes a test on weeds and pathogens. The compost still has a four-week period of maturation too. Pure Living Soils sell a large volume of the product directly to agriculture, including dairy farms for broadacre and compliance is critical to be able to continue to supply these markets.

(g) Blackmans Bay beach recreational water quality report

A thorough analysis of the recreational water quality at the Blackmans Bay beach was conducted following a long monitoring period. The data was independently assessed and a report prepared that indicates that the water quality is now safe for swimming. Council provided a copy of this report to the State Director of Public Health as part of a submission to review the water quality rating and to remove the existing health advisory at the southern end of the beach. On the 24 August, the Director lifted the 'poor' water quality rating and opened the beach for swimming prior to the coming summer period. This was an excellent result, probably better than expected.

Council officers worked hard over the two previous years to both investigate and resolve the apparent problems. There were over 50 different faults, leaks, breaks and cross

connections that contributed to poor stormwater water quality. The key findings of the report were that:

- The monitoring data shows clear improvements in water quality over the past 8 to 12 months, both at beach sites as well as at the majority of stormwater outfalls.
- Council and Taswater's strong commitment to identifying and fixing sewerage/stormwater issues has clearly played a major role in this, resulting in measurable improvements to water quality discharged to the foreshore by way of stormwater outfalls.
- Low-flow stormwater diversions installed at the two largest outfalls (Mid-pipe and Illawarra) have also provided an added level of containment, significantly reducing stormwater flow volumes during dry and low-rainfall conditions.
- Previous investigations, including targeted sand sampling did not clearly identify seagull faeces as a significant source of faecal contamination. Nonetheless, the low flow diversion at the Illawarra outfall has reduced seagull access to freshwater and appears to have reduced gull numbers.
- While the Blackmans Bay wastewater treatment plant was not previously identified as a likely source, the upgrade of this plant in 2019 has further reduced future risks from this source.

6. Other Business

Jill Hickie raised a proposal to conduct a general review of the Forum. This would be to reflect on its purpose and whether it was meeting expectations or could be improved. Wayne Burgess referred to it as a "refresher". Jill identified that it may be benefiting Council more than it does the community groups and that not a lot of action emanates from the meetings. She volunteered to prepare a discussion paper to flesh this out a little more. It was suggested that this be dealt with at a special Forum meeting prior to the next normal meeting. Jill will circulate her discussion paper well before that time – which was determined to be Saturday 14 November (9.30am at Civic Centre). Tony can circulate this to all the groups for comment. Rob Crosthwaite thought it would be good to reinvigorate the Forum and that a concerted effort should be made to engage with all of the local groups, so that the Forum fulfills its original goal of being a truly consultative organisation. Kathy Holland commented that councillor attendance is an important part of Forum meetings.

Wayne Burgess wrapped up the meeting by noting that the Forum AGM will be part of the December meeting and that a new Chair, Deputy Chair and Secretary will be required. He said he had been very impressed by the amount of activity that the individual local groups had been able to conduct over the last very difficult 6 months.

7. Next KCCF Meeting

The next normal Forum meeting will be held at 9.30am on Saturday 5th December 2020 at the Civic Centre (unless otherwise notified). There will however be a Special Forum meeting to discuss the abovementioned review item and this will be Saturday 14 November 2020.

The meeting closed at 12.10pm.