

**MINUTES**  
**FISHERMANS PARADISE**  
**CONJOLA COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION SUB-COMMITTEE**  
**FRIDAY 8 DECEMBER 2023 AT 4.00 PM**

**WELCOME**

Donna Loon chaired the meeting and welcomed everyone.

**ATTENDANCE**

Attendance: Donna Loon (chair & minutes), Spencer Loon, Tara Cox, Tyler Cox, Stephanie Hawken, Melinda Loe,

Apologies: Stan Cowle, Debbie Killian, Te-Neale Brown, Megan Nicholson

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING**

Minutes from the last meeting are not yet finalized.

**Action:** Mel to contact Megan to provide assistance so that the minutes can be posted to Facebook and also pinned to the noticeboard

**I. Meeting purpose**

To discuss and agree approach to participate in the RFS Christmas Lolli drive with an aim to collect from village residents their ideas to improve the village of Fishermans paradise.

All ideas gathered will be presented for ratification and prioritisation at the whole of community meeting to be called for January 20 2024.

**II. Community engagement - participation in the RFS Christmas Lolli drive**

Members of the CCA FP sub-committee will be in attendance for the RFS Lolli drive when it reaches the fire station.

A stall will be set up to encourage people to add their ideas to a 'wall' in the community room.

Resources:

- Sticky notes and pens (Mel)
- Rolls of paper (Stephanie)
- Mel, Tara and Tyler to manage the stall
- Develop and print pro-forma which will capture people's names and email addresses (Donna and Spencer)

**III. Survey monkey**

The purpose of the survey (via survey monkey) is to gather ideas from the Fishermans paradise residents of improvements they require for the village.

All applauded and approved the survey which Mel created. Tara, Steph and Donna did test runs.

- Posters will be created with a QR code for the survey to encourage people to participate. To include both dates Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2023 and Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2024 (Mel)

#### **IV. Development of a Fishermans Paradise distribution list**

We need a Fishermans Paradise distribution list so that communication can be sent to as wide a group as possible. We will start small and build onto it.

Create a distribution group in the Fishermans Paradise Gmail account (Donna)

Mel to follow up with residents who were on a former email list in 2019, related to the sub-division development, and see if they'd like to be added.

#### **V. Thoughts on how to add Fishermans paradise into the CCA website (the structure of the website)**

Donna Loon presented a hard copy of a page from the CCA website with written inclusions, for consideration by the group.

This was approved.

Adam Cox has agreed to help Lynne Wright to include a Fishermans Paradise tab and drop-down sections into the CCA Website. Adam works with website architecture not design nor content.

Lynne and Adam to be connected. (Donna)

#### **VI. Proposed electricity works**

This references a letter sent to the RFS regarding a proposed community battery and onforwarded to the sub-committee for their information by Stephanie Hawken.

Stephanie advises that the Conjola RFS Captain has advised that for the community noticeboard, rather than post a copy of the letter, to write a note about it and post from the committee.

More information about the Community Battery is required prior to this happening (Donna).

#### **VII. Other business**

- Community noticeboard – is now available for postings and in use.
- Many thanks to Jurgen who swept and arranged the community room for our meeting
- We need to solve the problem of the 1 alarm/code for both the RFS fire station and the community room, so that the committee can access the community room as required without disturbing the RFS members. (Jurgen to drill into this; Donna to speak with Alan Cooke)
- Re: continued access to the south end of the nature reserve - No response yet from Cr White to the sub-committee's questions, following Cr White's email sent Oct 23rd; Mel & Tara (with the volunteer Bushcare Group on Dec 8<sup>th</sup>) found that an oyster farmer has bought the private land that runs through the reserve, adjoining the Conjola Creek, south of the boat ramp. They met a worker there, were welcomed and provided with an overview of the development. They found him to be very positive and supportive of the community/reserve access. Mel suggested a short presentation at the whole of community meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2024 to inform the community about the oyster farm, and impact on the creek and reserve. This was agreed. Mel to follow up with the Oyster Farmer and invite to meeting.

#### **VIII. Next Meeting – None scheduled**

# AGENDA

## FISHERMANS PARADISE

### CONJOLA COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION SUB-COMMITTEE

SATURDAY 4 NOVEMBER 2023 AT 2.00 PM

#### I. WELCOME

Donna Loon chaired the meeting and welcomed everyone.

#### II. ATTENDANCE

Attendance: Donna Loon (chair), Spencer Loon, Tara Cox, Tyler Cox, Steph Hawken, Melinda Loe, Megan Nicholson (minutes)

Apologies: Stan Cowle, Debbie Killian, Te-Neale Brown

#### III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING

No changes to the previous minutes were submitted - minutes endorsed.

#### IV. OPEN ACTIONS

- a) **Community Noticeboard** - No further contact from the Council but the lock seems to have been replaced. **Action:** Steph Griffiths / Donna Loon to follow up regarding keys.
- b) **Update on Council plans for Fishermans Paradise**

Donna Loon reported that Cr Patricia White when questioned about the rebuilding the boardwalk that was burnt on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019, has advised that Council won't be rebuilding the boardwalk through the wetland and, due to part of the south end of the riverside track being privately owned, public access to the riverside track south of the boat ramp would be restricted. Instead, Council has decided to build a new pathway along the riverfront in front of houses on Anglers Parade.

There were many questions asked by members about the rationale for restricting access to the wetlands, particularly given the work of the Bushcare group with Council officers to rehabilitate and maintain the wetlands area after the bushfires to assure public access, enjoyment and safety. It was unclear whether the restriction would be for a specified period (due to the development) or permanent.

Some sub-committee members questioned what a riverfront path or boardwalk on the north side of the boat ramp might involve given the **that** there's already a track, what the cost would be, and whether it is the right priority, while others were broadly supportive of improvements.

Disappointment was expressed that Council had made these decisions without consulting with the residents or the Conjola Community Association. It was noted that Council didn't seem to have considered community priorities from recent residents' meetings and the Flourishing Communities report for Fisherman's Paradise, which identified a number of project ideas that residents consider a priority. It was noted that the survey found residents highly valued access to the natural environment.

There was consensus around the need to press Council for continued public access to the riverside track, consistent with previous statements by Council staff, and to understand the reasons for limiting public access to the south end of the Reserve.

**Actions:** Donna Loon to consult with Keith Bennett regarding what is stated in the Development DA regarding public access to the riverside track to the south of the boat ramp. Mel Loe to circulate former Council minutes regarding the Development. Further actions would be determined when further information has been collected.

### **c) Update on Conjola Community Association's recent meeting on 11 October:**

Donna Loon and Megan Nicholson reported on proceedings:

- New Jetty for Conjola Park - CCA committee agreed to provide funds to Council towards the boat ramp project (where Council now has a shortfall) subject to conditions providing certainty that other community priority projects are progressed by Council. The lack of public toilets in Conjola Park was discussed as another priority that needs to be addressed.
- Lake Conjola Management Plan - ongoing discussions, triggers to enable opening.
- Donna Loon will be one of the CCA representatives to the second Shoalhaven Community Consultative Bodies (CCB) Executive Meeting for 2023. This meeting is organised by the Shoalhaven Council.
- The CCA has asked that the Fisherman's Paradise sub-committee minutes are published on the CCA website. This was agreed, as well as creation of a highlights/news page.

### **d) Fisherman's Paradise bank account**

There are verbal reports that a Fisherman's Paradise community bank account may have remained open after the former committee was incorporated into the Conjola committee. There was discussion about retaining any funds for activities in Fisherman's Paradise.

**Action:** Donna Loon to make further inquiries to determine if this account exists, and its charitable status.

### **e) Community Expo and grants day - held at the Dunn Lewis Centre in Ulladulla**

Donna Loon reported on a range of grants that are available for community projects and infrastructure improvements. A council officer circulates grant opportunities to an email list and Donna has asked to be included on this mailing list.

- As well as government grants, there are other bodies which offer community grants including Mollymook Golf Club, the Ulladulla RSL Club and Bendigo Bank.
- Ideas for community projects were discussed by the sub-committee.

## **V. NEW ACTIONSCOMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENT**

It was agreed to undertake community engagement to identify improvement ideas with wide community support. The sub-committee will look into piggy-backing on any community Christmas event being organised and using this to collect people's ideas about what they would like to see for Fisho's.

A follow-up community event to be scheduled for Saturday 20 January, 4pm, to present on ideas collected to date, and gather further ideas and identify priorities.

It is intended that these ideas would become the basis for grant applications in the future by the Sub-committee.

#### **Actions:**

Stephanie Hawken to ask Te-Neale who organises the Christmas event to see if the sub-committee can participate and collect ideas, possibly using a white board and post-it notes.

Mel Loe to create a survey Monkey survey to collect input.

Donna Loon and Mel Loe to prepare a draft flyer for the January community meeting.

Tara Cox to lead a letterbox drop for the January meeting

## **VI. NEXT MEETING**

No date was set for the next meeting. It was agreed that members would progress actions and planning by email