

Conjola Community Association Inc. - CCB

Minutes of Annual General Meeting

Held on Monday 15th April 2019 at Lake Conjola Community Hall

President - Robyn Kerves,	Vice President - Dirk Treloar
Secretary - Elaine Caswell (proxy)	Treasurer - Fran Shanahan
Public Officer – Mike Brungs	Community Liaison Officer – Kristen Bird
Environment Coordinator – Col Ashford	Infrastructure Coordinator - Dirk Treloar
Media & Grants Coordinator - Fran Shanahan	Technology Coordinator – Bill Hackett

The meeting opened at **7:40pm**.

Present: - Cnclr Patricia White, Robyn Kerves, Dirk Treloar, Mike Brungs, Fran Shanahan, Cecilia Brungs, Helen Chaplin, Geoff Chaplin, Dawn Churchill, Jenny Dale, Jill Evans, Peter Evans, Linda Fennel, Stephen Fennell, D Gratzer, Keith Henry, Mark Horn, Carol Hodgetts, Jim Keelan, Rita Keelan, Allen Rutledge, Dennis Simpson, Lynne Simpson, Chris Turner, Vicki Weir, Bill Hackett,

Apologies: - Mark Albiez, Col Ashford, Kristen Bird, David Bird, Elaine Caswell, Jim Dale, Marian Devitt, David Dodd, Diana Dodd, Sandra Dodimead, Ken Dodimead, Mandy Ferretti, Ian Graham, Colleen Graham, Liz Gray, Amanda Hackett, Laurie Hays, Yvonne Hays, Allison Hopkins, Jan Hudson, Peter Hudson, Andrew Jessop, Ray Jones, Judith Jones, Tony Jones, Jan Lawrence, Terry Lawrence, Ronda Lyons, Graham Lyons, Linda Renie, David Renie, Leann Simpson, Jarrod Simpson, Alison Simpson, Craig Stratton, Jo Stratton, Liane Thompson, Stazi

Welcome to Councillor(s) – Welcome to Councillor White

Announce the 2 meetings AGM & General Meeting

Acceptance of 2017/18 AGM Minutes of Meeting – Accepted B. Hackett, seconded D. Simpson

Treasurer’s Annual Report/Financial Statement

Refer Attached (below)

President’s Annual Report

The focus of the Conjola Community Association for the past 12 months has been on addressing issues with the current Lake Conjola Interim Entrance Management Policy 2013. Notwithstanding, a number of other matters were achieved/addressed. In all it has been a very hectic 12 months for the CCA (*some of the following items were not presented due to AGM meeting time constraints*):-

- **Lake Entrance** – CCA Proposal to include Channel Optimisation and Entrance Clearance Works in the Lake Conjola Interim Entrance Management Policy 2013. With support from Hon. Shelley Hancock and Councillor Patricia White, Council finally accepted and tabled this Report on 18 Dec 2018. The initial

attempt to table the report in July 2018 was deferred by Council staff (Environment Services). The Report is available on the CCA website.

- Prolonged Lake High Water Level and Council Mismanagement of the issue:-
 - Failure of Lake Conjola Interim Entrance Management Policy 2013 (IEMP) – the failure was recognised by Council after a motion was raised in a Council Meeting by Councillor White and carried. A Workshop to kick-off a Review was conducted in Feb 2019 attended by Hon Shelley Hancock MP, the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, several Councillors, Council Directors and staff, and representatives from state government agencies, Shoalhaven Water, and the Conjola Community Association. The meeting agreed to development a stand alone Coastal Management Plan for Conjola
 - Failure of Council to comply with IEMP policy – re channels dug in Dec 2018 and Jan 2019
 - Impact to residents – personal & property impacts largely ignored by Council
 - Safety Audit of conditions not undertaken – eg unsafe/collapsing shoreline stone walls; camping power cables in floodwaters; no signage on inundated Council Jetty; fallen trees
 - OH&S issues – compiled by the Conjola Community not Council and submitted to Council – eg flooded boat ramps, health risks from water quality and mosquitos
 - Councillor White has continued to raise motions at Council Meetings for Council to address the issue. Each motion has been carried – refer to minutes of Council Meetings on 21 Jan, 5 Feb, and 26 Mar – but the Lake remains at what is considered to be historically prolonged high level – generally above 0.75-0.80m since Dec 2018 – the Mean High Water Mark is 0.34m
 - Impact to Lake Conjola biodiversity – eg dead eels, dying vegetation, erosion of shioreline
 - Water Quality Testing (GETEX) – the community initiated independent water quality tests to assess the lakes critical biological indicators, including Dissolved Oxygen levels (refer to the Ordinary Meeting for details of the results)
 - Misleading /inconsistent statements by Council – eg 3 conflicting statements by the Mayor, the A/General Manager, and the Regional Manager of Fisheries as to the reason the “channel plug” was not removed on 16 Jan 2019.
- Regional Boat Ramp – Havilland St: Council mismanagement
 - Apr16 – CCB informed the project was in the planning stage
 - Jan17 – Council Strategy & Assets Meeting: Motion carried to proceed to detailed design. Estimated cost \$1.4m-\$2m (grant funding from Better Boating)
 - Apr17 – Plans presented to CCA CCB, with plan to be shovel ready by early2019
 - Aug17 – Council S&A Meeting informed project is shovel ready; Motion carried (estimated cost \$1.9m) submitted for approval- \$3.7m allocated to SCC Projects by Better Boating & Council allocated \$400K to Havilland St
 - Mar18 – Seek approval from Better Boating to re-direct \$400K to Berringer Foreshore & Greenwell Point
 - Jul18 – RMS rejected Council request to re-direct funds; Council propose alternatives inc \$100K to HH Boat Ramp Carpark;
 - Summary – Council spent considerable effort and \$ developing a detailed design and failed to request estimated funds despite RMS informing CCA that funds for a Regional Boat Ramp at Conjola are available and have been chasing Council Project Officer to submit an Application for Grant Funding
 - Current Status - Unknown
- Stand-alone Coastal Management Plan for Lake Conjola – Workshop in Feb 19 with Council, Councillors, State MP, Community, Agencies agreed to develop a stand-alone CMP for Lake Conjola (estimate

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timeframe of 2 years). Council recently successfully applied to OEH to undertake an open coast Scoping Study (CMP Stage 1) without any community consultation. Expectation the “SCC LGA Open Coast” Scoping Study will significantly delay the development of the Conjola CMP by years.

The following items were not discussed:-

- Incorporation CCA - Application to Fair Trading for the incorporation of the CCA was successful in July 2018
- Boardwalk Carpark Upgrade – Council informed CCA that the project was on a priority list, and advised the priority could be raised if community requested it. CCA lobbied the community and requests submitted to Council, but priority not changed
- Fish Deaths on 17 April 2018
- Safety on LC Entrance Road – Request to extend 50kph Zone & reduce speed limit at Princes Hwy/LCE Road; no action by Council
- Water Filling Station installed
- Pattimores Drainage Canal Jetties on Council land – Council Strategy & Assets Meet Jul 2018 discussed
- Boardwalk Seating – installed early 2019
- Shorebirds Report (Summary of the report from Jodie Dunn, NPWS Shorebird Co-ordinator)
 - *A total of 67 nests laid on the sandflats, sandspit and in the dunes.*
 - *Two main nesting areas (dune and sandspit)*
 - *The last chicks began flying in mid-February (fledged).*
 - *Of the 148 eggs laid, 67 chicks hatched and 47 survived to flying.*
 - *NPWS are currently designing a small wooden chick shelter*
 - *Any assistance from the community to conserve this significant nesting site would be appreciated.*

Election of New Committee Members

Councillor White facilitated the election of Office Bearers for 2019/20. Nominations for the vacancies were accepted and seconded and all positions were filled. Congratulations to the successful nominees.

Office bearers of the Conjola Community Association for 2019/20 are:-

President - Robyn Kerves,	Vice President - Dirk Treloar
Secretary - Elaine Caswell	Treasurer - Fran Shanahan
Public Officer – Mike Brungs	

Ordinary Committee members of the Conjola Community Association for 2019/20 are:-

Community Liaison Officer – Kristen Bird	Grants Officer – Mark Albiez
Environment Coordinator – Col Ashford	Infrastructure Coordinator - Dirk Treloar
Technology Coordinator – Bill Hackett	

The AGM meeting closed at **8:05pm**.

Treasurers Report – Financial Year ended 31 Mar 2019

COMBINED BANK ACCOUNT

Conjola Community Association Inc

As at 31st March 2019.

Balance as at 16 th April 2018	1824.45
Plus Donation SCC	1000.00
Water Testing	6537.90.....9362.35
Less Weebly Sub	138.31
Hire of Hall	34.00
Getex	4994.00.....5166.31

TOTAL HELD IN BANK ACCOUNT.....\$4196.04

06 2646 10069259	\$2652.14
06 2646 10321003	\$1542.90


.....
President


.....
Treasurer

Petty Cash \$6.95

Less Jars 5.90

Balance \$1.05

Conjola Community Association Inc.

General Meeting (following the AGM)

Monday 15 April 2019, Lake Conjola Community Hall

Management Committee

President:- R Kerves	Vice President:- D Treloar
Secretary:- E Caswell	Treasurer:- F Shanahan
Community Liaison:- K Bird	Public Officer:- M Brungs
Infrastructure Co-ord:- D Treloar	Environmental Co-ord:-C Ashford
Grants Co-ord:- M Albiez	Technology Co-ord:- B Hackett

The meeting opened at **8:05pm**.

Present: - Cnclr Patricia White, Robyn Kerves, Dirk Treloar, Mike Brungs, Fran Shanahan, Cecilia Brungs, Helen Chaplin, Geoff Chaplin, Dawn Churchill, Jenny Dale, Jill Evans, Peter Evans, Linda Fennel, Stephen Fennell, D Gratzner, Keith Henry, Mark Horn, Carol Hodgetts, Jim Keelan, Rita Keelan, Allen Rutledge, Dennis Simpson, Lynne Simpson, Chris Turner, Vicki Weir, Bill Hackett,

Apologies: - Mark Albiez, Col Ashford, Kristen Bird, David Bird, Elaine Caswell, Jim Dale, Marian Devitt, David Dodd, Diana Dodd, Sandra Dodimead, Ken Dodimead, Mandy Ferretti, Ian Graham, Colleen Graham, Liz Gray, Amanda Hackett, Laurie Hays, Yvonne Hays, Allison Hopkins, Jan Hudson, Peter Hudson, Andrew Jessop, Ray Jones, Judith Jones, Tony Jones, Jan Lawrence, Terry Lawrence, Ronda Lyons, Graham Lyons, Linda Renie, David Renie, Jarrod Simpson, Leeann Simpson, Alison Simpson, Craig Stratton, Jo Stratton, Liane Thompson, Stazi

The president of the Association, Robyn Kerves welcomed and thanked everyone for their attendance, with special thanks to Councillor White.

1. Minutes of previous meeting :-

Accepted B Hackett, 2nd D Simpson

2. Treasurer’s Report:-

Balance at 21 Jan 2019		\$2,652.14
Incoming Water Testing Donations	<u>\$6,537.90</u>	
SUBTOTAL Incoming		\$6,537.90
Expenses Water Testing - GETEX	<u>\$4,994.00</u>	
SUBTOTAL Outgoing		\$4,994.00
Balance at 31 Mar 2019		<u>\$4,196.04</u>

3. Removal of Trees that are dying due to the high-water level - Motion proposed by a Rutledge

Motion

The following motion proposed by A Rutledge was unanimously passed:-

That the Shoalhaven City Council takes responsibility for the safe removal of dead and dying trees and vegetation caused by the direct and indirect impacts on the local ecosystems as the result of the abnormal and extended high water level in the Lake Conjola system. Such trees, or parts of them, that fall into the lake are to be removed promptly to avoid them becoming a safety hazard to the public and before they become an animal habitat thereby restricting their removal. All such work is to be at council's expense regardless of whether the trees and vegetation are on council owned, council managed or private land.

Background

Failure to open Lake Conjola to the sea after the significant rain event over the catchment in December 2018 caused by an Intermittent East Coast Low has resulted in the lake remaining at an unnatural high-water level for almost five months.

This has resulted in trees near the lake dying. In the main, these trees are on council owned or managed land but some are also on private land. According to section 5.1 of the Shoalhaven Development Control Plan 2014, these trees are classified as Declared Trees or other Vegetation – Part 3 of the Vegetation SEPP and require a permit granted by the Shoalhaven City Council in order to have them removed. According to section 5.2.3 Exemptions: “Trees and vegetation that Council or the Native Vegetation Panel is satisfied is dying or dead and is not required as the habitat of native animals” are exempt from section 5.1.

The various policies are confusing and unclear in regards to who is responsible for the removal of dead or dying trees caused by the current high-water levels in the lake system, including who foots the bill. The following two examples demonstrate the confusion.

A homeowner whose land backs onto the canal had cause to remove a dead Casuarina tree (a declared tree). The tree had died because its roots were underwater resulting from low-level floodwater that inundates her land. It is not council or council managed land. She was told that she had to have council approval to remove the dead tree and so she sought and was granted approval to do so. However, the approval was given subject to the tree being removed by a qualified tree contractor approved by the Shoalhaven City Council and that it is to be at the owner's expense. She was also informed that it could not be removed if it falls into the water because it will be regarded as an animal habitat. It would appear as though the approving authority was misinterpreting section 5.2.3 above in regards to animal habits and he or she incorrectly applied paragraph 4.13 of the Shoalhaven City Council – Tree Management Policy – Public Land; which states:

4.13 Trees in Canal Estates

Council will consider applications for tree removals within the Canal Estates allowing adjoining property owners to manage the vegetation on the drainage canals adjacent to their property using appropriately qualified and insured tree contractors at their expense.

In the second example, another homeowner who also owns the land down to the water's edge of the canal, asked the Shoalhaven City Council to remove a declared tree (Casuarina) from the canal after it had fallen in as the result of bank erosion of her land. She was informed that it was the responsibility of Fisheries NSW. Fisheries NSW informed her that it was a Council issue. Nothing was done.

It should be noted that, in both of the above examples, the people concerned own the land down to the canal; there is no council easement. There are properties on the Lake Conjola canal system that do not have a Council easement. The ratepayers involved own the land down to the water's edge.

The Shoalhaven City Council has failed to take appropriate steps to ease the pressure on the lake system by opening it to the sea and minimising interference to the local ecological community in accordance with its Management Policy Objectives detailed in the Lake Conjola Interim Entrance Management Policy August 2013. Accordingly, the Shoalhaven City Council is liable and should be responsible for the safe removal of dead and dying trees on council owned, council managed and private land caused by the high-water levels in the Lake Conjola system at its expense.

4. Coastal Management Plan Scoping Study

Motion

The following motions, proposed by B Hackett, were unanimously passed:-

- 1. That the General Manager seek feedback from Council staff as to why the Lake Conjola CMP Scoping Study has been changed without community consultation from a stand-alone Study to a Study which will cover all estuaries and the open coast within the Shoalhaven LGA*
- 2. That Council reverse the decision by Council staff to include Conjola in an "All Estuaries / Open Coast" Scoping Study and revert to the original decision from the 15 March Workshop for the Lake Conjola CMP (inc Scoping Study) to be stand-alone.*

Background

On 5 Apr 2019 CCA received advice from the Council Manager Environmental Services (ES) that the Scoping Study for Lake Conjola CMP has been expanded to include all estuaries and the Open Coast within the SCC LGA.

The CCA is concerned that this increase in scope will significantly delay the development of the CMP for Conjola.

This decision has been made without consultation with CCA and is not what was agreed at the 6 Feb 2019 Workshop to kick-off a review of the Lake Conjola Interim Entrance Management Policy 2013. The Workshop attendees unanimously endorsed a suggestion by the Council Manager ES for a standalone Study for Lake Conjola - attendees at the Workshop included the State Member Hon Shelley Hancock, the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Councillors, Council Staff, representatives from OEH, Fisheries, Crown Lands, Shoalhaven Water, and the Conjola Community.

5. Public Enquiry into the management of Lake Conjola

Councillor White informed the meeting that she has called for a Public Enquiry into the management of Lake Conjola.

6. Water Testing Results by GETEX

D Treloar briefed the meeting on the results of water testing from Getex (see attached summary). With the exception of results for Dissolved Oxygen and Enterococci, the results are consistent with Council results. In summary –

- Amber Alert for Enterococci at 2 sample points - exceed healthy primary contact recreational levels at 2 sample points,
- Unhealthy marine environment - Dissolved Oxygen is below a healthy marine environment requirement for all sample points and Total Phosphorus and Chlorophyll A both exceed the healthy level,

The detailed report from GETEX is available on the Conjola Community website on the Latest News page – <https://www.lakeconjola.org/nb-latest-news.html>

7. Septic Tanks

Council have initiated a detailed inspection of all septic tanks. At a 15 Mar meeting with CCB committee, Council indicated that 7000 septic systems have been inspected and only a couple of minor issues have been identified

8. Update from Council regarding several Projects

- Gravel Shoulder Sealing Request – North-Western end of LC Entrance Rd – to be completed by May 2019
- Guardrail request – 38 Lake Conjola Entrance Rd, Yatte Yattah – Traffic Unit will complete inspection and assess guardrail / safety barrier warrant within the next few weeks
- Reconfiguration and sealing of boat ramp car park (near boardwalk) – Construction is currently programmed for completion prior to October long weekend 2019

9. Toxic Material at Conjola Waster Depot

Residents are very concerned that toxic material that was dumped at the Depot prior to it becoming a controlled waste facility, is leaching into the soil, the adjacent creek, and Pattimores Lagoon. The meeting was informed that only run-off water is being tested by Council. Meeting agreed that a thorough and comprehensive analysis of the site should be conducted – ie test surface water, ground water, soil, and the immediate drainage areas

The issue was raised at the 15 Mar CCB Committee meeting with Council

Council Waste Services Mgr, David Hojem, has informed the community that Council will be mailing all the residents of Lake Conjola to seek information from them regarding their knowledge of toxic waste being deposited, and also reviewing historical records in Council archives and will report back to Council.

10. Support from Councillor White

The community is extremely grateful for the unwavering support given by Councillor White to the Lake Conjola community over the past 12 months and the leadership she has shown to address the issues associated with the current situation with the Lake.

The meeting closed at 9-30pm

Next meeting:- 15 July 2019

(Future Meeting Dates – 15 Jul 2019, 21 Oct 2019, 20 Jan 2020, 20 Apr 2020)

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1. GETEX LABORATORY ANALYSIS REPORT - Water Samples from Lake Conjola

Date Samples Taken: 12 Mar 2019

Sample Point	Location Description	GETEX RESULTS						
		Faecal Coliforms (cfu/100ml)	Enterococci (cfu/100ml)	Total Nitrogen (mg/L)	Total Phosphorous (Mg/L)	Chlorophyll a (mg/m3)	Dissolved Oxygen (%)	Dissolved Oxygen (mg/L)
E-54	Fisherman's Paradise Boatramp	<10	30	0.7	<0.05	5	49.5	4.15
E-748	Pattimores Lagoon - off Conley Avenue	<10	50	3.3	0.1	20	37.1	3.11
E-47	Cottee Close, Conjola Pk Drain	<10	40	0.6	<0.05	2	61	5.2
E-40	Opposite Cabin 43 - Deepwater Resort	<10	<10	0.5	<0.05	1	76.4	6.4
E-39	Boat Ramp adjacent Boardwalk	<10	<10	0.5	<0.05	3	79.1	6.71
				0.5	<0.05			
				0.5	0.01			
	Adopted Std (Recreation Contact / Aquatic Systems)	150	35	0.3	0.03	4	80-110	6.7-9.2 (calc)

SUMMARY NOTES

Faecal Coliform Level -	All sites are within Recreational Contact level (eg swimming) of 150 bacteria cfu/100 ml
Enterococci Level-	E748 Pattimores & E47 Conjola Park exceed healthy Recreational Primary Contact limit
Total Nitrogen Level -	All sample points exceed Aquatic Ecosystems level, Pattimores by over 1000%
Total Phosphorous Level -	E748 Pattimores exceeds Aquatic Ecosystems level by 300%
Chlorophyll a Level -	E748 Fisherman's Paradise significantly higher than Aquatic Ecosystem level, E54 Fisherman's P & E39 Boardwalk Boatramp just under/over Aquatic Ecosystem level
Dissolved Oxygen Level -	Apart from Boardwalk Boatramp, all points are below healthy Aquatic Ecosystem level
<u>GETEX Results v Council Results</u>	Council take samples from 4 of the 5 sample points listed. They do not sample from E47, but do sample from nearby E479 which is further out into the bay off Conjola Park. Council took samples on 13 Mar 19, the day after GETEX, and according to Aquadata the results for all chemicals are similar to GETEX's (inc. the high levels of Nitrogen and Phosphorous). However,

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according to Aquadata, Council have not tested for Dissolved Oxygen since 2013 so we are unable to do a comparison with GETEX DO results.
 NB: According to BOM rainfall data, only 0.5mm of rain was recorded in Conjola in the 2 weeks prior to 12 Mar 2019.

GETEX v COUNCIL RESULTS –

Sample Point	GETEX RESULTS							COUNCIL RESULTS				
	Faecal Coliforms (cfu/100ml)	Enterococci (cfu/100ml)	Total Nitrogen (mg/L)	Total Phosphorous (Mg/L)	Chlorophyll a (mg/m3)	Dissolved Oxygen (%)	Dissolved Oxygen (mg/L)	Faecal Coliforms	Enterococci	Total Nitrogen (mg/L)	Total Phosphorous (Mg/L)	Chlorophyll a (mg/m3)
E-54	<10	30	0.7	<0.05	5	49.5	4.15	<1	1	0.591	0.043	7
E-748	<10	50	3.3	0.1	20	37.1	3.11	36	10	2.68	0.07	?
E-47	<10	40	0.6	<0.05	2	61	5.2	<1 (E479)	<1 (E479)	0.392 (E479)	0.013(E479)	2 (E479)
E-40	<10	<10	0.5	<0.05	1	76.4	6.4	6	<1	0.46	0.02	<1
E-39	<10	<10	0.5	<0.05	3	79.1	6.71	2	<1	0.47	0.025	<1
			0.5	<0.05								
			0.5	0.01								
Minimum Standard	150	35	0.3	0.03	4	80-110	6.7-9.2 (calc)	150	35	0.3	0.03	4

2. Contact Details for Council and relevant NSW Government Agencies

NB: All agencies can be contacted online from the respective websites

Shoalhaven City Council Email - council@shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au
P.O. Box 42 Nowra NSW 2541
Ph: 4429 3111 (Nowra) or 4422 1816 (Ulladulla)

Dept of Planning and Environment Email – Refer to web site for registering a complaint
<https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Contact-Us>
GPO Box 39, Sydney NSW 2001.

Dept of Primary Industries (Fisheries) Email - information-advisory@dpi.nsw.gov.au
Locked Bag 1, Nelson Bay NSW 2315
Ph: 1300 550 474

NSW Dept of Roads and Maritime Email – SouthernProjects@rms.nsw.gov.au
PO Box 477 Wollongong NSW 2520
Ph: 13 17 82

Conjola Community Association Inc/CCB

Minutes of General Meeting

Monday 15 July 2019 at Lake Conjola Community Hall

Management Committee

President:- R Kerves	Vice President:- D Treloar
Secretary:- E Caswell	Treasurer:- F Shanahan
Public Officer:- M Brungs	Community Liaison:- K Bird
Infrastructure Co-ord:- D Treloar	Environmental Co-ord:-C Ashford
Grants Co-ord:- M Albiez	Technology Co-ord:- B Hackett

The meeting opened at **7:30pm**.

1. **Present:-** As per the CCA Attendance Book - 27 People.
2. **Apologies:-** Bill Hackett, Elaine Caswell, Jim and Jenny Dale, Marian Devitt, Jan and Peter Hudson, Kim and Ian Boyle, Tony and Liz Gray, Robert Adams, Den and Lynne Simpson, Terry and Jan Lawrence, Leann Simpson, Andrew Jessop, Ronda Lyons, Geoff and Helen Chaplin, and Mike Brungs.
3. **Minutes from previous meeting:-** Accepted (refer to copy on the CCA Web Page).
4. **Treasurer's Report:-** General Account \$2559.18 Water Testing Account \$1556.10.
5. **Removal of dead and dying trees:-** Certain species of trees have died and have not been removed from the lake foreshore. Council have previously advised that the fallen trees are of habitat value and that the removal of the trees is a "Key Threatening Process (KTP)" that will impact on aquatic species. The Conjola Community Association is seeking clarification from Council and NSW Fisheries on what is a KTP under the NSW Fisheries Management Act 1994. The Act states a KTP applies to threatened species. In the Review of Environmental Factors (REF) prepared for the recent entrance works, Council states that there are no threatened species within the lake (consistent with other authorities – eg NSW Marine Parks Authority).
6. **Coastal Management Program (CMP) for Lake Conjola:-** South Coast MP Shelley Hancock has provided a grant of \$140,000 which will be matched by Council – a total of \$280,000 – to develop a CMP for Lake Conjola. The CCB is awaiting a date to meet with CEO and Director of Planning/Environment to discuss a stand-alone CMP for Lake Conjola. The recent works at the entrance removed 20,000m³ of sand from the entrance berm, but without removing sand from the ebb channel it is unlikely to remain open for a long period of time.

7. **Pattimore’s Drainage Canal Jetties/Walls**:- Council is to arrange for inspection of jetties and retaining walls along the Aney St drainage canal.
8. **Chinaman’s Island**:-Deputy Mayor, Patricia White together with Channel 9 went over to the Island and read the notice put onto the doors of all the buildings by Crown Land stating demolition will take place.
9. **New Business:**
 - a. Conjola Volunteer Fire Brigade - Jeff Phillips introduced Lynne Wright. Lynne has been appointed Community Liaison Officer for the Rural Fire Brigade. Lynne will work with Bill Hackett to update information on CCA webpage.
 - b. New Council CEO - Deputy Mayor Patricia White formally told the meeting of the new CEO for SCC and his name is Stephen Dunshea. Cnclr White if of the opinion that he has high hopes for all the Shoalhaven area, delivering projects is of high importance, including working with the Conjola Community Association.
 - c. Boardwalk Boat Ramp Carpark - The CCA Management Committee have been in discussion with SCC staff regarding the sealing of the car park at the boat ramp.

There being no further business the meeting was closed.

Next meeting:- 7:30pm, 21 Oct 2019, Conjola Community Hall

Conjola Community Association Inc/CCB

Minutes of General Meeting

Monday 21 October 2019 at Lake Conjola Community Hall

Management Committee

President:- R Kerves	Vice President:- D Treloar
Secretary:- E Caswell	Treasurer:- F Shanahan
Public Officer:- M Brungs	Community Liaison:- K Bird
Infrastructure Co-ord:- D Treloar	Environmental Co-ord:-C Ashford
Grants Co-ord:- M Albiez	Technology Co-ord:- B Hackett

The meeting opened at **7:30pm**.

10. **Present:-** Kristen Bird, Dirk Treloar, Fran Shanahan, Robyn Kerves, Cnclr Patricia White, Mark Albiez, Jenny Dale, Lynne Wright, Margaret Furness, Robert Furness, Bill Hackett, Merissa Neve, John Henderson, Henry Cieslak
11. **Apologies:-** Col Ashford, Mike Brungs, Jim Dale
12. **Minutes from previous meeting:-** Accepted (refer to copy on the CCA Web Page).
13. **Deputy Mayor:-** The meeting congratulated Cnclr White on her recent re-election to the position of Shoalhaven City Council Deputy Mayor, and to Cnclr Mitchell Pakes on his re-election as Assistance Deputy Mayor.
14. **Treasurer’s Report:-** Nil expenditure since the last meeting (15 Jul 2019).

<u>Account</u>		<u>\$</u>	<u>\$</u>
Water Testing			\$1,556.10
General Account	Opening Balance	\$2,559.18	
	Council Donation	\$500.00	
	Closing Balance		\$3,059.18
Total Funds			\$4,615.28

15. **Coastal Management Program (CMP) for Lake Conjola:-** Dirk Treloar briefed the meeting on the current status of the CMP, viz:-
 - a. The consultants engaged to deliver the CMP Scoping Study (Advisian and RPS), are receiving an accurate and detailed understanding of the issues from the community – in particular safety issues that arise due to the condition of the lake

- b. The community are providing the consultants with key reports on, eg water quality, past recommendation for entrance management, historical data/charts on water levels/rainfall/tides
- c. Informed the meeting that the deadline for submitting the CMP survey is 31 Oct 2019 – refer to Council’s “Get Involved” Page on the CMP - <https://getinvolved.shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au/CMPStage1ScopingStudy>

The meeting also approved diverting funds from the CCA Water Testing Account to consultants CCA may engage for independent reviews regarding the relevance of existing documents for input into the CMP process (if required).

16. **Dry Notch at the Entrance** :- Robyn Kerves informed the meeting that the CCA has submitted a letter to Council rejecting the proposal for the construction of a Dry Notch at the entrance in the absence of any scientific evaluation – a motion for a Dry Notch was rejected by Council at a Council Meeting earlier this year (Mayoral Minute 19,4, Council Meeting 26 Mar 2019). Cnclr White described “what a Dry Notch looks like”, and informed the meeting that the maintenance costs for a Dry Notch at Shoalhaven Heads is in the order of \$260,000.
17. **Toxic Waste at the Conjola Waste Depot**:- CCA are awaiting advice from Council regarding the results from testing soil samples earlier this year. The Consultant Report is due with Council on 25 Oct 2019. Council will follow the standard process to publish the results.
18. **Boating Improvements**:- A draft Report on proposed boating improvements has been prepared and is being reviewed.
19. **Chinaman’s Island**:- Robyn Kerves informed the meeting that Glenda Millham is meeting with Minister Melinda Pavey to present a case to protect the cottages on Chinaman’s Island – the CCB meeting agreed that CCA agreed to Ms Millham’s request to provide a letter of support. Of note, Council have stated that the cottages should be heritage listed. However, the final decision on the cottages future rests with the owners of the land, NSW Crown Lands.
20. **New Business**:
 - d. Upstream Water Level Gauge – Council have indicated support for the installation of a BOM/MHL water level gauge upstream (eg in the vicinity of the “steps”). The gauge will provide advance warning of water level rises from the catchment. CCA will work with Council to identify a suitable location. **Action**: Bill Hackett to liaise with Council Environment Services
 - e. AirBNB Regulations - Cnclr White informed the meeting of the proposed regulations to improve the governance of AirBNB’s – including the creation of a State Environment Planning Policy (SEPP) for AirBNBs, maps of areas that will prohibit AirBNBs, and regulations covering bushfire and floods zones. The new regulations do not apply to existing AirBNBs, but will apply to all new applications for AirBNBs and modifications to the existing AirBNBs.

- f. Community Participation Plan (CPP) – Cnclr White informed the meeting of a Council initiative to develop a Community Participation Plan – a requirement under the NSW Environmental Planning and Assessment Act (EP&A Act). The draft CPP is currently on exhibition seeking community feedback– **submissions close on 18 Nov 2019**. Cnclr White stressed the importance of communities responding to Council’s proposed CPP. For further information refer to the Council “Get Involved” webpage – <https://getinvolved.shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au/communityparticipationplan>
- g. Grey Nurse Shark(s) in the Lake – Kristen Bird raised concerns regarding the potential of a tragedy during the warmer months. She informed the meeting that she has been in contact with Fisheries (Samson Hollywood) regarding the need to protect both the shark(s) and the community – advice from Fisheries is it is Council’s responsibility to install warning signs. Fisheries will not relocate the shark unless it shows signs of ill health or distress. At this stage the shark is apparently moving freely up and down the lake and is not restricted to the area near the platform and boat ramp. Fisheries currently carry out weekly checks on the shark and Samson Hollywood has been, and will continue to provide updates to the CCA (Robyn Kerves). **Sightings can be reported to Samson Hollywood on 02 4478 9100**

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9:15pm.

Next meeting:- 7:30pm, 20 Jan 2020, Conjola Community Hall

Conjola Community Association Inc/CCB

Minutes of General Meeting

Monday 20th January 2020 at Lake Conjola Community Hall

Management Committee

President:- R Kerves	Vice President:- D Treloar
Secretary:- E Caswell	Treasurer:- F Shanahan
Public Officer:- M Brungs	Community Liaison:- K Bird
Infrastructure Co-ord:- D Treloar	Environmental Co-ord:-C Ashford
Grants Co-ord:- M Albiez	Technology Co-ord:- B Hackett

Present:- Deputy Mayor Patricia White, Robyn Kerves, Dirk Treloar, Fran Shanahan, Mike Brungs, Kristen Bird, Mark Albiez, Shane Gillespie, Keith Simus, Julie Baker, Marilyn Henry, Paul & Marilyn Schoonderwoerd, Jason Hopkins, Ian Gardiner, Michele Devlin, Vicki Well, Bob Jones, Andrew Jessup, Janelle Jessup, Max Boyd, David Simms, Anne Simpson, Colin Wood, Haylee Dale, Jamie Dale, Judy Moan, Mr & Mrs Turner, Tom Dale, Geoff Phillips, Carol Hodgetts, John Fabre, Anne Allen, Allen Rutledge, Vickie Lynch, Janice & Tony Rolls, Mark Paloff, Dennis Briggs, Jenny Moffat, Keith Henry, Cheryl Leroy, Leonard Astill, Mandy Ferrett, C Turner, Cecilia Brungs, John Newby, Susan Newby, K Coleman, Adam Boland, J, L & J Pleka, J Parker, D Bergess, S & L Fennel, ? Roach, Mr & Mrs Jones, Bob Kirby, Susan Kirby, Karen Duncan, Jenny Dale, Jim Dale, ?awn Moffat, Rebecca McKelvey, Lindy & Peter Dunn, Justine Webb, Adam Webb, John O’Dwyer, Judy O’Dwyer, Mr & Mrs O’Brien, D Gratzler, Bob O’Brien, Kim Harper, Lexie Meyer

Apologies:- Vince Di Pietro, Stephen Dunshae, Col Ashford, Bill Hackett, Elaine Caswell, Amanda Hackett, John Henderson, Mel Loe, Joe Ruhe, Lynne Wright, Rob Wright, Helen and Geoff Chaplin, Jim and Rita Keelan, Jan & Peter Hudson, Tracey McClure, Mick & Janine French, Warwick & Glenda Milham, Debbie Evers, Debra Pollock, Paul West, Karen Hooton, Julie Gander, Stu Gander, Ray & Pauline Molony, Paul Wallace, Robyn Savage, Brett Cripps & Family, Maree Brown, Kim Werner, Jan West, Uz & Chris Saltz, Elizabeth Penfold-Clarke, Jeff & Denise Langtip, Barry & Sandra Fenwick, Gerard & Leanne McDermott, Sharon & John Nohra, Amy Jabour, Simone Cardy, Jarrod & Alison Simpson, Rod & Caroline Bursill, Alison Croker, Greg & Glenda Byers, Shane & Sue McCartney, Greg Watson, Diana & Dave Dodd, Cheryl Anne & Mark Hunter, Melissa Neve, Warren Reid

NB: The list of attendees is taken from the Attendance Book. The Minutes can be corrected for any omissions or spelling errors.

The meeting opened at **7:30pm**.

1. Introduction

Meeting opened by Dirk Treloar, who welcomed all present including Deputy Mayor Patricia White, and Messrs. Colin Wood and Shane Gillespie from Shoalhaven City Council, and advised that

unfortunately Mr. Vince Di Pietro, Council and State Government appointed Recovery Coordinator for the Shoalhaven Local Government Area, was unable to attend due to various debriefings and an Extraordinary Council Meeting. Similarly, Shoalhaven City Council CEO Mr. Stephen Dunshea was unable to attend due to his participation in same meetings.

Dirk advised that the formal procedures would be waived due to the extenuating circumstances that the Bushfire Disaster presented our Community.

2. Open Managed Entrance for Lake Conjola

Dirk outlined that the Conjola Community Association was working to have a sustainable opening for Lake Conjola. Dirk showed photographs of Lake Conjola in a pristine state and asked for a vote from those present ...*“if they wanted the Conjola Community Association to continue to work with Council and State Government Agencies to achieve a sustainable managed opened entrance for Lake Conjola”*.

This motion was unanimously accepted. Dirk also highlighted that it has been communicated to Council and State Government that a stable open entrance to the lake was an integral part of the socio-economic and environmental recovery of the Conjola Community at large, including Residents, Holiday-Makers, Businesses and Tourism in the Shoalhaven. And, that both levels of Government recognise and acknowledge importance of a stable long term opening to underpin the recovery process in the years ahead.

3. Conjola Recovery Team

Dirk acknowledged and thanked Peter Dunn, the Recovery Team and all volunteers for their efforts in supporting the Community throughout the critical response phase and into the recovery phase. Dirk invited Peter to introduce himself to the attendees and talk briefly on the path to recovery.

Dirk announced that the Ulladulla Civic Centre had transitioned from emergency evacuation/response mode to recovery mode and that the State Disaster Recovery Centre and support services were in full operation. All bushfire impacted individuals and families were encouraged to register into the recovery program.

4. Council Representatives

Dirk then introduced representatives from Shoalhaven City Council, Mr. Colin Wood and Shane Gillespie, who spoke at some length about the importance of Council undertaking ground surveys in the fire zone to better understand ignition points and fire behaviour in and around impacted areas and residences in order to improve existing Council building controls and guidelines in bushfire zones. The likely outcome of which would be a minimum BAL (Bushfire Attack Level) rating of 12.5 being applied to new / replacement builds in bushfire affected areas. Mr. Wood is also a member of the Standard Australia Committee dealing with building codes in bush fire areas and application of suitable BAL ratings.

Mr. Wood and his team will conduct inspections on impacted homes and interview willing residents able to re-tell the fire behaviour they witnessed.

Mr. Wood then answered many questions from the floor at length about re-building. Mr. Wood stressed that they were here to assist people in the re-building of their homes and not put barriers in the way of this process, advising that Council will waive application fees. Mr. Wood advised the return of Mr. Warwick Papworth to assist Council with expediting DA and CC applications and be further supported by experienced staff from other Local Government Areas.

5. Statement by Deputy Mayor White

Deputy Mayor Patricia White then addressed the meeting outlining Council's ongoing support for those impacted by the bushfires and support for local businesses.

The Deputy Mayor reinforced Mr Wood's earlier advice regarding the *waiving of DA/CC application fees for bushfire impacted applicants* and spoke at some length about the state of Lake Conjola and mentioned the Patterson Britton & Partners Report of 1999 and recommendation therein for a Managed Entrance which has been scientifically validated by the success of the Interim Works undertaken in 1999, which resulted in a stable opening for 12 years.

The Deputy Mayor highlighted some of the achievements of the elected Members of the Conjola Community Association (CCA), some of whom have voluntarily served the Community for over 20 years. Further adding that the CCA are the recognised Community Consultative Body for Conjola and their role is to liaise with Shoalhaven City Council and State Government Agencies to achieve outcomes for community driven needs and projects. Projects such as the Conjola Regional Sewage Scheme, replacement of the disabled friendly boardwalk and formalisation as a tourism icon with an allocated maintenance budget, which Council were going to demolish and not replace until the CCA negotiated with Council for the funding to replace the old boardwalk with new. The CCA also presented community concerns with many DA applications in Lake Conjola deemed not in keeping with the coastal village character and heritage values worthy of preserving.

6. Meeting Closed

Robyn Kerves advised that time was late and people were getting restless and proposed to close the meeting and have a further meeting in a month's time on Monday 17th February at 7.30pm.

Meeting closed at approximately 9.40pm

NEXT MEETING: Monday 17 February 2020 at 7:30pm, Conjola Community Hall. An agenda will be published prior to the Meeting