

**CONJOLA COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
GENERAL MEETING**

DATE: Wednesday 11 January 2023

Attendance: P Coogan, K Harper, L Sullivan, B Jones, M Brungs, (Cnl) P White, L Hones, R Gardiner, G & B Phillips, J & J O'Dwyer, D Collette, L Lees, R & M Furness, R Kerves, E Caswell, F Shanahan, Dianne K, D Simms, K Percival, M Loft, L & R Wright.

Apologies: D Treloar, M Albiez

Thank you to G & B Phillips

The meeting was moved to their verandah after access to the Community Hall had been changed and the CCB had not been informed. Question was asked what will happen in an emergency when the Hall has to be booked at least 5 days ahead?

Minutes of previous Meeting: It was requested from the floor that the minutes be read.

Minutes read and accepted: R Kerves, 2nd F Shanahan.

No business arising

Correspondence:

Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre program for 2023 from SCC.

Treasurer's Report:

Balance as per Bank Statement at 30.09.2022	\$5,326.50
Stationery and ink cartridges	-\$236.35
Balance as per Bank Statement at 31.01.2023	\$5,090.15
Petty Cash	\$1.05

Report Accepted: E Caswell, 2nd M Brungs

Question from the Floor:

What happened to the \$300k + funds after the closure of the Conjola Recovery Committee?
Patricia White stated that the money had been placed in a trust fund within the SCC.
The meeting voted to setup a subcommittee to investigate the most appropriate way to use those funds within Lake Conjola and report back to the CCB.
Members of the subcommittee are:
Judy Dwyer, Margaret Furness, Lesley Lees, Diana Corlette and Matt Loft.

Agenda Items:

1A. Vegetation build up at Conjola Park

A quote from a publication from SCC dated February 2020 was read to the meeting:

“The Mayor’s and Council’s vision is for the Shoalhaven to emerge from this bushfire and it’s impacts in a better, stronger and more resilient position.”

Many residents of Conjola Park have contacted all relevant organisations along with local MP’s and Ministers all to no avail.

A recent letter from RFS stated that “the land does not represent a significant bushfire threat at this time.”

Question: When will it be the right time?

RFS received \$50m + from Celeste Barber’s fundraising after the bushfires. What have they used it for?

In the event of a neighbour’s block becoming overgrown a complaint could be made to SCC and presumably action would be taken but because some land is under Native Title this is not the case.

Lakeside Drive desperately needs a turning circle to be constructed where it meets Egan’s Farm Lane. At this present time, vehicles including motorcycles, utes, SUV’s and trucks are using Crown Land and other vacant blocks as a thoroughfare or parking area. Garbage trucks have at this time had to drive up onto vacant land and reverse up the road to do their collection. The end result of such usage has been the degradation of the land causing major drainage issues.

A recent meeting in Lakeside Drive of local residents with 3 RFS representatives, a Council representative and a Jerrinja Land Council representative resulted in a resident being asked if they had sought Mental Health assistance and a general nit-picking assessment of their bushfire preparation. At the conclusion of this issue, a member of the Association indicated that there was a review into bushfire hazard reduction currently taking place.

1B. The CCB has purchased signage requesting drivers to slow down and be more aware of cyclists in the area. A request was made from the floor that the above be made available to Conjola Park as well as Lake Conjola village.

2.

Coastal Management Plan

Lake Conjola will get it’s own Management Plan.

There will be an update just before the plan is implemented.

Stage 1 – Information gained

Stage 2 – Information opened up to the Community at the Ulladulla Hub.

Stage 3 – Getting back to the Community asking what their priorities are.

The plan will be out on public exhibition in March.

The SCC staff are currently working with all of the relevant government agencies.

Entrance Management Plan

The CCB Entrance Management committee will read the document. Councillor Patricia White said that she will request that the Lake should be opened before it becomes too dangerous to do so. If the plan is passed, it will be in operation for 5 years.

Government agencies define Lake Conjola as an ICOLL (Intermittently Closed and Open Lake or Lagoon depending on the build up of sand at the mouth).

The CCB Entrance Management Committee does not believe that Lake Conjola should be designated as an ICOLL. The Department of the Environment is opposed to the Plan. Any of the relevant government organisations can Veto the plan.

The plan will be out on public exhibition in March. Paul Keach (SCC) has had an ebb channel constructed which has helped the lake to stay open. The Lake is apparently cleaner than it has been for years. Mollymook Beach has lost a huge amount of sand and it could be replaced by sand taken from Lake Conjola.

3. Fisheries

The CCB contacted the Department of Fisheries in relation to the restocking of Lake Conjola.

Mick Gambell from the department stated that the number of Dusky Flathead fingerlings released in Lake Conjola were as follows:

2020	1,850
2021	14,000
2022	16,000

It is anticipated that a further 16,000 + will be released in 2023. Originally, young prawns and crabs were going to be released but because of a disease found in Queensland crustaceans, that plan was aborted.

4. Living Connected

Helen Hasson from Living Connected has offered individuals a first session free in relation to gaining better computer ability.

5. Havilland St. Boat Ramp

Concern was raised regarding the extra large boats that have suddenly arrived on the lake. Residents living close to the boat ramp stated that parking along the streets close to the ramp has become a problem at this time.

6. General Business

Is there any indication that the road through Holiday Haven Caravan Park will be relocated?

Patricia White replied that this would be occurring and the new road will go behind the cabins. Is there sufficient space? Yes, SCC owns a large area behind the cabins.

7. Health & Fitness Area

Is it possible to construct a fitness area for adults in Hoylake and within the boundary of the Community Hall, similar to the one at Mollymook Beach? The reason being that there is a large percentage of permanent residents who are retirees and this would be a huge health benefit to them. The treasurer informed the meeting that previously the CCB couldn't apply for grants because they were not incorporated, however this has now been remedied. The centre at Mollymook was sponsored by Rotary. The CCB will investigate the issue.

8. Communication Screens for Conjola Park

The question was raised: “Why isn’t there provision for screens to be placed in Conjola Park?”

Reply: “Screens can only be placed at structures owned by SCC.”

“What about the SCC owned pumping stations?”

9. Toilet facilities at Hoylake playground

Previously, the lack of toilet facilities at Hoylake has been raised and thanks to Cnl Patricia White, a porta-loo was placed there.

“Is there a possibility that a permanent structure could be constructed?”

Meeting Closed at 8:55pm

AGM & Next GM – Wednesday 14 April 2023 at 7:00pm.