
Minutes of the 30th Meeting of the
Lower Hawkesbury Estuary Management Committee
Thursday 16th March 2017
Brooklyn Community Centre
2-4 Dangar Rd, Brooklyn

Title	Family Name	Given Name	Representation	Present	Apologies	Absent	Alternate Rep.
Mrs	AITKEN	Robin	National Parks & Wildlife			X	
Mr	ANDREWS	John	Mooney-Cheero Progress Association	X			
Cr	ANISSE	Antony	Councillor – Hornsby Shire Council		X		
Mr	BROWN	Warren	Gosford City Council	X			
Mr	BROWN	Stephen	Roads and Maritime Authority	X			
Mr	BURNS	David	Community Representative		X		
Ms	BURTON	Tegan	National Parks & Wildlife		X		
Mr	FENWICK	Andrew	Fenwicks Marina	X			
Mr	FISH	Mike	Community Representative			X	
Ms	FRATER	Ray	NSW Bridge to Bridge Committee			X	
Mr	GANASSIN	Carla	Industry & Investment, Primary Industries Fishing & Aquaculture			X	
Ms	HOWARD	Mary	Community Representative	X			
Mr	HUGHES	David	Affiliate members - Community Representative	X			
Mr	KARCZ	Bronek	Community Representative	X			
Dr	LIM	Leong	Community Representative	X			
Mr	HAM	Peter	Central Coast Council		X		
Ms	MARVELL	Cheryl	Sydney Water Corporation			X	
Mr	MACDONALD	Tim	Office of Environment & Heritage		X		
Ms	MCMURDO	Wendy	Community Representative		X		
Mr	MILES	David	Boat Owners Association	X			
Ms	MOOY	Rebecca	Greater Sydney Local Land Services	X			
Mr	MOXHAM	Rob	Commercial Representative – Oysters Farmers			X	
Mr	MYERS	Andy	Oceanwatch		X		
Mr	PATTISON	Mick	Hawkesbury City Council		X		
Mr	PELOSI	Gus	Office of Environment & Heritage		X		
Mr	PIGNEYGUY	Justin	Hawkesbury Cruises		X		
Mr	REES	Stan	Land and Property Management Authority	X			
Mr	ROWE	Simon	Oceanwatch Australia		X		
Dr	RUBIO	Ana	Hornsby Shire Council	X			

Title	FAMILY NAME	Given Name	Representation	Present	Apologies	Absent	Alternate Rep.
Mrs	RYLAND	Julie	Hornsby Shire Council	X			
Ms	SEGOVIA	Ingrid	Community Representative	X			
Ms	SCARSBRICK	Joanne	Community Representative		X		
Ms	SHORTER	Cybele	Community Representative Dangar Island	X			
Mr	TAYLOR	Chris	Community Representative	X			
Ms	STUART	Suzanne	Hawkesbury City Council		X		
Cllr	TILBURY	Nathan	Councillor – Hornsby Shire Council	X			
Mr	VAN ZELEWSKI	Axel	Community Representative		X		

1. WELCOME

Meeting opened at 18:40. Meeting started late as a result of a major car accident on the old Pacific Highway. Meeting was chaired by Cllr **Tilbury**. Julie **Ryland** welcomed affiliate member David **Hughes** and also updated the committee with the new role of Tim **Macdonald** as a second representative of the Office of Environment & Heritage, in addition to Gus **Pelosi**.

2. APOLOGIES

Cllr Anisee, David Burns, Tegan Burton, Ray Frater, Carla Ganassin, Peter Ham, Tim Macdonald, Wendy McMurdo, Andy Myers, Mick Pattison, Gus Pelosi, Justin Pigneguy, Simon Rowe, Joanne Scarsbrick, Suzanne Stuart and Axel Zelewski.

3. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Cllr **Tilbury** declared a pecuniary interest when presenting his book 'Man made the cities but God made the bush' to the committee. However he noted that any money received from the purchase of his book goes entirely to the Women Shelter as a charity.

4. PRESENTATION:

A presentation was given by Cllr **Tilbury** about his book 'Man made the cities but God made the bush'. The presentation focussed on the history, water quality issues, and land management of the Berowra Catchment and Berowra Creek.

5. CORRESPONDENCE and MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

No items were raised.

Correspondence was received by the committee and presented for discussion:

- NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service's new plan of management for Lion Island Nature Reserve, Spectacle Island Nature Reserve and Long Island Nature Reserve
- Removal of the decommissioned Sydney Water Reservoir at Dangar Island – Letter from Sydney Water was sent to residents and Council seeking feedback on their preliminary plan to remove the reservoir. Cybele **Shorter** raised her concerns in regards to the potential impact to area that have received extensive bush regeneration work through the years. Council will also hold further discussions with Sydney Water.

6. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of the Lower Hawkesbury Estuary Management Committee meeting, Thursday 17th November 2016 were accepted unanimously.

7. PROGRESS REPORT ON THE LOWER HAWKESBURY ESTUARY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Ana Rubio – Hornsby Shire Council

A summary of actions and projects related to the implementation of the Lower Hawkesbury Estuary Management Plan for the period January to March 2017 was sent to members prior to the meeting. HSC presentation focussed on a number of key projects identified in the summary document:

Bush regeneration and rehabilitation

- Estuarine foreshore site inspections were undertaken in partnership with NPWS, Greater Sydney LLS and Hornsby Council. A number of sites were highlighted for bush regeneration work to be undertaken prior to the end of financial year.
- New Brooklyn Bushcare group was formed in February 2017. First meeting gained interest from 8 participants. This group will be able to help contractors working on areas around Brooklyn. Group meets every 4th Thursday of every month. The Group is currently looking for more volunteers.

New real time water quality monitoring station at Crosslands

- Spare probe, parts and resources from the decommissioned Mullet Creek water quality station have been diverted towards a new location in Crosslands.
- Data at Crosslands will assist with improving the model that runs daily providing advice on swimming conditions. Crosslands area is one of Council's higher risk recreational sites in the shire. This financial year so far, since it has been relatively dry, has recorded low levels of bacteria most of the year. Data from this probe can now be accessed through <http://mhl.nsw.gov.au/projects/hscsal/>

Fish Kill at Berowra Creek

- Fish kill occurred on 1st March during the ebb tide
- Council was notified a day later through some Facebook comment
- All fish affected were mullet. Based on information received by residents the numbers were around ~20 fish in the area between Calabash and Neverfail
- Water samples for nutrients, bacto and algal were collected on the day that the fish kill was reported. None of the results were abnormal.
- Council contacted fisheries and EPA. They were not interested in sending to the lab any fish unless recently dead. We could not find any so no fish got tested.
- The fish kill event got reported by residents through the EPA hotline an Fisheries Watch hotline.
- 5 fish were collected by residents and frozen. Council has assisted Macquarie University researchers to access this fish. Waiting results from their analysis.

Education events

- Earth Hour + Native Plant giveaway – 25th March 2017 – Thornleigh
- World Environmental Day + Native Plant giveaway – 3rd June 2017 – Brooklyn
 - Schools will be involved
 - Considering short trips (bushwalking, boat trips, etc)

Warren Brown – Central Coast Council

- Clean4Shore received funding to undertake 25 clean-ups in Brisbane Waters; 15 in the Lower Hawkesbury (northern foreshore mainly) and 10 in local lagoons. The funding needs to be spent in the Robertson's Electorate. This funding will also cover education talks
- Update on Council amalgamations and current situation in Central Coastal Council. Many of the roles are still being finalised. Waiting for September elections, need to appoint a General Manager.
- John **Andrews** enquired about the illegal dumping at Spencer.

Hawkesbury City Council - no report - representative was absent

Rebecca Mooy – Greater Sydney Local Land Services

- LLS might fund a small bush regeneration project at Galston Scouts, Glenorie
- LLS funding for environmental projects have finished
- LLS funding of \$1.5K for community groups to undertake field days, courses for volunteers, interpretative signage, brochures
- Floating Landcare events in the Hawkesbury and Central Coast keep rolling out, volunteers are still keen in helping and being part of this program
- Bush camp in partnership with NPWS 16-17th June at Gentleman's Halt

National Parks and Wildlife Services - no report - representative was absent

8. GENERAL BUSINESS

Other Business

- Mary **Howard** raised potential water quality issues in regards to blue green algae in the upper reaches of the Lower Hawkesbury. Mary requested if the committee could seek further information on water quality from the Hawkesbury City Council

ACTION 201701: Hawkesbury City Council to provide latest information on water quality, in particular algal results, for the Windsor area.. **Complete:** Michael Patisson, from Hawkesbury City Council, shared the latest information on water quality including algal sampling collected by NSW DPI Water (HSC TRIM D07197927)

- Members enquired about the progress of the wharf at Dangar Island. Cllr **Tilbury** mentioned that he attended a meeting in which the design of the wharf was finalised and construction would commence soon. Cllr Tilbury was happy to share the information he received by email on this topic.

ACTION 201702: Cllr **Tilbury** to share email with information received about the design for the upgrade of the Dangar wharf **On-going:** Cllr **Tilbury** forwarded the email he mentioned at the meeting. This email has not been passed on to members as yet as we are gathering more up to date information from Council's Asset Branch. Information will be sent out in the next days (HSC TRIM XXXX)

- Cllr **Tilbury** informed the committee that if no amalgamations, elections will take place in September

Future Meetings

Next meeting to be held 25 May 2017

Additional meetings for 2017:

17 August 2017

16 November 2017

8. CLOSE Meeting closed at 8:30pm