

**Patonga Beach Progress Association**  
**Meeting: Saturday 1 June 2024 10:00am**  
**Minutes**

**Open** 10:10am Chaired by David Nash

**Acknowledgement of Country**

**Apologies Received:** John & Maria Quigg, Vidar Tysvaer, Jo-anne Quirk, Alan Williams, Alison & Robert Gardini, Jocelyn Maughan, Colin Hopper, Jan Powell, Allen Parker, June Musgrave and Mike Bennie.

**New members/extension members**

The following have applied for and been granted membership of the Association: Rachel and Ken McCracken and Simon Hardy

**Notice of items to be discussed in general business was given by the members:**

**Errors and Omissions Nil**

**Confirmation of the Minutes of the previous meeting**

Adoption of minutes of the meeting held on 6 April 2024.

Moved by: Helena Boden  
Seconded by: Mark Austin  
All in favour

**Tabling and confirmation of correspondence**

Moved by: Stephen King  
Seconded by: Helena Boden  
All in favour

**Presentation and confirmation of the Financial Statement:** The following information was provided by Helena Boden

a. Community Solutions Account:	\$18,234.21
b. Cash Management Account:	\$14,395.08
c. PoM Fighting Fund Account:	\$34,579.94
d. Community Fundraising Account:	\$ 9,309.67

Moved by: Zak Zwan  
Seconded by: Mark Austin  
All in favour

**Business arising from the Minutes**

**1. War Memorial light:**

David Nash provided a quick update. Council have not provided an exact quote for the repairs. The grant applied for will be up to \$10,000 with the community adding up to an additional \$5,000. It has been proposed that council would cover any additional cost beyond this. Joanne is away and will follow-up on her return.

## **2. Abandoned watercraft on creek foreshore**

There has been no communication from Council on this issue since the last Association meeting. Helena noted that 3 boats have been stacked on top of each other but not removed.

## **3. Unlawful parking and camping**

There has been no communication from Council on this issue since the last Association meeting.

## **4. Opal card for Ettalong ferry**

On 6 May 2024 Liesl Tesch's office provided a copy of a letter dated 10 February 2024 from the Minister for Transport advising that as the "Ettalong to Palm Beach ferry is run by a private operator, the only current options for travelling are credit/debit card or the FantaSea Travel Card." David Nash suggested that we should push back on this given that many bus services are privately owned but provide for Opal card use.

## **5. Meeting with Pearl Beach Progress Association executive committee**

No further communication with Pearl Beach. Noted that the past executive are no longer office bearers.

## **6. River cruise**

At the April 2024 meeting the new manager of the hotel advised that he would be investigating the possible reinstatement of the river cruise per week to Bobbin Head via Cottage Point. There has been no communication from the Boathouse group on this issue since the last Association meeting. David Nash has spoken with the hotel manager but cruises are not a current priority.

## **7. Notice board at Eve Williams Memorial Oval**

No action has yet been taken on this item.

## **General Business**

### **8. Potential expenditure**

The Executive Committee has some recommendations on projects which could be funded by the Association. These include: new BBQs; War Memorial maintenance (if the Sports Club is short on funds), War Memorial light (if extra funds in addition to the grant are required or if the grant is unsuccessful), External speakers at front and back of the hall that can be used independently or with the internal speakers and soundproofing (if grant application is unsuccessful). Additional suggestion from members would be welcomed and sought at the next meeting. David Nash suggested this should be a topic of discussion at the August meeting.

### **9. Questions to be put to candidates in upcoming Council election**

The council elections will be held on 14 September 2024. It is proposed that the Association, together with the community, compile a list of issues affecting Patonga be sent to all candidates for Gosford West Ward requesting advice on how they would resolve these issues if they are elected. An email will be sent to the community in the near future requesting input into the list.

## 10. Emergency communication

A letter dated 20 April 2024 was sent to Liesl Tesch seeking her assistance in having an optical fibre connection to the RFS/community hall installed. No response has yet been received. A response was received on 29/5/2024 stating that representations have been made to the minister and a response is pending.

## 11. Brain health talk

Alison McKenzie will be giving a talk on brain health at 2:30pm on 8 June 2024 at the hall. A good response to date with 20+ indicating they will attend.

## 12. Smoke alarms

Steve King raised the issue of what the appropriate response should be to smoke alarms going off in neighbours' homes. He suggested this could be discussed at the next meeting.

## Reports – Sub Committees – Delegates – Special

13. **Plan of Management/camping ground:** Mark Austin is taking the lead on this and will organise a meeting with all those who have requested to be involved.

14. **Electricity:** Steve King reported:

*The NSW government has announced rebates for home batteries will begin in November 2024. Details still pending.*

*There has not been a lot of activity locally, but I presented at the second Smart Energy Talks session in April on the topic of Energy Trading. For details on the talks and many useful links and resources see: <https://www.uminacommunitygroup.com.au/greening-umina/>*

*Takeaways from the Talks:*

*1. Save energy, save money and increase your comfort with a home energy efficiency assessment. Louisa Klopsteins (Van Holland energy assessors) will provide an assessment on existing homes or for someone planning to renovate or build. See <https://vanholland.com.au/energy-efficiency-assessments/> Email Louisa: [louisa@vanholland.com.au](mailto:louisa@vanholland.com.au)*

*2. Are you thinking of going solar or getting more from your solar system? Jo Muller (Peninsula Environment Group) assists small groups of people in overcoming the road bumps to Going Solar. If there is a small group of Patonga residents who would like to meet with Jo (at no cost) this can be organised by emailing Jo: [joachim.muller@gmail.com](mailto:joachim.muller@gmail.com)*

*3. If you are producing excess electricity from your rooftop solar or are unable to have rooftop solar then then joining the Energy Locals-Powertracer Community is worth considering. For details see <https://energylocals.com.au/enosi/>*

*Some useful links: · Compare energy plans with Energy made Easy: <https://www.energymadeeasy.gov.au> · Seniors Energy Rebate: <https://www.service.nsw.gov.au/transaction/apply-for-the-seniors-energy-rebate> · Upgrade your hot water system: <https://www.energy.nsw.gov.au/households/rebates-grants-and-schemes/household-energy-saving-upgrades/upgrade-your-hot-water>*

*· Buy a Powerpal to track – in real time – exactly how your home is using energy. \$129 in NSW: <https://www.powerpal.net>*

*· Discover the savings your roof can make with solar and batteries: <https://www.sunspot.org.au>*

### **15. Koalas**

No report

### **16. Social:** Helena Boden reported

- May 4<sup>th</sup> event was cancelled due to low numbers.
- The Biggest Morning Tea was very successful with \$500 raised on the day. Heading towards a total of \$1000
- An August 24<sup>th</sup> event is being planned. Details pending

### **17. Character Statement**

No update

### **18. Creek siltation remediation**

Linley Hindmarsh advised, by email, that it is not expected that any further action will be taken until 2025, at the earliest.

### **19. Aboriginal recognition and flag**

Project completed.

Informal discussions being held with The Glen and Mingaletta by Mike Bennie, Steve King and Paul Guignard re ongoing engagement.

**Meeting Closed at: 11:15am 13 Attendees 13 Apologies**

**Next meeting: 3 August 2024**