



Manning Estuary Coastline and Catchment Advisory Committee

Information Meeting MINUTES

Thursday 18 February 2016 at 8am

in Council's Administration Centre

Welcome and apologies: Shaun Reynolds, Tina Clemens

Present: Cr David Keegan (GTCC), Richard Pamplin (GTCC), Paul De Szell (GTCC), Ric Slatter (OEH), Kirsty Hughes (MCW), Mayor Paul Hogan, Andre Uljee (Maritime), Elaine Pearce (OBSRG), Peter Longworth (DELTA)

As there was not enough members present for a quorum a formal meeting could not be held and the August 2015 Minutes could not be adopted. A decision was made to hold an *Information Meeting* instead.

It was agreed that to ensure that a quorum was obtained for the next meeting that a call for members to re-apply should be made and that everyone should be reminded that the Constitution only lists organisations, thereby allowing those who normally attend to send an alternate instead to the meeting.

Action: Richard to send email to committee members seeking their interest to reapply for committee membership and to remind members that they can alternate if they are unable to attend.

Peter noted that he would be away for the next two meetings and that Ron Mills will be attending on behalf of DELTA. Peter also mentioned that some sand islands established as part of Farquhar Inlet dredging were joining up and could be a problem for boating.

Kirsty advised that MidCoast Water currently had on exhibition (until 26 February 2016) a 30 year integrated water cycle management plan titled *Our Water Our Future*. Kirsty also sought agreement on the listing of priority actions on the MECCAC agenda in order for agencies and organisations to report directly on actions they are undertaking to implement the Estuary management Plan.

Action: Richard to list as an agenda item for future meetings.

Richard advised that he had updated the Manning River Estuary Management Plan – Implementation Schedule (Table 3, included as Appendix A in the plan) based on GTCCs, MCWs & DPI – Lands feedback that he had received and that publication on Council's website will occur following adoption by MECCAC.

Richard responded to a question about the progress of the Manning Point spur wall reconnection advising that this was completed by a FIMG working as a contractor for DPI – Lands in late 2015 and that the results were very pleasing but that DPI – Lands would still need to consider long-term management of the asset, which may involve the placement of additional rock.

Elaine advised on the sand traps placed on Old Bar Beach and that they had needed tweaking but that they are already showing promise in attracting sand. Elaine also spoke about the current application with DPI – Lands for the placement of dune fencing and the role this will play in dealing with dune erosion – see Elaine's attached members report for additional information.

Cr Keegan advised that beach accesses play a role in contributing to beach erosion and that these need to be considered when implementing strategies in response to erosion.

Future Meetings: Thursday 19 May 2016
 Thursday 18 August 2016
 Thursday 17 November 2016

Members Reports – Old Bar Beach Sand Replenishment Group Inc

REPORT TO MECCAC – FEBRUARY 18, 2016 –

Our continuing search for beach protection – August 16, 2015, we were addressed by Angus Jackson of International Coastal Management with his plan “Future proofing Old Bar Beach – Staged Approach” copy attached. It was well attended and contained good information. This was followed with a presentation to council on August 17, which was favorably received. A DVD was prepared and if anyone is interested we can obtain a copy at \$15.

Sand Dredging of Farquhar for nourishment

Part of this plan requires nourishment of the beach and Jackson has suggested that this could come from the Farquhar Inlet. I understand that the Sand Tracing study shows that not much of our beach sand goes into Farquhar Inlet, but could this be because the Inlet is so silted up there is no capacity for any more? Attached is the cost estimates from the Farquhar Inlet Management Plan done by Worley Parsons in 2010.

In the past when we asked for sand from the inlet we were advised that this did not come from our Old Bar Beach. When this was passed on to Prof. Andy Short he kindly analysed three samples – one from Farquhar, one from in front of the surf club and one from Badger’s – in January, 2011, his reply was “re the sand: based on a visual appraisal the surf club and Lewis St are essentially identical, while the Farquhar is slightly coarser, a good thing if it is to be used for nourishment. All material is however of the same origin”. Birdon Industries, Pt Macquarie have suitable dredges – also Angus Jackson knows of a dredge which continually passes up and down the East coast doing work.

I had a trip up north as far as the Gold Coast and all the way there was dredging being carried out, first was the very successful work being done at Lake Cathie. Then Town Beach at Port Macquarie: Clarence Valley council are dredging at Iluka to nourish the beach. At Coffs Harbour they are very successfully Sand pumping as is proposed for Jimmy’s Beach at Great Lakes.

We are extremely anxious to get sand back on our beach urgently – not knowing when the next big storm period will be - so that we continue to have visitors come to enjoy their holidays, the funds they bring with them not only supporting our local economy, but also that of the Greater Taree City Council area. Working towards this aim we have started doing sand traps which have worked so well at Woolli and we are now working with Council on building dune fencing. As well as saving falling sand this is an endeavour to stop the public from climbing on the dangerous unstable sand dunes which could collapse burying someone alive.

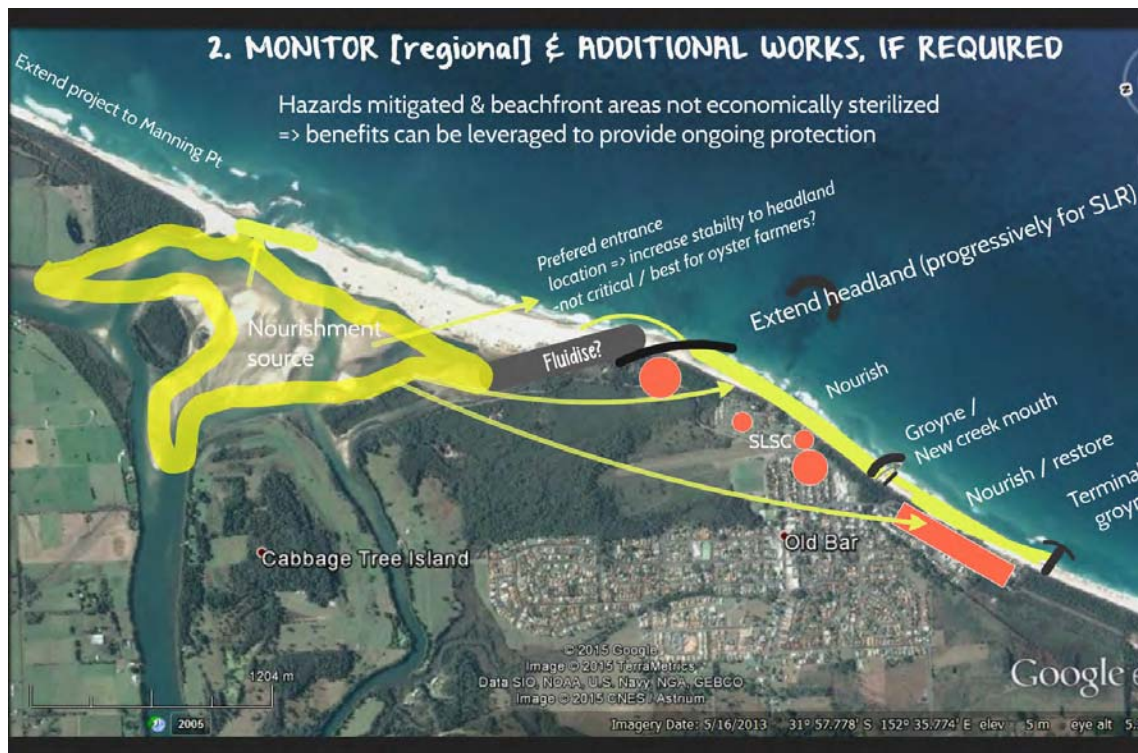
ELAINE PEARCE, PRESIDENT

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ANGUS JACKSON STAGED PLAN

AUGUST 15, 2015 – 4 STAGES

1. Extend Headland – Urana Bombora
2. New creek mouth – Racecourse Creek
3. Terminal Groyne at south end of development in Lewis Street
4. Open Farquhar Inlet – nourishment for beaches – preferred southern entrance
5. The plan can be modified if required according to results.





**GREATER TAREE CITY COUNCIL
FARQUHAR INLET, OLD BAR
Entrance Opening Management Plan**

TABLE 1 SUMMARY OF COST ESTIMATES FOR ENTRANCE MANAGEMENT OPTIONS

OPTION	COST ESTIMATES <i>(exclusive of GST, including 20% contingencies)</i>	
	UPFRONT <i>(1st year)</i>	30 YEAR DESIGN LIFE
1 Existing flood notch	\$25,800 *	\$203,000
2 Flood notch with reduced elevation	\$25,800 *	\$258,000
3 Decision making framework for flood notch and pilot channel	\$86,000 **	\$858,000
4 Dredging to keep a central entrance open continuously	\$487,000	\$8.9M
5 Dredging to form a lake behind the closed beach berm	\$1.4M*	\$5.7M
6A Dredging to form an entrance at the southern limit of Farquhar Inlet	\$487,000	\$7.5M
6B Dredging to form an entrance at the southern limit of Farquhar Inlet with geofabric container training wall and breakwater	\$878,000	\$7.2M
6C Dredging to form an entrance at the southern limit of Farquhar Inlet with geofabric container and rock training walls and breakwaters	\$3.6M	\$9.7M
7 Permanent entrance incorporating rock training walls and breakwaters	\$9.1M	\$12.9M

Notes:

* Includes allowance to open entrance in case of flood / trigger

**Allows for pilot channel excavation

As shown, Options 1, 2 and 3 are expected to cost significantly less than Options 4 through 7, both in terms of upfront capital cost and ongoing maintenance costs.

The relatively high design life costs associated with Options 4 through 6C are largely attributable to the requirement for regular maintenance dredging to keep the entrance open to the ocean. The design life costs for these options could be significantly reduced if it is found that ongoing dredging is not required or can occur at a reduced frequency.

The benefits and impacts of each entrance management option, as documented above, have been considered in conjunction with the cost estimates provided in **Table 1**.

This information has been combined and tabulated in the assessment matrix presented in **Table 2** so that a comparative assessment of the options can be made.