Manning Estuary Coastline and Catchment Advisory Committee

Minutes, Thursday 20 November 2014 at 8am in Council's Administration Centre

Welcome and apologies:

Andre Uljee, Tina Clemens, Brian Hughes

(CrDK/CS)

Present: Cr Robyn Jenkins (Chair) (CrRJ), Cr David Keegan (from General Business a.) (CrDK), Laura Black (LB), Richard Pamplin (RP), Ric Slatter (RS), Martin Angle (MA), Peter Longworth (PL), Kirsty Hughes (KH), Bill Nelson, Chris Scott (CS), Greg Crisp (GC), Elaine Pearce (EP), Adam Nixon (AN), Daintry Gerand (from General Business Mayor Paul Hogan (MPH), Greg Crisp (from Members Reports), Brendan Guiney (MCW item).

Observer:

Previous Minutes

Endorsed

(GC/CS)

Business Arising

a. Sediment Tracing

Funding allocation of 50% received from Minister for Environment & Heritage.

Correspondence

General Business

a. Coastal Conference & stage 2 coastal reform – Laura

Stage 2 coastal reform, which includes:

- New Coastal management legislation, the objects of which are:
  To consider economic, cultural, social & environmental factors in order to "Protect the beach".
- CZM Planning is to be incorporated into IP&RF and particularly the LTFP, if there are funding requirements.
- Re-establishment of a coastal council to provide advice to the Minister and technical advice to councils. It is likely this will mean combining the Coastal Panel and the Expert Panel. The purpose of this group is not to consider DAs.

- Preparation of a statutory coastal management manual, which will address CZMP preparation.
- All CZMP are to be submitted by June 2015.
- Development of a set of cost sharing principles to enable the State, Local Government and private sector to work together on coastal management.
- From 1 July 2015, funds will only be provided to certified CZMP actions.

b. Farquhar Reserve beach replenishment – Bill

Concern about the length of time it has taken for issue of approval.
Action:
Request update from Crown Lands Newcastle on approval.
(BN/CrDK)

c. Gantry relocation – Bill

Gantry is a component of the Harrington Entrance Management Plan, which is identified as a high priority 2 in the EMP as Action 23 and GTCC will continue to apply for relevant grants.

d. Seek Funding to concrete Harrington seawall path – Bill

MECCAC supports the Harrington Chamber in its application to Minor Ports.

e. Harrington Entrance & Foreshore Management Plan status report – Richard

Confirmed position on the gantry as part of the Harrington Entrance Management Plan, which is the first step in addressing the gantry.

f. Surf Club Launching ramp – Elaine Pearce

Jan Clingeleffer addressed the group one the issue of the Taree Old Bar Surf Life Saving Club access directly in front of the club house. Jan advised that the State SL body requirements for patrolling clubs means that the current access at Mudbishop is not appropriate and direct access in front of the club is required. Jan also expressed concern that the closure was not adequate and that members of the community continue to put themselves at risk by entering.
Action:
Laura to investigate State SL requirements for patrols and provide advice on Council's role in ensuring a conducive environment.
Request review of beach access closure, to ensure users understand the risk.

g. Support for off-shore protection of Lewis Street beach by way of replacing the disintegrated reef off Badger's Beach – Elaine Pearce

Discussion about options for supporting community groups to seek a range of solutions for coastal management to be detailed in reviewed look CZMP.

h. Manning River Estuary grants

See media release on Council's website http://www.gtcc.nsw.gov.au/council/about-council/news/latest-news/funding-windfall-for-river-health/

i. MECCAC 2015 meeting dates

3rd Thursday at 8am in February, May, August and November 2015.
19th February
21st May
20th August
19th November
Action:
Laura to send outlook invites.

j. Brendan Guiney (MidCoast Water) – Manning Dams & Water Supply

Brendan presented on MCW plans for future infrastructure to secure water supply for the area.

k. Members Reports

Tina Clemens NSW Trade & Investment - Crown Lands

- NPWS, Crown Lands and Local Land Services will be hosting a 'Dogs Breakfast' community education day on Saturday 22 November at Old Bar. Following on previous years' successes in running the day, a free breakfast and talks on the current Fox Bating program will be held. Feel free to promote the morning through local networks. I will forward a copy of the flyer to GTCC later in the week.
- A reminder that the annual Threatened and Migratory Shorebird breeding season is current - with birds having nests locally and undertaking associated feeding. These habitats are notable habitats within NSW, and globally represent opportunities under increasing threat world wide. NSW Trade & Investment - Crown Lands (Crown Lands) and NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service have an active Shorebird Management program to protect the birds and their habitats. People are reminded to give habitat areas a wide buffer (some birds require a no/minimal disturbance distance of up to 200 metres) between August and April. If people site foxes on Private land within the Manning Point, Old Bar, Oxley Island, Wallabi Point, Mitchells Island areas, please report sitings to Local Land Services.
- NSW Trade & Investment - Crown Lands (Crown Lands) has acted on seeking internal advice regarding Farquhar Beach nourishment project, currently on hold. The funding body is satisfied with 'project on hold' status until all coastal geomorphological and other matters are resolved - through a combination of internal and external expert Agency advice. Once Crown Lands has a resolved position, with this combined advice, the Taree Office will update its works REF and call for a number of Tenders for the work. Options in the REF may include a number of sand source options. The REF will also detail any potential 'no go' areas, such as Mangrove/Mangrove roots/Saltmarsh, along foreshore. Crown Lands will update the Committee next meeting regarding progress.

Meeting closed at 9.25am