

Greenwich Community Association Annual General Meeting

Held at Greenwich Memorial Community Hall, Greenwich Road
17 February 2016

Minutes of Meeting

The meeting opened at 7:40pm

Present: As per the attendance book

1) Welcome

President Tom Gervay chaired the meeting and welcomed Councillor Pam Palmer and all members of the Greenwich community attending.

2) Apologies

Apologies were received from Susan Robinson and Don Murchison.

3) Confirmation of Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the GCA General Meeting held 9 December 2015 were tabled.

Motion: The minutes are accepted.

Moved by Garry Draffin, seconded by Libby Hunter and passed.

4) Matters arising from the Minutes

Any matters arising from the minutes were discussed during the meeting.

5) Report on the Activities of the Association

a) President's Report

The President thanked all the outgoing office bearers and Executive Committee members individually for their outstanding contributions during the year. He also thanked the Greenwich community members who attended the General Meetings during the year for their interest and contribution to the discussion and the many issues that GCA addressed during the year. These include assisting with the establishment of the Greenwich Hub, the Stop the Chop campaign, the St Leonards South Draft Master Plan, the input into the St Leonards South Master Plan on Bicycle and active transport issues, the many issues around the Viva Energy Gore Bay Terminal, The Greenwich Baths Liquor Licence application, the Loftex Tower application, Council ward boundaries, the sale of RNSH land, the Greenwich Shops upgrade, the Bagshare scheme, the GCA social media initiatives. The GCA continues to be a member of and support the Better Planning Network and the Lane Cove Alliance. The GCA also supports Carols by Candlelight, Santa at the Wharf, the Greenwich Arts Trail and in 2016 the Greenwich Village Games. The GCA has 255 paid up members, some individuals some families in a total population of about 2000. This is a larger

membership than any other community group in Lane Cove. Overall it has been a good and successful year. The death of John May during the year was a loss felt by all.

b) Secretary's Report

The Secretary thanked Tom Gervay for his work as President for the last three years noting his leadership and contribution in working through the many complex and challenging issues, which confronted the community during the period. Tom was always a calm presence in meetings, which were challenging on occasions but were always successfully managed. Tom kept us on track and focused. Much was achieved during his presidency.

Since the General Meeting held on 9 December 2015 the following correspondence has been received:

<i>Date</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>Subject</i>
Summer 2015-2016	Lane Cove Bushcare	Newsletter – Golden Whistler
12 February 2015	James Goodwin A/Manager Sydney Industry, NSW EPA	Acknowledgement of receipt of GCA Supplementary Submission dated 15 January 2016

The following correspondence has been sent:

<i>Date</i>	<i>To</i>	<i>Subject</i>
11 January 2016	Sydney East Joint Regional Planning Panel	Planning Proposal 205/2015 for 1-13 Marshall Avenue, St Leonards
15 January 2016	Head Regulatory and Compliance Support Unit, NSW Environment Protection Authority Email: poeo.licensing@epa.nsw.gov.au Copies to Greg Sheehy and Alex Bowlay	GCA Supplementary Submission 9 to EPA Review of Licence 661
25 January 2016	Ms Poppy Papadopoulos, Viva Energy Australia	Viva Energy Gore Bay Terminal
11 February 2016	The General Manager, Lane Cove Council	Foreshore Path Rectification Work

c) Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer, Patricia Quealey proposed a vote of thanks to the Honorary Auditor, Brian Bird for his work in auditing the Balance Sheet of the GCA for 2015. The full Financial Statement will be uploaded on GCA website and a copy is appended to these minutes.

SUBSCRIPTIONS 2015

Total number of subscriptions received in 2015 was 274 – a record number. A total of \$5255 was received in subscriptions during the year.

The breakup of payment methods was as follows:

- 35% via EFT
- 42% in cash via the box in Pharmacy
- 23% in cheques

There is a positive trend in the decreasing number of cheques received (which we are charged to deposit) and reinforces the popularity of recently renovated Deposit box in Pharmacy.

OPERATING FUNDS as at 31.12.15

At 31 December 2015:

Cash in bank	\$4717.07
Term deposit rolled over on 14 December 2015 for 4/12 at interest rate 2.45%	\$12,235.18
Interest earned in 2015 (which is below threshold for tax return)	\$251.64
Interest earned in 2015 from CBA cheque account	\$0.44
Total assets for GCA as at 31 December 2015	\$16,952.25

MEMBERSHIP

Total of membership fees for 2014 was \$2920, which was a record.

Total for 2015 of \$5255 was a great effort by committee and shows increased level of community support as well as increased subscription fee.

SUBSCRIPTIONS 2016

Subscriptions received up to the date of the AGM total 32.

6) Notified Business

a) Proposed Council Merger

Tom Lawson addressed the meeting:

- The State Government is forcing the proposed amalgamations on local council throughout NSW. It was initially described as voluntary but now is compulsory.

- In its submission to the State Government Lane Cove Council established that it was financially viable but missed out on the undefined criteria of capacity and scale. The KPMG report commissioned by the Government on which the cost benefit of the government policy is based has not been released.
- Lane Cove Council have debated the issue at five meetings and there is much detail on the Council website. Lane Cove proposed a Joint Regional Authority with Hunters Hill and Ryde, which gives the State Government 90% of what it says it wants, but it was rejected out of hand.
- The State Government held a public meeting to receive community feedback on the Lane Cove, Hunters Hill, Ryde amalgamation, 300 people attended and 100 spoke. Final written submissions from the community are to be submitted by 28 February. Details are on the council website. However it is expected that the amalgamations will proceed.
- The process of amalgamation is only a guess but it is thought that all Councillors will be dismissed by July 1 and administrators appointed. Elections would be at least one year later, given the upcoming Federal election. Lane Cove will probably have only three Councillors in total, one for the East Ward. Council offices will probably move to Ryde. Staff will be terminated and some rehired.
- The State Government web page quotes a \$86 million saving which equates to a saving of about \$26 per person per annum. The chief gainers will be the State Government and property developers; the losers will be the community. The termination and relocation costs will be underestimated. It will be harder to speak to council staff. Ryde has a huge backlog of infrastructure while Lane Cove is reasonably up to date, so much of the expenditure will go to Ryde. Spending on bushland will be downgraded. Lane Cove Community Aid will be downgraded.
- Do we care? Individuals can make submissions to the Council Boundary Review by 28 February. There is also an Extraordinary Meeting of Lane Cove Council on Monday 22 February to determine Council's response to the proposed merger. Members of the community should attend. Also people should write to Anthony Roberts MP stating their views.
- Tom proposed that the GCA form a subcommittee to campaign against the amalgamation and link with others including the Lane Cove Alliance in doing so. In the eighties a very effective campaign helped stop the Second Harbour Crossing, which would have decimated Greenwich. The surplus from funds which were raised at that time form part of the current term deposit held by the GCA.

Motion: The Greenwich Community Association opposes the forced amalgamation of Lane Cove, Hunters Hill and Ryde Councils as proposed by the State Government and the GCA will actively campaign against it. Tom Lawson will convene a committee to coordinate the GCA activities in relation to this.

Moved Tom Lawson, seconded Tom Gervay and passed unanimously.

This matter was further discussed in General Business.

b) Loftex Tower, Marshall Avenue St Leonards

The increase in height of the Loftex Tower residential development in Marshall Avenue from 65m to 95m is now before the JRPP again and they will consult with the community. There has been no sign of this consultation to date. Nothing has changed since the original application. The VPA for this change in the DA will give Council \$8.6 million.

The Council has applied to the Department of Planning for the LEP change and the JRPP hearing to occur simultaneously.

The JRPP now comes under the control of the new Greater Sydney Commission.

c) Berrys Bay Marina

This proposed project is outside Greenwich and Lane Cove but is important as it relates to foreshore uses. The project is a marina and the issue is that many people consider the scale of the proposal put to North Sydney Council excessive. Public submissions close on 26 February 2016 and details can be found on the website saveberrysbay.org.au.

7) Report of Subcommittees

a) Gore Bay Terminal Subcommittee – Merri Southwood, Convener

Merri thanked the members of the Subcommittee for their enormous effort during the year and also to Tom Gervay who attended some meetings and who was conveyed a balanced view at meetings especially with external parties.

All the DA/EIS data, which was expected to be released as part of that process, is now no longer to be made available with the withdrawal by Viva of the DA. This was announced at a neighbours meeting not a community meeting. Along with access to that data the improvements to the facility that were to be part of the DA works are now also lost.

The Subcommittee will now focus on the regulators and their areas of responsibility. The boundaries between them are not clear and each agency is limited by its own statutory powers.

The change in the ownership of Viva may impact on its commitment to the community. Their contact with the community is limited to its immediate fence line neighbours and the GCA has been excluded from the meetings.

The experience has been that letters don't generally work and there is a need to rethink the communication. Patricia Quealey noted that in a recent conversation with EPA officers in relation to her complaint about odour from the terminal they stated that Viva had told them that generally there was a low level of interest in the community about issues relating to the terminal. This is at odds with the level of interest expressed at GCA meetings over the years.

Report attached.

b) Environmental Sustainability

The Bag Share scheme is operating successfully at the shops but some new bags will be required in the future.

c) Bicycle/Active Transport Subcommittee – Michael Ryland

The Subcommittee has evolved over the year. The emphasis is now on looking at all methods of transport as alternatives to motor vehicles. The Subcommittee is now looking to contact the community directly through the website and in the future social media.

Some recent events:

- The narrow path on River Road from the school to the Golf Course had some safety issues through a rock fall earlier in the year. The Lane Cove Bicycle Committee is seeking to have the narrow section of the footpath widened.
- Encouraging riding to and from school is a topic of discussion with the Principal.
- The Greenwich Village Games are looking at alternatives to the running and cycle relays.

d) Newsletter – Liz Walton

Contributions to the Newsletter are always sought and welcomed.

Pam Palmer will draft a message from the Hub for each Newsletter.

Liz Walton will investigate the printing of a small number of A3 size copies to use for display on notice boards.

More newsletter deliverers are required. Anyone interested should contact Mary Ed Hartnell who coordinates deliveries.

It was generally agreed that the Newsletter has no advertising.

e) Social Media – Michael Ryland

A lot of work has been done but has now slowed down. It is hoped that the work on the Greenwich Village Games will help to move things forward.

8) Election of Office Bearers and Executive Committee Members

Pam Palmer took the chair to conduct the election.

All positions were declared vacant.

Nominations for Office Bearers were called. All were elected unopposed. There were no nominations for Treasurer, which was left vacant for the Executive Committee to appoint at a later date. The following people were elected.

<i>Name</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Nominator</i>
Merri Southwood	President	Tom Gervay

Tom Gervay	Vice President	Merri Southwood
Alan Winney	Vice President	John Southwood
Stuart Warden	Secretary	Tom Lawson
Vacant	Treasurer	

Nominations for seven Executive Committee members were called and seven were duly nominated. All were elected unopposed. The following people were elected.

<i>Name</i>	<i>Nominator</i>
Liz Walton	Tom Gervay
Penny Mabbutt	John Southwood
Liz Gill	Garry Draffin
Michael Ryland	Tom Gervay
Rod Tudge	Pam Palmer
Susan Robinson	Karen Coleman
Piet de Jong	Ian Meller

Following her election Merry Southwood took the chair and thanked Pam Palmer. She also congratulated the successful candidates.

The School P&C have been asked to nominate a representative to the Executive Committee and was agreed that when the nominee is known then they will be invited to become an ex officio member.

9) Councillor's Report

Councillor Pam Palmer reported as follows:

- Little Street Public Car Park (opposite Aquatic Centre and Civic Centre) opened in December with 200-space car park; lifts and entry foyer open for access. Community space and retail tenancy shell works are 80% complete with fit out proceeding in 2nd quarter. Apartments structure above is 100% complete. Internal fit out of apartment structure expected completion late 2016.
- Official opening for new Waterview Community Centre at 304-314 Burns Bay Road. Performance area, playground and landscape upgrade now complete and open to the public.
- New Blackman Park Hall and Amenities building opened (December).
- 266 Longueville Road - Senior's Living Development. In July Council resolved to approve the Development Model / Procurement Process outlined in the report

which is to commence by calling for Expressions of Interest from suitably experienced seniors living operators upon Gazettal of the LEP. The LEP was gazetted on 31 July, completing the rezoning and reclassification process. Bridge Advisory Group prepared the EOI documents and following the issuing of the EOI responses were evaluated and invitations sent to a short list of respondents for Stage 2 EOI which closed on 27 January.

- Rosenthal Car Park Redevelopment. The feasibility analysis has been completed with the outcomes and proposed way forward endorsed by Council in September. Now proceeding with finalising Agreements for Leases with major retailers and procurement of a Project Manager undertaken with tenders, now appointed. Stage 1 Concept DA lodged in December 2015. Capital Expenditure Review for the Project submitted to the Office of Local Government for their review.
- St Leonards Park and Plaza over railway. The cost consultant Rider Levett Bucknall has now completed a “Monte-Carlo” risk assessment on the budget estimate based on the developed design prepared by Aurecon / Architectus. Further consultant input is required to now finalise the response to TfNSW in accordance with their requirements.
- Next e-waste collection at Riverview, 16th April.
- NYE Alcohol-free areas have now expired so we are undertaking public consultation to have them re-instated for another 4 years.
- NYE road closures were a problem this year so the rules have been reviewed. NSW Police advised that from 2016 onwards, the traffic management arrangements will be as follows:
 - 5pm-8pm – Residents and their guests will be allowed to enter the road closure (with appropriate proof of address).
 - 8pm onwards – No access will be allowed into the road closure for anyone with the exception of emergency services.
 - Vehicles will be allowed to exit the road closure at any time.
 - The TMP to be submitted to the Traffic Management Centre (TMC) three (3) months prior to the event.
 - NSW Police also advised that during the 2015 NYE event, it was observed that vehicles were parking in the middle of Chisholm Road approximately near 39 Chisholm Street to gain access to the park.
 - NSW Police recommended that in 2016, a ‘No Entry’ sign should be installed near 39 Chisholm Street for eastbound traffic. i.e. make this section of Chisholm Street one-way eastbound from the Greenwich Road/Chisholm Street intersection (southern side) up to 39 Chisholm St.
 - However, I wasn’t happy with the restrictions on residents so this will go back to Police. Your input would be appreciated.
- Council amalgamations – to be announced 30 June so we are in caretaker mode.

- Citizenship Awards now open for nominations.

10) General Business

a) Lane Cove Historical Society

The Society is looking at resurrecting the jollyboat used in the Bicentennial celebrations. It is currently with the Sydney Heritage Fleet and the Society is considering displaying it in the Plaza for History Week and possibly another reenactment of the landing in Woodford Bay.

b) Forced Council Amalgamations

There is only two months before decisions will be made so time is short. It was agreed that the setting up of a formal Subcommittee would proceed in parallel with the work that needs to be done. Tom Lawson will chair, Tom Gervay will be the Executive Committee representative, Pam Palmer, Meg Gervay, Rod Tudge and Libby Hunter all expressed interest in being involved. Bill Henningham of the Lane Cove Alliance will be contacted. It was agreed that any public statements, correspondence etc would be directed through the GCA.

11) Next Meeting

The next General Meeting will be held on a date to be fixed at Greenwich Memorial Community Hall, Greenwich Road.

12) Close

The meeting closed at 10.00pm.

Appendices

GCA Audited Accounts 31 December 2015

Gore Bay Terminal Sub Committee Report