



Point Lonsdale Civic Association Inc.

P.O. BOX 28 POINT LONSDALE VIC. 3225

REG. NO. A0017883S

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Representing Point Lonsdale Residents since 1910

Minutes of General Meeting 8 February 2013

Date of Meeting: Friday, 8 February 2013, 7.30 pm

Venue: Uniting Church Hall, Kirk Road, Point Lonsdale

1. Welcome and Introduction

The President, Faye Agterhuis, opened the meeting at 7:30 pm and welcomed members and visitors and acknowledged the attendance of the Mayor, Cr. Helene Cameron, Cr. Graham Christie, Cr. Susan Salter, Cr. Sue Wasterval and Mr Lenny Jenner, CEO, Borough of Queenscliffe.

2. Attendances and Apologies

There were 52 Attendees and two Apologies. The names of members who attended or who were apologies can be provided by the Secretary upon request.

3. Minutes of Previous General Meeting, 12 October 2012

The minutes of the previous General Meeting held on 12 October 2012, were confirmed as circulated.

Motion: That the minutes be confirmed as a true record.

Moved: Peter Rumpf Seconded: John Goodman

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

No matters were raised.

5. Correspondence

Inwards:

- a. Letter from the Mayor, Cr. Helene Cameron, re Point Lonsdale Lighthouse Reserve Project Brief

- b. Newsletters from local organisations
- c. Letters and emails requesting membership of the Association

Outwards:

- a. Letter from President to the Mayor, Cr. Helene Cameron, re Point Lonsdale Lighthouse Reserve Project Brief
- b. Letter of thanks to the Mayor, Cr. Helene Cameron, for her presentation at the AGM on 11 January, 2013
- c. Notification to Consumer Affairs Victoria re new Secretary
- d. Submission to Consumer Affairs Victoria of Annual Statement
- e. Application to Consumer Affairs Victoria re adoption of the new Constitution
- f. Letter of thanks from the Treasurer to a member who made a donation

Motion: That the correspondence summary be received and confirmed.

Moved: Merv Jaensch Seconded: Alf McKenzie

6. Reports

a. President's Report

The President made comment on the following matters:

- The new Committee is focusing on building the membership of the Association and is encouraging younger people with a connection to Point Lonsdale to become members of the Association and to fill vacancies on the Committee;
- The Committee is implementing a new email system and is creating a blog;
- Members of the Committee and the Association provided assistance in the conduct of the Borough's Australia Day event;
- Members of the Committee have attended the last two monthly Council meetings;
- The Borough's 150th Anniversary year provides an incentive to focus on the future key issues facing Point Lonsdale – the Association in planning to be a strong voice for members regarding these key issues; and,
- The recent President's letter to the Mayor has asked for more detail and has raised concerns about the process to determine the development of the Point Lonsdale Lighthouse Reserve. Also the Committee will be identifying to the Council a range of other projects where it is appropriate for the Association's voice to be heard.

At the end of her Report, the President proposed a motion of condolence following the recent death of Cynthia Wilkinson. Cynthia was a long standing member of PLCA who served two terms as a Borough Councillor as well being on the Committee of PLCA for a number of years in the 1990s, including as Secretary. The President also indicated that more details of Cynthia's contributions written by Barbara de Blaquiere would be included in these minutes, as shown below.

Moved: Fay Agterhuis

Seconded: Alf McKenzie

Cynthia Wilkinson took a keen interest in community affairs. Her parents lived in Point Lonsdale and she moved here to look after them in the early eighties. Her professional career was as a nurse and later on in Senior Administration with the Victorian Health Commission. As part of her responsibility with the Health Commission, Cynthia was very involved with the establishment of the Queenscliff Nursing Home. She also became a councillor with the Borough of Queenscliffe in 1988, and she served two terms until 1994. During

this time Cynthia was the Borough of Queenscliff representative on the Board of the then Queenscliff and District Community Health Centre (now known as Bellarine Community Health), as well as being a member of the Queenscliff Local Advisory Committee and the Residential Aged Care Committee during this time. On top of all of this, Cynthia played an active role with the Point Lonsdale Civic Association (PLCA) both as a Committee Member and also as Secretary for some years in the nineties. During this time, the PLCA was a very active force in the community, it successfully fought the good fight against two proposed amalgamations between the City of Geelong and the Borough of Queenscliff. Cynthia contributed to our local community in many ways and her contribution merits recognition. Cynthia Wilkinson died peacefully on 22 January, 2013 at SeaViews Manor in Ocean Grove.

b. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer reported that income for the month was \$40, expenses were \$95 and the ending bank balance was \$6,186. He also advised that the Committee has agreed on changes to the bank account signatories following the changes in the Committee at the recent AGM.

Motion: That the Treasurer's Report be received and confirmed.

Moved: John Goodman Seconded: Peter Rumpf

c. Council Report

Merv Jaensch reported on the key issues from the Council meeting on 30 January:

- The Queenscliff Ferry Terminal Extensions were agreed with some amendments and it was resolved to seek approval of the Minister for Planning. The recommendations of an Independent Panel regarding parking were not adopted (Council agreed that car parking at the terminal be extended).
- The Council resolved to appoint the Mayor, Cr. Helene Butler, to the Project Reference Group to be established in relation to the Queenscliff and Point Lonsdale Lighthouse Reserves Project. This is in addition to Cr. Graham Christie and Cr. Sue Wasterval.

Merv also urged that members regularly read the minutes of Council meetings that can be found on the Borough's website.

Motion: That the Council Report be received and confirmed.

Moved: Merv Jaensch Seconded: John Goodman

7. Guest Speaker – Work of the Village Consultative Committee

John Goodman introduced the guest speaker, Daniel Barker, Road and Infrastructure Engineer, Borough of Queenscliff. Daniel has taken in a lead role in the work of the Point Lonsdale Main Street Community Reference Group on which John has been the Association's representative. Daniel outlined the role of the Reference Group and detailed the priorities determined under an earlier Urban Design Framework. He then provided details on three stages of work that have been agreed by the Council for implementation.

Roundabout at Admans Street

A small low level roundabout is to be constructed at the intersection of Point Lonsdale Road and Admans Street. The roundabout will provide a safe and legal turning point for vehicles that currently make a u-turn near this intersection. The low level of the roundabout will enable buses to cross over it and for trucks to exit from Admans Street. Three electricity poles will be removed

near the intersection and the power lines will be moved underground. Storm water drainage will be improved.

This project is fully funded by the State Government. Works will commence after Easter.

Undergrounding of Power Lines

Power lines will be moved underground in Point Lonsdale Road along the Foreshore. Two substation kiosks will be constructed to replace three substations on poles. Some new poles will be erected for street lighting.

The design work for this project has been completed by PowerCorp. Project funding is still being sought.

Foreshore Revitalisation – Stage 1

Stage 1 involves the construction of a lookout deck built of chunky timber. The present ramp near the Village will be replaced with a longer ramp that is disability access compliant. Bike racks, new seats and landscaping are included.

This stage of the project is funded by a \$100,000 contribution from the Council with an additional contribution of \$275,000 from two State Government departments. Works will commence after Easter.

Not Yet Agreed by the Council – Foreshore Revitalisation – Stage 2

Proposed Stage 2 involves the construction of a second disability compliant ramp starting opposite Albert Street. Further to the North there would be a new playground and BBQ facilities.

The landscaping of this area is still to be agreed by the Reference Group. A key issue is the future of 3 Cypress trees (80 years old with about 10 years of useful life remaining). The Reference Group is waiting for an arborist report on the condition of the 3 trees. Further community consultation will be undertaken when the plans for Stage 2 are determined by the Reference Group.

Comments and Answers to Questions in the Q&A Session with Daniel Barker

- Another groyne is needed towards the Heads. DSE originally planned 5 groynes and is seeking funding for a groyne to be constructed closer to the Heads
- A resident from Simpson Street was critical of the impact of trucks making deliveries to the supermarket in terms of noise and damage. He asked why the roundabout at Admans Street was being designed to allow trucks to exit from Admans Street. The President said that the Association would take concerns in Simpson Street on notice for future review.
- Stage 1 of the Foreshore Revitalisation is expected to be completed by September and definitely prior to Christmas.
- The cost of all undergrounding of power lines is expected to be in the order of \$750,000. PowerCorp typically meets only 10% of the cost.
- Cr. Susan Salter requested that the community express views about the potential removal of 3 Norfolk Island Hibiscus trees that are sometimes referred to as “itchy bomb” trees given that they can cause allergic reactions in some people. The future of these trees will be determined as part of Stage 2 of the Foreshore Revitalisation.
- Also, Cr. Susan Salter asked that she be provided with any information about the identity of the servicemen to whom the 3 Cypress trees were dedicated at the time of planting.

Future of the 3 Cypress Trees – Discussion and Motion Lead by the PLCA Committee

After the Q&A session there was a lengthy discussion about a resolution from the meeting on the future of the 3 Cypress trees that are part of Stage 2 of the Foreshore Revitalisation. The resolution is to be part of the submission by the PLCA representative on the Community Reference Group. The discussion focused on the removal or otherwise of the trees and the need for a longer term master plan for the area and these trees. A key consideration is the advice to be provided by an arborist on the condition of the 3 trees – concerns have been expressed about the condition of one tree.

The following motion, which was moved by John Goodman and seconded by Merv Jaensch, was passed unanimously:

If they are not diseased, that the 3 Cypress trees be progressively replaced by native trees over the next 10 years, and that this approach be part of a longer term master plan that needs to be developed for the revitalisation of the Foreshore.

Vote of Thanks for Guest Speaker

This part of the meeting concluded with a vote of appreciation to Daniel Barker for his presentation and the Q&A session.

The President concluded by urging all members to contribute to the next community consultation phase regarding Stage 2 of the Foreshore Revitalisation.

8. Open Discussion – Council’s Project Brief re Lighthouse Reserves Development Study

The President initiated the open discussion by listing some of the issues that have been identified by the Committee in relation to the Point Lonsdale Lighthouse Reserves Project Brief:

1. Terminology in the Brief is unclear and at times conflicting
2. Details need to be provided regarding the Management Agreement between the Victorian Government and the Borough
3. Clarity is needed about the area defined in the Study that is part of the development
4. The type of development proposed for the Rip View Carpark by either DSE or the Borough
5. Definition and clearer description of the potential development options in the Brief
6. The planned level of community consultation
7. The proposed time-line for the whole development project

The following comments were made and questions were raised by members and visitors:

It’s a waste of time putting in ideas about this area as nothing ever happens
It is “game on” now because the Borough has been given management rights by DSE
What is actually specified in the management agreement between DSE and the Borough?
It is not clear whether the Brief is an expression of interest to provide advice or a tender for actual developments of the nature specified in the Brief
Has the tender already been issued?
Is the type of development specified in the Brief a “fait accompli”?
Has the new Council already decided that the types of development in the Brief will happen?
Historically this area has been a buffer and a landmark

What is the ideal purpose of the Reserve – just leave it as a reserve
Does anyone agree that the Reserve should be used for commercial development?
Does the Reserve include a place for a new clubhouse for the Surf Life Saving Club?
Let's be open to development ideas

The following comments were made by Councillors in response to comments and questions raised by members and visitors during the open discussion:

Cr. Christie: More than once he stated that no decisions have been made by the Council. The Council has placed much emphasis on the work of the planned Reserves Development Reference Group by appointing to it the Mayor in addition to Cr. Wasterval and himself. The Council want the Reference Group to make decisions – there is no hidden agenda. Everyone should wait for the work of the Reference Group – the Council is open to many participants in the Reference Group. The tender has not been issued yet but is expected to go out in March. He acknowledged that the Council does need to clarify the Development Brief document before it goes out to tender. Decisions may not be made until January 2014.

Cr. Cameron: She stated that in reading again the Development Brief document that she can see that there is some lack of clarity that needs to be resolved.

Cr. Wasterval: It is recognised that there are a number of upset community members who are expecting more community consultation. She stated that she has requested additional community consultation and said that there will be consultation at every step of the process.

Outcome of Open Discussion:

No resolution was passed at the meeting on this issue. However, the general view is, from members and visitors at the meeting, that there is little or no support for commercial development of the Lighthouse Reserve (none spoke in favour when asked if anyone agrees that the Reserve should be used for commercial development). There was clearly strong support for little or no development of the Reserve (there was loud spontaneous applause when some said "What is the ideal purpose of the Reserve – just leave it as a reserve").

The President thanked all for their contribution and indicated that the next step is a planned meeting with the Council to discuss the issues and questions raised by the Committee in the recent letter to the Mayor re the Point Lonsdale Lighthouse Reserve Project Brief.

9. General Business

Cr. Salter requested that all members complete the Borough's Community Survey on Developing the New Council Plan. Surveys to be returned by 4.00pm, Friday, 22 February, 2013.

10. Close

The meeting closed at 9.25 pm. In closing the meeting, the President advised that the next General Meeting is scheduled for Friday, 12 April 2013 and that part of the agenda will be devoted to a discussion of the potential locations of the Point Lonsdale Surf Life Saving Club's clubhouse.

Jasper Coghlan
Secretary