



Point Lonsdale Civic Association Inc.

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Representing Point Lonsdale Residents since 1910

NEWSLETTER

5 May 2014

Next PLCA Activity – Stand at Market

PLCA will run a stand at the Point Lonsdale Market to respond to members queries and to provide information particularly about the Point Lonsdale Lighthouse Reserve. There will be available various ways of providing feedback to the Borough on community views about the Options for the Reserve.

Date: Sunday, 11 May 2014

Place: Point Lonsdale Primary School, Bowen Road
(stand near main school entrance)

There will be no member General Meeting in May.

Submissions to Borough on Lighthouse Reserve – 16 May Deadline

Friday, 16 May 2014 is the deadline for making a submission to the Borough about the Options for the Point Lonsdale Lighthouse Reserve. You can make your views known as follows:

- By posting the Feedback Form included in the Community Bulletin 2 – April 2014 sent to all ratepayers. A photocopy of the form can be used for multiple submissions.
- The Form can be completed via the online survey here (link from Borough website): <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/KJQRD7W>
- If you wish to reject commercial development as proposed in Options 3 and 4, you can send by post the cut-out form in the PLCA advertisement in *The Echo* (page 2, April 24 edition) or *The Rip* (page 3, May edition)

Whether you use the Feedback Form, the online survey or any other form of written submission, it is mandatory that your name and address be included for your submission to count. Please urge family, relatives, friends and neighbours to complete any of these forms of submission by 16 May.

Contact Councillors to Communicate Views on Lighthouse Reserve

In addition to a written submission, all members now need to attract the attention of the Borough Councillors. You can express your views to the Councillors in person, by phone or email. The mobile phone number and email address of each of the five Councillors can be found here on the Borough website or by asking the Borough by calling 5258 1377:

<http://www.queenscliffe.vic.gov.au/council/your-council/councillors>

Report on Borough Open House Meeting on Lighthouse Reserve

The presentation sessions at the Open House on 26 April was attended by over 200 people with the first question session running well over time given the large number of questions/comments from attendees, with most questioning the need for any major development in the Reserve. Following a presentation by Planisphere consultants, the Borough CEO chaired the Q&A session and responded to some of the questions as did Planisphere and Councillors (all Councillors present for some or all of the Open House).

These are some of the key responses and facts that emerged from the Q&A sessions:

- Option 4, including the idea of a thermal spa and wellness centre, was introduced by Urban Enterprise a sub-consultant to Planisphere in order to provide a year-round tourist attraction, but it was acknowledged that no original research was conducted into tourism needs and the need for high quality accommodation in Point Lonsdale
- Those interested in the future of the Reserve are encouraged to choose and support one of the four Options presented in full or in part or to submit fresh ideas
- If any new concept emerges, the Council will be obliged to go back to the community for further community consultation
- One idea that re-emerged is for a new clubhouse for the Surf Life Saving Club to be located on the Reserve and at the meeting Club President, Michael Doery, said the Club would give consideration to this along with other options under discussion
- In deciding the changes to be implemented in the Reserve, it will be up to the Councillors to determine how much weight is to be given to community views expressed in surveys etc
- It will be up to the Council to decide whether it seeks government funding for any changes to be made to the Reserve

We have subsequently been advised that the reports prepared by Urban Enterprise, the sub-consultant to Planisphere, will be made available on the Borough website.

Friends of Point Lonsdale Lighthouse Reserve – Petition and Website

A petition supporting Option 2 Landscape Improvements on the Reserve has been submitted to the Borough Council. Just short of 1,000 signatures were obtained in the shops by the Friends of the Reserve and at PLCA stands at the shops and the market over Easter and the Anzac day weekend.

Comprehensive details about the Lighthouse Reserve issue and a link to the Friends of the Reserve Facebook page can be found at their website here: www.lonsdalelighthousereserve.org

Borough CEO Letter to Local and Geelong Press Critical of PLCA

The Borough of Queenscliffe, CEO, Mr Lenny Jenner has written a letter critical of PLCA to the local and Geelong press including *The Rip* and the *Geelong Advertiser* regarding the sighting of a drilling rig on the Point Lonsdale Lighthouse Reserve. PLCA has responded to the questions raised by Mr Jenner and by Councillors at the recent PLCA meeting.

PLCA Actions to Support Point Lonsdale Residents in City of Greater Geelong

A PLCA flyer was included as an insert in the May issue of *The Rip* delivered to Point Lonsdale residents who live to the west of Fellows Rd in the City of Greater Geelong. The flyer pointed out that the Borough of Queenscliffe does not communicate directly with such members of the Point Lonsdale Community on key matters such as the future of the Point Lonsdale Lighthouse Reserve. PLCA advised that, if it was provided an email address, it would communicate to such Point Lonsdale Residents on significant matters in Point Lonsdale such as when the Borough provides information by post to its ratepayers. Any such resident in this area of Point Lonsdale who wishes to take up this offer should provide their email address etc. to plcasecretary@gmail.com

PLCA also has sought to open lines of communication with the City of Greater Geelong by contacting both the Mayor, Cr. Darryn Lyons, and the local Ward Councillor, Cr. Jan Farrell.

Additionally, PLCA has lobbied the City of Greater Geelong regarding the need to prevent flooding around Emily Street from Lake Victoria. In March, Cr. Jan Farrell advised PLCA that detailed design work had been completed to construct a permanent pump, weir and new pedestrian bridge in the Emily Street Reserve. She added that applications for tender were to close at the end of March and that works should be able to commence in May.

As a result of these two initiatives, PLCA representatives have been invited to meet with Cr. Farrell and the Infrastructure Manager, City of Greater Geelong, to discuss issues relevant to residents west of Fellows Road, including the Emily Street flooding.

Council Meetings on Draft 2014/15 Budget and Business Plan

Members are encouraged to attend one of the Borough's public meetings on the draft 2014/15 Budget and Business Plan. The Queenscliff and Melbourne options for attendance are:

- Monday 12 May 2014 at 7.00pm
Queenscliff Town Hall

- Tuesday 13 May 2014 at 7.30pm
City of Boroondara Municipal Offices
8 Inglesby Road, Camberwell

In prior years all Councillors have attended both these meetings, as well as several Council officers.

Urge Family, Relatives, Friends Etc to become a Member of PLCA

Over recent weeks we have been asked many times about how to keep informed about the Lighthouse Reserve issue. The best way to keep informed about this issue and other matters of interest in Point Lonsdale is to become a member of PLCA. Also, the more members we have, the stronger is the PLCA voice in dealing with the Council etc. Therefore, it is suggested that you urge family, relatives, friends and neighbours to become a member of PLCA by completing a membership form that can be found here (via Dropbox):

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/fuci3h91ty7jscs/PLCA%20Application%20for%20Membership%20Form%20Jan%202014.doc>

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