



# Point Lonsdale Civic Association Inc.

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*Representing Point Lonsdale Residents since 1910*

## Annual General Meeting – Minutes 11 January 2019

Time of Meeting: 7.30pm, Friday, 11 January 2019.

Venue: Point Lonsdale Primary School, Bowen Road, Point Lonsdale

### 1. Welcome and Introduction

We acknowledge the Wathaurong Traditional Owners of this land, and their elders, past, present, and emerging.

### 2. Apologies

J. Pierce, L.Stewart, M.McBean, P & A Rumpf, J. Lindros, M & A Dowling, R. Macauley, M. Deacon, G. Wiltshire.

### 3. Matters arising from 2018 AGM Minutes

Nil.

### 4. Minutes of last Annual General Meeting – 12 January 2018

Motion: That the minutes of the 2018 AGM be confirmed as a true record.

Moved: David Kenwood Seconded: Fay Agterhuis. Passed Unanimously.

### 5. Reports

1. Presidents Annual Report – Presented by President Rob Minty

Motion: That the Annual Report by the President be received.

Moved: Rob Minty Seconded: Andrew Rogers. Passed Unanimously

2. Treasurer's Report. Treasurer Andrew Rogers

Motion: That the Treasurer's Report be endorsed. Moved: Andrew Rogers. Seconded: Laurie. Passed Unanimously

### 6. Election of Office Bearers and other Committee Members:

**(All positions now declared vacant & Guest Chair Alistair Hope takes meeting chair)**

1. Nominations are called for each Office Bearer separately, for the following positions;

President: Rob Minty

Secretary: Laurie Muscatt.

Vice – President: David Kenwood.

Treasurer.: Andrew Rogers

No Further Nominations received. All elected unopposed.

**(Guest Chairperson vacates the chair, President Rob Minty takes the Chair)**

2. Ordinary Committee members that have been Nominated are:

1. Jacqui Pierce

3. Michelle Jepson

2. Andrew Sutherland

4. Lynne Furness

5. Fay Agterhuis No Further Nominations received. All elected unopposed.

## 7. Annual Subscription for 2020, Subscription Due Date & AGM Date:

1. **Motion:** That the annual subscription for the 2020 year be \$10 per person  
Moved: Rob Seconded: Laurie. Passed Unanimously.
- 2.
3. **Motion:** That the annual subscription due date for the 2020 year be 10 January, 2020.  
Moved: Rob Seconded: Laurie. Passed Unanimously
4. **Motion:** That the 2020 Annual General Meeting be held on January 10 2020.  
Moved: Rob Seconded: Laurie. Passed Unanimously

## 8. Guest Speakers:

President Introduced Mayor of the Borough of Queenscliffe, Cr. Bob Merriman, followed by CEO Mr. Lenny Jenner.

BoQ Mayor Merriman spoke about the following 5 Key Strategic objectives;

- Enhance Community Wellbeing;
- Protect Natural Environment;
- Foster a vibrant local economy;
- Preserve a Well Governed, Financial, Sustainable, and Independent Borough.
- Partially achieved by feedback from Borough, including a workshop with schools in Borough.
- Also by from advice from Council Officers, and other levels of Government.
- Steadfast in an Independent Borough of Queenscliffe.

### Council Objectives for 2019:

- Maintain a professional working relationship between council and staff
- Financial Independence
- Continuing Community engagement
- Meeting challenges of Climate change & sea level rise
- Preserving our natural assets, and environment & heritage
- Supporting a Vibrant local economy.

### Key Projects for 2019:

- The Hub;
- Shortlands Bluff;
- PLLHR;
- Avenue of Honour;
- Hesse St revitalisation Project;
- Upcoming Heritage review.
- Activation of Queenscliff Front Beach & surrounds.
- Upgrade of Council Caravan Parks in the Borough;
- Former High School site redevelopment – for all to enjoy.

### Finance Matters:

- A sound Financial position will critical to our objectives, given challenges including State Government Rate Capping. Rate revenue is relied upon.
- 2017/2018 Financial year had a Financial Surplus of \$75,000 – a great achievement!
- Council committed to sustainable Financial Position.
- Critical Borough continues to advocate for funding from all levels of Government – and establish long term funding sources.
- Committed to sound Financial Management Practices.

### Community/Communication/Engagement:

- Important we listen to community for feedback. Borough has Service Standards in place.
- Communication important between Council/Councillors and community, they include face to face, Phone, Email. It's very Dynamic!
- Additionally, supplemented by specific Community Engagement activities, ie Draft Council Plan,

PLLHR, Destination Queenscliff, & Hesse St Revitalisation Project Feedback.

- Community engagement survey – Borough ranked 74% compared State figure of 70%
- Social Media is something that is a new challenge, and untapped, and represents an opportunity.
- Community Engagement Policy will be reviewed in 2019.
- Council examining a program to incorporate regular meetings with community organisations like the PLCA, and local businesses, in a fixed schedule.

#### Significant Achievements:

- Finalisation of projects, including those initiated by previous councils;
- Point Lonsdale Village Foreshore/Playground;
- Queenscliffe Sporting & Recreation Precinct;
- Economic Strategy;
- Low-Light Festival.

#### Answers to some Questions:

- **The Hub Project:**  
Secured \$4.3M in funding, waiting for an additional \$1.5M funding from Federal Government. \$5.75 total funding. Detail Planning will commence when funding is confirmed. Multi-use community Facility (Library/Visitor Information centre/Queenscliff Museum) In-fill building Building. The \$5.75M is made up of: \$100K from Council; \$450K from State Government; \$1.2M Community Support Fund; \$2.5M redirected from Destination Queenscliff Project – which is confirmed; \$1.45M Federal Government (Building Better Regions Project) expected to be confirmed in February. Underway in 2019.
- **Searoads Ferry Terminal project:**  
Secured \$10M from Federal Government. Plans endorsed 7/11/18. Searoads keen to start works.
- **New Coastal Management Plan:**  
New Act commenced 1/8/2018. CEO/Senior Planner has met with DEWLP to progress impact of this act. Council will continue to work on Coastal and Marine Management Plan.
- **Bowen Road.**  
\$360K to fix Drainage and kerbside/parking has been secured through Regional Roads. Tender in January, works to scheduled to commence in March.
- **Ocean Rd/Milne Crt Improvements.**  
\$30K for improvements to intersection secured.
- **Outdoor Gym equipment.**  
Well done to Rotary. 4 pods to be installed in Pt. Lonsdale promenade.
- **Point Lonsdale rd/Ocean rd Roundabout.**  
Completed at a cost of \$260K – State funded.
- **Point Lonsdale Searchlight Emplacement Upgrade.**  
\$90K from Heritage Victoria & \$30k from Borough for repairs/upgrade.
- **Low Light Festival.**  
Finalise partnership with QMF to manage. Very Successful event.
- **What are council doing to support small Business?**  
Partnership/facilitating events like; Hot-Rods show, Caravan Club visitation, Low Light Festival, Weddings Promotion, Literary Festival, Scared Edge Festival. Support with Geelong & Bellarine Tourism, Also, maximising Social Media initiatives for assisting small Business. Council will be visiting, in person, via Economic & Community Development Officer, small Businesses in the BoQ.
- **Murray Rd Land Sale.** Submissions received. Will be decide at BoQ meeting 24/1/19
- **PLLHR Masterplan.** Submissions received. Will be decided 24/1/19, with a view to developing a Stage 1 Master Plan. PLLHR Reference Group ongoing need will be decided at this meeting also. It still has a role in future planing.

#### CEO Lenny Jenner:

The CEO presented various slides (attached) with Demographic data/trends in the nation and how it applied to the Borough and comparable LGA's.

#### Nationally:

- Single Person Households is on the increase. As are 'Couple only' households.
- Many do not specify a religion anymore.

### BoQ:

- Slight Reduction of 0 – 4YO residents.
- Compared to 60+ which has increased.
- Median age is now (2016) 60 Y.O; was 2006--> 53 Y.O
- Living alone – remains static.
- Residential properties Vs. Non residents – 51% - hopefully stabilising, living in BoQ rather than other residence
- Lorne was mentioned, as a comparison, as only having 800 residents – and problems that presents.
- Strongest “Sense of Community in Australia”. Highest level of Volunteering in State.
- Well being rated at 84%.
- Community Well-being survey also rated high for BoQ.
- How do you rate your safety walking at night?” BoQ Rates highest in State.

### Council Rates/New LGA Act/Financial Pressures on Smaller Councils:

- Rate Capping – State Government has found ‘Significant Unintended consequences in application of this Policy’ on Small LGA’s, as a result of Rate Capping.
- NSW Rural/Regional study has found this has resulted a dramatic change in the way services are delivered.
- Victorian Auditor general’s Office conducts Audits, that relates to Financial Sustainability of LGA’s. Can be viewed “Know your council” website – 63 Categories.
- In Victoria, ‘serious challenges for 19 smallest councils in 5 years time’ as a result of Rate-Capping. Has been the subject of/and further Upper & Lower Houses of Parliament Committee investigation.
- KPMG commissioned study on Financial Viability on smaller Councils – Impact will be “severe” - both in relation to communities and small councils.
- New Local Government Act, was presented last year but failed to pass, amendments in the order 250 in number. Will be tabled again this year. Expected to pass.
- New Act will provide a high level of Autonomy for Councils
- LGA’s will be expected to develop own Policies.
- Corrangamite Shire has done an Audit, on what it will take to achieve compliance with new parts of the Act: → \$130K to meet new provisions every year.

### Council Services:

- Council Services fall in 3 Categories:
- 1. Legislative Requirements ~67% (Waste, Street Lighting, etc)
- 2. Service ~21% (part of long standard agreements – Maternal & Child Services, Library, etc).
- 3. Council Discretion ~10% (Community Development, Climate Change mitigation, Visitor Information Centre, etc)

### Your Rates – How \$100 is Spent: (Not including other income)

- Family Services - \$1
- Planning & Amenity - \$12
- Property & Facilities - \$5
- Capital works - \$31
- Aged Services - \$3
- Tourism & Economic development - \$7
- Environment & Waste (excl. Waste Charges) - \$17
- Asset Management & Appearance of Public Places - \$17
- Art/Culture & Libraries - \$8

### Rates Compared to other LGA’s:

- BoQ lower rates for comparable Properties in Golden Plains, Surf Coast, & CoGG. Ranging from 6.04% higher for a Property in Surf Coast Shire (CIV \$1.5M) to 87.4% higher in Colac-Otway Shire (CIV \$1.5M)

### Asset Renewal Gap Ratio: (Gap a council Should be spending/actual spend)

- Increasing for 2017/18 Year.

### Priorities for Council Operations:

- Meeting all statutory requirements and maintain the standard of services provided to the community.
- Ensuring the financial sustainability of the Council.
- Investing in the renewal and maintenance of community facilities / assets and essential infrastructure.
- Maximising grants from other levels of Government.
- Managing coastal Crown land responsibilities. (Borough has highest responsibility of Crown Land in the State of Victoria)
- Advocating for other levels of government to play a greater role in climate change and sea level rise.
- Strengthening Heritage and Neighbourhood Character provisions.
- Balancing the benefits and impacts of economic / business activity.
- Meeting the challenges of compliance with statutory planning.
- Continually improving Community Engagement and response to enquiries and concerns. This includes hearing from all parts of the community.

#### Highest Priority Projects for Council:

- Meeting the provisions of the new Local Government legislation
- Completing the review of heritage provisions and commencing the review of Neighbourhood Character provisions in the QPS
- Implementing stage 1 of the PLLR master plan
- Progressing Destination Queenscliff
- Completing the design and operational plan for the Queenscliffe Hub
- Developing a new Coastal Management Plan
- Reviewing Council's Community Engagement . 'Serious Challenges' have been presented from PLCA regarding the level of Community Engagement. Council have been very clear to address this.
- Responding to Hesse St revitalisation project.

#### Dune Parties over summer:

BoQ will bring together all relevant agencies. BoQ management meeting .with Police/Ambulance/'a number of local clubs'/CoGG to discuss. Council are concerned with escalation. Police will be actively participating in the review meeting

### **9. Q & A with Members.**

#### 1. West side of Fellows rd & Seasonable impact – in relation to figures presented?

Data will be followed up. Understanding from CoGG – and subject to confirmation. High level on non-residents west of Fellows Rd (~40%)

Peak Season Visitation (Borough): 17k visitors (Xmas → mid January) not including day trippers and residents. Could as high as 21 – 22K if they are included.

#### 2. Proposed Murray rd. Land Sale – Not in any Council Plan or documentation. What are the Financial Benefits?

Initially looked at 6 years ago, well before Rate-capping. Purely is a situation, as to whether or not the asset is earning any money, or working to best advantage, & not related to any financial situations currently experienced. Interestingly, a number of the submissions presented on the this subject did not relate to actual sale – but to concerns about design of Development Plan presented. Council Officers are working through this.

#### 3. Independence/viability of Borough? Where are we at in regards to amalgamation of West of Fellows Rd into the BoQ?

We are seeking significant information from CoGG, the State & Federal Governments – some of it is regarding questions Dr. Greg Parry raised at last (December 2018) PLCA meeting about affects on

Laker's Cutting and Swan Bay. We (BoQ) are not moving on that subject until we know the risks involved. The BoQ have also asked for a risk assessment – still waiting for that. Local Member The Hon. Sarah Henderson MP has been involved, and 'has got people in Canberra to look at it.' So, that leads to one other alternative, is that, maybe the (new) Boundary will not include 'The Point' - but this has not been considered by council. But, if we do not get the information & answers we are seeking, that might be an option.

#### 4. Our Coast inundation report – action regarding Climate Change?

CEO/Mayor on committee with CoGG, and have been able to convince State Government get funding for protection rather than evacuation. A recent plan presented shows how we can protect areas of 3225, and how they will be affected in 10, 20 or 30 years time. Confident, we can protect given figures given by scientists, we can protect rather than evacuate.

#### 5. Progress Report on Fort Queenscliff Business Plan (Deloitte) Report?

No - it has not been completed. Grant was received from State Government for report to be prepared. Dept of Defence was interested a Business case, in terms of, currently there is limited or no function as far as Defence use for the Fort & what are the alternative options for the Fort. Will not be completed until end of Financial Year.

#### 6. Concern about Swan Bay Sand Build up across the 'Cut' (entrance):

Council have concerns, but it's not council responsibility – other than in terms of advocating to Parks Victoria and other Government Departments, who have lead responsibilities for management. But, there are other issues including Climate change, sand movements around BoQ Borders, & sea level rise. Observation is it's a low level priority to Government, and challenge is how we can make it a high priority.

#### 7. PLLHR Exit on to Ocean Rd?

Final Plan design will include another exit further down Ocean Rd - yet to be finalised. Issues to be dealt with that aspect of design.

#### 8. Responses to PLLHR Survey (Item 9) Analysis of Public Consultation – What were percentages?

Figures have been release in PLLHR Media Statement. To be followed up.

#### 9. Queenscliff Pier. When will repairs be started?

Funds have been allocated from Parks Victoria. To be followed up by Parks Victoria.

#### 10. Duplication of Bellarine Hwy from Wallington to Queenscliff?

Two elections back it was a high priority. with our local member The Hon. Lisa Neville. Subsequently, it has not been on the agenda since, and not a priority with Vicroads presently.

#### 11 New Coastal Management Plan. Is it a high a priority?

Discussions have occurred between CEO/staff and senior bureaucrats, concerning guidelines for the new plan. Won't be available until EOFY. Interim position could well be that existing projects that meet old 2006 plan (with minor amendments), provided they are approved and funded could have a chance of getting through before new act is put in place.

- 10. Next Annual General Meeting:** 7.30pm, Friday, 10 January 2020  
**Next General Meeting:** 7.30pm, Friday, 15 February 2019

#### **11. President Closing remarks.**

**12. Meeting closed.**