



# Point Lonsdale Civic Association Inc.

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*Representing Point Lonsdale Residents since 1910*

## Minutes of Annual General Meeting 9 January 2015

**Date of Meeting:** 7.30pm, Friday, 9 January 2015

**Venue of Meeting:** Point Lonsdale Primary School, Bowen Road, Point Lonsdale

### **Welcome and Introduction**

The President, Fay Agterhuis, opened the meeting and welcomed members, visitors and the guest speaker, the Mayor, Cr Helene Cameron, and acknowledged the attendance of Councillors Bob Merriman and Sue Wasterval. She also advised that an additional item had been added to the end of the previously published agenda, namely a Q&A/Feedback Session with the PLCA Committee on matters of concern to members.

### **Apologies and Attendances**

Apologies were provided by four members. The attendance register was signed by 72 members and there were about 100 attendees in total.

### **Minutes of Last Annual General Meeting**

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 10 January 2014 were distributed to members on 31 January 2014.

Motion: That the minutes of the 2014 AGM be confirmed as a true record. Moved by Merv Jaensch and seconded by Kerry Sollars. Passed unanimously.

### **Matters Arising from the Minutes**

No matters were raised.

## **Annual Report by President**

The Annual Report by the President was distributed at the meeting and a copy is attached to these minutes. She acknowledged the work of the Committee during 2014 including Anthea Rees who was a Committee member for part of the year. She also acknowledged the various contributions made by John Goodman, Vice-President, who retired at the meeting after four years on the Committee. She commented on PLCA's major achievements and activities during 2014 and nominated issues that will be of focus by PLCA in the future.

Motion: That the Annual Report by the President be received. Moved by Jasper Coghlan and seconded by Merv Jaensch. Passed unanimously.

## **Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer, Laurie Muscat, noted that income exceeded expenses by \$3,660 during 2014 based on a total income of \$5,845, which consisted of membership subscriptions of \$1,445, donations of \$1,700 and \$2,700 from the Point Lonsdale Coastal Spaces Group following the winding-up of that Group. He noted that total expenses were \$2,185 and provided comment on each item of expenditure and advised that the \$200 PLCA Civics Award provided to a Point Lonsdale Primary School student was in part in recognition of the fact that the School does not charge for the use of the Learning Common for PLCA meetings. He noted that total reserves at the end of 2014 were \$8,130 (versus \$4,470 in 2013) and that, given the size of the reserves, some of these funds are to be invested in a term deposit. The Balance Sheet includes a note regarding the conditions under which \$2,700 was received from the Point Lonsdale Coastal Spaces Group. The Treasurer thanked Gaye Wilson for her assistance in the preparation of the accounts. Upon request, a copy of the accounts can be provided to any member who did not attend the AGM.

Motion: That the Treasurer's Report be endorsed. Moved by Laurie Muscat and seconded by Merv Jaensch. Passed unanimously.

## **Election of Office Bearers**

For each office bearer position in turn, the President called for nominations from the floor and named those members who had provided a nomination prior to the meeting. As only one member nominated for each of the officer bearer positions, the following were declared elected:

President:	Fay Agterhuis
Vice-President:	Merv Jaensch
Secretary:	Jasper Coghlan
Treasurer:	Laurie Muscat

## **Number of Ordinary Committee Members**

Motion: That for 2015 the number of Ordinary Committee Members positions be five. Moved by Jasper Coghlan and seconded by Merv Jaensch. Passed unanimously.

## **Election of Ordinary Committee Members**

The President called for nominations from the floor for the five Ordinary Committee Member positions and named those members who had provided a nomination prior to the meeting. As potential new Committee members, Peter Deacon and Andrew Rogers provided a briefing on their background and reasons for joining the Committee (statement from Andrew Rogers read by the President as Andrew was unable to attend the meeting). As only four members nominated for the five positions, the following were declared elected:

Peter Deacon  
Andrew Rogers  
Kerry Sollars  
Gaye Wilson

The Constitution provides that the Committee may appoint a member to the remaining position at any time prior to the next AGM.

## **Annual Subscription for 2016, Subscription Due Date, Treatment of “Stockland Fund”**

**Motion (1):** That the annual subscription for the 2016 year be \$5 per person and that the “Family Membership” category be discontinued.

The Secretary explained that the technical reason for discontinuing the Family Membership category is that the PLCA Constitution (based on the Victorian Government model constitution for incorporated associations) provides only for an individual member category and it requires that each new member must agree to comply with the PLCA rules. The practical benefits of the change include (1) the ability to more accurately count the number of members and (2) the removal of some of the complexities in managing subscription payments.

Motion moved by Jasper Coghlan and seconded by Laurie Muscat. Passed unanimously.

**Motion (2):** That the annual subscription due date for the 2016 year be 8 January 2016.

Motion moved by Jasper Coghlan and seconded by Laurie Muscat. Passed unanimously.

**Motion (3):** That the notional PLCA “Stockland Fund” of \$2,289 be treated as PLCA general funds with immediate effect.

The President advised that the reasons for this motion were detailed in the Notice of Meeting.

Motion moved by Jasper Coghlan and seconded by Laurie Muscat. Passed unanimously.

## Guest Speaker

Cr Helene Cameron, Mayor, Borough of Queenscliffe, spoke about the “Key Achievements of the Council in 2014 and Key Issues in 2015”. A copy of the text of her prepared speech can be found on the PLCA website or a copy can be mailed on request to the Secretary. The PLCA website link is:

<http://www.plca.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/Mayors-Speech-at-AGM-9-January-20151.pdf>

The Mayor indicated that she would first to concentrate on responding to those matters most pertinent to Point Lonsdale and those that PLCA had raised with her ahead of the AGM. In this context she identified the following key topics:

- Point Lonsdale Lighthouse Reserve – consultant report to Council expected in March
- Bellarine Community Health
- Point Lonsdale Surf Life Saving Clubroom Development Taskforce
- Springs Carpark (Lawrence Road Carpark Redevelopment)
- DEPI (DELWP) Repair Works (seawalls and coastline)
- Dog Beach Works
- Stage 3 of the Point Lonsdale Revitalisation Project
- Tree Removal
- Point Lonsdale Accessible Playground Equipment
- Council Community Consultation Processes

The Mayor then covered further topics and highlights of the past year under the heading “Year in Review”:

- 2013-14 Annual Report
- Stage 2 of the Point Lonsdale Foreshore Revitalisation
- Hesse St roundabout
- Completion and official opening of the redevelopment of the Monahan Centre
- Winning the Coastal Building and Design Award for the Foreshore Redevelopment Project
- New roundabout at corner of Admans Street and Point Lonsdale Road
- Undergrounding of Powerlines at Point Lonsdale

The Mayor then listed some of the projects that are currently on the table and that Council will be progressing in during the first half of the year:

- A “future plan” or master plan for all three Council managed caravan parks (Golightly, Royal Park and Queenscliff Rec Reserve/Victoria Park)
- Future use of Fort Queenscliff Precinct
- Introduction of a bin based green waste service on 1 July 2015

The Mayor then outlined some of the challenges and opportunities that Council is either currently working on or is planning to address:

- Continue lobbying for a shared pathway from Point Lonsdale to Ocean Grove (with City of Greater Geelong)
- Explore funding opportunities to upgrade residential street lighting (energy efficient)
- Return Police staffing levels so there is permanent presence in the Borough
- Continue to advocate for “one” Point Lonsdale by seeking a change to the Borough of Queenscliffe Municipal Boundary

The Mayor then commented on the Council’s financial management including the following points:

- The 2012-13 audit results highlighted positive movement towards long-term financial sustainability and the Borough was assessed as low risk
- The 2013-14 audit results, subject to confirmation, indicate maintenance of a low risk assessment for overall financial sustainability with outstanding debt reduced to \$647,000
- Borough continued to meet each of the elements of internal control required by the Victorian Auditor-General
- Council has had significant success in attracting funds for community facilities and infrastructure from state and federal governments with a total of \$3,351,990 received in 2013-14 (up \$789,500 on previous year)

Finally, the Mayor encouraged participation in these upcoming community consultation programs:

- The camping and caravan park master plans
- The accessible playground at Point Lonsdale
- Point Lonsdale Revitalisation Project Stage 3 – Village Park Upgrade
- Draft budget and business plan for 2015-16 in May

Following the presentation, the Mayor responded to a number of questions as outlined below. When earlier introducing the Mayor, the President indicated that the Mayor had advised that she would be taking some questions on notice and that she would respond to them later:

- One of the Councillors had mentioned a Municipal Ratepayer Levy to implement Option 2 for the Point Lonsdale Lighthouse Reserve – what are the prospects of this occurring?  
Response: (1) Council first needs to see the results of the feasibility and financial analysis study of Option 2 and (2) the Levy has not been discussed in the Council
- Why did you not mention in your presentation further community consultation regarding the Point Lonsdale and Queenscliff Lighthouse Reserves – why not plan for this consultation now given that the Lighthouse project had more community concern than any other work in progress? Response: need to wait for the results of the feasibility and financial analysis studies for both Reserves
- Concern expressed about interpretation of responses to ratepayer survey on introduction of bin based green waste collection and observation that some councils continue to also provide a green bundle collection service. Response: thank you for your comments
- Parking issues and accidents at Health Centre in Nelson Road – will Council put in a pedestrian path in Nelson Road? Response: will take question on notice (for later response)
- A member observed that the Council has been missing out in revenue from approximately 30 vacant sites in the Golightly Caravan Park and that further delays have occurred in the resolution of its future given that the study on Golightly has transitioned into a study of all

caravan parks. He asked when the caravan parks study will be completed and whether all stakeholders would be engaged through the process? Response: will take questions on notice

- There is a need for additional community facilities in Point Lonsdale – is the Surf Club Clubhouse Taskforce looking at such facilities as part of the new clubhouse – will the community be involved in discussions on this issue? Response: the Council has been proposing that the Board Riders Club cohabit with the Surf Club – will raise with Lisa Neville, as chair of the Taskforce, the issue of additional community facilities
- What work is the Council doing to ensure the safety of the cliff top walkway from the Point Lonsdale Village playground to The Heads – from the beach the cliffs look very unsafe where the path is close to the edge of the cliffs? Response: the DEPI coastal repair works may take place in this area (but it was not clear in interactions between the questioner and the Mayor whether they were talking about the same parts of the walkway and there was a suggestion from Cr Merriman that the whole area be checked)
- Concern expressed about weeds that have not yet been removed at a particular location in Kirk Road. Response: will pass-on your concern to Council officers
- Is the community able to have a say in deciding the projects for which capital grants are to be sought by the Council from state and federal governments? Response: the Council reviews what capital grants are available and can only apply for particular grants in terms of the specifications of such grants
- What action is the Council taking in relation to a construction planning permit and the need to preserve the heritage character of Lathamstowe in Queenscliff? Response: this is an operational matter and will need to respond later
- Concern expressed about lack of pedestrian safety at the new pedestrian type crossings in Hesse St – why are they not proper pedestrian crossing where cars must give way to pedestrians? Response: situation different to wombat crossing in Point Lonsdale Village – will take question on notice

Following the response to these questions, the President thanked the Mayor for her presentation and for responding to questions.

### **Q&A/Feedback Session with PLCA Committee on Matters of Concern to Members**

The PLCA Committee sat as a panel in front of members to receive input from members regarding matters of concern to them or to respond to question from members.

In introducing this session, the President pointed out that the following two documents were distributed at the meeting along with the meeting Agenda to ensure members are aware of the full scope of the Point Lonsdale Lighthouse Reserve Option 2 that is the subject of the present Council feasibility and financial assessment study:

1. Option 2: Landscape Improvements & Cafe – Extracted from Planisphere/Borough of Queenscliffe Point Lonsdale Lighthouse Reserve Discussion Paper, March 2014
2. On-ground works suggested by the Project Reference Group (included in Council Option 2 study) – Extracted from Borough of Queenscliffe Agenda for the Ordinary Meeting of Council of 22 October, 2014

A copy of these Option 2 documents can be found on the PLCA website here:

<http://www.plca.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/Pt-Lons-Lighthouse-Reserve-Option2-BoQRef-Group-2014.pdf>

The following were suggested as matters that PLCA should give attention to during 2015:

- Community involvement in the Point Lonsdale Lighthouse Reserve re (1) seeking funding for works and (2) contributing to the upkeep of vegetation etc.
- The future of the Golightly Caravan Park
- In considering proposals for a statue to commemorate Governor La Trobe in Queenscliff and the need to recognise indigenous history, priority should be given to the recognition of indigenous history
- Work on Point Lonsdale Structure Plan given that period of present plan is nearly at an end
- State of cliffs from Bowling Club to Rip View Carpark – how often inspected
- Highlight need for fire season preparation
- Extend PLCA influence to Queenscliff heritage issues including the Fort and Lathamstowe
- Support Council heritage advisor including change in reporting relationship so that the position reports directly to the Council and not to the Planning and Building Department

A question was asked during the session regarding the availability of funds to be spent on any issues that arise in relation to the Moremac development at *The Point* (former Stockland development) given that there is no longer a separate “Stockland Fund”. The Secretary advised that the \$2,700 of funds transferred from the Point Lonsdale Coastal Spaces Group is available for this purpose and that general PLCA funds could also be spent for this purpose as appropriate.

### **Close of Meeting**

The meeting closed at 9.20 pm. In closing the meeting, the President advised the following:

- That members are requested to sign the meeting attendance register
- That membership subscriptions are now due and could be paid at the end of this meeting and advised that new membership application forms were available
- That there will be a PLCA stand at the Point Lonsdale Market on 11 January for the Committee to obtain feedback from the community and for the recruitment of new members as well as another opportunity for payment of subscriptions
- That the next PLCA meeting will be on 13 February
- That the next Annual General Meeting will be at 7.30pm, Friday, 8 January 2016

Jasper Coghlan  
**Secretary**

# Annual Report PLCA 2014

The PLCA is a community organization of interested people who may be residents, property owners and others passionate about Point Lonsdale as a wonderful place to live, work, holiday or just visit. Our meetings are held in Jan, Feb, April and November with additional meetings called during the year if a matter requires discussion and input from members and cannot be dealt with using email and other forms of social media. Our committee meets regularly throughout the year and is active on numerous working groups, reference groups and attending council meetings on your behalf. Our focus in 2014 was to be visible and proactive when responding to community issues or requests for input. We utilised email, our newsletter and local media outlets more effectively so that members stayed informed about the issues that mattered to them and could provide feedback to us particularly during those months when formal meetings were not held.

Above all the PLCA is the group that represents the views of Point Lonsdale residents and is the vehicle which allows those views to be heard in various forums. We are a community group and membership will always be critical in maintaining credibility, throughout 2014 membership sign ups occurred throughout the year as issues gained traction or as more people found out about what we were involved in.

## Acknowledgements

I would like to acknowledge the work of the 2014 committee, Jasper Coghlan (Secretary), John Goodman (Vice President), Laurie Muscat (Treasurer), Gaye Wilson (Membership), Merv Jaensch, Kerry Sollars and Anthea Rees. These are the people who put in the long hours and are the more visible face of PLCA within the community. In 2014 you would have seen them out and about manning stalls, in the media and generally ensuring community members made the most of their opportunity to comment on the Point Lonsdale Lighthouse Reserve. They were also busy assisting at community events, attending council meetings and being available to discuss local issues with you. Each committee member brings a special range of skills and experience to the task. Anthea was a member of committee for a brief but busy time before her resignation due to work commitments and I would like to thank her for the time she devoted to our "Lighthouse campaign".

Tonight John Goodman is retiring from both his role as Vice President and from Committee due to other community commitments requiring increasing amounts of his time. John has been a member of our committee for the past 4 years and has been PLCA representative on the Point Lonsdale Main Street Community Reference Group, attended Council meetings and been active in providing input and drafting responses to the various consultations occurring in the BOQ. John will of course continue to be involved with PLCA and advocate for those community issues that we all believe are important. Resigning from committee does not mean that one's interest and involvement in community issues stops.

## Major Achievements

Our focus is local and with that in mind guest speakers focus on local issues. We continued tradition with the Mayor of the Borough of Queenscliffe Helene Cameron speaking at our AGM, Directors of Moremac Property Group on their plans for the "Stockland site" and open discussion on the Lighthouse Reserves study. 2014 was an election year so we once again hosted a meet the candidates meeting prior to the state election in November.



**Foreshore Revitalisation Project:** Representatives of the PLCA have made key contributions to the work and oversight of this project. We were all pleased to hear of pre-election funding announcements enabling stage 3 and playground upgrades to be actioned in the near future.

**Point Lonsdale Lighthouse Reserves Study:** We were successful in gaining a position on this reference group and thank Merv Jaensch for his work on our collective behalf in ensuring that member views were heard and considered. Whilst the work of the Reference Group is now complete and we are all waiting the final report from Planisphere focussing on financial feasibility we should acknowledge the willingness of council to include the list of additional ideas for consideration as part of Option 2. We had predicted in January 2013 that this would be a big issue and that the community would be vocal. The number of responses to the consultation survey and attendance at the open house sessions were unprecedented and demonstrated the passion our community members and visitors have for Point Lonsdale and what it represents to them.

**We maintained a watching brief** on the Moremac site, the Golf Club development and Coorabin's closure and the future of the Eric Tolliday units. Fruitful discussions were held with the City of Greater Geelong and saw the Emily Street drainage works completed and the door open for future discussions on issues impacting members west of Fellows Rd.

**Members contributed** to BOQ consultations on the Point Lonsdale Lighthouse Reserve, Lawrence Road Car Park, Fort redevelopment and activities including Australia Day, ANZAC Day and attended council meetings. Written submissions were made with regard to the Point Lonsdale Lighthouse Reserve, Lawrence Road Car Park and Fort redevelopment.

**Civics and Citizenship Award:** In 2014 PLCA initiated the PLCA Civics and Citizenship Award to be presented to a Year 5 student at Point Lonsdale Primary School who demonstrated a commitment to giving back to their community in addition to their work as a learner. This award was proposed by a committee member in part as recognition of the Point Lonsdale Primary School for providing a meeting venue free of charge. It also serves to support students in becoming active contributors to their community. The award provides funds to subsidise their final year of school and is paid into the student's school account.

### **Future Plans**

It is imperative that PLCA works collaboratively with and to advocate for our community on the issues that matter to Point Lonsdale so our focus will be on the implementation of the recommendations of the Point Lonsdale Lighthouse Reserves Study, Stage 3 of the foreshore revitalisation works, the SLSC redevelopment project, the next stages of the Moremac site, the future of the Coorabin site and Eric Tolliday units and other developments that impact on us directly.

Fay Agterhuis President 2014