



Point Lonsdale Civic Association Inc.

PO Box 28 Point Lonsdale VIC 3225 Reg. No. A0017883S

Email: plcasecretary@gmail.com

Website: www.plca.org.au

Representing Point Lonsdale Residents since 1910

NOTICE of AGM and NEWSLETTER

December 2014

Notice of Annual General Meeting

Time: 7.30 pm

Date: Friday, 9 January 2015

Place: **Learning Common, Point Lonsdale Primary School, Bowen Road**
(enter via main school entrance)

The guest speaker will be Cr. Helene Cameron, Mayor, Borough of Queenscliffe, who will talk about the key achievements of the Council during 2014 as well as key issues and initiatives in 2015 with a focus on Point Lonsdale.

There will be an opportunity for Q&As with the Mayor.

In addition, our Constitution requires that the following matters are handled during the AGM:

- Election of office bearers and other (ordinary) committee members for 2015
- Resolution: That for 2015 the number of ordinary committee member positions be five
- Resolution: That the annual subscription for the 2016 year be \$5 per person and that the "Family Membership" category be discontinued
- Resolution: That the annual subscription due date for the 2016 year be 8 January, 2016
- Resolution: That the notional PLCA "Stockland Fund" of \$2,289 be treated as PLCA general funds with immediate effect

The resolutions regarding the number of committee members and subscription due date are consistent with past practice. The resolution to discontinue the "Family Membership" category is necessary as our Constitution provides only for individual membership (Constitution identical to

the Victorian Government model constitution for Incorporated Associations such as PLCA). This change will also simplify the management of subscriptions and membership records.

The resolution to treat the notional "Stockland Fund" as general funds is prompted by the fact that the Point Lonsdale Coastal Spaces Group is in the process of being wound up and has transferred to PLCA an amount of \$2,700 subject to the conditions outlined below. A small additional amount is expected to be transferred to PLCA when the windup is complete. As these funds will be available for the same purpose as the present PLCA "Stockland Fund", it is considered no longer necessary to maintain this notional fund within the total PLCA funds for any expenditure in relation to the Moremac development now called *The Point*. In past years, it has been reported to members that within the Cash at Bank in the Balance Sheet is an amount of \$2,289 that was received at the time of the Stockland campaign but not spent at that time and referred to as the "Stockland Fund". The total Cash at Bank amount at the end of November and prior to receipt of the Coastal Spaces funds was \$5,300.

The transfer of funds to PLCA from the Coastal Spaces Group has been done subject to the following conditions:

That PLCA accepts the transfer of the balance of the funds retained by the Coastal Spaces Group from funds raised from the community to oppose the Stockland development in Point Lonsdale on the understanding that such funds would be expended by PLCA to oppose any inappropriate actions by Moremac in relation to the former Stockland development. That these funds are accepted on the condition (1) such funds would be set aside within PLCA funds until Moremac obtains all approvals for the main stages of the development or 5 years whichever is sooner and (2) that, any remaining funds not spent to oppose any inappropriate actions by Moremac in relation to the former Stockland development would become part of PLCA's general funds on the understanding that it would be used to monitor/prevent any inappropriate developments in Point Lonsdale.

Committee Elections and Call for New Committee Members

Our present President (Fay Agterhuis), Secretary (Jasper Coghlan) and Treasurer (Laurie Muscat) are offering themselves for re-election to these positions. A present Committee member, Merv Jaensch, is offering himself for election as Vice-President replacing John Goodman who is stepping down from the Committee

Two ordinary committee members are offering themselves for re-election (Kerry Sollars and Gaye Wilson) and Peter Deacon is offering himself for election. Assuming the passing of the proposed resolution above regarding the number of committee positions, there is a need for two new ordinary committee members.

Nominations for all positions will be called for at the AGM. A member may nominate himself or herself or, with a member's consent, may be nominated by another member. It is requested that nominations be made via the enclosed Nomination Form and that the form be provided to the Secretary preferably by 2 January, 2015 or at the latest by the time of commencement of the AGM.

Appointment of A Proxy

A member may appoint another member as his or her proxy at a general meeting. The appointment of a proxy must be in writing but it is optional to use the form approved by the Committee for the appointment of a proxy. Please find included with this newsletter a copy of the Proxy Form approved by the Committee should you wish to use it to appoint a proxy to vote on your behalf at the AGM. The form appointing a proxy must be given to the Chairperson of the meeting before or at the commencement of the meeting. If the form is sent by post or by email, it must be received no later than 24 hours before the commencement of the meeting (send to the Secretary via the PO Box or email address shown on the Proxy Form).

Annual Subscription Payment and Donations

The annual subscription payment for 2015 is due by the date of the AGM, being 9 January 2015. The subscription amount for 2015 is \$5 for an individual. Donations are welcome in addition to the payment of the subscription amount.

The preferred method of payment is by Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) to the PLCA bank account. Alternatively, payment can be made by cheque or cash by hand delivery. The PLCA bank account details are:

Account Name:	Point Lonsdale Civic Association
Bank:	Bendigo Bank, Queenscliff
BSB:	633108
Account Number:	131346017
Description:	Surname, Initials

It is particularly important that your surname and initials are shown in the description section of the payment transaction where Electronic Funds Transfer is used. If payment is made by cheque, please write your name on the reverse of the cheque if it is from an account different to your name.

Whichever method of payment is used, please complete the Membership Renewal and Subscription Payment form included with this newsletter. The form can be returned by email or by post (address on form).

If you know of family or friends who wish to become a member of PLCA, please advise them that new members need to complete the Membership Application form that can be found here:

<http://www.plca.org.au/contact/>

Point Lonsdale Lighthouse Reserve – Where to Next

It is now further evident that there is no certainty that Option 2 (Landscape Improvements) will be implemented at the Point Lonsdale Lighthouse Reserve. The Council has approved the preparation of a detailed feasibility and financial analysis of Option 2 as presented in the Council Discussion Paper, and including the items identified by the community Reference Group. However, the Mayor, has made clear the lack of certainty about the outcome in relation to the Reserve when she stated the following in the October 30 issue of *The Echo*: “At this stage we’re not going any further with the other options. By doing this study we will find out whether or not it is feasible to go ahead with Option 2 – we may find it isn’t – but at the moment this is all really positive.”

In the Public Question Time at the start of the Council meeting in October, PLCA asked the following question:

If at this Council meeting, Council approves preparation of a detailed feasibility and financial analysis of Option 2 for the Point Lonsdale Lighthouse Reserve, will Council (1) establish a Project Reference Group to provide input on the detailed design of Option 2 and (2) conduct community consultation regarding the detailed design of Option 2 before implementation tenders are called?

The response was that this question will be considered later in the meeting as part of the discussion of the Council decision regarding the Lighthouse Reserve. Unfortunately this question was not discussed later in the meeting. Shortly after the meeting, PLCA wrote to the Council again seeking a response to the question above but has had no response from the Council.

At the Council meeting on 17 December, PLCA asked the following question:

At the October Council meeting, Council approved the preparation of a detailed feasibility and financial analysis of Option 2 (Landscape Improvements) as presented in the relevant Discussion Paper, including the items identified by the related Project Reference Group. What is the planned process for the results of this analysis to be reviewed with the community and then considered by the Council and, secondly, what is the time-table for this process?

The only response provided by the CEO to this question was that the matter will be considered by the Council in March 2015 following preparation of the detailed feasibility and financial analysis process.

The Q&A session with the Mayor at our AGM on 9 January will provide an opportunity for members to ask questions about this matter.

Point Lonsdale Foreshore – Redevelopment, Tree Removed and Info Caravan

Redevelopment

On 13 November the Council announced that the Victorian Coalition Government was providing \$300,000 from the Regional Growth Fund to rejuvenate the Point Lonsdale Foreshore in front of the shops. The Borough is to provide \$100,000 and there will be in kind contributions of \$10,500 and \$4,500 from the Lions Club and Parks Victoria respectively. The \$415,000 fund is to be used for a new amenities block to be located on the southern boundary of the Bowling Club, upgrading the existing barbeque area and relocating it adjacent to the playground, new picnic tables and park furniture; planting 24 semi-mature trees, weed removal, landscaping and revegetation of existing garden beds; and installing interpretive signage and accessibility improvements along the foreshore.

Also, on 13 November the Council announced that the Victorian Coalition Government was providing \$80,000 from the Community Facility Funding Program to upgrade the playground in front of the Point Lonsdale shops.

It is understood that these two Victorian Government grants are secure and are not dependant on the re-election of the Coalition Government.

Tree Removed

The Council certainly appears to be working on the assumption that a new amenities block will be built on the southern boundary of the Bowling club as on 15 December it removed a mature casuarina (she-oak) between the barbeques and the Bowling club. Considerable surprise has been expressed that such a large shady tree has been removed, particularly just before the peak holiday season.

In response to community questions at the Council meeting on 17 December, the CEO explained that the tree had been removed (1) following a request from the Bowling Club as the tree was adversely impacting the bowling surface and (2) in anticipation of the construction of the new amenities block. Also, Cr Merriman provided comment given his role as Chairperson of the now disbanded community Foreshore Revitalisation Reference Group. He seemed to suggest that the construction of a new amenities block on the southern boundary of the Bowling Club was agreed by the Reference Group. Such agreement is not recognised by the PLCA representative on the Reference Group nor by another PLCA Committee member who was a member of the Reference Group as a community member. PLCA is seeking to clarify this issue.

Visitor Information Caravan

It appears that another possible reason has emerged for the removal at this time of the tree mentioned above on 18 December the Council issued a media release advising that a “Pop Up” Visitor Information Caravan is to be located over the summer peak period facing the road in the area between the toilet block and the Bowling Club. The caravan will be operated by the Queenscliffe Information Centre volunteers and will be stocked with local visitor information brochures and regional visitor guides.

What Next for the Foreshore

Not mentioned in the Council information caravan media release but included in advice to Queenscliffe information Centre volunteers is the statement that, if this initiative proves to be of value, there may be an opportunity to put a more permanent structure in place.

PLCA now wonders what else is planned for the area in front of the shops that has not been discussed with the community. PLCA will seek advice from the Council about any plans for community consultation regarding the redevelopment of the foreshore area in front of the shops including the re-establishment of a community Reference Group.

Lawrence Road (Springs) Carpark Redevelopment

Following detailed submissions from PLCA and members of the community, significant changes have been made to the design of the Springs carpark redevelopment. The number of car spaces has been increased to 29, the shared pathway along the foreshore has been given greater separation from the carpark and emergency access has been improved. While not all community suggestions have been adopted, considerable improvement has been made to the original design.

The Council resolved at the November Council meeting to prepare detailed plans and documentation and proceed to call tenders for construction works.

Future of Coorabin Site, Eric Tolliday Units and BCH Response

PLCA President, Fay Agterhuis, attended the Bellarine Community Health (BCH) Annual General Meeting on 11 December at which the issue of the future of the Eric Tolliday units and Coorabin site were raised by members in attendance. It was another full room and another fiery meeting and was the second attempt at an AGM.

The meeting was informed that there were no plans in place for the site but that resident needs would be catered for and considered in any future decision making. There was a suggestion that they may have to move off site for a period of time. Local member for Bellarine Lisa Neville was very vocal pointing out that the BCH Board should write individually to those still in residence in the Eric Tolliday units and reassure them, in writing, that their tenancy is safe for the period of their tenancy agreements. Concerns were raised that these are the most vulnerable residents in our community and we should be looking out for them.

BCH Board Chair, Hazel Ingram, informed the meeting that the Board will be consulting with the community on needs and services in the New Year. The Board will also be conducting a membership drive in 2015 to bolster numbers. However, this announcement was not well received as there is a backlog of membership applications awaiting approval. Also, the \$1,000,000 BCH community fund was formally announced although most residents aware of the sale by BCH of Ann Nichol House in Portarlinton to Arcare were already aware of this new initiative. This fund is being established in recognition of the fact that Ann Nichol House was originally constructed using community funds.

It is understood that the Council is monitoring the situation at the Eric Tolliday Units. Crs Cameron, Salter and Merriman attended the BCH AGM and at the Council meeting on 17 December the Council unanimously passed a motion proposed by Cr Merriman that the CEO write to BCH stressing the need for full communication on this issue and a commitment to full consultation.

Surf Club Community Organisation Consultation

Two members of the PLCA Committee attended a meeting of a range of community organisations held by the Point Lonsdale Surf Life Saving Club in November. The purpose of the meeting was for the Surf Club to outline some of the challenges it is facing, to discuss any community concerns and to seek community support for the achievement of their goals. A particular focus of the discussion was the Club's plans for a new clubhouse and its work with the Council on this. The PLCA Committee strongly supported the efforts of the Club to find a viable solution to the construction of a new clubhouse needed for the vital work of the Club for the community .

Borough E-SNAPSHOTS

Following a trial issue earlier in the year, the Borough is now publishing each month its E-SNAPSHOT email newsletter covering Council news and various activities in the Borough. You can subscribe to this email newsletter via a link at the bottom right corner of all pages of the Borough's website here: <http://www.queenscliffe.vic.gov.au/>

PLCA Stand at Market

There will be a PLCA stand at the Point Lonsdale market at the Primary School on Sunday, 11 January. It will be located near the entrance to the main school building. PLCA Committee members will be available to discuss any matters which you wish to raise with them.

The stand will also provide an opportunity for you to pay your 2015 membership subscription or provide a copy of your subscription form where an electronic funds payment has been made.

PLCA Meeting Schedule

In addition to the AGM on 9 January, PLCA General Meetings are scheduled in early 2015 for:

- Friday, 13 February
- Friday, 13 March

Jasper Coghlan

Secretary

plcasecretary@gmail.com