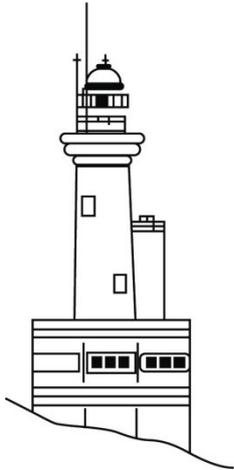


Point Lonsdale Civic Association Inc.

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Representing Point Lonsdale Residents since 1910

December 2016 NEWSLETTER/ Notice of AGM

2017 Annual General Meeting

The **Annual General Meeting** will be held on **Friday January 13th 2017, at 7.30 pm.** In the meeting room, **Point Lonsdale Primary School, Bowen Road, Point Lonsdale.** The Guest speaker will be the Mayor Of the Borough of Queenscliffe, Cr. Tony Francis.

Please download and review/print/return if required, the following documents for the AGM:

[PLCA Committee Nomination Form](#)

[Appointment of Proxy Form:](#)

[Minutes of PLCA 2016 AGM](#)

(For Postal Newsletter recipients ONLY Please contact the Secretary for Appointment of Proxy Forms, and Committee Nomination Forms. Minutes for 2016 AGM will available on the night)

2017 Annual Subscription Payment and Donations

The annual subscription payment for 2017 is due by the date of the AGM, being 13 January 2017. The subscription **amount for 2017 is \$10 per person.** 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.

2017 Membership Renewal form is below, please fill in and return with your payment:

[Membership Renewal Form:](#)

The PLCA bank account details are:

Account Name:	Point Lonsdale Civic Association
Bank:	Bendigo Bank, Queenscliff
BSB:	633108
Account Number:	131346017
Description:	<u>Surname and Initials of the member must be shown</u>

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. Please, DO NOT send cash via the post.

Please ensure you complete the Membership Renewal and Subscription Payment form. Forms will be available on website for new membership, if you know of family or friends who wish to become a member of PLCA, please advise them to join. Just scan & email form or deliver at meeting or post.

Upcoming Open House Presentation on Front Beach Soil Erosion from DELWP

The State Department of Environment, Land, Water, & Planning (DELWP) have advised an “Open House” to present to the community information about the ongoing issue of soil erosion on the Front Beach. The date is the **18th January, 2017** at the **Pt. Lonsdale Bowls Club**. At this stage there will be 2 sessions, one around lunchtime and one early evening (exact times will be advertised in the local press).

Please come along to get information about this important issue concerning our precious front Beach.

Point Lonsdale Light House Reserve – update.

The Borough is waiting on a funding announcement to undertake initial works on the Lighthouse Reserve. Local federal member for Corangamite, Sarah Henderson was quick to reassure council that commitments to the Point Lonsdale Lighthouse Reserve (PLLHR) for clean-up work under the Green Army project will be secure despite publicity announcing the scrapping of the Green Army.

During a Q & A session at the December PLCA members meeting, our Mayor, Cr. Tony Francis, stated that research is being undertaken to consider whether it may be possible, or even desirable, to retain one of the original army huts, for use by the community. The historical significance of the huts is being assessed, along with the question of repair and refurbish, or perhaps even re-locate.

It should be noted the context of any proposed re-use of any of the buildings presently on site, should be in line with the community wishes, and the outcome(s) of the community reference group, that overwhelmingly decided that the site was to remain undeveloped (Option 2) and that the TOC H buildings were to be removed.

Cr. Francis, at the meeting, made it quite clear that all decisions will be discussed with the community as things proceed and before decisions are made.

That same reassurance that the community will be fully informed and engaged in decision making, was extended to the question of suitability of the use of PLLHR for a proposed arts precinct. It was stressed by Cr. Francis, that the arts precinct was an idea presented by a group of local community members. While it was acknowledged that the idea in total may negatively impact on the amenity and vision for Point Lonsdale Lighthouse Reserve, in broader terms, it may be possible to look at the idea to be run over a number of different locations within the Borough.

National Heritage Listing. Cr. Francis acknowledged that there is a request signed by a number of local ratepayers, to look at the question of National Heritage Listing for significant locations within the Borough, in particular the Point Lonsdale Lighthouse Reserve and the Queenscliff Lighthouse

and Shortland's Bluff precinct. It is anticipated that council administration will be ready to release their findings as to process etc during March of 2017.

Queenscliffe Planning Scheme Review - C27 Amendment

Planning Panels Victoria convened an Independent Panel Hearing on the 14th of November in Queenscliff Town Hall to firstly hear from Council's planning consultant (St Quentin Consulting) in relation to any changes to Amendment C27 and secondly hear presentations from 9 local submitters. Key public concerns included the need to strengthen heritage and environmental policies in the Scheme, the need to strengthen residential amenity and site coverage controls, presentation of new material from Council's former consultants not previously seen by the general public, Council's declared "policy-neutral" translation of the existing Municipal Strategic Statement given recent VCAT decisions and considering this is the first planning review in 16 years, possible Panel recommendations that could see the loss of Heritage Overlay Maps (Church of England Precinct Map HO 10 seems to have disappeared already) which define Queenscliff's various heritage precincts and list the names of historic houses and trees, and the potential loss of Heritage Policy Map 13 showing the area of Queenscliff listed on the Register of the National Estate (this area includes the Fort, Queenscliff's central historic area and parklands and Fisherman's Flat) now considered redundant. An excellent power point and aerial presentation was made by a Point Lonsdale resident highlighting significant heritage values at the Point Lonsdale Lighthouse Reserve and surrounds (Heritage Policy Map HO 76 & 84) currently not listed in the Heritage Overlay for that site.

The Panel Chairperson (Michael Kirsch) has 28 days to provide his recommendations to Queenscliffe Council and then Council have 28 days to release the findings to the community. The Victorian Planning Minister has the final say on any changes to the Queenscliffe Planning Scheme. Some aspects that were universally acknowledged include the Queenscliffe Heritage Review, which was commenced before 2009 by Council's consultants Lovell and Chen, needs to be completed as a priority and improvements to the clarity and readability of the scheme also need to be undertaken.

Recreation Reserve Concept Plan

Following a further State Government grant of \$3.15 million Queenscliffe Council have commissioned consultants to prepare a concept plan for the Queenscliff Recreation Reserve. The Plan, which segregates sporting and camping activities, focusses mainly on improved facilities for football, cricket and netball users, including a complete relocation of the relatively new netball courts from the Queenscliff Bowling Club site to the south west corner of the Recreation Reserve. Other features of the plan include improved cricket training lanes (3 of), internal car parking for 95 vehicles, netball change rooms, children's play area, and a vehicle turning circle to the south of the Monahan Centre. Other planned changes include a reconfigured oval playing area, new lighting towers for the oval (4 of) and adjoining netball courts. Improvements will also be made to services for camping and caravanning, construction of internal fences and a dedicated access gate at the eastern end of the oval. Annual campers displaced from the southern end of the Recreation Reserve for the new car parking area will be offered places at Golightly Caravan Park in Bowen Road, Point Lonsdale.

Some issues recently raised by Queenscliff residents, include opposition to the reduced oval playing area, traffic issues for residents at the western end of the oval, erection of fencing either side of the oval, height and impact of 4 oval lighting towers (only 3 shown on concept plan) on residential amenity - these lights will need shields to prevent light spillage, dedicated access at the eastern end of the oval for camping, vehicle turning circle next to children's play area, location of waste

disposal and storage facilities, need for 4 cricket training lanes rather than 3, need to consider the Caravan Parks Study with Recreation Reserve Concept Plan given the same Council consultants are currently doing both studies. According to Council the Caravan Parks Study will be ready in January/February 2017. Some users would like to see the camping area reduced further in the Recreation Reserve. Other issues include loss of public access to the oval, especially from the eastern end, potential impact on Victoria Park and perhaps it's not a good idea to locate so many young netball girls (and younger footballers and cricketers) next to the large communications tower (unknown future effects).

At the December BoQ Council meeting, a report was handed down for the Sports & Recreation Precinct, containing a summary of the submissions received, and endorsement of the Council Plan. It was noted by Cr. Salter, that many submissions were received from those 30 years old and under expressing support for the project. At the meeting it was moved:

“That Council:

- 1. Note the results of community consultation and 127 submissions received as summarised in this report;*
- 2. Having considered all public submissions received determine what, if any, amendments to the draft Queenscliff Sport and Recreation Precinct Concept Plan should be considered;*
- 3. Request officers to progress with obtaining the necessary permits and approvals as well as commence detail design with due regard to any amendments to the draft Queenscliff Sport and Recreation Precinct Concept Plan;*

and with additional amendments from Cr. Merriman concerning: *lighting, Netball game day facility moved to south side, relocation of storage sheds, extra Cricketer's Nets, disabled parking & delivery access, the shape of the Oval, and further consultation between council officers and caravan site holders.*

{Editors note: The amendments above are summarised from hand written notes from meeting by PLCA Committee. As such they are brief, paraphrased and may contain omissions.}

Moremac (The Point) Water Quality Management Plan and Conservation Management Plan – FOI Request.

As part of the initial planning approval given to Stocklands in 2007, a Water Quality Management plan, for the Environmental water outflows from the new development, was agreed to by all parties. The PLCA have been trying to get this data from relevant stakeholders, to ensure that our fragile water ways have not been affected in any way by construction of “The Point” development.

The PLCA has asked numerous public questions at BoQ meetings on why the Borough have not had access to this important data.

The data was subsequently requested, and obtained, by the BoQ – under an FOI application, but unable to be released to public as it has a “copyright” status. In short, our Borough councillors are aware of the data, but cannot make it public.

Recently at a QCA meeting where our local member Sarah Henderson (MP) was in attendance, PLCA brought up the question of this Water Quality Data, and our endeavours to obtain it. Ms. Henderson was surprised that a FOI had a “copyright” classification. She informed the meeting that she would follow this up and give advice to the QCA on the result.

Meanwhile the PLCA has written to the CoGG, BoQ, Corangamite Catchment Authority, Federal Minister of the Environment, The member for Corangamite, The local State Member of Parliament, and Moremac again asking about the data and it's release.

At the December BoQ Council meeting, a local Marine Scientist, Dr. Greg Parry, produced a copy of the Environmental data during the "Questions Without Notice". It was obtained from The Department of Environment.

At the time of deadline for this Newsletter, the PLCA have not seen this document, nor have any idea on it what it contains – or the ramifications, if any, on Swan Bay.

Finally, at the December BoQ meeting, a recommendation was put to the Councillors to spend \$15,000 to engage a consultant to Review the Water Management plan related to The Point development. It was agreed however, that in the light of the information above; that the review be adjourned until 4 extra documents relevant to the issue are obtained, and that the council officers determine that the information obtained by Dr Greg Parry is indeed the same as the Borough has in its possession.

Proposed Amalgamation of Residents west of Fellows rd into Borough of Queenscliffe:

The PLCA submitted the following "Question With Out Notice" at the December Borough Of Queenscliffe:

"Could the council please advise on the current status of the proposed amalgamation of residents west of Fellows rd. in to the BoQ, and has the CEO had any further discussions with the relevant Minister and/or the CoGG on this matter?"

The response was as follows from the CEO Lenny Jenner:

"Council have no formal process underway, and has not formally sent any document to CoGG requesting a change. I have met with the CoGG CEO this week to discuss the ramifications of the change of Municipal Boundaries, and have requested additional advice from the CoGG on matters related to the BoQ. Councillors are not yet briefed. Borough Officers plan for discussions in January and February 2017, and a Borough Councillor briefing to occur after that."

{Editors note: The answers transcribed above are summarised from hand written notes from meeting by PLCA Committee. As such they are brief, paraphrased and may contain omissions.}

Queenscliff Harbour Update

Following extensive consultation sessions in early 2016, which resoundingly rejected the harbour's stingray stadium proposal at Fisherman's Wharf, QHPL are thought to be now reconsidering their proposed tourist attraction for the harbour. Some residents and representatives from Queenscliff groups have now been approached by QHPL to be part of a new harbour subcommittee looking at new proposals. All parties involved in this long running saga now want to see the derelict Fisherman's Wharf area rebuilt as quickly as possible.

Geelong - Our Future

The City of Greater Geelong is developing a long term vision and strategy for Greater Geelong called Our Future. Our Future is an ambitious project, which aims to collect the views of 25,000

people about what the Greater Geelong region should be in 30 years - and how the community gets there.

This will take place via:

Completing the survey online at www.geelongaustralia.com.au/ourfuture

Attending a community session about Our Future

(session details online at <https://geelongaustralia.com.au/yoursay/item/8d3fd9a2b3c66f7.aspx>)

Visit the weblink www.geelongaustralia.com.au/ourfuture

Loss of Moonahs in Victoria Park

An FOI notice was served on Council by a resident (and Tree Guardians member) very concerned about the destruction of very old moonahs in our Botanic Park and the loss of important bird nesting sites for eastern rosellas, lorikeets and other important birdlife some months ago. On the final day (Council are allowed 45 days to respond) a large Council commissioned arborist report was released by officers covering vegetation in all the parks. Residents are now going through this lengthy report to identify the basis for these recent removals and to determine what other trees may be at risk going forward.

Bellarine Hwy Roundabout construction – Eventually through to Shell Rd - update.

The Roadworks associated with the new Roundabout on the Bellarine Hwy has generated lots of attention in the community of 3225. We have noted much commentary on Social media lamenting the change of the vista as you enter Point Lonsdale.

The PLCA would like to remind everyone at this point, that the construction of this new Roundabout that will link the Bellarine Hwy with Shell rd via The Point Blvd was all part of the Planning approval process for the Stocklands development quite some time ago. To add further context, many local community groups – including the PLCA - and individuals gave submissions to Planning Review Panel process at that time.

It should further be noted, that many of these community submissions were against the current format of the Stockland Development, that was subsequently approved.

Regardless, of that the PLCA has contacted the CoGG and Vicroads about issues that have arisen during construction, namely:

1. The egress into 3225 along the Bellarine Hwy, of Emergency vehicles, given the reduced shoulder width during construction – particularly as we enter the busy holiday season;
2. The issue of construction speed limits;
3. Why was this construction not undertaken during quieter periods of the year?
4. The amount of native vegetation removed & the run off from Construction into Lakers Cutting and eventually into Swan Bay.

The Following was received from City of Greater Geelong: [From Adam Farrimond Development Engineer, Infrastructure Management, CoGG – 30/11/17]

“In response to your questions to the works being completed on Bellarine highway I offer the following;

- 1. The current program for the roundabout works has a completion date of late June 2017. These works include the roundabout construction, associated roadworks and culvert improvement works.*
- 2. Bellarine Highway is a VicRoads controlled road. The conditions applied to the contractors working on the road including the speed limit and traffic lane width is dictated by VicRoads standards and approvals. In regard to the speed limits, when there is any work being undertaken on the Bellarine Hwy the speed will be 40km/hr otherwise it will be posted at 60km/hr.*
- 3. In relation to emergency access for the duration of the works, in an emergency all efforts would be made to ensure access for emergency vehicles (or a whole township evacuation). There is also the option to use Shell Rd if necessary. As part of the traffic management requirements all emergency services have been notified of the works.”*

and from Vicroads:

“Thank you for your enquiry regarding the road works on the Bellarine Hwy for the Moremac development.

The developer was requested to move the barriers further back to give a bit more space for the traffic and to black out the old line marking again to reduce the confusion. They were also asked to install "Cyclists Share The Road" signs at each end of the works. This was all done on Friday. The developer has advised us that the barriers will be required for approximately 3 more weeks {Editor's Note: This is approx. 3 weeks from the 30/11 - the date of the correspondence}, before they are removed.”

As far as the concerns about run off from Construction Phase Work, The Borough at the October Council Meeting, Cr Merriman, asked Council Officers to contact DEWLP asking for monitoring to take place during the Construction Phase of the Roundabout.

The CEO answered:

“The Acting CEO responded that the request was sent to the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water in April 2016 and a formal response is yet to be received. Council officers will prepare and send a follow up request.”

(As of the December Council meeting no response has been received.)

Construction Zone – Bellarine Hwy.



(Photographs kindly supplied by J Ellis & D. Jones)

REMINDERS:

Please remember to seek further information about any of these, or other important matters on the Borough of Queenscliffe's website.

Also the PLCA has just launched its Facebook Page; (still a work in Progress)
<https://www.facebook.com/PointLonsdaleCivicAssociation/>

Fay Agterhuis
President, Point Lonsdale Civic Association.