



# Point Lonsdale Civic Association Inc.

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

Email: [plcasecretary@gmail.com](mailto:plcasecretary@gmail.com)      Website: [www.plca.org.au](http://www.plca.org.au)

*Representing Point Lonsdale Residents since 1910*

## December 2020 Newsletter & Notice of AGM

### 2021 PLCA Annual General Meeting:

The Point Lonsdale Civic Association hereby gives notice of its 2021 Annual General Meeting.

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Friday January 8th 2021, at 7.30 pm via **Zoom Video conferencing**

Link is here (click): <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85255023576>

Or alternatively Meeting ID is: **852 5502 3576**

Our guest speakers at that meeting will be advised at a later date.

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

[Committee Nomination Form](#)

[Minutes of PLCA 2020 AGM](#)

[Appointment of Proxy Form:](#)

[Membership Renewal Form](#)

(For Postal Newsletter recipients ONLY: Please contact the Secretary for Appointment of Proxy Forms, previous AGM Minutes, and Committee Nomination Forms – if required. There will limited hard copies available on the night to collect.)

### 2021 Annual Subscription Payment and Donations

**The annual subscription payment for 2021 is due by the date of the AGM, being 8 January 2021. The subscription amount for 2020 is \$10 per person.** Donations are welcome & appreciated, 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. **Presently we cannot accept cash payments at meetings until we begin face-to-face meetings again.**

Please print the Membership Renewal Form from link above, fill in and return with your payment:

The PLCA bank account details are:

Account Name: Point Lonsdale Civic Association  
Bank: Bendigo Bank, Queenscliff  
BSB: 633108

Account Number: 131346017  
Description: Surname and Initials of the member must be shown

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, or click link below, if you know of family or friends who wish to become a member of PLCA. Just scan & email form link below or deliver at meeting, or post.

[Application for membership](#)

## **New Committee Members Required!**

The Association still desperately needs new committee of management members to help out. All the current committee members are passionate about 3225, but we do need some extra help to lighten the load for all of us. There are many issues, in particular in CoGG 3225 that we need to start to address. If you are interested, please contact the Secretary for further details: [plcasecretary@gmail.com](mailto:plcasecretary@gmail.com)

## **2020 Local Government Elections:**

In the Borough of Queenscliffe, the following Candidates were elected:

1st	Ross Ebbels	Independent	4th	Susan Salter	Independent
2nd	Donnie Grigau	Independent	5th	Fleur Hewitt	Independent
3rd	Michael Grout	Independent			

Cr's Merriman and Pizzey decided not stand for election again. We thank Cr. Merriman for his service as Borough Mayor, & Councillor over the past years, and Cr. Pizzey for his service over the last 4 years.

## **City of Greater Geelong:**

In the CoGG, the following Candidates were elected:

### **Bellarine (Greater Geelong)**

1st	Stephanie Asher	Independent
2nd	Trent Sullivan	Independent
3rd	Jim Mason	Independent

### **Kardinia (Greater Geelong)**

1st	Bruce Harwood	Independent
2nd	Ron Nelson	Independent
3rd	Belinda Moloney	Independent

### **Brownbill (Greater Geelong)**

1st	Sarah Mansfield	Greens
2nd	Eddy Kontelj	Independent
3rd	Peter Murrhiy	Independent

### **Windermere (Greater Geelong)**

1st	Anthony Aitken	Independent
2nd	Kylie Grzybek	Independent

## **Borough Elects New Mayor/Deputy Mayor.**

Following the Local Government election, at the Ordinary Meeting of Council on Thursday 22 October 2020, Cr Ross Ebbels was elected unopposed as the new Mayor of the Borough of Queenscliffe Council, for a one-year term.

Cr Ebbels has served as Borough of Queenscliffe councillor since 2016.

It was decided to not have a Deputy Mayor at this point.

Some of the tasks in early 2021 which Councillors will have to address will be Council's 4 year Plan, which effectively sets the agenda for the new Council term. Other tasks Councillors will need to consider will be the 2021/22 Budget and Implementation Plan with reduced tourist funding available but with virtually no debt. Consideration of what to do with the proceeds of the sale of Murray Road land - which is the subject of a Contract of Sale arrangement - will also be a job for the new Council.

## **Council Land Sold/Old Sims Lodge in Murray Rd, Queenscliff.**

Currently there are 2 housing subdivision proposals in Murray Road, one is for a parcel of approximately 1 hectare of filled land owned freehold by Queenscliffe Council and the other is the former Sims Lodge land on the corner of Nelson Road and Murray Road.

The former is subject to a contract of sale for a 13 lot subdivision and the latter, which is subject to a zoning change, is for 7 lots with access from Nelson Road. The amount expected from the Council land sale is

confidential at this stage and it's unknown what the sale monies will be used for given Queenscliffe Council is carrying virtually no debt.

Council has no plan for the remaining 5 hectare parcel of vacant land much of which is limited by conservation considerations. Ideally the future of this site, which adjoins Lakers Cutting waterway which is downstream and connected to the Moremac canal development, should form part of Council's upcoming 4 year Council Plan.

Local residents are also waiting to see the final outcome of Council's planned cycling track along Murray Road however it's understood a simpler solution to their original elevated boardwalk is now being contemplated. Local conservationists would like to see the existing swales either side of Murray Road retained and adjoining wetland vegetation left undisturbed.

### **Queenscliff Boat Ramp Upgrades.**

At a recent meeting the Department of Transport revealed its final plan for an improved Queenscliff Boat Ramp including a deepened 3 lane-launching ramp with 3 concrete pontoons (2 large and 1 small) and safer elongated gangways. Also planned on the western shoreline is a squid shaped Swan Bay viewing platform with seating, a piled kayak launching facility and a shallow infiltration wetland to take the run-off from the boat wash down area.

Other features include extended car and trailer parking, treated concrete and steel sheet piling for the launching ramps, sandy coloured asphalt material, use of brick infiltration pavers for the overflow car park, landscaping at the ends of the car parking areas, a possible fish cleaning area and a realigned walking track.

The boat ramp redevelopment is now into the town planning phase (planning permit application) including some possible dredging of the waterway leading to the new 3 ramp facility together with new vehicle lanes and car and trailer parking areas. A small Council reference group has been established to advise on signage, fencing, furniture and environmental elements of the design. Council will become the asset owners once the state funded project is completed.

### **Point Lonsdale Maritime and Defence Precinct (formerly Point Lonsdale Lighthouse Reserve).**

Following complaints about further vandalism earlier in the year some urgent repairs and securing of the abandoned 4 P1 Huts by Queenscliff Council has now taken place, PLCA understand Council is still awaiting advice from the traditional owners regarding a cultural and heritage study for the site before any site improvement works can take place.

A State Government grant allocation of some \$600,000 for stage one of Council's Tract Landscape Plan is still available, however little has happened on the reserve since the new roundabout was installed, the WW1 & 2 searchlight emplacement near the lighthouse was fully restored with a heritage grant and the lighthouse was painted by the Port of Melbourne. PLCA understand Council is planning some vegetation improvements on site with a local environment group. PLCA also understands approvals from Heritage Victoria will also be required before any works take place on the lighthouse reserve.

### **The Queenscliff Hub Project.**

In October an outgoing Queenscliffe Council, in caretaker mode, approved the \$5.75m KTA Hub design in Field Park with one Councillor indicating his disapproval of the contrasting zig/zag concrete and glass design. Community submissions in the lead up to the Council vote resulted in a few concessions to soften the development including use of some timber along the walkway, a landscape plan (no detail seen), retention of the front pink flowering gum (our bicentennial tree) and some corrected drawings.

PLCA believe it's important to ensure the 3 remaining parkland trees are protected before the construction phase begins.

The Historical Museum in Queenscliff's Field Park has recently been fenced off for the demolition of the building. The Library has been temporarily moved to the old Victoria Tavern as has the Visitor information centre.

A group of long-time businesses in Hesse Street initiated a petition with 70 signatures for new public toilets, which will now be the subject of a further development application in the commercial area.

At the time of writing Council options to resolve the 24-hour access toilets issue in Hesse Street have not been sighted.

This a major concern for the Association, a public toilet will be needed in the main town centre precinct.

Furthermore, the Association hopes that an ugly 'stainless steel box cubicle' toilet, found on some footpaths in around Geelong, will not appear in the historically important Queenscliff town centre.

### **Queenscliff Ferry Terminal Works.**

Works are also taking place at the Queenscliff ferry terminal including a revamped rock seawall which will form part of the ferry terminal development. It is understood the public will be allowed to use the new seawall once the terminal redevelopment is completed. SeaRoad Ferries, who are also redeveloping their Sorrento ferry terminal, have received a \$10 million federal grant for the upgrades. Little is known about the final design plan for the new Ferry Terminal Building previously approved by Council.

### **South Hesse St Redesign/Beautification.**

Council contractors are also completing the South Hesse Street re-design which includes new storm water drainage, new high lighting poles (which were a surprise) and a new car parking configuration along the western side of the street.

Also, a feature of the \$1.2 million project will be the undergrounding of the ugly overhead power lines which will improve the visual aspect of this important sea facing streetscape. The Fort side of the street will include a new walking path and drainage, however the original Destination Queenscliff plan for light shows, and a walking cycling path along the Fort wall have disappeared, as has the council \$70,000 Deloitte Fort Business Plan.

Design plans are also underway for the demolition and redevelopment of the campers amenities block inside the Recreation Reserve near South Hesse Street boundary. The amenities rebuild, which includes some unisex public toilets, is part of the \$1.3 million upgrade of the Recreation Reserve which also includes improving the power supply.



The Association welcomes this initiative. However, we note the north end of Hesse is in desperate need of similar beautification/upgrades. With the former Anchorage still vacant, and some of the Hesse St businesses closed, it presents an unpleasant view of this part of Queenscliff. It can, and should be, improved.

### **Combined Bellarine Community Associations Update:**

The CBCA ran 3 successful 'Meet the Candidates' virtual webinars, along with the individual community groups. They were very well received, and helped voters formulate their vote in the LGA elections for CoGG Bellarine and Borough of Queenscliff.

The current CBCA chair, Mr. Phil Edwards (Ocean Grove Community Association Chairperson) is stepping down in December, to be replaced by the Breamlea Association's Mr. Lawrence St. Ledger. The PLCA would like to thank Mr Edwards for his service, and in particular for the great job he did moderating the all the 'Meet the Candidates' virtual webinars.

Surf Coast/Bellarine Distinctive Areas and Landscapes (DAL) Update. (From CBCA Secretary Chris Kelly & OGCA Committee Member Ian McCartney)

Draft Surf Coast statement of planning policy released for discussion – it has some good points, and include protected boundaries placed around several settlements. Two options are presented re the very contentious Spring Creek (west Torquay, currently zoned urban growth) – return to rural zoning, or semi urban. Noted that there may be an issue for compensation for developers.

The Bellarine DAL draft is to be released early 2021. The Minister has appointed an independent advisory panel (chair Cathy Mitchell) to consider all submissions on both statements; likely that hearings will be held. Some misgivings about hearings – an opportunity for developers to use resources, and about composition of the panel

Some Points of concern:

- Language of Macedon statement of planning policy has been retained in Surf Coast statement – eg consider vs must (?)
- Amendment C395 – CoGG Settlement Strategy – is still in hands of Minister for Planning. Surf Coast statement states that C395 must be confirmed before decisions are made on statement.
- There is concern about panel members and decisions previously made by nominees to panel, and need for broader community representation.

Final, concerning Town Boundaries, an interesting note has appeared on the Bellarine DAL's website:  
<https://engage.vic.gov.au/distinctive-areas-and-landscapes-program/bellarine-peninsula>

*Please note*

*The location of settlement boundaries is a key issue of interest to the community of the Bellarine Peninsula. At this stage we are seeking your feedback on the draft vision statement and strategic policy directions to be included in the SPP. Proposed settlement boundaries, including protected settlement boundaries, will be determined following the completion of further technical work and presented in the draft SPP due to be released in the next phase of consultation planned for later this year.*

### **Final Thoughts:**

We hope that you can again come and visit again to our lovely part of the world. Things have changed – social distancing - but in some regards – our lovely beaches and environment, remained the same.

Please support our local businesses. Do you really need to go out of town to buy fuel, groceries, or other items? Yes, they may cost a little more here, but think of the assistance you may be giving to a local business owner that has had a particularly difficult year.

The Committee, and myself, wish a Very Merry Christmas and Prosperous New Year, to all Members and Friends of the Association – and to all residents of 3225.

David Kenwood - President, Point Lonsdale Civic Association.