



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

December 2021 Newsletter & Notice of AGM

2022 PLCA Annual General Meeting:

The Point Lonsdale Civic Association hereby gives notice of its 2022 Annual General Meeting.

The Annual General Meeting will be held on **Friday January 7th 2022**, at 7.30 pm, at **Point Lonsdale Primary School**, in the Learning Common.

Our guest speakers at that meeting will be BoQ Mayor, Cr. Ross Ebbels to talk about "Looking forward to 2022 and beyond", followed by a moderated Q&A session.

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

[Committee Nomination Form](#)

[Minutes of PLCA 2021 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.)

2022 Annual Subscription Payment and Donations

The annual subscription payment for 2022 is due by the date of the AGM, being 7 January 2022. 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 – however as we have lost Bendigo Bank facilities in Queenscliff, EFT payments, rather than cheque (which we have to bank in Ocean Grove) are preferred.

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

Borough Elects Mayor/Deputy Mayor.

Following the Local Government election, at the Ordinary Meeting of Council on Wednesday 24 November 2021, Cr Ross Ebbels was elected unopposed to continue as Mayor of the Borough of Queenscliffe Council, for another one-year term.

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

The Deputy Mayor position was filled this time, again for a one-year term, by Cr. Fleur Hewitt.

Proposed Bike Park – Update.

At the recent Mayoral/PLCA meeting an update was given on the proposed Bike Park plan for the Skate Park site in the Narrows. The BoQ CEO indicated that a vegetation assessment had been undertaken on an area adjoining the Skate Park with a view to installing a "light touch" Bike Park on the site. BoQ are also planning to upgrade the existing Skate Park facility, including the toilets, at the same time and DELWP have asked the CFA to find a new home for their fire services facility - BoQ are now assisting the CFA to find a new location for their shed on Council land.

The BoQ have now included the Bike Park project in their 4 year Council Plan and have allowed young bike enthusiasts to use the existing "Humps and Bumps" bike track adjacent to Rip View Car Park. Council have recently made some safety improvements for users of the "Humps and Bumps" track to make it safer for them to use. It was indicated at the meeting that local bike riders would be able to input into the design of the proposed new Bike Park, which will provide some local ownership for the facility.

The Association feels that this needs to happen rather urgently, so that damage is minimised to Orchid site, and Bunny Wood in Point Lonsdale.

Proposed Dismantling of Clarke Beacon and Marcus Hill Navigation Beacon

A recent Notice to Mariners [[Notice to Mariners](#)], shows there is a proposal, by Maritime Safety Victoria (MSV), to decommission both the Clarke Beacon (near Point Lonsdale Primary School) and Marcus Hill Beacon (Marcus Hill). The visual alignment of these two Beacons, marks part of the Marine Park boundary on both sides of the Heads. It also gives a clearance transit for Corsair Rock when inbound from the East. These 2 Navigational aids, particularly Clarke beacon are iconic to the Point Lonsdale foreshore and are used by recreational boating enthusiasts and recreational divers alike.

According to Maritime Safety Victoria, both beacons currently require significant work to maintain their structural integrity.

In addition a number of older divers might use the very prominent "Clarke Beacon" lining up with various vegetation patches as good visual transits for various dive sites along the Lonnie wall. This allows "eyes-up" navigation which in a cross current can often be easier than using a plotter or just GPS numbers.

The Association is consulting with Heritage experts in 3225, regarding Heritage aspects of the Beacons, particularly Clarke Beacon.

The Information paper is here: [[Information Paper](#)]

(Another) Tourist Park Management Review:

Queenscliffe Council have recently engaged a caravan parks consultant to review the management of their 4 caravan parks (2 in Queenscliff and 2 in Point Lonsdale) based on a brief prepared by Council officers. Following

a number of recent Councillor briefings the findings of the review are likely to be released for public engagement over the Christmas/New Year period prior to BoQ finalising the project. This review follows hard on the heels of a previous contentious Caravan Parks Study that amongst other things recommended selling off parts of Golightly Caravan Park (Council owned portion of the foreshore site) and installing elevated cabins in the Queenscliff Recreation Reserve.

So far little is known about the contents of the latest review, which is thought to include include millions of dollars of works, installation of electronic boom gates at the entrance to the parks, caravan waste dumps, reconfiguration of the camping sites to make them larger, upgrades to the electrical supply, greatly increasing the times camping/caravanning is allowed in our parklands and reserves and the installation of cabins along the foreshore perimeter of Golightly Caravan Park and Queenscliffe Recreation Reserve.

Most of these parks are zoned PPRZ, with the exception of Royal Park in Point Lonsdale which is zoned conservation (PCRZ). As has previously been our practice, The Association will be making submissions to Council about maintaining our parks once the latest review has been released. Ideally, the release of this latest consultant review together with Council's Draft Coastal and Marine Management Plan (CMMP) would have allowed a better overall picture of what is being proposed for our fragile coastline.

Transport Related Studies *(Editors Note: Key points kindly provided by BoQ CEO, Mr. Marin Gill)*

Based on recent reports it seems there are number of Borough wide studies underway at present involving transport related consultant reports, these include:

(1) A Transport Management Study for Queenscliff looking a traffic numbers, vehicle movement, and safety issues in Queenscliff. This will include the impacts of the Ferry traffic (estimated at some 250,000 vehicles a year).

It appears that Department of Transport (formally VicRoads) need this type of information before considering changes to road network and things like a reduction in local speed limits.

(2) A Pathway Strategy was recently completed (\$40,000), which was an audit of the existing footpath network identifying gaps and opportunities. This strategy will be used as the database for the Active Transport Strategy.

(3) An Active Transport Strategy looking at how best to build a bicycle and walking trail network that encourages greater non-vehicle transport movement, improves and extends local bike circulation and links to other existing and planned regional bike trails.

Apparently G21 has also received a \$150,000 government grant, which has been supplemented by contributions from the five Councils and the Department of Transport (total budget \$200,000) to develop an Integrated Transport Strategy for G21. It will look at all aspects transportation across the Geelong region including the movement of freight.

The Borough of Queenscliffe have also recently received a Federal infrastructure grant of some \$76,000 under the latest round of Local Roads and Community Infrastructure program grants taking the total amount of funding received to \$217,000.

Review of the Port Phillip (Western Shoreline) and Bellarine Peninsula Ramsar Site to recommence. *(Editor's Note: The Swan Bay Environment Association have very kindly provided the following update.)*

After a long recess due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Corangamite Catchment Management Authority (CCMA) is recommencing stakeholder engagement for the Port Phillip & Bellarine Peninsula Ramsar site review. The review will recommence in February 2022, with a series of drop-in sessions being planned. Between now and then the CCMA will be updating the information sheets and planning of the sessions for community and stakeholder participation.

Following recent Association discussions with BoQ Officers, indications are that recent technical and scientific work has been completed and the local Ramsar areas may be extended subject to a public consultation process (mentioned above) and a favourable recommendation to the Government by the CCMA.

Draft Queenscliffe Coastal & Marine Management Plan.

At its November meeting the Borough Council endorsed its long awaited draft CMMP and resolved to enter into a second stage of community and stakeholder consultation, which closes on the 23rd of January 2022. The draft CMMP covers some 115 hectares of publically owned marine and coastal Crown Land, currently managed by the Borough of Queenscliffe.

See here: [Coastal & Marine Management Plan](#)

Council indicated the CMMP also aligns with various elements of the recent 10 year Council Vision and 4 year Council Plan and is an expansion on the themes, issues and risks identified in the [Borough of Queenscliffe Coastal and Marine Management Plan, Issues Paper – June 2020](#).*[click link above to read this paper]* It also includes aspirations and concerns identified by the community during the first phase of public consultation undertaken in January 2021.

The draft CMMP also nominates a series of actions relevant to the ten (10) marine and coastal precincts identified in the Borough and outlines a number of actions in the short, medium and long term that relate to the entire area of Borough managed marine and coastal Crown land.

The 10 precinct plans extend from the Point Lonsdale back beach to the Queenscliff Boat Ramp with each having a description of the precinct, a number of proposed actions and a time frame. However from a forward planning perspective there appear to be gaps in the 18 kilometres of our coastline that are not covered by the CMMP due to other agencies having management control, these include Queenscliff Pier to the Ferry Terminal, the Harbour and Sand Island, Swan Island, coastal fringe of Swan Bay including the coastal strip from Queenscliff Yacht Club to Burnt Point and Lakers Cutting.

Many of the proposed actions are to be commended, however some of the more contentious proposals in our coastal reserves and parklands will be difficult to reconcile with the need to protect our fragile coastal and marine environment whilst also acknowledging the Wadawurrung Healthy Country Plan. Following its release, the Association propose to make a further submission with specific reference to proposed precinct actions which we understand will be largely dependent on the Borough obtaining future funding allocations.

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

(Editor's Note: From BoQ spokesperson)

Council is currently in the process of appointing a design and planning consultant to oversee the restoration of the P1 huts on the Point Lonsdale Lighthouse Reserve. Council and the Project Control Group will work together with this consultant to produce a design for the restoration, before ultimately submitting an application to Heritage Victoria for assessment. We expect design works to be completed around the end of January 2022, and the assessment process will take approximately three months, depending on the availability of Heritage Victoria and the complexity of the design.

The Queenscliff Hub Project. *(Editor's Note: From BoQ spokesperson)*

Construction on the Queenscliffe Hub is continuing, with external framing and roofing nearing completion. We anticipate construction will be complete in autumn 2022, and we'll have more to say about a public opening when an exact date is known.

Combined Bellarine Community Associations (CBCA) Update:

As you may have heard the Minister responsible for the Bellarine DAL, has delayed the process for 12 months (along with Surfcoast DAL). This news was a concern to the CBCA group, who quickly organised a delegation to meet with Ian Trezise from The Hon. Lisa Neville's office (*Note: the CBCA sought a meeting with our local member in the first instance*). The Delegation reiterated that we have worked through the process as stipulated by DEWLP and we felt that the decision to delay approval was not in keeping with Minister Neville's election commitment in 2018 for the Bellarine Peninsula Distinctive Area Landscape legislation to be passed.

At the meeting, it was also communicated to the CBCA representatives that Minister Neville has a very high regard for the work of our Associations do, and the CBCA, and the amount of work they have put in to the

Bellarine DAL, as well as their efforts to enhance the liveability of their communities and the Bellarine as a whole. In addition, Minister Neville understands our communities need a decision about the outcomes of the Bellarine DAL as a matter of urgency

Additionally, the CBCA delegation was told that Minister Neville had spoken to Planning Minister The Hon. Richard Wynne about making an early decision on the Bellarine DAL, and that her office would work with Richard Wynne's office to see if a meeting between the CBCA and Minister Wynne can occur.

The CBCA suggested to Minister Neville put out a media release as the local member reiterating her support and commitment to the DAL process and its objectives. At this point the office seemed supportive of this request.

The Group also noted comments recently in the media by other organisations and developer/property groups concerning this subject.

Breamlea Holiday Park.

From the 1 April 2022, Barwon Coast Committee of Management will take over the running of Breamlea Holiday Park, and adjacent crown land foreshore. The Association notes that according to Breamlea Association, there was no community consultation.

This was the last Caravan Park that CoGG ran. Additionally, it leaves just Buckley's Park Foreshore Reserve, and Edwards Point as some of last Bellarine Coastal Reserve that CoGG administer.

Queenscliffe & District Neighbourhood House. *(Editor's Note: From Q&DNH Spokesperson; Editor also declares that he is also member of the Q&DNH committee)*

The Queenscliffe & District Neighbourhood House Committee of Management is please to welcome Lynne Donnelly to the Coordinator position commencing 17th January 2022. Lynne comes with a wealth of experience in community development, event management and the arts.

The Community would like to thank outgoing coordinator, Donna Swan for her wonderful work for the House and the community, during 2021 and wish her all the best for her return to Melbourne.

Read here (P 16 - [[Rona Scrubs](#)]) on how our local Queenscliffe & District Neighbourhood House, "Boomerang Bags" volunteers sewed Medical Uniforms (Scrubs) for Geelong University Hospital.

Storm Damage in 3225:



This is at the Jennifer Crescent Park. This tree was over 15M high.

The BoQ at their last Ordinary meeting stated that the clean up was in the vicinity of approximately \$100,000, to clean up.



This tree was the large pine tree opposite the crossing in Point Lonsdale. The tree next to it was also removed, we assume because it was also damaged in the storm. Also shown, is after subsequent tree removal works.

Point Lonsdale Surf Life Saving Club.

By the time you read this Newsletter, the new PLSLSC clubhouse will have been official opened.

The Association was pleased to attend a special ‘Donor’s Tour’ on the 11/12/21. *(Editor’s Note: The Association donated \$1,000 toward the project in 2018)*

We are pleased that this project has finally come to fruition, and applaud the Borough of Queenscliffe’s contribution with adjoining land. This community asset will enable the PLSLSC to protect the community in the future, as they have done for the last 70 years, as we enjoy our magnificent beaches.

Congratulations Point Lonsdale Surf Life Saving Club, and in particular the New Clubhouse Capital Campaign Committee!

Final Thoughts:

We hope that you enjoy the festive season, our lovely beaches and environment.

Please continue to support our local businesses. They are integral how our community functions, and they promote sustainability, as we minimise travel. Why travel to Geelong to save a few dollars? Please remember, ultimately, if we do not support them we loose them.

We also pay tribute to our wonderful Bellarine Community Health, and Point Lonsdale Medical Group, who tackled the task of delivering to the community vaccines that protect us all. Thank you all.

We would also like to thank our 3 local primary schools, who did a wonderful job educating our youngest, during some very trying times in 2021.

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.