



# Point Lonsdale Civic Association Inc.

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*Representing Point Lonsdale Residents since 1910*

## Annual General Meeting - Minutes 5 January 2024

**Date/Time of Meeting:** 7.30pm, Friday 5 January 2024

**Venue:** Point Lonsdale Primary School – 25 in Attendance

1. **Welcome and Introduction by President Mr. David Kenwood.**
2. **Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners.**
3. **Welcome to Mayor & Councillors attending. (Note: And the CEO if attending)**
4. **Apologies.** Ms. Libby Coker MP, Ms. Sue Bendell.
5. **Matters arising from 2023 AGM Minutes.**
6. **Minutes of last Annual General Meeting – 6 January 2023**

***Motion:** That the minutes of the 2023 AGM be confirmed as a true record.*

*Moved:* Fay Agterhuis

*Seconded:* David Kenwood

### 7. Reports

#### a. **Annual Report – President Mr. David Kenwood**

***Motion:** That the Annual Report by the President be received.*

*Moved:* Lynne Furness

*Seconded:* David Kenwood

#### b. **Treasurer's Report – Treasurer Mr. Andrew Rogers**

***Motion:** That the Treasurer's Report be endorsed.*

*Moved:* Fay Agterhuis

*Seconded:* David Kenwood

### 8. Election of Office Bearers and other Committee Members:

*(All positions now declared vacant & Guest Chair (Mayor Tolhurst) to take meeting chair)*

- a. *No other nominations have been received – therefore the following nominated for respective Office Bearer positions, are elected;*

<i>PLCA President:</i>	<i>Mr. David Kenwood</i>
<i>Vice – President:</i>	<i>Ms. Fay Agterhuis</i>
<i>Secretary:</i>	<i>Mr. Laurie Muskatt</i>
<i>Treasurer:</i>	<i>Mr. Trevor Mason</i>

*(Election by Ballot will follow if there are more than one nomination for each position, otherwise those nominated are duly elected.)*

*(Guest Chairperson, Mayor Tolhurst to vacate the chair, President will now take chair.)*

b. **Motion:** *That for 2024 the of ordinary committee member positions be 6:*

*Moved: Trevor Mason*

*Seconded: Fay Agterhuis*

c. *No other nominations have been received – therefore the following Ordinary Committee members that have been nominated are elected:*

1. *Mr Andrew Rogers.*
2. *Ms. Michelle Jepson.*
3. *Ms. Lynne Furness.*
4. *Vacant*
5. *Vacant*
6. *Vacant*

*(Election by Ballot will follow if there are more than one nomination for each position – otherwise duly elected.)*

#### **9. Annual Subscription for 2025/ Subscription Due Date/2025 AGM Date:**

a. **Motion:** *That the annual membership subscription for the 2025 year be \$10 per person*

*Moved: Trevor Mason*

*Seconded: David Kenwood*

b. **Motion:** *That the annual subscription due date for the 2025 year be 3 January, 2025.*

*Moved: Andrew Rogers*

*Seconded: David Kenwood*

c. **Motion:** *That the 2025 Annual General Meeting be held on January 3 2025.*

*Moved: Lynne Furness*

*Seconded: David Kenwood*

#### **10. Introduction of Guest Speakers:**

A warm welcome to Borough of Queenscliffe Mayor, and Councillors

Mayor Tolhurst and Councillors spoke about their specific Portfolios, and future plans.

#### **11. Q&A with members:**

*Cr. Grigau – Governance & Finance spoke first;The Main points he spoke about were:*

- *Implement the Reflect Reconciliation Plan*
- *Continue to implement 2021 – 2025 Council Plan*
- *Prepare a financially responsible 2024/25 budget*
- *Continue to engage and seek input from our community on key strategic matters*

**Q1.** *Bike trails between Point Lonsdale and Collendina, and in 3225 in general.....in particular the cost of roads vs bike trails, also shelters for bike riders, training in First Aid, and Mental Health stationed at shelters, perhaps giving work experience for young people...*

*(Cr. Grigau) you know, that joint cycle pathway that was proposed eight years, (perhaps) seven years ago, and that went through Collendina looking at this.*

*It has to be that that project will definitely have to be a joint venture between our council & City of Greater Geelong and state government and private landowners. And I'm fully aware, you know, there were certain private owners that were very generous but they were handled the wrong way. And it's unfortunate those those people, so don't I don't believe, I don't know, the new owners of that land now. So I think, you know, it would be a bigger exercise and you're trying to reinstate that. But you know, it's something would be, you know, very worthwhile for us, but never will be something that you know, we would have to work together with the City of Geelong to fulfil that sort of wish and that project or something.*

*But nonetheless, that's the idea was going through a lot, a lot of private land that we know we actually don't have control here because it goes on the fringe, (it) can be quite complicated.*

*(Cr. Tolhurst) Just to tack onto that it's worth having a look at our recently adopted active transit strategy because we're not unfortunately abolishing roads roads remain the responsibility of council but the active transport strategy does look how roads work alongside more active modes of transport and infrastructure for active cost effectiveness very well, what's in there we hope is very feasible. But yeah, range of strategies to achieve it, but certainly with a focus on getting more people on to modes like bikes and will ease the vehicle (use) let's have a look at it. And EE vehicles etcetera.*

*Mayor Cr. Isabelle Tolhurst – Achievements across the 5 council portfolios in 2023. The Main points she raised were:*

- Finalised exterior restoration of P1 huts*
- Planted over 140 new trees in Point Lonsdale*
- Made accessibility improvements at Spring Beach*
- Replaced the fencing around Frog Hollow*
- Resealed Lawrence Road and Fellows Road*
- Hosted a community conversation on The Voice.*
- Developed our Reconciliation Action Plan.*
- Adopted our Active Transport Strategy.*
- Maintained the Borough's financial sustainability*

*Cr. Rob Minty – Health & Well-Being was next; The Main points he raised were:*

- Bike park concept and design*
- Disability Action Plan (Access and Inclusion Plan)*
- Promote and implement Respect 2040*
- Strengthen our role in Aged Care*

*Q2. Well, about eight years ago, my mum, who lived in her home, was assessed for Aged Care. The Council allocated a carer to mum three days a week after that four days.*

*Recently, I understand now that there is Bellarine Health have a client manager now as distinct from, (the Council) The point I'm making is that the only person I spoke to is Lisa at the Council, and the carer, Lisa, (who was) allocated to mum.*

*But there's a client manager that isn't there, (and) with Bellarine health now?*

*(Cr. Minty) - Can I ask this is be where your mum is? Is she within the borough or is she over the border?*

*(Questioner) She lived in the Borough.*

*(Cr. Minty) OK...*

*(Questioner) And she's gone now. But she lived in the Borough.*

*(Mr. Martin Gill - CEO) We might take it offline because there's been so many changes to how funding is given to different bodies over the years. So we'll get back to you on. That one, because I think it's...*

*(Questioner) It's a structural thing isn't it?*

*(Mr. Martin Gill – CEO) It's a real big challenge, so Council only gets funding for certain activities now, and it doesn't include more intensive care.*

*(Questioner) Well, that that was actually the 2nd part of my question. Council used to get quite a bit of money to provide for the careers but that allocation has changed. And there's another tier of management.*

*(Ms. Fay Agerhuis BCH Chairperson) And I might jump in here with my Bellarine Community Health Hat on. There's a whole lot of Aged care reforms happening at the moment. So you're right, Bellarine Community Health does have management, but it's very complex and these changes that are happening within the aged care reform will be rolled out slowly. They're actually delayed, and they'll be rolled out in July. So follow the conversation with what's happening in Local Government with Martin, and if you have any other questions I can follow up.*

**Q3.** *I have a question about public toilets. The worst proposal was to put public toilets that are not open after 5:00pm. I volunteer at the museum and we sit out in the courtyard at lunch and I cannot tell you the number of people who've been directed to the entrance. And two, if they're looking for the public toilets and the fact that they are closed ,and only open during the Visitor Information hours. All the people to be directed to public toilets around in the park or somewhere else, it's totally appropriate. And I'm just wondering what happened between the proposal I understood was a proposal to put public toilet in Hobson St at one stage?*

*(Cr. Minty) I'm not sure about Hobson st...They were, they may have been, were they the temporary ones that we were talking about at one stage during the development of the Hub?*

*(Cr. Tolhurst) It was the ear-marked to be in Hobson St, where we actually couldn't determine a location. Various local traders that were unsettled, and we also got the involvement of our newly established Disability Lived Experience Reference group, and we weren't able to find a location in Hobson St, as it was initially proposed, so in Council's budget planning last year, we decided that we'd sort of, we'd hold that money to build that toilet because we didn't have a location and we relook at our public toilet strategy and commit some money to improving the signage and way-finding. The existing facilities, (I) totally take your point for elderly people, or people with disabilities, potentially going any further than Hobson St, or Hesse St can be a challenge, but we're certainly gonna explore that in ensuring that we're maintaining what we've got and that the way-finding and signage, to existing facilities is sufficient.*

*(Questioner) In St Leonard's, there is one in an old shop front. And there are plenty of empty shops in Hesse St. But I wondered why that part of it..*

*(Cr. Tolhurst) It could be. If Council so determined to use it.*

*(Questioner) The signage.... Is part of that.*

*(Cr. Tolhurst) It is and we absolutely are cognisant of that and already looking at that as part of the*

commitment. Yeah, thank you, noted.

**Q4** We have an ageing population in Lonsdale, and I'm I'm a little confused. Just because I would have thought in terms of access for the frail, aged and the disabled to have vehicles, vehicle access and parking is very important, but I sense that there's a policy of reducing vehicular traffic and parking within Point Lonsdale and Queenscliff, the two are very much at odds, because for very many people in Lonsdale and Queenscliff, the car the is the only way that they get access, and move around Borough. So I'm concerned that these two policies are that's serious.

(Cr. Minty) I'm not sure about the reduction...of car parking...

(Cr. Tolhurst) Are you talking about the active transport strategy, yeah, so.

(Questioner) Yes, versus the frail, aged and disabled access.

(Cr. Tolhurst) Absolutely. So the active transport strategy, what's in what was adopted doesn't intend to remove any parking from the Point Lonsdale main street. I think the issuing of disability specific permits is actually no longer a Council function, that's a State function. So certainly we have no intention nor have a role in either giving not giving any more of those, or removing them. But the plan doesn't seek to make the streets any less accessible for cars. The active transport strategy is all about making the roadways and streets more accessible for bikes, but totally complementary. That's the whole intention of the policy. Is it how do we get these things to coexist along side one another, so that everyone is safe and everyone gets access, with elderly people and people with a disability is a real focus group for that strategy.

(Cr. Minty) You will seek promotion of foot traffic, the use of foot traffic, and push bikes, and alternative forms of transportation. But it doesn't mean we're actually going to be reducing cars.

(Questioner) In the end, much of it comes back to vehicles.

(Cr. Tolhurst) And I think we're scheduled to with the PLCA about parking concerns, so maybe that can be said.

Cr. Ross Ebbels – Heritage, Planning & Infrastructure was next, the main points he raised were;

- Finalising our Coastal and Marine Management Plan (CMMP)
- Implementing the Distinctive Areas and Landscapes Policy (DAL)
- Stage 2 - Point Lonsdale Marine and Defence Precinct development
- Urban Character Study
- Monitor State Government planning reform

Cr. Michael Grout – Environment finished the presentations, and also gave a report his past portfolio Planning. The main points he spoke about were:

- Undertake annual tree planting program
- Continue to implement Climate Emergency Response Plan actions
- Undertake cliff stability and beach health investigation
- Complete Vegetation Management Strategy

**Q5.** Given you the mentioned Environment, what you plan to do in your portfolio? That's what I'd like to hear.

*(Cr. Grout) So I've got five things which I just jotted down here from when I realised that I was supposed to be talking about environment. So roads, parks and gardens contract, we're gonna re-let it next year, so we've had the current service string contracts been renewed automatically for the last couple of years, just to keep the service going. So it's going to be re-let. There's a better identification of standards in the new contract. What we'll be looking for, of course, is well, some value for money. But we hope we're going to get a few people interested in that contract.*

*Second important thing is implement the New Tree management system. Tree management is a big public safety issue for us in local government. We've got a a new system where we're digitising our record of tree assessments, and and the works. The third thing I really want to see is vegetation management policy. We've got two elements of it. We've got a street tree policy which does actually need to be upgraded a little bit, and we have a vegetation vandalism policy, which just has to be implemented. When it happens. But we do need something on parks and gardens. We want something, I think, on nature strips. And we want something on Weed Management. So there are aspects of policy that we need to have in place. We need to have good planting programmes street tree as I said needs to be updated. You want the succession planning. And a program of succession planning, for our parks and gardens. And then weeding, I think you're gonna hit read something about weeding in the next 12 months through the Coastal Management Plan.*

*So we're talking about a proposal to better coordinate it, and have a plan prioritise it. And then when we're talking about setting up a weed reference group, and I know the councillors did ask to establish an environment reference group, so maybe the weed reference group and the environment reference group, will morphed together at some point, so that's what I would hope to see in the next 10 months,*

*Mayor, Cr. Tolhurst - Local Economy finished off the portfolio presentations, and spoke about the following:*

- Continue to Work with Point Lonsdale traders, established and new*
- Continue advocacy for faster and more reliable digital services*
- Improve the management of Council-operated tourist parks for the benefit of the whole community*
- Continue to attract a range of different events across the calendar years*
- Facilitate round-table conversations with local traders early in 2024 to understand how to strengthen the relationship with our business community*
- Explore opportunities to activate spaces and empty shops*
- Re-imagine the Shop Local campaign and platforms to respond to current context*

*She also spoke about an earlier Community Engagement for upcoming Budget Consultation beginning on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of January 2024. In addition, she mentioned Council Election – October 2024 this year for the first time, non resident property owners will have to opt in to vote in the Borough of Queenscliffe Council election.*

*Council will write to all non resident owners before July this year with an enrolment application and information about the new process.*

**Q6.** *Mayor. You talked about 140 trees planted in Lonsdale. The previous CEO promised us some more trees in (Editor: inaudible) parks in the street that have occurred. Can we have trees being planted in Queenscliff streets, and can we have some more?*

*(Cr. Tolhurst) I think we can look into that. I think for next year is 303 in streetscapes. I'm sorry, street trees, more in the parks and reserves, so we can certainly look at that.*

**Q7.** *Garden waste. And how's that going because we had a Truck come along, and all going to landfill because it was contaminated. Is that happening very often?*

*(Cr. Tolhurst) Does anyone else want to answer?*

*(Cr. Ebbels) I think pretty much the big picture it's been a huge success in contamination at the Borough of Queenscliffe of contamination. It is probably, from what we've been told, the lowest in the state, so very rarely would anything go into landfill.*

*Obviously in the future. At the moment it goes up to the country. I think it's going to Shepparton at the moment. There is a heads of agreement with the G21 Councils and Barwon Water, where eventually it will actually go out to Black Rock, and that will be basically that that will create the energy to, I think, to fuel about 500 homes out in that area, and also create the the compost also for that area.*

*(Cr. Tolhurst) But contamination is an issue, so we'll do a bit more, we're working with QCAN who are our partners delivering the climate emergency response plan. So we'll look to do a bit more community education about what can and can't go in there, at risk of having to defer things..*

*(Audience) What is the contamination?*

*(Martin Gill CEO) What's happening is it's not so much the food waste getting contaminated. People are continuing to put the wrong thing...(Editor: inaudible)*

*(Cr. Tolhurst) With recycling, it doesn't take much. For example, oil on your recyclable papers for a vast amount of what was originally recyclable cardboard and paper, to have to go to landfill.*

*(Mr. Martin Gill CEO) But overall, that (our) community is actually very good. In terms of its recycling.*

**Q8.** *With plans for building a small second dwelling, is that only going to be family to come or can it be rented out?*

*(Cr. Ebbels) Yes it can be rented out. It will address the housing shortage.*

**9 Comment.** *I'd like to make a comment about urban planning. In order to have a proper, well balanced urban plan, one has to take into consideration Fire hazards, and type of fire hazards in and around the community, and and also if the community going to engage in our tertiary studies or TAFE studies, what type of income are people in the community are going to be. Professional bodies, are they going to be trades people? Are they going to be actually going to work for themselves or their income providers? So in a community, a community actually is a very, very large area. It it can come from several thousands to millions in heavy (Editor: inaudible) ....then you have to take into consideration about chemicals. Is it going to engage itself? In industry, the type of industries and various industries to be located. And to what extent is that type of industry going to engage itself in temporal processing. I mean there's there's in the industry and they do cause significant health problems issues.*

*(PLCA President) Is that a question or are you making a statement?*

*(Statement maker) I just want to make this statement. ...this a community and it is not easy to implement a community because several millions millions of dollars to to engage and to get a quick start.*

**10 Comment.** *On Borough Bites, could we use Borough Bites more for an events calendar to list things like the swims and nippers hold events, the hot rods, the the New Year's Eve activities. You know what's going. On and when and what restrictions are?*

**Q11.** *Just one for Ross. Do you think that medium density is going to get foisted on Point Lonsdale, whether we like it or not? And the reason I say that is I've been to two separate meetings, one with Councillor Asher, when she was the Mayor, and she said to us before the DALs was passed, you can't have it both ways. If you're gonna get town boundaries, you're gonna have to expect to put up with medium density and Councillor Sullivan said the same thing a month ago, that you're gonna have to accept medium density whether you want it or not, and specifically talking about Portarlinton, what I mean is Portarlinton have had five Storey development, twice going to council. Will, the same sort of thing happen in Point Lonsdale. Not so much from the DAL's amendments (to) come through, but the stuff that Dan Andrews*

announced?

*(Cr. Ebbels) You can't have five Storey buildings. I think the the medium density from a residential point of view, Probably up to the actual, homeowners themselves with this, the new planning is coming on whether or not they choose to put a second small dwelling on their property and it's just really up to them.*

*But I think the history of Point Lonsdale though, with the generations of, you know,, a lot of those houses go back generations generations. And we haven't seen a huge amount of of changes you know.*

*Obviously they've upgraded the housing you can, you know Michael's talked about the the amount of planning applications we have with. Thinking that surely we've run out of properties by now, to actually have a planning application form, but people seem to keep coming back and reinventing things, but I think it's up to us as Council as, as as the community to say, you know, that's where you're saying The DAL's, you know enough is enough.*

*(Mr. Martin Gill CEO) The fact that a lot of our (planning) studies have not been upgraded for many years. Across Victoria, the Borough has the strongest Planning controls in the State in terms of the modern roadways, it has, Heritage by design. So it's subdivision, is unfortunately, that's always gonna occur and has been for decades. But in term of where we sit, to go from Two storeys to five Storey building it's just not in our scheme at all.*

*(Cr. Grout) And I think, look, the other side of Fellows Rd which is CoGG, and look at the heights that they allow in some of the new developments on the other side.*

*And so we've got quite good height controls in the Borough. And it's reasonably well respected by the people that are developing in the Borough. So there's always people looking at pushing the envelopes, and and I think we always have to be mindful of that, as councillors. And also, as Town Planners play that game and they play that for money.*

*So do we want to change our our urban character? In in a substantial way that you are sort of suggesting can happen in Portarlington and I would suggest most people that already have property here would rather not, most people would rather not do that.*

*But just from what experience in the three years I've been on the Council in Point Lonsdale anyway. But I haven't got data to support this, but a bit of a push to subdivide more, so we're getting a more increased density through a bit more subdivision, and that possibly because those generational houses are getting passed to sort of multiple siblings or who who, who want to maximise their property return rather than want to live in the house that that exists on the property. So you see a fair bit of this going on in Point Lonsdale.*

*In the region, what we will see is relaxing of the height controls, so we'll see more condominium type developments, townhouse type developments, along transport corridors and around shopping precincts. So like Kingston Park for example...*

*(Questioner) They've already done that at Marshall.*

*(Cr. Ebbels), ...and South Geelong, they've done the same thing.*

*(Cr. Grout) In the Borough, as a community, we can resist that.*

**Q12.** *Ross, the the exemptions that State government have actually put on a number of projects now, things like EV charges, telecommunications towers, they don't need planning permits, and you will elaborate on where all that's taken us?*

*(Cr. Ebbels) I would I probably have to take take that on notice. Maybe if you can send me an email about specifics which you want a bit more information on, but certainly certainly think I think the communication towers (are) to the Fed, it was the Federal people interfering with that one. With the communication tower so rather than going through a planning process.....*



*(Questioner) It's causing some angst in the community where people having their their rights taken. You know, they they feel powerless.....*

*(Cr. Ebbels) I think the comfort, I think as Martin said, is that from a residential (Planning perspective) we have really strong, you know, planning schemes. But, there are things which the State and Federal government are changing which will affect us in the future, absolutely.*

*(Cr. Tolhurst) And very quickly the other forums, this Council sits on are the Municipal Association Association of Victoria, who are advocating to the State to say that what they're proposed is sort of one size fits all modifications to planning schemes are not necessarily the way forward. There needs to be a more nuanced approach and the Council has a very significant role in communities, as the closest conduit to community in all planning decisions. So there is advocacy happening at that level as well.*

*(Cr. Ebbels) And there's certainly the status of them looking at NSW, who've done a probably I think maybe one or two years ahead of us in the state of Victoria, they've been concentrating on Sydney, Wollongong and Sydney's outer of West, and left the smaller councils alone, they want to concentrate on those big, big growth areas, not the small.*

**12. PLSLSC Back Beach Base – Information session by PLSLSC personnel.**

Mr. Chris Harper, Mr Matthew Ponsford, and Mr. Andrew Sutherland spoke about plans to rebuild the Back Beach Base.

More information can be found here: <https://www.plslsc.com.au/new-back-beach-base>

**13. Next Annual General Meeting: 7.30pm, Friday, 3 January 2025**

**14. President Closing Remarks & Thank to who participated.**

**15. Meeting Closed. At 9.30pm.**