

COOTHARABA COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION INC

Quarterly General Meeting No.89

Minutes of Meeting

Where: Upstairs, Lake Cootharaba Sailing Club, 24 Boreen Parade, Boreen Point

When: 9:00 am to 11:00 16th November 2024

Attendance: The attendance sheet showed 29 members and visitors in attendance, as signed in on the day as follows.

John Olds, Rob Dessaix, Karen Eddy, Ada Medak, Shaun Walsh, Julie & Alan Tomley, Ashley & David Wood, Mick Capelin, Trevor Clarey, Robyn Mercer, Mareen Hutchings, Kim Jones, Ralph Black, Warren Kuskopf, Chris Radin, Grace Porter, Frank Wilkie, Matthew Noffke, Bruce (Charlie) Charlesworth, Sarah Pugh, Mike Willcocks' Debbie Cassidy, Neil Cassidy, Sylvia Bannah, Margaret Moon, Paul Armstrong, A. Mobinlein

Apologies: Wendy and Doug Straker, Tara Ferrier, Cr Nicola Wilson, Pete Dorney, Jessica Phillips, Tom Wegener

Item	Details (Please note: Underlined text are hyperlinks to documents on CCA website)	Responsibility(s)	Motions		
			Moved	Second	Carried
1.	Acknowledgement of Country. Rosie Edgar gave the address and welcomed everyone. She asked us to welcome the summer season, the fauna and flora, fish and the weather of our lands. Guests and members were asked to think of an item that has been passed down from family or through generations. Think of those items that have a meaning for you and a heartfelt feeling for it. The longer it has been in the family and holds a sentiment you can feel, is how those that came before all of us feel about their lands and by doing this remembrance, you can get a taste of the depth of how the indigenous people have felt for their lands and what has been passed down. We remember and pay respect to the different tribes such as the Butchela, Waka Waka, Kabi Kabi groups – all the local tribes and visiting peoples even from further south.	RE	N/A	N/A	N/A

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	We acknowledge those elders and generations and we can feel or have a taste of what it is like to belong to country, by thinking of how we feel about those things, handed down to us all by past generations. Rob D thanked Rosie and said how her addresses were always different and interesting.				
2.	Introduction was given by Rob D Safety and general instructions were given on exits, toilets, emergency signs, and water. A thankyou to all for giving up their time to come along, and especially the Councillors who were joining us and hoping all can join in some discussion time. The President endeavoured to hold the general meeting quickly and hoped all members had read the agenda and minutes that had be previously sent out and put on the website. Paula V is our website manager and all our documents are on that site. It is also accessed via a QR code as well. Members are always asked to read them prior to the meeting. Then we can go quicker and move to discussion.	RD	N/A	N/A	N/A
3.	Welcome all our guests: Noosa Shire Council Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors. A welcome was given particularly to our Shire Mayor, Frank Wilkie and a welcome to the other councillors such as Amelia Lorentson, Karen Finzel and Brian Stockwell, who would be in attendance for all or part of the meeting. Our Mayor said he was happy to be here and listen to our community concerns. Other Council employees were in attendance too.	RD	N/A	N/A	N/A
4.	All documents from General Meeting 88 have been on the website and sent to members. This will allow most of the meeting to be spent with the Mayor and Councillor's information sessions and questions. General Meeting 88 documents for members' perusal and comment prior to the meeting are as follows: General Meeting 88 minutes (sent to all participants over a month ago and all received comments are incorporated) The previous minutes were moved by Ada M as being correct and seconded by Charlie C.	RD/JO/RE	Ada M	Charlie C	Yes

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	All members agreed the minutes by carried as true and correct. - Finance/Treasurer's Report – Rosie E can answer any questions on these. Accepted as correct. - Correspondence Register – Secretary can show any if required - mainly emails - Management Committee Report – Rob happy to answer any questions and gave a brief outline on the CCA and how it had been running for 23 years. The Association is still here to provide a voice for our community and to bring matters that the community are concerned about, to the relevant parties and this party, at times, is the Noosa Council.				
5.	Foreshore Working Group progress with Noosa Shire Council. Rob spoke on the history of the foreshore group and how it was formed to help aid the Council in knowing what our community felt was needed. John O continued the discussion explaining who was on the foreshore group and that a meeting had recently been held. Consisted of a number of our members and the sailing club, as well as Warren K from SES and Bushcare rep, Doug Spraker. Funding was sourced from the Queensland Government and originally a foreshore plan was presented to the community and council so all were informed. It was decided that front main beach and foreshore renewal should be and was the first dealt with. The Moon Seat area was enhanced and reinstated in it's spot. The main beach area is not finished and it will be continued. A reminder was given to look at what is happening down at Noosa River foreshore areas as they are being worked on too. Bad erosion is a main problem and how it affects the road sides and a notice will soon be going into the notice board down front. A plan was shown on the screen for members to see and it was explained briefly by John. * Sandstone blocks will be used and road edges to be worked on. Dave and Paul were on site and are looking at this with the council workers. Rip Rap rock and spoon drain areas that will allow it to have water run off better. The water access areas ie: boat ramps, are to be resurfaced and to allow water circulation and help with sheeting waters so they do not erode as much as in the past.				

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	Copies of the map were brought along by Shaun Walsh and were able to be viewed during MT. Shaun Walsh commented on this. He said there is a commitment to CCA to address each of these sites and it is being tackled as soon as they can. Natural channelling of water is being looked at to better manage erosion issues. Budget did not previously allow money for this. Shaun hoped there would be good discussion and that the council are looking at this and budgeting it in the next round. John O suggested it could still be a temporary solution and we are aware that the natural processes that occur here are being addressed. The flood waters and the meter high waters do some scouring and that actions need to be looked at for a longer-term solution. Shaun W gave advice that the young council worker Sebastian (the Engineer) will be looking at some options to better manage main beach and may provide options at probably the next Feb meeting. Dunns Beach was brought up as there is the erosion at the Dunns beach's southern end as mature trees are falling in and Shaun agreed that the council will be looking at that too. As well as Day picnic area.				
6.	Grey water discharge from vans and motorhomes etc. The problem is about discharge (grey and black water) from Vans and Motorhomes that camp and visit our area. This is a repeated issue which has had discussion at other meetings. The concern as to what is the campground advising to users, and what they are told to do with their waste? As this campground is on the Lake edge and we are hoping that policy is understood by camp management and by the users of the campground. We have observed a few breaches. Photos from Charlie C were put up on the screen for people to see. Charlie C spoke that he saw 3 issues . A In vans, people use own showers and toilets. Concern is that the drainage goes into the park grounds and could go into lake				

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	B Discharge onto the road in town as they leave. May be grey water but still a concern C When following on a push bike or motorbike it can have a smell or health worry – he felt it is horrible to follow behind these vehicles that are discharging. Ada M added as to whether it can it be enforced about using dump points and what could be done about it if the camper did not follow the rules? Robyn Mercer, the Council “Commercial Business Advisor” replied about this topic. There should be no individual discharge on each site. Rules for Council Parks do not allow any discharge in grounds. People are supposed to use dump sites. Within the campground there is clear messaging and in the park rules and the managers do try to make people aware who are using the grounds. Clear signage for this is where your grey water goes, as well as the black water. She suggested that maybe some more monitoring within the camp ground and work with managers to get this happening efficiently. Robyn said the Council do want to help and will report back on this and the Council wants to protect the environment also. Paul Armstrong (Lake Cootharaba Sailing Club Commodore) asked if the Council can book people? (fine) Photographs would be needed and Amelia said she will need to review that? Frank W agreed. Charlie said he is happy to do this if needed. Ada said about signage and if it could be increased? Robyn commented that signage can be too much the research suggests that too much does not help and can cause users to ignore it. Maybe some at the dump points and on way in and out could be checked on. But more signage can have a negative affect according to some researchers. A member, Julie Tomley suggested that as we have excellent artistic talent in the town of Boreen Pt that maybe somebody could be asked to do a humorous, funny cartoon style of sign with more appeal. Could that be an idea? She suggested a quirky sign may be eye-catching and better. Great suggestion Robyn said. Conveying a message visually is great. Speaker said that talented people here in town could maybe do the sign. Children do take notice of signs, especially quirky and will tell parents. The attendees were reminded that using buckets for catching waste under vans was used regularly years ago.				

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	Robyn said that in the 3 Council van parks they are hoping to tap into the younger generation to know the campground rules and regulations. She agreed with the speakers. Paul A asked if it is free or a charge, to use the dump points? Robyn said it is free and not a money issue. Signs show the points. John O asked if it is a legal requirement? Robyn replied that, No it isn't. When bookings are done they are reminded of rules, eg rowdy noisy behaviour and consequences or using facilities incorrectly. Council can ask campers to leave. A suggestion that a Village Precinct Group, in our association, could look at rules and codes of conduct for our village and campgrounds – would council be happy to see those? Robyn said it would be happy to accept any information and points of view as the visitors may come from across the state and interstate visitors as well.				
7.	General camping ground matters Apart from the signage and waste discharge, these topics were discussed as well. Boom gates - We want the Council to be aware that within the campground and the local day picnic area, or the beach walks, local residents still want and need to be able to have accessibility to these places. Similarly, we would still like access to the sports ground. Historically the locals have always been able to go to Dunns beach and take their cars in to use the beach and take equipment. Eg sail boards or kite surfing equipment. Robyn M replied that people who are not paying guests should not be in there. Emergency situations mean the campground need to know who would be in there. It is a duty of care to look after contractors and guests in the park. Also, the managers need to know what people may be overstaying their time in the park. The gate was used as some vehicles were not supposed to be in the park. Rosie E mentioned how flooding and fires have happened in our areas. As well as that locals do go in to the campground areas and help clean up and gates would restrict this. Trees and vegetation rules have changed. Robyn mentioned in 2019, at that time – fires were allowed. Now they are not just able to be lit wherever or whenever a camper wants. A solution is that the brasiers can be hired. Buying firewood does protect the environment. Fire pits are being put in place and this is working and coals can be put into the waste coat pits. Mangers should be checking daily.				

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	Robyn felt in her experience, there were safe ways to manage fire and safety of guests. John O - concerned with people dragging wood out of the local tree and beach areas. He suggested it be highlight in the camping code of conduct. They need to know not to take the old wood or what some see as rubbish etc This provides habitat for Blue tongue lizards and other small creatures. Robyn M agreed and she has taken that on board, and is pleased to have been told about that. Margaret M - She added that there has been bark off trees, near where the old tennis courts used to be. This should be added to education of all campers, that it is unacceptable destruction.				
8.	Current location of Boreen Point Dog Off Leash Areas. Robyn said that Dog registration checks can be done. Pets should be registered. There is a database and it can be checked. There are park rules in place about leash use, dog behaviour and barking. If an owner does not comply, they can be asked to go – warnings can be given. This is policed in the park, from the booking stage until how the pet behaves while staying. Ada M - Concerned that the Dunns beach area has lots of dog use and it appears to be an off-leash dog area. She is worried about wildlife and commented that there is not as much there now. She feels it is important to either make it a Off dog beach area or not. She would like a sign to state which it is. Locals do use it. (Is it a no dog beach or not?) Shaun Walsh - responded that the foreshore around north, towards boat ramp and sports recreation area are the only 2 areas of off leash for dogs. Locals need to educate locals and it is a good time to maybe look at making Dunns a dog area. The campground needs to be consistent with this. Mick C - Submission sent to council about dog off leash areas. Was sent 3 ½ years ago. He felt no adequate reply. Margaret Moon wrote and said only 1 access for dogs. Don't take it away. Ada talked about size of area. Shaun W - suggested our group resubmit suggestions on dog off leash and on leash areas to council and help council officers know what is needed in our community.				

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	Another point was then added by John O about our oval and that motorbikes are a problem too. Suggests that a solution is needed but perhaps we do need a working group and to give assistance to management committee. The Management committee does not want to make the decisions themselves. They represent our community but need community discussion and decisions. Margaret M, Warren K and Mick C - said they were passionate about this topic. They can be approached to discuss further. An added mention of Boom gates at this time, was that they have caused excess parking outside the gates and along into day picnic areas. How do we deal with that? Can campground absorb the extra cars and the extra cars in a more formal way. Rather than have them park in the Day Picnic Area which is full enough with cars and less parking now. Warren K spoke on the fact that it needs a better solution as it is a joint use area for the locals and the campers. Rosie E said that locals to do help in times of flood and these type of gates etc do stop local accessing the areas. The flow on effects were recognised by Councillors. Amelia L said that they will look at how those things are affecting other areas. John O said that the council should be able to see now, how our working groups can be helpful with telling locals and, also getting back to council. Shaun W said that is a good model to follow and happy to say that the Council is always happy to liaise with them. Frank also commented how he felt this was a good way to go forward with help from a working committee.				
9.	Advance Notice or at times lack of notice re events. Rob D spoke about communication and that it is improving and that it can be sent to us and all the other groups of the community. LCSC, Boreen Bushcare and the Apollonian Social Club and our CCA group. Is our CCA worth continuing to operate? Rob asked. Sentiment of Community suggests to continue to liaise with the council and Frank hopes it is continuing and the CCA continues to be a voice for our community.				

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	Ada M- She asked that the Council and Government Departments need to make sure that the information is distributed and not rely on everyone going through all the social media and lots of avenues to see what is happening. Maybe one place where all relevant information and notices can be sent. She felt all the local townships were not being made aware of what was happening. She felt it is not done from the point of view, of getting the dates and information out to all. Amelia L spoke - she said she understood the lack of communication and felt they are trying to improve this and the council are aware of the issue.				
10.	Social Housing and how this may relate to Boreen Point and surrounding Cootharaba area. Frank W spoke about this and said that land in the shire had been chosen and there are 2 sites already that the council is looking at. None for Boreen Point and the council would let us know if there are any plans for Boreen Point or Cootharaba being discussed.				
11.	Clarification of Council's understanding of the history and purpose etc of the CCA. Rob and John both commented. The member group bring issues that the community are talking about and need solutions for and not just management committee ideas. A brief history was told by Rob D. John O added that the CCA members bring up key issues that the community are concerned about and then come to us by letter, email or at the meetings. It is not just management brainstorming ideas.				
12. C	Removal of bore water reticulation from camping ground and the Boreen Point foreshore. A quick history overview of the situation was explained by Shaun W. 2 bores were in the town - one bore fed to a holding tank in town which then fed down to bore taps on the front.				

	Total failure of the pipe network was found due to very old infrastructure and very low water pressure and not suitable for the fire wardens to use. Water is now to Trickle feed. Salinity was a problem for toilets and public facilities as well. Even in dry periods no water is coming through so water trucks do need to be coming in. Large tanks are being added at toilets. Pressure taps as well. Topping up will be on scheduled water stops. The Council is wanting a better quality for town and a better solution. There was a reliance on washing down boats using the bore water by LCSC club members. That issue is being worked on, so that help can be given to provide access to washdown. Staff are trying to work quickly for the toilets. That has already begun. The Water for Fires - this meeting is happening soon. Fire staff will get water tankers and they come into town and tap into whatever water is available and to keep water supply at the right pressure. This is a standard practice in all rural areas. Shaun mentioned the 22nd Nov disaster and resilience event. If an additional meeting is needed, he is happy to be involved. David Wood (LCSC) - speaking for Halley in the kitchen shop downstairs. She has advised of toilet is not working on more than one occasion. Robyn - spoke on looking at water cartage and what could be happening. They are already looking at monitoring water levels, such as over at North Shore to save trucks going over the ferry as little as possible. Anne Marie O'B to Shaun - Do locals need to have a special fitting for use of water from their own tanks? Warren K answered and said that they don't need a fitting to suck water out from local tanks. But water levels may be low anyway at those times, so it may not be needed or possible. Paul A - LCSC - spoke about tap removal across road. He mentioned he had phoned about the tap disappearing. He was told it was resolved. He understands why it is not working, but the communication was that it was resolved. He feels that it hasn't been resolved. Shaun aims to improve that relationship, he looks forward to meetings about the water supply but solutions need to be found. Frank W said the communication job program system does tell users that it has been resolved but it may have been passed on to another department or area, to work on a solution. Discussion ensued.				
			Mick C	K Eddy	

	Robyn M - Water quality is important. In late 2020 there was a move away from using the bore and providing better quality water for any users. Longer term solutions need to still be found and all hope that communication comes again. Shaun happy to be on the council end to discuss and look at solutions. John O asked if anyone has seen the two large tanks at the Pomona NDSHS campus? He commented on “amenity and disaster management” and that tanks need to be fire proof to be effective in our area. Motion sent by Mick Caplin - original motion has had an amendment added that “The CCA request the Noosa Shire Council install a pipeline and water taps on the Boreen Point foreshore from the boat ramp to the Dunns Beach Day Picnic area and supply these with water from either the water tanks at the public toilet facilities or from a new underground water bore”. He felt that 3 issues were addressed but the water taps along the front still concern him and that the cost is an issue. Why is there and has not been a fund to replace and maintain over time? This needs to be put into budgets. Reasons for foreshore taps – • Picnic area users need somewhere to clean up eg plates or tables • Swimmers like to wash off salt • Sailors do like to wash down craft and boats • Fishermen need to clean their catch and equipment • Bushcare Group need water for plantings • Events held by social groups especially large events, need water for cleaning up He noted that our town has gone from having a tap every 70m to having one every 400m and he felt this in not satisfactory and replacement is a must. Shaun W responded that he did feel it was a fair request and will be happy to consider those points. Cr Karen Finzel responded about disaster management and how funding needed to be added to the upcoming budget. She felt that Council needed to look at funding options as a lot of money could be needed and asked if Frank W does know if there is money available? Shaun said there may be money from disaster and resilience money. The council were to look into this for some funds.				
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	John O said that Bushfire is probably the most likely disaster for our area. The type of vegetation is highly flammable around our area such as tea tree and eucalyptus. Rural Fire Brigade needs to be able to tap into bores or similar. Fire Levies were mentioned that they are for reserves and could be explored to be in this management. Amelia and Shaun commented on topic and showed support for finding solutions.				
13.	Cootharaba/ Boreen Point - Noosa Council Disaster and Resilience Event. Disaster Resilience Event will be held on 22nd November 2024 on Friday afternoon between 4 – 6pm on the area opposite the Sailing Club. All emergency groups will be there. Experts will be there to answer questions and provide education on what to do. There will be food, give away kits, ice-cream to eat and equipment to look at. John O thanked council and group for doing this. If wet weather it will be upstairs in the LCSC. Warren F from SES spoke – Our community is in 5 areas and all are said to be vulnerable. How do we become more resilience? To let everyone know he commented that people should know that house fires are looked after by the state red truck fire stations. They will take time to get here. House fires can be very quick so be prepared. SES says that the storms can be localised and quick. They go through quickly. Boreen Pt Disaster Management group meet and it is there to help the community know what is happening. The messaging comes from the local SES. Warren spoke about how important this event is. He warns to remember electricity can go off and pumps may not work. Phones may not work. Sandbags are in town and he sent a message out and it did go out to 3 of the major groups in town and the system seemed to work. John O said about Warren living in town. He is an asset to our community. Trevor Clarey - asked if there could be a problem with using the fire services device to take the Lake water? Warren could not answer it but felt he had not heard it was a problem.				
14.	Morning Tea (tea, coffee, biscuits, cake (Rosie) fruit, dip and crackers) These were set up on tables for all to enjoy.	Kaz & Ada			
15.	Any questions members have from perusal of previous meeting documents and new business to be dealt with at the next meeting and to send in any ideas to secretary. John,	All			

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	the Secretary, said he would send out information as it comes to him on these topics or have it put on the website. He reminded that our association does not use Facebook. We do sometimes use the notice board down the front of the sailing club.				
16.	Next Meeting Rob D thanked all for coming and for Council guests who have come along and been involved. Suggested date is Saturday 8 February 2025 for the next CCA Meeting.				
17.	Close 11.08 am				