

Cootharaba Community Association Inc (CCA)

President's Report – May 2023 – Annual General Meeting 12th August 2023

President's Recognition and Appreciation Summary

I have an erratum to own up for, to announce a correction to that stated in my President's Report at last year's Annual General Meeting (AGM). I then announced a correction that May 2022 was the end of the CCA's 19th year. I was wrong (again)!

That year was actually our 20th year since its formation in May 2002. Subsequently this year, on 29th May 2023, the CCA had completed its 21st year – our '21st birthday'.

The CCA was formed at the encouragement of Noosa Council back in 2002 as part of its Community Consultation Strategy when the council was seeking to stimulate discussion and involve its citizens in planning and decision-making processes.

The inaugural meeting confirmed that this new body should act as a conduit for community opinion rather than lead on issues decided by the committee. Its aim was 'to represent the (Cootharaba) community on issues that affect the community'.

To achieve that the newly formed CCA and its active members communicated with the defined Cootharaba community via letterbox drops and questionnaires, collating the feedback and taking the results to council, state or federal government as the circumstances required.

This means of communication was quite demanding on the volunteers, and cumbersome by today's standards. It was however very rewarding on issues such as:

- 1 Laguna St residential/commercial development proposal,
- Boreen Point Village Precinct concept
- public amenities at the boat ramp and day picnic areas, and
- Titanium Enterprises' 'The Edge' Noosa Resort.

The original communication method is a technique of the past and has been replaced by the internet, email communication and websites. This year it is very apposite to revisit the origin of the CCA, to refresh the drivers behind the aim of the CCA and to seek younger and fresher interests and ideas as to supporting our community and council going forward.

Other than again expressing a genuine thank you to all the association members over the past 21 years, I further extend that appreciation to the various inaugural committee followed then by the Management Committee members who donated their time and energy to running the organisation. These members often put their hands into their own pockets to cover expenses, not reimbursed due to the very tight budget during low levels of membership in those early years.

Names that come to mind from the inaugural year and earlier years, in no particular order are: Julie Sherman, Dorothy Snell, Ralph and Jean Duffield, Tim Warren, John Butterworth, Russel Tapp, Heather Preston, Rhonda Killeen, Keith and Anna Pugh, Angela Bryan, Silvia Bannah, Di and Rod Elsworth, Alex Hajkowicz, Jeremy Skinner, and Charlie Charlesworth. My sincere apologies if my failing memory has omitted any past active members.

In addition to this team there has been ongoing support for the CCA by other active members of this community that includes the Friends of Kinaba (FOK) and individuals such as Ada Medak and David Hanby.

In the last couple of years, we have enjoyed the commitment from the recent, new CCA Management Committee of John Olds, Tameson Godfrey, Rosey Edgar, Mareene Hutchings, Anna Day, and Paula Viljoen.

I now express my appreciation to this new blood, the new Management Committee, who have needed to cover for me for about a third of this year while I have been travelling away.

In that time, following their first and previous and most recent introductory year, they have added their more modern and professional skills and commitment to the CCA. They are to be commended for making that contribution while running their own households, families, businesses/careers and picking up after the president who, it seems, can't even count the past years accurately!!

This is not to say that previous management teams didn't make equivalent commitments to this community. They definitely did! And every one of them needs to be remembered for their years of contribution ranging from 1 to 19/20 years by the gifting of their time and energy in those first 2 decades of service to this community.

I think we would all recognise that in these more modern times, the challenges are greater in many ways for those who come after us.

To that end I request from our community and its members, ongoing support in recognising the effort these people put into 'our place in paradise' and to continue to support them with time, kindness, service, respect, membership fees, ideas, occasional donation of professional skills or whatever else we can do in order to make a difference and ease the load for the new Management Committee going forward.

Key CCA actions this past year

1. Cooloola Great Walk: (CGW). 'Watching brief' while Department of Environment and Science (DES) still reviewing the submissions from the traditional owners, some of whom had not been invited to input or comment on the location or scope of the CGW footprint or tourism proposals. Ada Medak has kept up with the progress in that area as best she can and will give us a current summary for the meeting that follows this AGM.
2. A 'watching brief' for the Air Services Australia (ASA) Flight Path Changes Review, still under way. David Hanby has offered his time to review updates from ASA and no concerns appear warranted for our community at this time.
3. Noosa River Stakeholders Advisory Committee (NRSAC) assistance with Maritime Safety Qld (MSQ) changes to the moorings and vessel management in the Noosa River. The NRSAC has completed its community consultation, reported back to MSQ, informed a new draft of the Noosa River Plan and has now been disbanded. John Olds can update the membership on any other details in the meeting that follows this AGM.
4. Foreshore repair status. John Olds will provide a brief update at the Meeting that follows this AGM
5. Noosa Corporate Plan. A very slow ongoing process. John Olds will provide a brief update at the meeting that follows this AGM.
6. Stingrays, trees, pets and many other aspirations and inspirations will be formulated into a *Welcome to New Residents* booklet.
7. Other matters brought to members' attention in the Christmas and May CCA updates and/or directly on the website included:
 - a. A couple of Material Change of Use notices and links to other information on [Noosa Shire Council Public Notices](#) and [Have your say on Applications](#) webpages.
 - b. Links to [Sandy Bolton's website](#) for state matters directly related to Noosa and the Queensland Government's [Get involved](#) webpages for other matters relating more broadly to Queensland.

Actions from other community groups worth flagging at this time

1. Teewah Landing Strip. FOK has been following this matter with Noosa Council. Ada Medak and David Hanby can share an update in the meeting that follows the AGM.
2. Disaster Management Plan status. An update will be provided by the Local Disaster Management Group's representative at the meeting that follows this AGM.

CCA learnings and internal processes

Suggestions for the following General Meeting (GM) and subsequent Management Committee meetings.

The need to review what went well in the past, whether we are still on track with our aims, or what we need to change or improve by way of effective communication with our community and elected council, state and federal representatives and operational housekeeping gaps.

1. Insurances due 14th November: Quotes not available before 3rd October (6 weeks prior)
Phone call to Debbie (Consolidated Insurance Brokers) 3rd Aug.
Deb guessed a premium in the order of \$780 for \$5M PL cover.
Also suggested \$1400 for \$10M and \$2800 for \$20M cover.
2. Review of the printer needs for which the FOK donated \$250 early this year. Discuss options with Members at the meeting following the GM. Consider options for access to Lake Cootharaba Sailing Club's (LCSC) printer.
3. Review of effectiveness of the CCA website in terms of managing communication.
4. CCA is in the process of developing some new signs and information flyers re our organisation. A draft will be presented in the GM that follows.
5. Review electronic and hard copy filing policy, naming conventions, holders of the documents and accesses. Do we invest in One Drive, or external large memory capacity.
6. Cyber protection for email address and CCA laptop. What do we need? It appears we have none now.

Rob Dessaix. (August 2023)