

Cootharaba Community Association Inc (CCA)

President's Report – May 2024 – Annual General Meeting 11th May 2024 - Extended

Welcome to the 22nd AGM of the Cootharaba Community Association Inc (CCA)

Background:

For the benefit of any newcomers present and a brief reminder to our members and others present from our community;

The CCA was formed at the encouragement of Noosa Shire Council back in 2002 (22 years ago this year) 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 Cootharaba Community, defined in its Constitution, 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 very demanding on the volunteers, 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.

Those early communication methods referred above are a thing of the past and have been replaced by the internet, email communication and websites.

At the beginning of this, the 23rd year of the CCA, it is appropriate to revisit the origin of the CCA, the input of members, the support and input of the Community and refresh the drivers behind the aim of the CCA.

In May 2021 there was a need to delay the AGM so we could canvass the community for new interest in representation on the MC. That met with success in Aug 2021. Since then we have had a small turnover of MC members resulting in the recent CCA Management Committee of: John Olds, Tameson Godfrey, Rosey Edgar, Paula Viljoen, Tara Ferrier, Karen Eddy, Ada Medak and myself.

It is important that we recognize the sacrifices these people have made to ensure the CCA has continued to represent the community. The new MC members 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 I believe is past his “use by date”!

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 up to 22 years of the gifting of their time and energy in those first 2 plus decades of service to the community and place we all cherish.

I think we would all recognize that in these more “modern” times, the challenges may be greater in many ways for those who come after us.

To that end I request from our community and its member's, the ongoing support in recognizing the effort these people put into "our place in paradise" and to continue to support them with time, appreciation, membership fees, ideas, occasional donations of professional skills or whatever else needed in order to make a difference and "ease" the load for the Management Committee going forward.

On reflection this year I share my recollection of the changes in Boreen Point and our immediate Cootharaba Hinterland over the last 22 years where the CCA made itself available to "Represent the Community on Matters that Affect; the Community;

In 2002; We had;

- *A Pub, which was the Hub of the community and thanks to the Paynter Family we still have that, even though there were at least 3 periods where interim Licensees had us wondering if that would return.
- *Two shops providing Food, Groceries & other fare; Now we have none operational.
- *One well respected Restaurant, now none.
- *A Gallery, now none.
- *A Guest House, now none.
- *A Jetty, now a Viewing Platform with no authorized vessel access.
- *A Council Camping ground and a Caravan Park, now a combined council facility.
- *A Sailing Club for members and sailing only, now a Sailing Club which also makes its facilities, including a commercially operated Kiosk (five days a week) accessible to the community for various purposes as long as they don't clash with sailing calendars.
- *A community sports field, tennis court and a small skate board facility, now an open grass field with a small BMX track and basketball hoop.
- *Two small Residential developments at the entrance to the village and now one small acreage and one small residential development off Junction Rd, but no other substantial developments adding pressure to the Lake or existing facilities other than the expansion of the Elanda Point National Park Lease.

All these changes will have Affected the Community to some extent, however not all change is permanent and No Association can prevent or direct all change..

Going forward; the strength of the Community Association, the support of community members for and involvement with the Community Association and the Associations relationship with Council and Local State Members in particular will enable the community to minimize unwanted impacts affecting it.

Year 23; An opportunity moving forward!

Key CCA Actions this past year.

1. Foreshore Repair status. John Olds will provide a brief update at the General Meeting that follows this AGM in respect to the Working Group's actions and pending review with Council.
2. Continued effectiveness of communication with our Membership and wider community by efficiencies in sharing the workload within the Management Committee.
3. Seeking assurance from the Noosa Council CEO to include to consult this community, through the CCA, for any concepts about a possible Master Plan proposal for Boreen Point before the ideas are cast in stone.
4. Continuing our working relationship with Frank Wilkie and agreeing the CCA invite the new councilors to our August General Meeting to meet our Community.

Rob Dessaix. (May 2024)