

The RED HEAD VILLAGES ASSOCIATION (Inc)



North Bendalong, Bendalong, Berringer, Cunjurong, Manyana

DRAFT MINUTES – GENERAL MEETING *(Subject to Approval at the next General Meeting)*

Saturday 21 January 2023
Yulunga Hall, Manyana at 4.00 pm

1. The President's Acknowledgement of Country, Welcome and Report were presented in the AGM earlier at 3pm

2. Present:

As per recorded in the attendance book

3. Apologies:

Martine Bright, Moo D'Arth, Margaret Rasmussen, Patricia While, Peter Winkler

4. Declaration of any Potential Conflicts of Interest:

None were declared.

5. Minutes of the previous General Meeting:

It was moved that the draft minutes of the previous General Meeting on 29 October 2022 (which were included in Preliminary Reading for, and prior to this meeting, on the RHVA website) be accepted as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Carol McBride

Seconded: Gary...Weinert?.....name should be in the attendance book?

Passed: Unanimously

It was noted that the action arising would be covered in the Agenda following.

6. Correspondence:

The correspondence, in and out since 3 December 2022 was included in the Secretary's Report under Preliminary Reading for, and prior to this meeting, on the RHVA website (at Attachment 1). There were no questions

7. Reports:

9.1 Treasurer's Report:

A. Boyce spoke to his Treasurer's Report which was posted [under Preliminary Reading for the General Meeting and is at Attachment 2.](#)

There were no questions.

Andrew Boyce moved that the Treasurer's Report be accepted.

Seconded: Karen Weinert

Carried

9.2 Secretary's Report:

See Attachment 2, also posted under Preliminary Reading in advance of the General Meeting. In speaking to her Report, Liz Holzner elaborated on the Shoalhaven City Council's move to review its Guidelines for the Conduct of Community Consultative Bodies. <https://getinvolved.shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au/ccb-policy-review> . The new RHVA Committee will make a submission before the deadline of 6 March 2023. She referred to the need to indicate community support for RHVA fulfilling the role of CCB for this area. As such, RHVA is formally recognised by SCC as being responsible for representing the residents and ratepayers in this area. In addition, it plays an important role in disseminating information, facilitating discussion on a range of matters such as public policy, land developments, works and services, and communicating the collective views of the community to Council.

She therefore proposed "that this meeting support the newly elected RHVA Committee continuing to take responsibility for the role of the CCB Committee for the 5 villages and surrounds."

Moved: L Holzner

Seconded: R. Ralph

Carried

9.3 Infrastructure Report:

Karen Weinert updated the meeting on the Yulunga Hall upgrade, and the Pathways Project, funded under the BSBR Grant.

In discussion, clarification was sought on the Pathways Project; in particular, how far it will go in the repair and maintenance required to address the deterioration of all pathways in the area, now and ongoing. It was noted that the Commonwealth funds are to be used only for a particular, small section.

It was therefore proposed that RHVA write to SCC, seeking clarification on the state of play with respect to the Pathways Project, and how it might contribute to the bigger undertaking required to repair and maintain all the deteriorating pathways in the region, and which RHVA wishes to propose in a budget submission to SCC.

Moved: Bill Eger

Seconded: Nathan Cattell

Carried

9.4 Planning & development - see General Business

9.5 Book Project report:

Patti Bartlett presented a report (also on behalf of Jenny Cleary) on the Book Project.

After discussion which included thanks and congratulations from the floor of the meeting, it was moved by Patti Bartlett:

"That the total divesting of all ongoing financial liability, intellectual property rights, copyright, providence, and liability for any profits generated from the sale of the product, "Five Villages Book" be transferred from the auspices of the Red Head Villages Association Incorporated to a private entity, representing private ownership, management, administration and dispersion of profits by the Authors Patti Bartlett and Jenny Cleary to commence from this date, 21st January 2023."

Moved: Patti Bartlett

Seconded: Sharon Mawson

The ensuing discussion referred to the genesis and history of the project, the authors' motivations and intentions in making this request, and the possibility that RHVA may need to seek legal advice.

Treasurer Andrew Boyce sought clarification from Patti as to how the process would work, in regard to the procurement of safety equipment for the local beaches once the remaining funds were transferred to an account not held by RHVA.

One member did raise concerns about public money being transferred to a privately held account. Patti explained the grant funding had been acquitted.

The motion was put, and was Carried.

10 General Business

10.1 Bendalong and other road issues:

Gerry McCarthy and Luke Bastock updated the meeting on work undertaken by the Committee, since October 2022. In doing so, they referred to:

- the community's grave concerns over the last 12 months about SCC's lack of interest in working with RHVA to use our local knowledge to make Bendalong Road (and other roads) as safe as possible during the Christmas holiday period;
- the last minute action just before Xmas using the same inadequate approaches and without any communication to advise us it was about to happen;
- our now "higher order" concern with the SCC's use of roads funding from State and Federal Governments for inefficient and ineffective repair and maintenance roadworks in the southern Shoalhaven. RHVA has corresponded with SCC on this issue since March 2022 with offers to work in partnership on a more strategic approach; our offers and suggestions have not been taken up but still stand;
- the petition on these issues over the Christmas holiday period (in keeping with the RHVA General Meeting on 29 October where it was moved from the floor a petition be prepared and circulated over the school summer holidays). The petition is to the Legislative Assembly calling on the Minister for Local Government to urgently provide (via State Department administration) oversight and review of the Shoalhaven City Council Southern District roads policy, management, administration, tendering and procurement as it utilises Public Funds (Commonwealth and State). We are respectfully requesting this targeted administration of Shoalhaven City Council's Southern District roads policy, management, administration, tendering and procurement in order to achieve (for both ratepayers and road users) the best use of precious public funds for sound investment in better roads and improved road safety; not for

the continuation of ineffective pothole filling and repair work. We are keen to hear how they might assist us with this significant issue.”

- the opportunity to discuss this issue at the “Meet the Candidates Forum” on 8 February.

In the ensuing discussion two motions were proposed:

- That this meeting endorses the direction of the current campaign to take the issues detailed in the petition to the NSW State Government.

Moved: Gerry McCarthy

Seconded: Bill Eger

Carried

- That the RHVA Committee write to SCC thanking them for the work on Bendalong Rd. undertaken prior to Christmas Eve.

Moved: Graeme Ralph

Seconded: Bill Eger

Carried

10.2 Dual Occupancy/ Planning and Development issues:

Luke Bastock and Gerry McCarthy updated the meeting on the submission made by RHVA Committee to SCC regarding its Preliminary Growth Scenario in the Milton-Ulladulla area. In the discussion which ensued, it was proposed “that RHVA continue its campaign to work with SCC on the need to review its blunt planning instrument for densification.”

Moved Luke Bastock

Seconded: Gerry McCarthy

Carried

10.3 DA SF10921 Inyadda Drive Manyana update and next steps:

Luke Bastock advised the meeting that the next step involves a hearing (to be confirmed) on 3 April 2023 to be held onsite; and the critical need to mobilise community support and attendance at the hearing. As with the previous hearing, six representatives will have an opportunity to present on behalf of the community.

10.4 Update on Plan for a Sustainable Future:

An update was provided by Kerry Moore on behalf of the Community Working Group.

“The RHVA would like to thank everyone who participated in the **HAVE YOUR SAY on the future of our Red Head Villages** 'drop in sessions' in October 2022.

Locale Consulting advises that many of the same themes and issues were documented across the four sessions held in Nth Bendalong, Bendalong Road and Bendalong, Berringer Lake, Cunjurong Point and Manyana. These include:

- The importance of protecting natural environment, community atmosphere and coastal character
- Concern about the future impacts of climate change, natural disasters, potential development and commercialisation, and
- The need to improve mobility related infrastructure such as footpaths, cycleways and roads.

The RHVA is actively progressing the resolution of several local and current infrastructure issues including footpath and road projects. Updates on these

separate projects can be found on the RHVA website: <https://redheadvillages.wpcomstaging.com/>

The community survey which will include questions on these themes and more will now be released in the first quarter of 2023 - a little later than previously planned.

We understand some may find the delay disappointing, but the CWG made this decision because:

- more time is needed to consider the rich content that was gathered at the community drop-in sessions and ensure the next stages of engagement (not just the survey) build on this in 2023, and
- RHVA needs to seek the assistance of Shoalhaven City Council to promote the survey through a mail out in rates or water notices to ensure everyone in the community is reached.

At this stage the aim is to release the survey over the Easter holiday period in 2023 and continue to keep the community informed on this project via email, or alternatively through the RHVA website and social media page.”

It was moved by Martine Bright:

“That the RHVA Committee approach Ward 3 Councillors to contact the Shoalhaven City Council (SCC) to request a notice announcing the Five Villages community survey (which is a key component for the development of the ‘*Strategic Master Plan for a Sustainable Future*’) be included in the February water notices.”

This follows advice received from Cinnamon Dunsford, Locale Consulting, dated 9 January 2023, from the SCC staff advising that only Councillors can request that staff include updates from CCBs in Council hard copy mail outs and the In Your Neighbourhood e-newsletter (such as the RHVA CWG survey).

RHVA also requests Ward 3 Councillors provide confirmation and provide a firm date in February when Shoalhaven Water expects to send out the water rates notice. RHVA also requests the Mayor and Councillors issue a media release announcing the release of the survey confirming support for the community consultation process and the development of the ‘*Strategic Master Plan for a Sustainable Future*’ for our community.”

Seconded: Nathan Cattell

Carried

10.5 Updates/reports from other local organisations in attendance:

Bill Eger/MMEA spoke to the report “*Concreting Our Coast*”, released recently by Cate Faehrmann, NSW Greens MP <https://www.catefaehrmann.org/concreting-our-coast>, and the MMEA book, *Birds of the Red Head Villages*.

11 Any other business:

- **RHVA will host a Meet the NSW State Election Candidates Forum on 8 February 2023, 7pm Yulunga Hall. All are invited. Liz Holzner invited**

members to email her with issues/questions they would like to see the candidates address in their presentations.

- **Proposed on-premises licence for the Bendalong General Store**

The President read a motion passed to him at the beginning of the General Meeting:

“That the RHVA write to Shoalhaven City Council objecting to the granting of an “on-premises licence” for the Bendalong General Store at 20 Waratah Street, Bendalong 2539. Such a development is contrary to R2 zoning for this area. There is no provision for public toilets on the premises.”

Moved: Jim Graham

Seconded: Sharon Deadman

After considerable discussion with speakers in support of and against the motion, Jim Graham moved an amendment to the motion to read:

“That the RHVA write to Shoalhaven City Council requesting clarification of the granting of an “on-premises licence” for the Bendalong General Store at 20 Waratah Street, Bendalong 2539, given such a development is contrary to R2 zoning for this area.”

Seconded: Frank Blanchfield

The motion failed.

The meeting debated the merits of RHVA writing instead to SCC on the need for additional infrastructure such as public toilets near Waratah Street to support its recent granting of an on-premises licence for the Bendalong General Store. Many people and their children eat at the Bendalong shop, tourists stop there to ask for information and buy petrol and there is no toilet. Currently people are using the vacant land across the street (zoned Biodiversity significant vegetation) or neighbours' front yards. The nearest public toilets are at two beaches approximately a kilometre away - further than anyone is going to walk, especially a child or someone who is mid-meal.

Accordingly, Lexie Meyer moved that “RHVA asks Council to urgently include funding in the 2023/2024 Budget for the installation of a public toilet on Waratah St Bendalong, located on the southern side of the street, between the shop (20 Waratah St) and the top of the pathway from Manyana (opposite Maple St).”

Seconded: Michael Cvetkovic

Carried.

- **Don Hearn’s Cabins**

Lexie Meyer advised the meeting that action by Crown Lands/SCC will result in the removal of Don Hearn’s Cabins in May 2023. She outlined the benefit of their retention as an important and iconic asset to the community, and the need for the granting of a long term lease to enable this to happen. After discussion on the floor of the meeting, the President asked Lexie Meyer to provide words on the issue for inclusion in the list of issues the community wishes to see addressed at the forthcoming “Meet the Candidates Forum” on 8 February.

12. The next General Meeting: To be advised.

13. The meeting closed at 5.50pm

Signed:

Date:.....

President

Attachment 1: [Secretary's Report](#)

Attachment 2: [Treasurer's Report](#)

Action Items - Draft

No	Item	Owner (for further discussion at next meeting)
1	RHVA submission to SCC by March 6 on its proposed changes to CCB Guidelines/Policy	Secretary
2	RHVA write to SCC, seeking clarification on the state of play with respect to the Pathways Project, and how it might contribute to the bigger undertaking required to repair and maintain all the deteriorating pathways in the region, and which RHVA wishes to propose in a budget submission to SCC.	Karen Weinert
3	Take the roads petition to the NSW Government through the NSW Parliament via the South Coast MP; on the conditions and ongoing road safety issues presented by Bendalong Road.	Secretary/ Gerry McCarthy
4	RHVA write to SCC thanking them for the work on Bendalong Rd. undertaken prior to Christmas Eve.	Secretary
5	RHVA contact Ward 3 Councillors for support in approaching SCC for assistance with Strategic Plan for a Sustainable Future mailout and promotion (see 10.4)	L. Bastock
6	RHVA asks Council to urgently include funding in the 2023/2024 Budget for the installation of a public toilet on Waratah St Bendalong, located on the southern side of the street, between the shop (20 Waratah St) and the top of the pathway from Manyana (opposite Maple St)." (see 11)	L. Bastock/ K. Weinert
7	Lexie Meyer to provide words on Don Hearn's Cabins issue for inclusion in the list of issues the community wishes to see addressed at the forthcoming "Meet the Candidates Forum" on 8 February. (see 11)	Secretary