

MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING

Date: 18th November 2024

Time: 7.04pm

Location: Community Centre Thomson Street

Attendance: John Lang, Jan Lang, Judy Neeves, Russell Neeves.

Welcome:

Apologies: Nil

Acknowledgement to Country:

Mission Statement of (The Sussex Inlet & District Community Forum):

Confirmation of Minutes ---- October meeting as distributed via the web site, accepted unanimously.

Matters arising from minutes: === Nil

FINANCIAL REPORT:

INCOME & EXPENDITURE For October 2024

Opening Balance as at 01 October 2024			\$4089.55
INCOME			
	October Bank Interest	\$0.03	
	SUB TOTAL	\$0.03	\$4089.58
EXPENDITURE-			
	Nil		
	BALANCE as at 1st November 2024		\$4089.58

CORRESPONDENCE IN:

Copies of all correspondence can be viewed at the end of the published minutes on the web site.

31/10 Invoice received from the Sussex Inlet CTC for annual donation of \$50.00

32/10 Confirmation from Council of new Councillors for the term October 2024 to September 2028.

33/10 Council has on Public Exhibition

**‘The Gordon Timbs 45 Degree Rule’ Amendment (Amendment 57)
Chapter G4: Tree & Vegetation Management Chapter N20: Jerberra Estate
Shoalhaven Development Control Plan 2014 (DCP)**

Council advises that the above draft amendment will be on public exhibition from Wednesday 30 October to Friday 29 November 2024 (inclusive) via the Documents on Exhibition page on Council’s website: www.shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au. See below

34/11 Council has written to Forum requesting the status of Forum with regard to reaching a quorum at regular meetings.

35/11 There was a joint media release by Fiona Philips, Liza Butler and Dr Sarah Kaine (Member of the NSW Legislative Council and Kiama spokesperson) announcing

Old Nowra Bridge transformation is underway.

36/11 Council call for public submissions on proposed rate rise.

37/11 Council notification of a Transport for NSW FREE child car seat checking day which will be run by Council. The checking day is being held at Sanctuary Point at 192 Kerry Street (carpark). On Saturday 23rd November 2024 between 9am to 3pm.

CORRESPONDENCE OUTWARD:

11/4 In response to Council requesting the status of Forum with regard to reaching a quorum at regular meetings, the Forum committee replied on 13th November. See attachment below.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE:

Nil

BUSINESS ARISING FROM COUNCIL MEETINGS:

- Recognition of resignations of the CEO Robyn Stevens , Jane Lewis Director of City Lifestyles and Kerry Hamilton Director of City Performance.
- There has been a strong push in the community since the new council has been elected to introduce FOGO & green bins into the Shoalhaven and at the Council ordinary meeting 28th October Council resolved to investigate the introduction of the FOGO system. See below

There was a little discussion on the two items listed above with no action to be taken.

Community led Adaptation & Resilience Strategy (CLARSS)

Preparations are well advanced for a public launch of CLARSS and the SCRNs 23rd February.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

- You can access the new Mayors weekly message on line, simply go to the Council site and subscribe using the following link
<https://www.shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au/News-and-feedback/News-and-media/Mayors-message#mayors-message-subscribe>
- Lions Club instigated a preliminary request for assistance with a grant application for pathways upgrade near The Dunes & Snappy Gums.
The Chairman has made some preliminary enquiries with Crown Lands Dept in Nowra. This discussion with Crown Lands Dept. lead to the Chairman asking about the old school site, pointing out the fire hazard now on that site. Consequently the Crown Lands officer provided the site identification and the opportunity to request a fire assessment.
The meeting subsequently authorised the secretary to request a fire assessment on the old school site.

Meeting Closed: 8.15pm

Next Meeting: 20th January 2024

Location: Thomson Street

Time 7.00pm



CL24.283 Notice of Motion - Councillor Briefing - Go FOGO (Food Organics and Garden Organics) Grants

HPERM Ref: D24/453355

Submitted by: Cllr Jemma Tribe

Purpose / Summary

The following Notice of Motion, of which due notice has been given, is submitted for Council's consideration.

Recommendation

That the Go FOGO (Food Organics & Garden Organics) Grant's (and their deadlines) be considered as part of Shoalhaven City Council's briefing to Councillors when presenting options for the management of Council's red-bin collection stream, including the mandated separation of food/garden organics for households by 2030.

Background

While a briefing on the future of green waste is being prepared for councillors, it is important to note there are deadlines on funding opportunities that could assist in this area.

Go FOGO grants support NSW councils to deliver new weekly food only (FO) or food organics and garden organics (FOGO) services to their communities. These may be households that currently have no kerbside organics bin service or households with only a garden waste collection.

The objectives of the Go FOGO grants are to:

- support the effective rollout of weekly FOGO (or FO) services to 500,000 households that have no organics service
- support the effective rollout of weekly FOGO (or FO) services to 1,500,000 households that have a garden only waste service
- provide additional support to councils with a significant number of multi-unit dwellings (MUDs) to deliver additional tailored communication to these properties.

The NSW Government's Waste and Sustainable Materials Strategy 2041 (WaSM) introduced new requirements for councils to provide food and garden organics collections to all NSW households by 2030. It also requires large food waste generating businesses to source separate food waste by 2025. The initiatives are designed to reduce organics waste in landfill, where it generates methane, a potent greenhouse gas, and instead create a clean stream of a valuable resource that can be beneficially reused.

Round 3 applications are now open until 4pm, 19 November 2024.

<https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/working-together/grants/organics-infrastructure-fund/go-fogo-grants>

CL24.283

Notification - New Local Government Elected Council 2024 - Shoalhaven City Council



Community Connections <CommunityConnections@s
To
Cc Governance

Reply Reply All Forward ...

Wed 23/10/2024 1:57 PM

Good afternoon CCBs

Please find below information regarding the new Councillors for the Council Term commenced in October 2024 to September 2028.

Link to Council's website of Mayor and Councillors - <https://www.shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au/Council/What-guides-us/Leadership/Mayor-and-Councillors>

Ward	Councillor Name	Title	Email Address
Mayor	Patricia White	Mayor	patricia.white@shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au
Ward 1	Jason Cox	Councillor	jason.cox@shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au
	Matthew Norris	Assistant Deputy Mayor	matthew.norris@shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au
	Peter Wilkins	Deputy Mayor	peter.wilkins@shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au
	Selena Clancy	Councillor	selena.clancy@shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au
Ward 2	Ben Krikstolaitis	Councillor	ben.krikstolaitis@shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au
	Bob Proudfoot	Councillor	bob.proudfoot@shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au
	Jemma Tribe	Councillor	jemma.tribe@shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au
	Luciano Casmiri	Councillor	luciano.casmiri@shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au
Ward 3	Gillian Boyd	Councillor	gillian.boyd@shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au
	Karlee Dunn	Councillor	karlee.dunn@shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au
	Natalee Johnston	Councillor	natalee.johnston@shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au
	VACANT – will confirm once countback has been completed	Councillor	VACANT



Address all correspondence to: The Chief Executive Officer,
PO Box 42, Nowra NSW 2541 Australia
shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au/contact | 1300 293 111

shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au    

Council Reference: 77376E/1 (D24/460959)

25/10/2024

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

By email only:

Dear Sir/Madam

Public Exhibition
'The Gordon Timbs 45 Degree Rule' Amendment (Amendment 57)
Chapter G4: Tree & Vegetation Management
Chapter N20: Jerberra Estate
Shoalhaven Development Control Plan 2014 (DCP)

I wish to advise that the above draft amendment will be on public exhibition from **Wednesday 30 October to Friday 29 November 2024** (inclusive) via the [Documents on Exhibition](https://www.shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au/Council/Access-to-Information/Documents-on-Exhibition) page on Council's website: www.shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au.

The Amendment can also be viewed at the Nowra Administrative Building (Bridge Road, Nowra) and the Southern District Office (Deering Street, Ulladulla).

The draft Amendment seeks to formally amend the 45 Degree Rule Exemption in [Chapter G4: Tree & Vegetation Management](#) of Shoalhaven Development Control Plan (DCP) 2014 as follows:

- Change the name of the exemption from the "45 Degree Rule" to "The Gordon Timbs 45 Degree Rule". A minor change to Chapter N20: Jerberra Estate is also proposed to reflect the name change.
- Revert the 45 Degree Rule exemption to the previous version (version 4), which was in place before the 12-month trial period took effect on 16 August 2023.
- Include reference to a native tree species list.

The provisions of the trial amendment will remain in effect until Council has:

- Undertaken a public exhibition process required by legislation (this exhibition); and
- Formally considers the submissions received and resolves to finalise an amendment to the Chapter; and
- The DCP amendment formally commences.

You are encouraged to view the DCP Amendment and to have your say on the proposed changes.

Invitation for submissions

Submissions quoting Council reference **77376E/1** can be lodged in writing to:

Post: Chief Executive Officer, Shoalhaven City Council,
PO Box 42, Nowra, NSW, 2541.

Email: council@shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au

Website: via the form on the Documents on Exhibition page at:
<https://www.shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au/Council/Access-to-Information/Documents-on-Exhibition>

Submissions will be accepted until **5pm Friday 29 November 2024**.

Enquiries should be directed to Jenna Tague, City Futures, on (02) 4429 3553. Quote **77376E/1**

Please note that correspondence submitted to Council on this matter may be open to public inspection without notifying the correspondents. Pre-printed form correspondence or correspondence with reproduced content (identical content to other submissions) that has been individually signed will be considered but not formally acknowledged. Submissions received from groups or organisations will be considered as one submission, regardless of the number of members represented by the group or organisation.

All persons who lodge a submission are required to declare any relevant political, donations and/or gifts in accordance with Section 10.4(5) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

If you need further information about this matter, please contact Fallon Kassis, City Futures on (02) 4429 3213. Please quote Council's reference 77376E/1 (D24/460959).

Yours faithfully

Jenna Tague
Coordinator - Policy Planning Team



Australian Government

Fiona Phillips
Federal Member for Gilmore



Liza Butler
Member for South Coast

Dr Sarah Kaine
Member of the NSW Legislative Council and Kiama spokesperson

JOINT MEDIA RELEASE

Old Nowra Bridge transformation underway

Work to transform the historic Nowra Bridge into a dedicated pedestrian and cycling path is now underway thanks to a \$20 million investment from the Albanese and Minns Labor Governments.

The transformation will be carried out in four stages over the next three years, with the first stage to include:

- truss repairs
- repairing the end truss lattices
- repairs to the concrete bridge deck
- removal of the old handrail connections
- and replacement of rosette style diagonal bracing washers.

More than 140-years-old, the bridge is an icon of the community and work to transform it has been informed by close consultation with the community over the past decade.

Due the age of the bridge, the work required to restore it is very detailed and labour intensive.

While this significant work will take time, once complete, it will be a long-term asset to the region that the community can enjoy as an active, healthy transport option.

The first stage of work starting Monday 11 November is expected to take around six months, weather permitting. Work will be carried out between 7am and 6pm, Monday to Friday, and 8am to 1pm on Saturdays.

Further details about future stages of work will be shared with the community as work progresses, however, these will involve removal of the cantilevered footpath, prioritised repainting and installation of lighting.

For the safety of the community, the historic Nowra Bridge will remain closed with street lighting switched off while work is carried out. Temporary fencing, signage, and security cameras will be in place to discourage pedestrians from accessing the bridge.

Federal Member for Gilmore Fiona Phillips said she was thrilled to see work commence on the project.

“This project has been talked about for years and it’s taken the Albanese and Minns Labor Governments to finally get it done,” Mrs Phillips said.

“I am so excited to see this work begin and look forward to seeing how our iconic old Nowra Bridge is transformed into a wonderful active transport asset we can all enjoy.”

State Member for South Coast Liza Butler said the Albanese and Minns Labor Governments were delighted to be investing in the “incredible transformation project the community will benefit greatly from”.

“The old bridge has worked hard over the years and it’s now in need of a lot of tender love and care to bring it back to its former glory,” she added.

NSW Labor’s Kiama spokesperson Dr Sarah Kaine MLC said she was pleased to see Transport for NSW delivering the project.

“This is such an exciting milestone for the community and I want to thank the many residents who have advocated over many years for this repair and revitalisation work to happen,” she said.

The new Nowra Bridge was opened to traffic in February 2023 and major work on the project was completed in November 2023.

Finishing work carried out in the last six months included building footpaths, finalising landscaping, removing excess spoil from the Bolong Road stockpile site, and removing and replacing contaminated mulch from several locations across the project.

Friday 1 November 2024

MEDIA CONTACTS

Katrina Condie (Fiona Phillips): 0437 662 967

Jake Khourey (Liza Butler): 0458 812 666

Dear CCB members,

Consultation has commenced for proposed options for a special variation to rates for 2025-26 and would appreciate your support promoting this with your communities and also welcome your feedback.

You would be aware of the financial challenges Council currently faces and our efforts to achieve operational efficiencies, which has so far delivered \$3.2 million in savings.

At its meeting this week, Council resolved that we would consult with the community about options for special variations to rates, which are 8% (including 3.8% rate peg) and 12% (including 3.8% rate peg), for 2025-26.

The additional revenue would be invested into fixing roads and putting some money in the bank, while we continue to complete condition assessments of our roads and assets across the city to understand the true cost of renewal. This information will be used to develop an evidence-based analysis of the amount of money required to address our infrastructure backlog during the next 10 years and beyond.

Once we have all the information next year, further conversations will be had with the elected Council about what's needed to invest in our assets, for the long term.

We will be talking more about this at the CCB Executive meeting on the 27 November.

More information on what has caused these issues and the proposed options for a rate increase through a Special Rate Variation application can be viewed from Council's ['Proposed Special Rate Variation 2024' Get Involved Page](#).

Ways to get involved

- Complete the ['Survey - Proposed Special Rate Variation options'](#)
- Complete the ['Make a submission on the Draft Resourcing Strategy'](#)
- Visit us at one of our six [pop-up locations](#).
- Ask a question via the [question box](#).
- Email: council@shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au and type 'Proposed Special Rate Variation 2024' in the subject line
- Post: Chief Executive Officer, PO BOX 42, Nowra 2541
- If any community members require assistance providing feedback over the phone, please call Council on 1300 293 111

Submissions must be received by 5pm, Thursday 5 December 2024.

Good Afternoon,

I am the road safety officer at Shoalhaven City Council.

I am emailing you in regards to a grant funded (TfNSW) FREE child car seat checking day run by council.

The checking day is being held at Sanctuary Point at 192 Kerry Street (carpark). On Saturday 23rd November 2024 between 9am to 3pm.

This day covers the checking of seats, moving seats around the car as well as from reversed to forward facing, this also covers the installation of new seats into cars. I highly recommend this day, even if it is for piece of mind and just double checking that the seat is installed correctly.

A certified fitter will be there on the day completing the service. This is a booking essential day to book a spot please call me on 4429 3484.

If you could please pass this on through your communities that would be greatly appreciated.

I have also attached a PDF of the advertisement with all the relevant information.

Thank you in advance for your help.

Kind Regards,
Melinda



Melinda Grobbe
Road Safety Officer

+61 2 4429 3484 | +61 437 340 319

Transport for NSW

Free child car seat safety check



2 in 3 car seats are not used correctly

Make sure your child is safe with a free inspection by a Transport for NSW Authorised Restraint Fitter. You can have your child car seats and booster seats checked for safety and correct fit.

Saturday 23rd November 2024

9.00am - 3.00pm

192 Kerry Street, Sanctuary Point
(Carpark)

Bookings Essential

Contact councils Road Safety Officer on
4429 3484.



An initiative of your local council and
Transport for NSW as part of the
Local Government Road Safety Program



CCB Justification



13/11/2024

To the question-should Council cease to recognise the Sussex Inlet CCB

On the 20th November 1995 the residents of Sussex Inlet & Districts held the first meeting of the Sussex Inlet & Districts Community Forum with the specific purpose of representing the voice of the community to Shoalhaven City Council. To this day the Forum has provided an uninterrupted service to the community of Sussex Inlet.

The mission of the Forum is per the Shoalhaven City council Guidelines of a Community Consultative Body i.e to be a conduit of information to and from Council. As such the Forum has never been incorporated and therefore does not present itself as the principal lead on any particular project. The Forum has always played the roll of advisor, advocate, supporting body to any other group who might drive a particular project.

The committee of the Sussex Inlet & Districts Community Forum (CCB) have always been respectful and considerate when interpreting their responsibility.

In this light we make the following comment.

- It has been made very clear for two years now that Council is in serious financial stress and that there is no funding available to do anything other than the basics. Therefore it is understood that requests for expanded services and infrastructure can not be met. So we don't ask. As a result the community of Sussex Inlet have not put pressure on Council in recent times and the demand on the CCB to host prolific community debate has been low. Other than potholes and increasing cost of rates we don't hear much at all from the community.
- Some examples of the past when residents have shown that they will rise up and get involved are:
 - The Jacobs Drive streetscape rejuvenation
 - Green pots in front of the theatre
 - The Golf Course Urban Release Area
 - The pedestrian bridges at Chris Creek & Cudmirrah
 - The Coastal Management & Estuary Management Plans
 - The sale of the Uniting Church.
 - Sand Mining

How do we Communicate to Community

It is fact that attendance is low at regular CCB meetings but the committee are willing to volunteer their time in an endeavour to reach out and make sure the community is informed, we do this in various ways.

We are always ready to discuss any issue with anybody at any time and direct all residents to the factual information.

The Forum have a TV installed in the window of the Lions Bookshop which is solely for the dissemination of public information, mostly related to Council. It is not an advertising board.

- See attached Powerpoint file showing examples of slides on 24 hour display in the Lions Bookshop window.

- o Slides 1 to 5 are currently running on the screen. Slides 6 to 13 have been recently on display. Note where appropriate all messaging is directing the community back to Council via **getinvolved** or the appropriate link. It is the intention of this CCB to encourage all residents to make personal submissions or comment direct to Council, this way Council is always getting accurate feedback from all individuals, not an interpreted opinion from a CCB committee.

The Forum assumes responsibility for maintaining the Council owned community display board in the main street per the CCB guidelines. The content usually on display is Council notices and items related to community safety. Occasionally there will be a notice for a community event.

How do we assess the need of the community.

- Many years as a resident observing and involving ourselves in the community allows us to read the feel & mood of the community.
- Listening to conversations of community.
- The Forum Committee are guided by the Sussex Inlet & Districts Strategic Action Plan 2019. The Plan is actioned by the many active groups in the district carrying out their core business each day. With the mission statement in mind any gaps are recognised and the Forum will work with these groups to look for solutions. In our attempt to administer the Action Plan we are required to observe every aspect of life in Sussex Inlet such as, commercial/business, land development, aspects related to youth, employment, social need, emergency preparation and management including the operations of emergency services. By observing the activities of all organisations in town, be they privately owned business or public service or emergency agency, if the Forum sees any inconsistency with their activities in relation to the vision laid down in the Strategic Action Plan then we speak up. As a result we are always alert to the happenings in town.
- The committee have historically involved themselves in post disaster (flood & Fire) meetings and discussion, to be aware of community reaction and need. In this light two committee members and one resident participated in the creation of the Community led Adaptation & Resilience Strategy for the Shoalhaven (CLARSS) project with the support of Griffith University. Two residents of Sussex Inlet now sit on the Shoalhaven Community led Adaptation Resilience Network (SCRN) the CLARSS implementation committee. This document aims to prepare community and to minimise potential for future disasters.

Our involvement in the SCRN committee provides us with current and future thinking when discussing disaster and also allows us to contribute to the proactive solutions to prevent future disasters and in this process we liaise with Federal, State and Council staff and consult with appropriately qualified scientific and academics as required.

Reports from our involvement in the SCRN are fed back to the community via regular reports in the CCB meeting.

Submissions to Council & Government

The question may be asked, if there is no attendance at the Forum meetings then how can the Forum committee determine or decide if a submission is required and who prepares it. The fact is that the record will show that in the last four years there has been very few submissions by the Forum. It is considered by the committee that given the small attendance at general meetings then it is not sensible to pretend that any opinion expressed in a submission by the committee is actually representative of the community so

we don't. The solution to this matter is for all submissions be lodged as personal submissions in the name of Russell Neeves or committee members as individuals.

Council records will show that Russell Neeves has been a prolific commentator through submissions on numerous major projects related to Sussex Inlet, the most notable being the Sussex Inlet & St Georges Basin Estuary Management Plan.

Other key projects: PAMP
Affordable Housing Strategy
Review of the Regional Development Act 2004
Badgee Urban Release Area
Illawarra Shoalhaven Regional Plan 2041
Shoalhaven Growth Management Strategy 2041
Princes Highway Upgrade-Jervis Bay road to Sussex Inlet Road.

A project that the Forum are currently collaborating on is with the Sussex Inlet Lions Club on upgrades and repairs to existing pathways as highlighted in the recently revised PAMP.

Summary

It is impossible to measure the performance of the Sussex Inlet & Districts Community Forum and its worth to community and Council. However, it needs to be understood that without it the community will lose the only opportunity for unbiased support in crisis.

In other words all the other organisations have a specific mission and therefore depending on the issue of the day will have a bias or a constraint placed on them by their mission statement/core operating statement, thus presenting a potential conflict of interest or political bias.

The committee of the Sussex Inlet & Districts Community Forum understand and support Council's need to constantly monitor the activities of CCB's and question the need to support inactive CCB's. However we believe the Sussex Inlet CCB is an example of a very active committee ensuring the CCB Guidelines are adhered to in its quest to provide a service to community and Council.

We trust Council will look favourably when considering future support to the Sussex Inlet & District Community Forum.

Yours sincerely

Russell Neeves
Chairman-Sussex Inlet & District Community Forum

Daniela Tronson
Secretary

John Lang
Treasurer

Judy Neeves
Publicity