

SUFFOLK PARK PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

Minutes

Annual General Meeting

Tuesday, November 20, 2018 - 7pm

Attendees: Donald Maughan, Patsy Brosnan, Christine Guinand, Margaret Wiles, Philippe Soria, Helena Maughan, Roger Guinand, Peter Ormerod, Anne Mosey, Margaret van Kleef, Peter Brosnan, Liz Levy, Yan Hagen, Helena Maughan, Karen Webb, Robert Sampimon, Simon Schaffer, Andrea Steinbreuer, Annabelle Sinclair, Liz Levy, Colin Beaton, Carolyn Chatt, Francoise Teclemariam

Apologies: Philippe Soria, Victoria Handley, Alison Greig, Jos Benner, David and Michelle Wallace, Holly Robertson, Prue Regan

Welcome to Country

Move that 2017 AGM minutes be approved – moved Patsy Brosnan, seconded Margaret Wiles, meeting approved

Treasurer's report presented by Margaret Wiles (see below)

Move to accept Treasurer's report – moved by Anne Mosey, seconded by Patsy Brosnan, meeting approved.

President's report presented by Donald Maughan (see below)

Move to accept President's report – moved Patsy Brosnan, seconded Christine Guinand, meeting approved.

Move to thank Donald Maughan for all his work over the past year – moved by Patsy Brosnan, seconded by Christine Guinand, meeting approved.

Nominations for the next term:

Ten nominations were elected unopposed.

President	Donald Maughan
Vice President	Patsy Brosnan
Secretary	Christine Guinand
Treasurer	Margaret Wiles
Members	Victoria Handley Philippe Soria Anne Mosey Margaret van Kleef Liz Levy Prue Regan (Page) subject to confirmation by Prue

Other business

Anne Mosey suggested to have plaques on the benches.

Francoise Tecler brought up the topic of the difficulty in getting out of the shopping centre parking at busy times of day.

Patsy Brosnan indicated that the bus stop on Clifford St has been moved back, therefore there is less parking along Clifford St near the shops.

The Hall Committee is looking for new members. Contact Margaret Wiles.

Suffolk Park Dune Care is looking for more volunteers for its recurring working bee on first Saturday of each month at 8.30. Contact Helen Brown.

There is a need for a proper footpath along Armstrong St. Parked cars take up all the footpath and pedestrians must walk in the road.

The attendance discussed the possibility of counting the number of cars parked on the streets of Suffolk Park. It is estimated the number of cars in our streets has tripled in recent years.

Meeting closed 8pm followed by drinks

TREASURER'S REPORT 30.09.17. - 30.09.18.

<u>OPENING BALANCE</u>	30.09.17.	\$2030.87
<u>INCOME</u>		
Memberships/donations		\$612.86
Dinner dance		\$1230.00
<u>TOTAL INCOME</u>		\$3873.73
<u>EXPENSES</u>		
Dept. of Fair Trading Assoc. membership		\$44.20
Website		\$159.00
BRG membership		\$30.00
Dinner dance band		\$800.00
AGM drinks/nibbles		\$55.00
Printer cartridge/miscellaneous		\$91.43
<u>TOTAL EXPENSES</u>		\$1239.63

CLOSING BALANCE 30.09.18

\$2634.10

President's 2018 report

This year (November 2017 to Nov 2018) most of the committee's time has been spent on the development of a masterplan for our new community park off Beech Drive (near Baz & Shaz), however there have been other ongoing projects and I will give you a brief outline on these as well.

Let's start with the big one: **the park Plan of Management.**

A little bit of history: after securing the land from the Education Dept. in Nov.2016, we then held a series of community meetings in Feb 2017 where we asked community to come up with broad general concepts for the use of the land and park area. These suggestions were presented at last years' AGM. From that AGM we drew up a more formal document, and in Jan 2018 we took it to Council. Representatives of the committee met with Council staff and a landscape architect and presented the concept that the community would like to see in the Park. Council used this information to draw up a 1st draft plan for the site, and presented it to the SPPA Committee at a site meeting on 14 Feb 2018. The architect then refined the draft (plan No 2) which SPPA then took back to the community on March 13 2018 at two meetings. At those meetings Council staff and the architect presented the formal plans including detailed drawings and discussion points.

I add here that these two meetings on March 13 (at the Hotel at 10am and the Community Hall at 7.00 pm) were very poorly attended. We announced them on radio, local press, at the preschool and mothers' groups, and also sent out to our 278 mailing list contacts and on facebook and website. We also sent out the plans and drawings on the 27th March. Our estimated reach on these 3 platforms is 509 people.

We received only 8 formal responses as well as comments from the less than 20 people who attended the two meetings.

Council also put out community notices in a survey titled "Have your say Suffolk Park Your Community Park".

From all this consultation - the Council and ours - Council are now drawing up a Plan of Management document that will be presented at the Council meeting on 13 Dec 2018.

Assuming the Councillors pass this document in Dec, it will then go back to community on public display through Dec, Jan and early Feb 2019, once again residents will have a chance to view the POM and make further individual submissions which will then be correlated for review again by Councillors and hopefully by late March, we will get final approval. Then we should see shovels hitting the ground.

In addition to all this, in April 2018 the committee was advised that the state Government was offering grants under the heading "Strong Country Community" for capital works projects. SPPA committee decided to present a case to obtain some of this grant money: a team got together to write the grant application and I specifically acknowledge Ann Mosey and Phillipe Soria for their work on this. We applied for \$415K

to build a bike pump track, exercise station and shade facility in the new park area. These items were outlaid on the plans presented at community meetings and mailouts in March and April. We await notification on the outcome of this application. It was due in Sept/October. I spoke to Council last Friday and we await announcement from the state Gov. sometime soon

Intersection Clifford St and Broken Head Rd

As you all know this issue has been ongoing for years and the Committee have made numerous submissions to council via the Roads & Traffic committee. This year we again wrote and phoned on several occasions, after any crashes and submitted photos when they were available. Finally, we did get a formal response from Staff advising that work would commence in Sept on some interim remedial action. This is now in place and considering the feedback from Community it seems to be having a positive effect. As far as we know there has not been an accident since the work was done.

Lake Project Baywood Chase

This has been a long project as we knew it would be when we first started it in 2015. This year the Council staff and the SPPA began working with the company Australian WetLand Consulting who have completed a detailed survey of the lake and come up with a "Multi criteria spread sheet" that sets out various options for action, the cost to initiate it and potential effective outcomes for dollars spent.

The consultant met with the committee on site to talk through the various options and possible benefits of each and the consultants also took this document back to Council to consider along with our committees' comments.

I would like to acknowledge a community member Lynette Payne who enlisted the help of her son-in-law who is a Professor of Environmental Science at UNSW. He has given us advice on some critical issues in this project

Unfortunately, the team leader of the Council staff on this project has now left, so we are rebuilding the connection in Council. I, along with another council officer, am trying to reignite the process.

I won't go into the detail of this project now and the various options however if individuals are interested see me later to arrange a time to talk about it.

Other Projects

You may have notice **new seats** in the village this year: 7 in total, Clifford St outside the doctor's surgery, at the bus stop on the eastern end of Clifford, outside the Community Hall, at the bus stop Wareham St/Alcorn St, beach access at Jarman St, one near the skate park and one by the tennis court.

Improved beach showers and seating at the Clifford St and Wareham St Beach entries.

We have been lobbying Council to **improve beach access points**, to grade and level. Council has worked on them, however Jarman St and Wareham St do need some more work.

SPPA also obtained a **petanque (boules) court** at the NE corner of the sports field. This has just recently been completed and is open for play.

Committee successfully lobbied Council to **rezone the footbridge** over Tallow Creek from a zoning of W1 water way, to SP2 a protected amenity, so we will have the bridge into the future.

The Committee worked with a group The South Byron Collective that was formed to put together a submission to keep the old **South Byron sewage treatment site** in community hands. It looks like our submission has failed and the site will be going to development options, but nothing formal coming out of council yet.

About 2 years ago SPPA along with several community groups presented a petition and spoke at the Land & Environment court objecting to the proposed development of the old quarry site along Broken Head Rd. We all argued against the development and for the **total rehabilitation of Broken Head quarry site**. It took a long time however the ruling was handed down recently and we were successful. The court ruled that the land has to be rehabilitated. This is a great win for the community

The committee has also visited various park and community spaces at Mullumbimby, Ocean shores, South Golden Beach and Bangalow seeking out ideas and alternatives for community parks, playgrounds and land use.

We have been in negotiation with community and council re the replacement of the **Gaggin park playground**. The tender plan is being put together now to go to Council. Work should start on the rebuild of that playground march 2019

We are also working with the Soccer Club to try and negotiate improvements to the **amenities block at the sports field**, however football club have to be the leaders in this project.

The SPPA have sent letters of support to a committee negotiating with the state Government to obtain the ownership of the old Byron Bay hospital site on Shirley St. The SPPA have a representative on this committee and hope to have a response from the state gov Health Minister in the very near future so listen out for that.

Other organisations which our committee work with and have representation on are the Suffolk Park Community Hall, Suffolk Park Dune care, Bay FM, CABS, Byron Resident Group, Byron Hospital Site Committee, Byron Bay town centre Masterplan leadership team, Byron Bay Historical Society, Mayors Community Round Table Committee, and the local Coogera preschool.

On behalf of the SPPA I would like to acknowledge all of the other wonderful volunteer groups that work in our community and add to the amenity of the Suffolk Park village. These include the Rural Fire Service, the Dunecare group, the preschool teams, the very successful Suffolk Soccer (football) Club, the struggling community garden and the Suffolk Park Hall Committee.

Our village shops business proprietors help us out from time to time with donations and sponsorship - we try not to over tax their generosity and we thank them for their support.

Finally I'd like to thank our SPPA team: Patsy Brosnan Vice President, Christine Guinand Secretary, Margaret Wiles Treasurer, and the committee members Ann Mosey, Victoria Handley, Phillipe Soria and Margaret Van Kleef, it has been another long and at times frustrating year but mostly it's been fun and a pleasure to work with you all, and step by step we are getting a few things done.

Thank you
Donald Maughan, President SPPA