

SUFFOLK PARK PROGRESS ASSOCIATION
Minutes of the 2021 Annual General Meeting
deferred to March 1, 2022 due to Covid

Attendees: Donald Maughan, Patsy Brosnan, Christine Guinand, Philippe Soria, Matt Cotter, Magdalena Gustafsson, Peter Ormerod, Helena Maughan, Karin Kolbe, Annabelle Sinclair, Helen Revis, Doug Rowley, Anne Mosey

Apologies: Margaret Wiles, Jos Benner, Leon Norman, Graham Basset, Peter Brosnan

Acknowledgment of Country

Approval 2020 AGM minutes – moved by Christine Guinand, seconded by Matt Cotter.

Treasurer's report presented by Christine Guinand (see below)

Move to accept Treasurer's report by Anne Mosey, seconded by Karin Kolbe.

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

Move to accept President's report by Patsy Brosnan, seconded by Karin Kolbe.

Nominations for next term:

Seven nominations were elected unopposed.

President	Donald Maughan
Vice President	Philippe Soria
Secretary	Christine Guinand
Members	Margaret Wiles
	Magdalena Gustafsson
	Peter Ormerod
	Matt Cotter

(Philippe Soria will also take on the Treasurer role).

Treasurer's report prepared by Margaret Wiles
for the period 30.09.20 – 30.09.21

<u>OPENING BALANCE</u> 30.09.20	\$77,969.19
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INCOME THIS YEAR

MEMBERSHIPS/DONATIONS	\$185.00
DEPT REGIONAL NSW - pump track grant	\$85,965.00
OSTRAL Pty Ltd - contribution signage/insurance	\$1,266.57
ATO - GST refund	\$7,648.00
<u>TOTAL INCOME</u>	<u>\$95,064.57</u>

EXPENSES THIS YEAR

WEBSITE	\$131.40
OSTRAL Pty Ltd - pump track project management	\$4,380.31
BYRON SHIRE COUNCIL - pump track construction	\$165,000.00
INSURANCE - pump track	\$455.98
AGM XMAS DRINKS 25.11.20.	\$32.00
HALL HIRE FEES	\$20.00
DPT. FAIRTRADING	\$47.00
<u>TOTAL EXPENSES</u>	<u>\$170,066.69</u>

CLOSING BALANCE 30.09.21. \$2,967.07

President's Report by Donald Maughan

It is once again my privilege on behalf of the Suffolk Park Progress Association (SPPA) committee to present the President's report for the 62nd SPPA AGM

This report will cover the period from December 2020 to end February 2022

We had to postpone the AGM in 2021 due to Covid restrictions, this was approved by NSW Fair Trading.

For the fourth year in a row, I start my report with the saga of the Clifford St and Broken Head Rd intersection and associated issues. Due to Covid restrictions SPPA could not attend any of the Council Roads & Traffic meetings for the past two years, however we did get Council to agree to a pedestrian crossing on Broken Head Rd near the RSL age care facilities and adjacent to the bus stops. From our last discussions with Council this project should be completed by the end of June, in FY 2022.

One positive outcome from the discussions with Council has been the installation of the southbound single lane between the roundabout and Clifford Street, which has reduced the danger of collision. To my knowledge there has not been a car collision since this was implemented.

The committee has again written to Council seeking further action on traffic calming around this intersection and along Clifford Street, and in the past 3 months I have had several phone conversations with Council staff lobbying for more urgent outcomes.

The committee will continue to lobby Council in regard to this intersection. Once again I encourage all community members who are impacted by this intersection to contact Council themselves by phone or email and express their concerns relating to safety, bottlenecks and emergency exit options. If we want action on this, we need more community support and action.

Gaggin Park - the demolition of the old toilets and replacement with a new time-lock toilet block was completed in May 2021 and a new all-weather path installed and the playground area was re-turfed. SPPA members did a considerable amount of work on the turf getting it all well established and I think the outcome is a great improvement.

Linder Vidler Park Master Plan - after much community consultation over 4 years the masterplan was finally approved by Council in 2021 and work will be progressed on this plan as grant funding becomes available.

The Big-Ticket item over the past 4 years has been the building of the Pump Track and this was finally completed in July 2021 amid a campaign of scare tactics, misinformation and personal attacks in the media. I am very pleased to report that the outcome has demonstrated that the dire predictions of a few individuals were totally unfounded.

There has not been an influx of testosterone-charged young men from the Gold Coast and regional areas rampaging around Beech Drive and invading our community, the track has not created a bitumen heat sink that has destroyed the ambience of the park, no deforestation has occurred and I am happy to report the plover family are again breeding in the area.

In fact, if you go to the park on most days it is predominantly young families who are there with their little ones enjoying the area.

The development of the pump track was an enormous project for the SPPA team involving hundreds of hours of meetings, community consultations, reviewing tender documents, legal documents, meeting with contractors, Council staff meetings and written submissions to Council and reporting to the state government grants committee.

I must acknowledge the work of Philippe Soria - as well as Liz Levy and Prue Regan who have since stepped down from the committee, and my colleagues on the SPPA team who all did their bit. It has been an outstanding effort and you, my colleagues on the committee, should be very proud of the facility that you helped create for the youth and families of our community.

Thank you to the Council staff members who worked closely with us and directed this project, Malcolm Robertson and Michael Mathews, as well as the councillors who supported us through the long journey.

Tennis Courts - Even though the tennis courts are not under the control of the SPPA, we became aware that the usage of the courts had become a shambles. During successive lockdowns the free courts became extremely popular, and there were some groups and individuals who were dominating the usage to the detriment of the local community users. We set up a free online booking system which allows people to advance book the courts and make it fair for all. This seems to be working effectively and thank you to Philippe and Christine for their work on this.

Formal quarterly meetings with Council - these have been agreed to and will be implemented in future.

Projects that SPPA are potentially devoting more time to this year are :

- Improving the Baywood Chase lake water quality and overall amenities (this will be a long term project so don't expect short term results)
- Lobbying Council for more road maintenance on Beachside streets
- All-ability access onto Tallow beach
- Clifford Street intersection

- Monitor the development planned for No9 Clifford Street
- Investigate with concerned groups the issue related to the opening of the Tallow Creek ICOLL

As stated in the past, the SPPA committee has interactions with many other community organisations throughout the Shire, where we attend meetings to help with community networking and lobbying.

Some of these groups are: the Community Alliance Byron Shire (CABS), The Shire Council Round Table, Byron Residents Group, Byron town centre Masterplanning Committee, Bay FM, Byron Bay Historical Society and the Suffolk Park Hall Committee

On behalf of the SPPA committee I would like to acknowledge and thank some of the wonderful community-based groups that contribute to our thriving little village :

The Rural Fire Service who gives so generously of their time and energy, on call 24/7 not just for fire emergency but also any natural disaster and traffic accidents (and particularly their retiring captain after filling the role for the past 4 years Doug Rowley)

The Suffolk Park Football Club, the Suffolk Park Hall Committee who are on the brink of 50 years' service to the village.

Also, we must acknowledge and thank our village shops and businesses The Park Hotel, SPAR, Baz & Shaz, the Suffolk Bakery - and finally I wish to thank the SPPA committee for their support and advice over the past 2 years.

Patsy Brosnan Vice President, Christine Guinand Secretary, Margaret Wiles Treasurer and committee members Philippe Soria, Magdalena Gustafsson, Peter Ormerod and Matt Cotter.

I particularly want to express my gratitude to Patsy Brosnan who is stepping down after 11 years on the committee. Patsy has been a very active member who has worked hard for the Suffolk Park community through the years. When I was absent she led the public campaign to save our park from being sold to developers. Thank you Patsy.

Like I usually say let's continue to acknowledge and support all those who live in our village because that's how we grow our community, our youth and their families

Other business

Magdalena Gustafsson reported that the soccer club has obtained a grant of \$400K for the construction of a clubhouse.

Doug Riley gave us an update on the local Fire Brigade where membership is at an all time high as a consequence of the bushfires in recent history.

Karin Kolbe suggested our residential suburb with such high pedestrian activity and mostly no footpaths should have a speed limit of 30km, and/or perhaps streets should be made one way. Another suggestion was that where there are no footpaths, the speed should be no higher than 40km.

Karin Kolbe deplures the fact that the Suffolk Dune Care group have ceased to operate, and hopes someone in the community can bring this back to life.