

**Minutes of the 'A' Ward Committee Meeting
Held 8 November 2016
In the Committee Rooms, 40 Cherry Street, Ballina**

Time Commenced

The meeting commenced at 4.00pm.

1. Attendance and Apologies

Attendance

Cr Nathan Willis	Councillor
Cr David Wright	Mayor – left at 5.30pm
Cr Phil Meehan	Councillor
Cr Stephen McCarthy	Councillor
Margaret Hains	Ballina Day View Club
Mary O'Brien	Lighthouse Day Club
David Felsch	South Ballina Community Association
Stephen Wills	Ballina Bears Cricket Club/Fripp Oval Sports Club
Elaine Ballard	Ballina CWA
George Young	Ballina Lions Club
Ross Pickering	Ballina & District Citizens & Ratepayers Association
John Leon	Ballina Rugby Union Club
Narelle Besseling	Ballina Chamber of Commerce & Ballina Retail Action Group

Council Staff in Attendance

Stephen Barnier	Group Manager Strategic & Community Facilities Group
Joanne Cordery	Secretary - Civil Services Group

Apologies

Marilyn McIntosh	Ballina Evening View Club
Andrew Playford	Ballina High School & East Ballina Lions Club
Lyn Davidson	Ballina CWA
John Truman	Group Manager Civil Services

Observer

John Edwards	Arrived at 4.45pm
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2. Election of Chair

Cr Meehan was elected as Chair of the Committee, for an initial period of twelve months.

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Deputations

Nil

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5. Confirmation of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 12 July 2016 were accepted as a true and correct record.

6. Membership

The information in the staff report was noted and it was agreed that all members who attended the meeting had renewed their membership.

- Ballina Day View Club – Margaret Hains
- Lighthouse Day Club – Mary O'Brien
- South Ballina Community Association – David Felsch
- Ballina Bears Cricket Club/ Fripp Oval Sports Club – Stephen Wills
- Ballina CWA – Elaine Ballard/Lyn Davidson
- Ballina Lions Club – George Young
- Ballina & District Citizens & Ratepayers Association – Ross Pickering
- Ballina Rugby Union Club – John Leon
- Ballina Chamber of Commerce & Ballina Retail Action Group – Narelle Besseling
- Ballina Evening View Club - Marilyn McIntosh
- Ballina High School & East Ballina Lions Cub - Andrew Playford.
- St Andrews Ballina - Pip Carter

The resignation of Sheila Aveling as representative of Paradise FM was noted.

7. Code of Conduct

Cr Meehan gave the Committee an overview of the Code of Conduct and encouraged all members to view the documents on Council's website. It was explained that members of each of Council's community committees are expected to abide by the Code.

8. Business Arising from Previous Minutes

Playground West Ballina

The information in the staff report was noted.

Lions Park – Path

The information in the staff report was noted. Mr Pickering was keen to ensure that the pathway would be monitored for further damage attributed to encroaching tree roots, thereby becoming a trip hazard for pedestrians.

Disabled Access in Polling Places for September LG Elections

The information in the staff report was noted.

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Keith Hall Lane – Ferry Signage

The information in the staff report was noted.

9. General Business

Nominate a Local Hero

Cr Meehan gave the Committee an overview of the information provided in the staff report.

10. Business Without Notice

i) Comments from the Mayor

Cr Wright discussed the following matters with the Committee.

- Prawn Festival is scheduled for this Saturday 12 November.
- The name for the new Ballina High School had been announced as “Ballina Coast High School”.
- Nets will be installed in early December as part of the DPI shark mitigation strategy. Warning beacons to be installed.
- Would like Council to write a letter regarding displaying the memorabilia from the old Ballina High School at the new school site.

ii) Prawn Festival 2016

Narelle Besseling advised that the festival this year is a ticketed event as a means of ascertaining its viability in the future.

iii) Pop Up Shop Request

Elaine Ballard asked about the availability of a pop up shop in the main street. It was suggested that she contact the leasing agents advertised on the signs in only vacant shop windows.

iv) Path Billboard Request

Elaine Ballard asked about having a noticeboard in front of the CWA.

Steve Barnier suggested she contact Council's town planning staff to ascertain if there are any regulatory requirements.

v) Ballina Bike Plan

Ross Pickering asked questions relating to the different names given to the coastal path and also whether the eastern path was going to be disability friendly.

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The Mayor explained the processes that had taken place and advised that the planned path north of Skennars Head is not able to meet Australian accessibility standards due to grades.

vi) Shared Pathway Lennox Head

Cr Meehan asked if the shared path would connect Skennars Head to Pat Moreton Lookout.

Steve Barnier advised that Council was currently investigating funding options for this section.

vii) New Councillors & A Ward Committee

David Felsch congratulated the new Councillors on their recent election. He also thanked the Council for continuing with its Ward Committees as these are forums in which groups can easily present their issues.

viii) Nomination of Membership – letter tabled

David Felsch tabled a letter from the South Ballina Community Association nominating him as their representative. The letter also advised that the group was changing its name to Ballina Peninsular Residents Association. A number of issues were also listed, including a request for a community hall, impact of current flood maps on the availability and cost of insurance for property owners, together with ferry costs and public health issues.

ix) Ferry Speed

David Felsch asked why the ferry is running at a slower rpm than it should, why the ferry is speed limited and why the drivers don't have the authority to drive the ferry to conditions. Mr Felsch also advised that he and other residents are happy with the service the ferry provided, just not its efficiency.

Steve Barnier and Cr Meehan advised that this matter would be referred to John Truman for response.

Extract from the agenda of 12 May 2016 is reproduced below for the information of the Committee.

Ferry Capacity

In response to the concerns that the ferry travels too slowly and does not load to full capacity, Council has commenced the collection of ferry patronage data during peak hours. A summary of this data is available in table 1 and table 2 below.

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Table 1 Ferry Patronage Data

Date	Peak (AM 7 - 9, PM 4 - 6)	Total Number of Vehicles	Total Number of Trips	Trips w. space on ferry	Trips w. Vehicle/s left behind	Recorded Hours	Average Trips per Hour
27Apr	PM	109	31	31	0	2	15.5
28Apr	AM	107	15	15	0	2	7.5
28Apr	PM	91	21	21	0	2	10.5
29Apr	AM	93	25	25	0	2	12.5
29Apr	PM	74	20	20	0	2	10
30Apr	AM	94	23	23	0	2	11.5
30Apr	PM	65	23	23	0	2	11.5
1May	AM	70	23	23	0	2	11.5
1May	PM	67	24	24	0	2	12
2May	AM	60	29	29	0	2	14.5
2May	PM	72	25	25	0	2	12.5
3May	AM	-	-	-	-	-	-
3May	PM	20	7	7	0	1	7
4May	AM	120	29	29	0	2	14.5

Table 2 Weekly Ferry Patronage Data Summary

Operating Week	Total Number of Vehicles	Number of Trips	Trips w. space on ferry	Trips w. Vehicle/s left behind	Recorded Hours	AVG Trips / Hour
27Apr PM to 04May AM	1042	295	295	0	25	11.8

The above information shows to date the ferry has made 295 trips during the recorded peak hours in 25 recorded hours. The ferry averaged 11.8 crossings per hour, with a high of 15.5, which is considered the maximum crossing rate that the ferry can realistically achieve. The number of crossings per hour appears to be governed by demand with periods of lower total number of vehicles also resulting in lower average crossing rate. Therefore, on this sample, there is no evidence to support the claim that the ferry is operated at speeds that are inconsistent or less than optimum.

During the recording period, there has not been a trip made with the ferry completely full, however there has also not been a trip made with a customer left behind. On this sample there is no evidence that not loading to capacity is causing an unnecessary delay to customers.

It is also proposed to provide the Committee with the data collected in the week 4 to 10 May 2015.

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Extract from Email sent to David Felsch on 18 February 2016:

I have discussed with staff, we don't seem to have any complaints about this issue and staff are aware of our expectations to collect all vehicles (that can fit) from the bank before raising the ramp. We do have a preferred operating throttle speed for the ferry and drivers are instructed about that also.

x) Sinking Culvert – 848 River Drive, South Ballina

David Felsch asked if staff could inspect the culvert in front of 848 River Drive, as he had not received a response to his earlier representations.

An Extract from the agenda of 12 July 2016 is reproduced below for the information of the Committee.

Business arising from Minutes – 10 May, 2016
River Drive Culvert

Council staff are aware of the differential settlement at this location. Council's surveyor is monitoring this culvert structure for settlement and action will be taken as required.

xi) Ferry Light

David Felsch advised the Committee that the concrete pad had been installed, which seemed to indicate the light would be soon installed.

xii) New Councillors

Stephen Wills congratulated the new Councillors on their recent election. He advised them that he also represents the Fripp Oval Sports Club, and outlined their current priorities for the ground.

xiii) Update Fripp Oval Sports Club

Stephen Wills updated the Committee on the internal refurbishment of the clubhouse and advised the club had received a grant of \$65,000 to do this. He also advised that the clubhouse had three recent break-ins and that the club had, at its own cost, installed security cameras on the building.

Mr Wills also advised that they are still looking at grant options for the fencing and also thanked Council for the drainage works and the transition work between codes that had been completed by Council staff.

Mr Wills also provided Council with an update for the Under 13 Cricket Festival which is being held in early January 2017 which had reached its 26th year. Fifteen clubs would be competing in the event.

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xiv) Update from Ballina Day View Club

Margaret Hains congratulated the new Councillors and the Mayor on their recent election, and also on the construction of the new road and roundabout at Angels Beach Drive. Ms Hains also commented that she believed that the Melaleuca trees in that vicinity are recovering.

xv) Issue at Coast Road

Margaret Hains reported an issue on the Coast Road near the roundabout near Angels Beach Drive.

Staff to investigate.

xvi) Boardwalk Motel

Margaret Hains asked for an update on the Boardwalk Motel.

Cr Wright advised that this was not a project involving Council, and therefore we are not in a position to provide any comment.

xvii) Request to Remove Sign

Mary O'Brien asked if the "No Through Road" sign at the eastern end of Webster Lane could be removed now as the road is now accessible.

xviii) Update from Ballina Lighthouse Day Club

Mary O'Brien advised the Committee that the Lighthouse Club is going well.

xix) Shelly Beach Cafe

George Young asked for an update on the Shelly Beach Café.

Cr Wright advised that, as per previous advice, the construction of the new building is the responsibility of the tenant. Council is very concerned with the delay and has proactively managed the lease, however it is noted the tenant is compliant with the lease terms and is therefore not in breach of contract with Council.

xx) West Ballina Pedestrian Crossing

George Young asked for an update on a pedestrian crossing across River Street in West Ballina.

Cr Meehan advised that he would have further discussions with John Truman regarding this matter.

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xxi) Thank You to Andrew Playford

George Young advised the Committee that Andrew Playford was leaving soon for his teacher exchange role in America. He thanked Andrew for his contribution to the Committee.

xxii) Ballina Highway Service Centres

George Young asked for an update regarding the proposed highway service centres for West Ballina.

Cr Wright advised that information he had received is that the RMS is committed to its project.

xxiii) Comment from Cr Stephen McCarthy

Cr McCarthy indicated he is pleased to see the active participation of Committee members, and he is looking forward to continuing to work with the Committee during the current Council term.

xxiv) Comments from Cr Nathan Willis

Cr Willis commented on:

- how important the Ward Committees are to Council;
- he is available for contact outside of meetings and working hours.
- that he would like to learn more about the issue with the pedestrian crossing at West Ballina.

xxv) Comments from Cr Phil Meehan

Cr Meehan commented on:

- Ideas to provide free waste collection for the community, as well as subsidised tip access.
- Media publicity on shark mitigation strategies.
- The number of smart drumlines have increased.

xxvi) Suggestion of Marina for South Ballina

David Felsch suggested that South Ballina would be the ideal spot for a new boating marina.

Steve Barnier advised that South Ballina was one of the identified locations reported to Council some years ago, although a redevelopment of the existing Ballina Trawler Harbour site had been supported as a preferred option.

11. Council Documents on Exhibition

The list of previously advertised documents was noted by the Committee.

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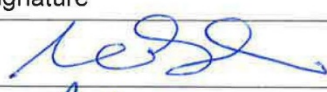

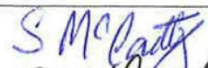
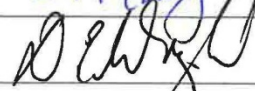
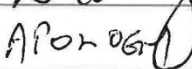
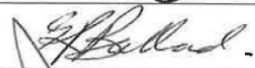


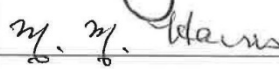
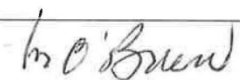
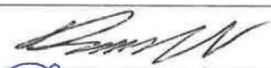
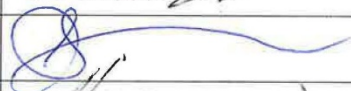

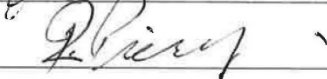

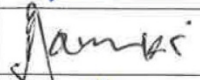

12. Next Meeting

The next meeting is to be held at 4.00pm on Tuesday 14 March 2017.

13. Meeting Close

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 5.35pm.

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A Ward Meeting Attendance Sheet – 8 November 2016		
Name	Business	Signature
Cr Nathan Willis	Ballina Shire Council	
Cr Phil Meehan	Ballina Shire Council	
Cr Stephen McCarthy	Ballina Shire Council	
Cr David Wright	Ballina Shire Council	
Mrs Lyn Davidson	Ballina CWA	
Ms Elaina Ballard	Ballina CWA	
Mr George Young	Ballina Lions Club	
Michael Young NAREWE BESSELY	Ballina Chamber of Commerce & Ballina Retail Action Group	
Ms Margaret Hains	Ballina Day View Club	
Mr Andrew Playford	Ballina High School & East Ballina Lions Club	Apology
Ms Hazel Elliott	Ballina Evening View	_____
Ms Mary O'Brien	Lighthouse Day Club	
Mr Pip Carter	St Andrews Ballina	_____
Mr David Felsch	South Ballina Community Association	
Mr Stephen Wills	Ballina Bears Cricket Club	
Mr John Leon	Ballina Rugby Union Club	
Mr Ross Pickering	Ballina & District Citizens & Ratepayers Association	
Mr John Truman	Group Manager Civil Services	Apology
Marilyn McIntosh	Ballina Evening View Club	Apology
Ms Joanne Cordery	Civil Services Group	
Mr Stephen Barnier	Group Manager Strategic & Community Facilities Group	
JOHN EDWARDS	/	

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**South Ballina Beach Community
Association**

P O Box 6018
Empire Vale
NSW, 2478
November 7 2016

Mr John Truman
C/O Ballina Shire Council

Dear John,

Re A Ward Meetings

I am the acting chairman of the South Ballina Beach Community Association and this letter is to confirm that Mr David Felsch is the nominated representative from this group for the regular A Ward meetings.

Please be advised that at the scheduled November 12 meeting of this group it is proposed to change the name of the association to Ballina Peninsular Residents Association to more correctly reflect the broader reach of the association. Also at this meeting there will be the election of new office bearers and it is expected that David will continue in the role of group representative for the A Ward meetings.

There are a number of pressing matters of concern to residents in this area including the need for a community hall, the impact of current flood maps on the availability and cost of insurance together with Ferry costs and public health issues at the South Ballina Beach.

We look forward to working with Council towards a mutually agreeable outcome on these matters.

Yours Sincerely


Martin Burt
Acting Chairman