

**FINAL (1) MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING OF VALLA BEACH
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION HELD ON MONDAY 3 MARCH 2025
AT THE VALLA BEACH COMMUNITY HALL**

Meeting opened: 7pm

Acknowledgement to Country: Peter Sobey

I would like to acknowledge the Gumbaynggirr people who are the Traditional Custodians of this Land. I would also like to pay respect to the Elders both past and present and extend that respect to any Aboriginal People present here.

Welcome Guests: NVC Mayor Gary Lee and our NVC rep Councillor Susan Jenvey

Welcome to all in attendance to this General Meeting.

PRESENT: 37 members (as per attendance sheets)

APOLOGIES:

Vanessa Wells, Ceri and Rick Wrobel, NVC GM Bede Spannagle, Jocelyn Box, Councillor Dr Ljuboz Simson, Councillor Jane Smith, Councillor David Jones, Lyndall Townend and Julie Collins

PREVIOUS GENERAL MINUTES:

Minutes of the last VBCA General Meeting held on 18 November 2024 were tabled as read. Moved John Windmill seconded Kerri Mergan that those Minutes be accepted.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES (BAFM) 18.11.24:

1. Official Opening of the Stage and new Footbridge - postponed
2. TfNSW Rule 73 and Giinagay Way intersection - GB
3. DA & Community Land - GB
4. 4WDs and dogs on beaches - GB

Correspondence In (letter or email):

19.11.24 to 03.03.25

- 21.11.24 One Underwriting re VBCA Market insurance
- 25.11.24 Local Consulting re Strategic Plan workshop
- 28.11.24 NVC Andrea Baillie re sport costs survey
- 02.12.24 MAWAW re new plan for the Carols' set up
- 04.12.24 Emma Bloomfield Locale Consulting re Strategic Plan results - CSP to go on exhibition late April 2025
- 05.12.24 NVC Tim Woodward re Carols area clean up and bin removal after Carols
- 05.01.25 Ben Whitaker re thong seat objection
- 09.01.25 ABC Radio Charles Rushforth re possible interview
- 13.01.25 Councillor Susan Jenvey re attendance at the Official Opening of the footbridge
- 20.01.25 Michael Kemp MP re attendance at our intersection
- 24.01.25 Michael Kemp MP still in contact with TfNSW
- 28.01.25 NVC Teresa Boorer re S356 Donation Program now open
- 29.01.25 NVC Teresa Boorer re cancellation of the Official Opening of the footbridge
- 31.01.25 Michael Kemp MP office with copy letter from TfNSW
- 05.02.25 Zoie Byrne (VB resident) re bad accident at the intersection
- 07.02.25 NVC Jocelyn Box re annual increase in hall charges
- 07.02.25 VBCA member Ceri Wrobel re 2NVR interview with Michael Kemp MP re intersection
- 08.02.25 Sharon Tiede (VB resident) re intersection and speed issues
- 10.02.25 Councillor Susan Jenvey re intersection update - possible meeting of all parties

Correspondence In (cont)

- 12.02.25 NVC Teresa Boorer re Community Building Partnership grant now open; closes 21.02.25
 13.02.25 VBCA member Ceri Wrobel re 2NVR interview with Matt Begg (Village Pottery) re intersection
 13.02.25 Therese King (VB Social Group) asking for VBCA to auspice its S356 Donation Program
 20.02.25 NVC Jocelyn Box re receipt of email re hall charges for 2025
 27.02.25 Councillor Susan Jenvey re DA and land possibilities
 28.02.25 Christine Murray (TfNSW) re dot points in answer to our VBCA query email of 26.02.25.

Correspondence Out (letter or email):

19.11.24 to 03.03.25

- 23.11.24 Resident Kaz Selbie re re-using the footbridge old timbers
 04.12.24 NVC Tim Woodward re Reserve preparation for our Dec Markets and Carols
 09.01.25 Resident Mel Hilson re ABC Radio interview re intersection
 20.01.25 Michael Kemp MP Media Release re intersection
 24.01.25 Resident Michael Joyce re speed decrease at intersection
 05.02.25 Resident Zoie Byrne re intersection accident
 06.02.25 Michael Kemp MP with copy letters Zoie Byrne and Sharon Tiede
 06.02.25 Michael Kemp MP re phone call
 11.02.25 NVC invite to this Meeting - Mayor Gary Lee and all Council staff and Councillors
 15.02.25 Therese King (VB Social Group) re auspice of S356 Donation Program Application
 15.02.25 NVC Kelly Pacey re apology for GM Bede Spannagle for this meeting
 18.02.25 NVC Jocelyn Box re printing for this meeting
 19.02.25 NVC Teresa Boorer with S356 Donation Program Application for Defib batteries
 26.02.25 Christine Murray (TfNSW) re questions regarding the intersection
 02.03.25 Michael Kemp MP with copy of TfNSW 26.02.25 email

(From 19.11.24 to present - many emails regarding VV, Markets and TfNSW Rule 73)

Moved Peter Sobey seconded Lori Warren that the all inward and outward correspondence be tabled as read.

PRESIDENT /TREASURER'S REPORT: This report and financials were made available to all members present at this General Meeting. Peter Sobey spoke to these reports. It was moved Georgette Allen and seconded Mac Wilson that this President & Treasurer's report be accepted.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

1. TfNSW Rule 73 and Giinagay Way intersection - Peter read out Christine Murray's dot points from her email to VBCA dated 28.02.25. Residents John Thoms, Paul Coe, Hugo Marree and Paul Coe all spoke about their concerns, lowering of the speed, etc. Poor vision with vehicles travelling at speed from the north towards the intersection. Why was this change done in the first instance? No community consultation or information. Very confusing for our community. Councillor Susan Jenvey feels that the Govt is listening to our concerns and acting on that. Mayor Gary Lee spoke about his concerns - he is receiving many phone calls from concerned residents - Mayor Lee personally drove to inspect our intersection, the speed zones, etc. to gain his own perspective. He contacted Michael Kemp MP to try to get TfNSW to act sooner rather than later. Hugo Marree - experience with emergency vehicles in accidents and the difference between speeds, accidents and level of injury outcomes. It was NSW Police who first introduced the slip lane and Give Way sign. Sec Carole has had no luck in finding out why this was changed in the first instance. She has asked for any prior evidence, but with no luck. VBCA will keep a close eye on this worrying situation and keep in contact with TfNSW, Michael Kemp MP, Mayor Gary Lee and Councillor Susan Jenvey about any further developments.

GENERAL BUSINESS (cont):

2. DA & Community Land: About 5 years ago, Alithia Learning had a DA granted for a purpose built building for their group. This group disbanded about 3 years through no fault of their own. This DA consent lapses in July 2025. Peter Sobey showed all present a map of the area that could be available.

Mayor Gary Lee had spoken with Peter Sobey at the Art Expressions opening about the possibility of VBCA extending our existing Hall. Peter spoke re a larger hall, larger parking area, etc. NVC's Daniel Walsh suggested that we don't need to change the zoning of the land; keeping it as operational land plays in our favour. Any change in the zoning now would involve a wait of 2 years for a change to the LEP. Discussion followed. How much preparation needs to be done firstly, plans, get approval from Council, contact NVC's Teresa Boorer re possible grants, and have the project shovel ready for when funds may come available.

Resident Pat Greenwood (from our Community Resilience Team) explained that Valla Beach has no designated evacuation centre or disaster recovery centre. This all needs to be considered for any future project of this kind.

We have a current Sub-Committee for a new Hall: our VBCA exec plus Georgette Allen and John Windmill - Pat Greenwood happy to volunteer to join the team.

VBCA would be seeking Councillor Jenvey's assistance in relation to any development. Moved Georgette Allen that our Hall Sub-Committee meet with NVC's Daniel Walsh (Planning) in the near future as a starting point for this project. All present in favour.

Mayor Gary Lee spoke in favour of a meeting with NVC's Daniel Walsh - VBCA will receive full co-operation from Council - extension for what VBCA wants - Council wanting to get things better for the community. Resident Lori Warren - need for a guarantee from Council about not doing anything with the land in the interim. Transparency.

3. Dogs on beaches: At our November 2024 General Meeting, concerns were raised about the protection of migratory shorebirds and damage to their habitat. Councillor Jenvey was asked to look into the erection of clearer "no dogs" signage and to also look into the issue of more Ranger patrols. There needs to be more enforcement and fines issued especially during school holidays.

Councillor Jenvey spoke to this and she did put forward a motion to a NVC Meeting on 19 December 2024 for Council to erect a stand-alone 'No Dogs On the Beach' Sign for Thompson St carpark. And also for Council to request NPWS to put on a 'Share The Shore' program to disseminate and educate the community on the plight of shore birds and off-leash dogs. Councillor Jenvey did not include an increase to ranger patrols for dogs on beaches in her motion to Council on advice that the allocation of resourcing for ranger activity had been directed towards illegal camping over the Christmas holiday season.

Currently, \$300 fine for dog owners in the Thompson Street area and carpark; off-leash dog owners to pay attention to the signs; need an enforcement program for bird protection; 70% decline of estuary birds; ecological problem; Valla Beach is a very special place and needs to be protected; dogs need to be kept out of estuary parts of Deep Creek; when approached, some dog owners become quite aggressive; fine for dog owners not removing dog faeces and bags; should bin or take home. Councillor Jenvey will follow up with more ranger patrols to keep dogs out of Deep Creek areas; she will contact NVC's GM for more ranger hours.

4WDs on beaches:

VBCA to try to have the beaches at Valla to be no 4WD areas; discussion - not up to just Valla Beach as our beaches form part of the whole Valley; funds made from 4WDs' fines are put towards improving the 4WD track entrance; suggestion to close off 4WD track and locked; only residents of the Nambucca Valley to have access for their 4WDs.

Resident Lori Warren re ranger patrols - South Valla someone camping there now. Mayor - the best option for any aggressive behaviour is to call the Police. Mayor also suggested the Council's **Antenno App** for your phone - very easy to install on your phone - if you come across anything that you feel needs to be reported, good or bad, take a photo of the incident, take a photo of a licence plate and send it on through to Council through this App.

4. Resident Ben Whitaker and thong seat - email 15.01.25 - not in attendance tonight.

5. VBCA purchase of a Carol Easton photograph/painting for our Hall - Moved by Georgette Allen and sec Kerri Mergan that VBCA look into the purchase of an image/s from Carol Easton's collection, depending on price and that such an image be installed on the back wall of the hall. Carried. Maggie Bevan suggested a collage of 3 photos/paintings showing improvements and changes over the years.

6. Kit Law (Village resident): Concerns with OH&S issues with the footbridge - not in attendance tonight.

Discussion followed regarding the wind noise from the footbridge. Mayor Gary Lee stated that there is to be a safety audit shortly with a report to Council. NVC will try to mitigate any issues.

There being no further General Business, Chairperson Peter Sobey declared the Meeting **closed at 9.05pm** - thank you all for your attendance and input.

Next Meeting will be a General Meeting - **Monday 30 June 2025** commencing at 7pm