

MINUTES
CATHERINE HILL BAY PROGRESS ASSOCIATION
Friday, 1st August 2014
7.30 at Bowling Club Community Hall

**PUBLIC MEETING HELD TO DISCUSS TRAFFIC ISSUES IN
THE TOWN.**

Peter Mc Murray, Transportation & Asset Planning Co-Coordinator
Lake Macquarie City Council attended the meeting to address two main
issues.

1. The implementation of the traffic management plan.
2. The closure for 4 months of Montefiore St and the impact that this
will have on the safety and amenity of the town.

Mr. Mc Murray explained that the funding that had been set aside to
implement the traffic management plan for this financial year had had to be
re allocated to the Children's Games at Speers Point Park in December.

Detailed design plans for the speed reduction measures would be made after
January 2015 and money allocated in the next budget would be put towards
implementation of these plans.
LMCC is looking for federal funding as well.

The Publican, T Beevor raised concerns about the closure of Montefiore
Street over the Summer months pointing out that this is the time of increased
numbers coming to the pub and that there will be safety issues as all traffic
coming to and from the hotel would have to pass through the narrow streets
of Catherine Hill Bay.

Mr. Roberts from CHB Surf Life Saving Club expressed great concern about
the road closure. He put forward many possible and probable scenarios
pointing out the safety issues involved if Montefiore Street was closed over
the summer months.

Ambulances come from Doyalson. If Montefiore St is closed the extra 15-20
mins could result in loss of life. Who would be responsible?

Coal & Allied have told us that they also intend to carry out their traffic works on Flowers Drive towards the end of the year. This would make entry/exiting of the Bay almost impossible. Timing is wrong.
(Please see attached letter detailing our concerns about the impact on the amenity and safety of the townspeople)

Mr. Mc Murray pointed out that Montefiore St was not a council road but undertook to take the concerns expressed at the meeting further and seek comment from the RMS.

CATHERINE HILL BAY PROGRESS ASSOCIATION MEETING was then held.

Attendance: S Whyte, D Knock, N Hudson, N Lambert, J Gartelmann, D Goff, L Goff, T Osborne, E Gibson, T Iselt, C Exlay, A English, P Johnston, G Roberts, T Beevor, C Brown, J Greenstone, J Bourke, B Gibson, C Norman.

- 1 **Apologies:** Damien Hawcroft, Kim & Bart Van Den Hengle , Christine & Don Graham, J Bowe, B Brown, B Norman
- 2 **Minutes of the last CHBPA** held 23rd May 2014
- 3 **Treasurer's report, (see attached)**
4. **Launch** of the brochure *Walking Trails of Catherine Hill Bay*

The brochure will be launched by the federal member Jill Hall MP as the money to produce the brochure was a federal grant. Jodie Harrison, Mayor of Lake Macquarie will co-launch, as the input from LMCC was vital to this project.

Garry Edwards, MP, our State member will speak on the tourism that will be encouraged by access to this brochure.

Lake Mac Print estimate for the Visitor Information Board: an aluminum sign printed in full colour & laminated with UV stable and anti-graffiti film. (You can see examples of this as new signs at either entrance into town.)

Size is 1200 by 1800 mm.

Sandy Leyland who did the artwork for the brochure will do the artwork.
Estimate \$1,023.00 (well within our budget)

5. Report on proposed C & A development.

Spoke with Geoffrey Rock. C & A have been busy on finalizing their DAs for Gwandalan and Nords Wharf. There has been a joint panel approval for Gwandalan and they expect Nords Wharf Approval to be only a couple of weeks away. C & A will then turn their attention to Catherine Hill Bay.

Geoffrey Rock would like to meet with the community say 3rd week in August to take the community through their DA proposal. The Association will notify everyone about this meeting giving as much warning as possible. (Gwandalan took 4 months before the DA was approved so who knows when CHB DA will be approved. David Pavitt, from LMCC is the LMCC person responsible for this matter)

Peter Mc Murray had asked about where C&A were up to as they are responsible for a traffic management plan from the Highway to where houses start in the present town. Geoffrey Rock expects to be dealing with this in the latter part of the year. BAD TIMING particularly if RG has closed Montifiore Street. There really needs to be some communication between the 2 developers and LMCC)

6. Report on Tennis Court.

C & A had decided not to spray during winter but have noticed that we have not waited and have also whippet snipped the court. Geoffrey Rock is happy for us to be involved in the resurrection of the court his only concern is with the clubhouse and liability issues.

Need to set up a committee to raise funds, as a new tank needs to be purchased, solar panels and batteries for lighting of the clubhouse and security. Also some new fencing is needed.

We have been fortunate enough to “find” Garry Stewart, a Landcare Coordinator in Swansea, who knows how to treat a clay tennis court, and advised on work to date. His input is invaluable and it was agreed that a book or similar should be given to Garry to express our thanks.

Anyone for a game of tennis?

7. Report on Landcare and Tree Day

Monthly Landcare and a Green Team visit (260 plants) included planting on the slopes of Pat Slaven Reserve – with new measures to help plants cope with coal chitter and water repelling sand. The Lifeguards planted there, too. Carmel is now Chair of Lake Macquarie Landcare Network.

Our National Tree Day planting (80 plants) was on the slope in front of the Surf Club. Over 10 people came and then enjoyed a BBQ. Our photos are in their National Tree Day publicity.

8. Report on jetty.

Wrapped by Christo?? Site for a café? Current offer on the table is that Lake Coal will give the funds required for demolition to anyone willing to take over the jetty.

The regulator is Resources & Energy, a Government body, and John Trotter, from the Dept. has been meeting with Lake Coal over the formulation of a new draft mine closure plan. It seems after 7 years a new plan must be written. So this should be out before the end of the year. It won't be specific but will put into place a timeframe for matters such as the jetty, bin building etc.

The current design for dealing with the bin building is to fill it with concrete at the front to stabilize it and use fly ash at the back. The advantage of fly ash is that it consolidates well and will not settle in the way soil would in the following years. Soil settling will crack and malform the surface.

The downside of this is that trucks will have to bring in the flyash and possibly take out some of the concrete hardstand. Some of this hardstand could be used on site in the making of new concrete.

The regulator, Resources & Energy, has not approved this yet.

9. Update on water and sewerage at the Bay

1. If sewerage and water lines pass through the 2 Bay villages would the owners of those houses have the option or obligation to connect?

Currently there is no obligation on anyone to connect to a WICA licenses system; the same goes for the WICA licensee, who is not obligated to allow anyone to connect to its system. However, a bill has gone to parliament

under the review of the Water Industry competition Act. The review has made a number of recommendations and as a result the Act has been redrafted, it is yet to be passed. The Bill can be viewed at the Parliament of NSW [website](#), along with the second reading speech on [Hansard](#). Once passed, the bill will allow local council to require people to connect to the system. This might be something you will need to take up with your local council once legislation has been passed.

2. Could a householder choose not to connect at no cost or financial imposition?

This is a difficult question to answer, as mentioned above currently there is no requirement to connect, however if you choose to connect and are allowed to connect to the system by the WICA licensee, you would likely be required to bare these costs.

Under the New WICA legislation, there are provisions to protect consumers from financial hardship. More info will be required once the Act has been passed; this will likely come out in the revised WIC Regulation, which is yet to be drafted.

3. What would be the connection costs to each householder if they had to connect?

This cost is determined by the WICA licensee. It will likely be actual costs; however WICA licensees may see a benefit in discounting the connection fees. We do not regulate these prices. Many licensees try to keep costs in line with Sydney or Hunter Water, however these services are usually more expensive to provide, therefore they may not be able to be as competitive as the public water utilities.

4. If connected will there be quarterly / annual charges?

Once again, the WICA Licensee determines these fees, you would be made fully aware of these costs before connection to the system.

10. **Artist in residence at Catherine Hill Bay.** What do you think of this idea? Jennifer Hill is willing to give her house for the month of June; David Knock for the month of September. J Gartelmann has also offered a couple of weeks.

This would be a great initiative and very good for the profile of the town.

11. General Business.

a. After considering all comments made from submissions on the proposed road names for the new Rose group development, LMCC and the developer have compiled a new list of names and we were asked to comment. The new names are a vast improvement and most have historical significance. Thank goodness **Easy Street** and **Ice Cream Street** are gone. (See new list attached).

The members did have 2 good new suggestions:

1. **Wotherspoon Street** after Ted and Dorothy Wotherspoon, the first aboriginal people who owned a hotel licence in Australia. The Wotherspoons held the freehold and licence of the hotel for many years.
2. **Cameron Street** after the much loved and long serving school teacher of the Bay School.

b. Mrs. Bourke asked that a letter be written to the National Parks seeking to have the blockage of the stream behind the school dealt with. Soil was pushed into the stream by the RFS when fighting the fire previous to the October 2013 fire.

12. **Close of Meeting 9:30**