

Crescent Head CAG Meeting

Minutes

Date: 25 July 2024

Venue: Teams Meeting / Committee Room

Time: 2:00pm – 5:00pm

Staff:

Michael Jackson (MJ) – Director Operations & Planning (Chair)

Liesa Davies – (LD) - A/Director Corporate & Commercial (Facilitator)

Grant Dennis (GD) – A/Group Manager Strategic & Asset Planning (Project Lead)

Mick Hanley (MH) – Community Engagement Manager

Group Members:

Chloe Hobden-Welch	Lloyd Mather
Daniel Williams	Matthew Shannon
Fred Andrews	Pamela Bryant
Gail Ryan	Ross Foster
Jann Eason	Scott Jansma
Josh Dennis	Susie Hughes
Kerry Hudson	Tom Vermeulen
Kempsey Local Aboriginal Land Council (KLALC) Representative	

Optional Attendees:

David Knights – Civile

Matt Ritson – Civile

Minute Takers: Cass Harvey – Business Support Officer & Tahlia Randle – A/ Executive Officer Operations & Planning

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair opened the meeting and acknowledged Country.

Josh Dennis and Ross Foster were noted as apologies.

Matthew Shannon, Scott Jansma and KLALC Representative were not in attendance.

2. Introductions

3. Community Advisory Group Role

Representatives of the community to:

- Discuss, workshop and develop options.
- Work on a collaborative design with local people.
- Provide up to date and accurate information in the community.
- Provide visibility and transparency.
- Identify risks and concerns regarding the project.

4. Working Together – Our Rules

In discussing how the Group is going to work together, they agreed to:

- listen and feel listened to
- have respect for others' opinions

Kempsey Shire Council acknowledges the land of the Thunggutti/Dunghutti Nation. We pay respect to Elders past and present. We acknowledge the role of emerging leaders to continue to guide us in the future. We acknowledge the Stolen Generations and the need to change practices to be inclusive. This land always was and always will be Thunggutti/Dunghutti land.



Crescent Head CAG Meeting

- have respect for confidentiality in the group – we don't attribute comments to an individual/s
- respect the facilitator
- don't expect to get everything we want
- look at things objectively/from different perspectives
- try to understand the opinions of others
- be open-minded
- not get buried in the detail
- focus on creating something that is better than it is today
- share information and feedback with the community.

5. Project Background

The current foreshore area has been a contested space for a long time. The CAG will be working towards getting it right with a fresh team and new inclusive ideas for the community.

6. Opinions on previous work

The Group reflected on foreshore planning and work delivered to date and shared views on the positives and negatives they have observed. There was general discussion around not wanting to forget or ignore the good work that has been done, and to learn from the things that have not worked/gone well to date.

Positives

- Taking a step back, willingness to improve and listen
- Need to retain the positives, don't throw out the good work done to date.
- The desire to enhance public use spaces
- Support for active use spaces
- Activation of more green space
- Amount of green space
- Good outcome for green space enlargement
- Little Nobby boardwalk and environmental planning
- Most of the Domain plan that was adopted was positive
- Paved path increased accessibility
- Rubbish and facilities improvements
- Agreement with surf lifesaving to establish the building and the services on the foreshore. It adds value to the space and the community.
- Council listened to what the residents and ratepayers wanted but were not able to follow through.

Negatives

- We didn't follow through with the previous plans
- Previous plans abandoned
- The Crown Land management plan needs to be holistic, even if established in stages
- Road condition
- Mix of carpark and open space
- Carparking reduced
- Allowing overflow carparking in the Willow Park proposed on foreshore
- Cabins
- The Shed
- Asbestos contamination on foreshore; environmental management
- Community involvement
- Community engagement
- Lack of effective community consultation across the broader community
- Consultation plan not inclusive of all sectors of the community
- Only small community involvement: section of community disagreed with outcome
- Lack of transparency
- Need to not only listen, but also act in what has been heard in consultation



Crescent Head CAG Meeting

7. What does success look like?

The Group considered what success would look like as they work together and noted:

- We communicate progress with the community.
- There are planned points of community consultation, so they have on-going involvement and understanding of the project progress.
- We use diverse communication channels to maximise community awareness and understanding.
- Our communication includes engagement with active community stakeholder groups eg schools, surf club, market group.
- Council adopts a well-considered plan which takes in many views and has design infrastructure supported by evidence.
- There is a good balance between carparking and active/passive space
- We have a community space that is enjoyable, visually attractive, a happy place, utilised by diverse groups and ages.
- We consider the visitor perspective
- We develop more than one concept option and are able to explain to the broader community why the designs are what they are, what compromises may have been made.

8. Project Scope and Timeline

The main areas within our scope are the Foreshore, Willow Street Park & a walkway from Willow Street to Pacific Street. There may be other areas for discussion with the group that may or may not be included in the scope.

Proposed timeline:



9. Boundaries

The Project Lead presented on the physical boundaries of the spaces within scope. The Group noted a desire to see the Killick Creek walkway included within the scope.

10. The Big Picture

The Group explored the many uses and users of the project space, including:

Current and potential uses for the space

Relaxing, enjoying the view
Fishing
Surfing

Who uses the space

Surfers
Swimmers
Beach goers



Crescent Head CAG Meeting

Dog walking	Walkers
Walking	Dog walkers
Meeting with friends	Professional and recreation fisher people
Play (park, sand, rocks)	Day visitors
Skating	Visitors /travellers / tourists
School activities (surfing, cross country etc)	Coffee drinkers
Pump track	Families with children
Picnics	Friend / other groups
Coffee	Surf Club members
Sunset sips	School groups
Insta/social media pics	Yoga groups
Whale watching	Aged care groups
Nippers	Disability support groups
Celebrations (e.g. weddings, birthday parties)	Market stalls
Markets	Businesses i.e. Learn to Surf
Live music	Dundee
Protests/ rallies	Carols by the Sea
Santa surf	Melanoma March
Boating	

11. Homework

In preparation for the next meeting, members of the group were asked to complete the following activity:

Think	Note	Bring
Think of a place you love, that has some of the elements you want to see in the foreshore design	Note what you love about it	Bring these notes and a picture (if you can find one) to the next meeting.

12. Other Business – The Parking Lot

The Facilitator uses a 'parking lot' of issues raised that were beyond the scope of the Community Advisory Group's focus. These will be considered by staff and if time allows, discussed at a future meeting.

Matters added to the 'parking lot' for this meeting were:

- Crown Land Management in key adjoining spaces
- How do we get more evidence around the spaces e.g. foot traffic
- Previous Public Domain Plans – what questions were asked?
- Foreshore pathway to Muddy Arm and beyond – what was adopted previously?
- How to manage parking issues at the foreshore?
- Paid parking possibilities

13. Next Meeting

Thursday 22 August 2024 2:00pm – 5:00pm

Location – Crescent Head Community Hall

