

# MINUTES

## ENGAGING AND COMMUNICATING WITH OUR COMMUNITY

### TELEGRAPH POINT 12 July 2017

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#### PRESENT:

Deputy Mayor Lisa Intemann  
Councillor Rob Turner  
Councillor Mike Cusato  
Councillor Sharon Griffiths  
Councillor Justin Levido  
Councillor Geoffrey Hawkins

Craig Swift-McNair (General Manager)  
Rebecca Olsen (Director Corporate Performance)  
Jeffery Sharp (Director Strategy and Growth)  
Andrew Doig (Acting Director Infrastructure)  
Matt Rogers (Director of Development and Environment)  
Lucilla Marshall (Group Manager Community Place)

21 community members

#### APOLOGIES:

Councillor Peter Alley  
Councillor Lee Dixon

The Deputy Mayor welcomed those in attendance and introduced the Councillors and Council staff members present.

<b>Applicant</b>	Mr Steven Ryman
<b>Question 1 Submitted</b>	The open drain at the front of my property poses a safety concern that should be remedied, can it be considered when the sewerage is installed. It is the only open drain in the street and should be piped and filled in as it would give pedestrians a safe walking area from the Post Office to the TPCA Hall.
<b>Comments</b>	<p>The area has been inspected and the upstream drain has been rated as a low risk and works are not planned at this stage. Guideposts are present and act as delineation.</p> <p>On another note, during the inspection it was noted that the downstream culvert outlet is blocked and Council intends to undertake works to remove the blockage. Works will be undertaken when resources become available and with consideration given to other higher priorities.</p> <p>In response to considering these when the sewerage is installed, unfortunately, the implementation of sewer is not funded to or able to assist in any drainage works.</p>
<b>Meeting Notes / Actions</b>	<p>The Acting Director Infrastructure (A/DI) spoke to the response above. Further investigations are to be undertaken with regard to the open drain in this location. Not only is there a blockage, but this is a very deep drain that poses a safety risk to residents and users of the nearby hall. Consideration needs to be given to how Council can make the drain safer than it currently is.</p> <p>It was noted that once the Highway works are complete, more trucks will be using Cooperabung Drive through to Wyndell Close. There may also be discussions Council can have with the RMS around the future impacts on Cooperabung Drive.</p>

<b>Applicant</b>	Mr Malcolm Borger
<b>Question 2 Submitted</b>	Local resident have concerns as to what condition the existing road will be passed onto PMHC when the highway is open. It is not being maintained after recent weather events and we are worried PMHC will throw its hands in the air with no ability to maintain. Can you have the local MP involved?
<b>Comments</b>	<p>Council conducts regular meetings with Roads &amp; Maritime Service designed to resolve and monitor issues that arise from Oxley Highway to Kundabung upgrade. The current condition of the existing Pacific Highway has been noted by both parties.</p> <p>A dilapidation study of road sections inherited by Council will be undertaken at the conclusion of the project. Council has met with Roads &amp; Maritime Services asset staff to commence the handover process including understanding pavement condition.</p> <p>It is very difficult to forecast the sustained road pavement damage created by heavy vehicles and high traffic movements. A proper pavement assessment can be performed once the project is completed and traffic switched to the new Pacific Highway alignment. NSW Roads Act 1993 allows the State Government to allocate the road to Council with no compensation, however in this instance the agreed process is that Council will receive some compensation from Roads &amp; Maritime Service based on the information provided in the dilapidation study.</p>
<b>Meeting Notes / Actions</b>	<p>The A/DI spoke to the response above. Council are meeting with the RMS on a regular basis with regard to the handover of the road and have been in negotiations with the RMS regarding the handover for many months. The funds received from the handover will be placed in a reserve for the maintenance of the old Pacific Highway. Council can investigate how we might be able to report back to the community in future years on expenditure of the funds provided to Council by the RMS.</p> <p>For the information of residents and to ensure everyone is aware of this, there is legislation in place that provides effectively no power for Council to refuse taking on roads when they are handed over to Councils from the RMS. This is not something Councils can opt out of. When a road handover occurs, negotiations take place with the RMS around the level of funding that will be provided to Council for the ongoing maintenance of that road, noting that this is provided as a lump sum and is never an amount adequate enough to cover the future maintenance of that road.</p> <p>Council are unable to guarantee any particular level of service for the ongoing maintenance of this road once handed over as it will be added to Council's existing network of 1,400km of roads and prioritised along with other roads throughout the local government area.</p>

<b>Applicant</b>	Mr Malcolm Borger
<b>Question 3 Submitted</b>	With the highway due to open has any thought been given to future growth and development for the village? The most recent LEPP shows very little opportunity for new housing or re rating any property to support development in the village area. Please advise.
<b>Comments</b>	Future growth in Telegraph Point is an issue that will be considered in the upcoming review of the Port Macquarie-Hastings Urban Growth Management Strategy (UGMS). Port Macquarie-Hastings Council will add Mr Borger to Council's list of interested people to be advised when the draft Strategy is reported to Council. At this stage, it is anticipated that a report will be presented to Council in the last quarter of 2017.
<b>Meeting Notes / Actions</b>	The Director Development & Environment (DDE) spoke to the response above in relation to the UGMS. When Council formally sees the UGMS at a future meeting of Council, this will then go on public exhibition which is when residents will be able to make comment. Planning staff will be available to be able to respond to individual questions and concerns as part of this process. It was clearly stated by the residents that the current Local Environmental Plan (LEP) is currently too restrictive for sub divisions to take place.

<b>Applicant</b>	Ms Sue Pike Telegraph Point Community Association
<b>Question 4 Submitted</b>	Rollands Plains Road: Can you install "winding Road" signs along this road and also "60 km Advisory Speed" signs at each end of the "Bluff"?
<b>Comments</b>	An inspection and assessment of the road with regard to this request will be required as a follow up to this community meeting.
<b>Meeting Notes / Actions</b>	The A/DI spoke to the response above and an inspection will take place at this location in the coming weeks. Council is likely to have a response to this question in the next month or so.

<b>Applicant</b>	Ms Sue Pike Telegraph Point Community Association
<b>Question 5 Submitted</b>	Rollands Plains Road: Can you install a roadside safety barrier around the western end of the "Bluff" to prevent vehicles from driving off the road into the gully?
<b>Comments</b>	An inspection and assessment of the road with regard to this request will be required as a follow up to this community meeting.
<b>Meeting Notes / Actions</b>	The A/DI spoke to the response above and an inspection will take place at this location in the coming weeks. Council is likely to have a response to this question in the next month or so.

<b>Applicant</b>	Ms Sue Pike Telegraph Point Community Association
<b>Question 6 Submitted</b>	Log Wharf Reserve: Can you install more garbage bins in this area as they are regularly overflowing with birds and possums etc attacking the rubbish and spreading it all around the reserve?
<b>Comments</b>	In the first instance, staff will look at the bin servicing intervals to make sure that they are picked up regularly enough. An adjustment to the number of services per week may solve this issue. It is noted that there is a considerable amount of household rubbish being disposed of in these bins and this is affecting their capacity. This is an issue Council's Rangers can monitor. If locals see household rubbish being placed in the public bins then this should be reported to Council to allow for follow up action.
<b>Meeting Notes / Actions</b>	The DDE spoke to the response above in relation to the frequency of the servicing of the bins. Council asks residents to report issues with the bins overflowing etc to Council as soon as they are able, so appropriate action can be taken.

<b>Applicant</b>	Ms Sue Pike Telegraph Point Community Association
<b>Question 7 Submitted</b>	Log Wharf Reserve: Can you improve the standards of the toilets at this reserve as they are smelly and uninviting?
<b>Comments</b>	The Log Wharf Reserve toilets are currently cleaned on a Monday and Friday and additional ad hoc services are also provided if problems are reported. Staff will monitor the state of the toilets to check to confirm the cleaning frequency is appropriate. Note also that the toilets will be connected to the new sewerage system when constructed and this is expected to be an improvement on the existing composting facilities.
<b>Meeting Notes / Actions</b>	The DDE spoke to the response above and noted that the toilet cleaning schedule will be checked and monitored. When the sewer comes through this area, these toilets will be part of that upgrade. Council requests residents report to Council times when the toilets do require cleaning etc.

<b>Applicant</b>	Ms Sue Pike Telegraph Point Community Association
<b>Question 8 Submitted</b>	Log Wharf Reserve and the “Bluff” Rollands Plains Road: Can you place signs re fines for littering and dumping rubbish at both sites and install outdoor cameras to catch the culprits?
<b>Comments</b>	Council have found that the installation of signage is not an effective method of reducing littering. However, Council’s Rangers have been targeting littering hotspots with increased monitoring with great success and we will add this site to the hotspots list.
<b>Meeting Notes / Actions</b>	The DDE spoke to the response above, noting that signage does not necessarily change behaviours. Cameras may be able to be used into the future if required, noting that as stated above, in the first instance Rangers will target this area in the coming months.

<b>Applicant</b>	Ms Tristan Murray Telegraph Point Public School P&C Association
<b>Question 9 Submitted</b>	For many years the Telegraph Point Public School and its P&C Association have been trying to have Busways support the transport of children from the Rollands Plains area to the school. There is a demand from our parents and the community however Busways continues to ignore the request that they provide travel from Reids Road to TPPS (approximately 14kms return) and instead will only travel to Wauchope. Can our Council assist?
<b>Comments</b>	<p>Bus routes are set by Transport for NSW (TfNSW) in conjunction with the bus provider (Busways). Council is responsible for the approval of bus stops along these routes and the provision associated infrastructure only.</p> <p>Council recommends that the P&amp;C Association, in consultation with the Department of Education, contact TfNSW regarding your request for Busways to expand their service to include a route from Rollands Plains to Telegraph Point Public School. Unfortunately Council does not have the responsibility nor authority to direct Busways to alter school bus routes in the Local Government Area, however Council can provide comment pending a consultation request from TfNSW.</p> <p>Should the route be established, Council will assess the location of school bus stops based on the safety of school children as well as impact on traffic flow on the road system.</p>
<b>Meeting Notes / Actions</b>	The A/DI spoke to the response above. The request is that Council advocate on behalf of the community. Council requests that when letters are being sent to TfNSW, that Council also be copied in for their information. The Member for Port Macquarie Leslie Williams noted that TfNSW have agreed to continue to monitor this proposed route, following previous discussions between Leslie Williams, the P&C Association and TfNSW.

<b>Applicant</b>	Mr Stewart Armstrong Telegraph Point Community Association
<b>Question 10 Submitted</b>	What is the policy re speed zone and signage on gravel section of Ballengarra Bransdon Road. I note that this road has a reasonably high ranking in your maintenance schedule and I have no issues with the maintenance program. The recent addition of a substantial quantity of quality road base is wonderful. Unfortunately better pavement surface generally leads to increased speed and the mix of large trucks and cars on a narrow alignment is of a concern.
<b>Comments</b>	<p>The Roads and Maritime Services hold the responsibility for setting and evaluating speed zones throughout NSW in accordance with the NSW Speed Zoning Guidelines.</p> <p>In accordance with the NSW Road Rules (Rule 25) and the Road Users' Handbook, drivers are either informed of the legal maximum speed limit through the strategic placement of regulatory speed signs, or in the absence of signs, via default speed limits. On roads with no regulatory speed signs motorists are required to drive in accordance with default speed limits as well as the conditions of the road.</p> <p>There are two different types of default speed limits in NSW which are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Default urban speed limit of 50km/h for road in built up areas (i.e. where there are buildings next to the road or where there is street lighting.</li> <li>- Default speed limit of 100 km/h for all other roads.</li> </ul> <p>Ballengarra Bransdon Road falls within the default "all other roads" criterion and therefore has a default speed limit of 100km/h. By law, drivers must not exceed this speed. However, drivers also have a legal responsibility to drive to the conditions of the road environment. The road environment can change due to a variety of factors including weather, road users, and the road condition. It may not be safe to drive to the speed limit in certain conditions, and it can be considered speeding when motorists do not adjust their speed to suit the conditions.</p> <p>It is due to the regular changing of road conditions, the vertical and horizontal alignment and formation, that the RMS leave unsealed roads as the default limit.</p> <p>Council is currently reviewing unsealed roads signage to inform and encourage motorists to drive in accordance with the conditions of the road environment. Ballengarra Bransdon Road will be reviewed as part of this assessment.</p>
<b>Meeting Notes / Actions</b>	The A/DI spoke to the response above. In addition to the above response, residents noted that there are currently some Forestry signs limiting Forestry trucks to 40klm, so this shows that the road is dangerous at high speeds. The mill is currently expanding and this is causing more heavy traffic on the road. There are dust issues and potholing issues that might be somewhat alleviated if there is more comprehensive signage. The Deputy Mayor has requested that Council staff look further into this issue.

<b>Applicant</b>	Ms Sam Cutler Telegraph Point Community Association
<b>Question 11 Submitted</b>	Is it possible for Council to adopt a more efficient and effective approach to both road maintenance and weed control along our roads? These questions are and have been previously raised and we appear no further improved.
<b>Comments</b>	<p>Council undertakes all road maintenance works in accordance with the relevant governing legislation and industry standard practices. All work activities are allocated on a risk based approach and conducted within the limitations of available resources and funding.</p> <p>Weed spraying activities are coordinated across multiple Council sections and generally accompany unsealed roads grading, sealed road slashing, shoulder grading and outreach mowing activities providing a complementary service that yields greater overall value to the community.</p>
<b>Meeting Notes / Actions</b>	<p>The A/DI spoke to the response above and noted that this is an ongoing problem for Council, with no immediate or easy solutions.</p> <p>The conversation moved to the grading of roads and the regularity of local grading as well as the lack of maintenance of weeds and mowing in general.</p> <p>The DDE spoke to the fact that Council does have two teams that undertake weed removal / bush regeneration work and Council request that if there are specific issues or hot spots that Council is informed of these areas for prioritisation.</p> <p>There are resource limitations on Council in relation to how many resources can be provided for weed spraying and grading etc as have a large rural road network to serve and it is acknowledged that Council can rarely meet the service expectations of the community in this regard. Where possible, the grading program is scheduled with the weed spraying to ensure maximum effect.</p> <p>The Group Manager Community Place (GMCP) responded to a question around how volunteers can be used for works along roadsides etc. Further information will be provided to the Association by the GMCP with regard to the use of volunteers etc.</p> <p>Discussion then moved to the sewer scheme with Council going to tender for this project in early August 2017, with a report due to the December 2017 Council meeting where Council will consider tenders for this project.</p> <p>A request was made for a copy of a NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) report around the sewer issue, however Council staff present were unaware of this report so will refer this to the A/DI to investigate further.</p>

<b>Applicant</b>	Mr Ross Trevelyan Telegraph Point Community Association
<b>Question 12 Submitted</b>	Will there be a financial obligation to the new sewage system, to be paid by the Telegraph Point Community Association, to connect our toilets? If so, how much and when would payment be required?
<b>Comments</b>	Yes, the School of Arts/Community Hall at 7 Cooperabung Dr will be required to connect to the sewerage scheme upon completion of construction. Financial obligations would be the same for all properties within the scheme and payable at time of connection, being as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The cost for connection of the internal sewage drainage line to the pressure sewer unit by private plumber – Site dependent – Approx \$2000-\$3000</li> <li>• Annual Sewer Availability Charge (pressure sewer) - \$805.70 p.a. (current 2017/18 PMHC Fees &amp; Charges)</li> </ul>
<b>Meeting Notes / Actions</b>	The A/DI spoke to the response above. A question from the floor related to how the local community association would be able to afford these new charges. The GMCP will follow up ways that Council or others might be able to assist the community association with these costs.  In relation to the timing of commencement of works for the sewer scheme, the A/DI stated that the timing will be dictated by the upcoming tenders and programs of work put forward by the tenderers / contractors.

<b>Applicant</b>	Mr Ross Trevelyan Telegraph Point Community Association
<b>Question 13 Submitted</b>	Do you have any updates on the proposed sewage installation, as we would like to upgrade our toilets to an external block with a disabled toilet and might be able to tie in with the new system being installed?
<b>Comments</b>	Connection to the new sewerage scheme is likely to be in the first half of 2019. More clarity on the completion date will be provided when Council considers tender submissions in Nov/Dec 2017. As discussed in answer to Question 12, private plumbing works will be the responsibility of the property owner.
<b>Meeting Notes / Actions</b>	Please also refer to the response above for Question 12.

<b>Applicant</b>	Ms Tristan Murray
<b>Question 14 Submitted</b>	There are very limited playground or creational opportunities for children at Telegraph Point. Would Council consider installing a playground at the Log Wharf Reserve? This would be used and accessible to the children at school and enhance community use of the reserve.
<b>Comments</b>	<p>The playground at the Charlie Watt Oval is the facility provided by Council in Telegraph Point. This is scheduled for upgrade in the 2019/20 financial year. Upgrades of playground equipment are typically carried out every 10-15 years, depending on the outcome of our regular inspections to ensure safety and condition.</p> <p>We regularly refine our forward planning and review population changes and recreational needs. At this stage there are no plans for additional playgrounds at Telegraph Point but this can be kept in mind for the next review.</p> <p>An alternative is for a community based approach to providing another playground in Telegraph Point. A recent example of this is work done by the Bonny Hills Progress Association who were instrumental in securing grant funding, local tradesmen and materials to do work on playground facilities at Rainbow Beach. Council can assist in the process.</p>
<b>Meeting Notes / Actions</b>	The DDE spoke to the response above and noted that Council could engage with the community to see if there was an opportunity to either move the existing playground to Log Wharf Reserve, or is an additional playground required. As stated above, further engagement will be undertaken on this issue in the near future.

<b>Applicant</b>	Mr John McRae Schaefer
<b>Question 15 Submitted</b>	When is something going to be done about the dangerous and car damaging dip on Haydons Wharf Road?
<b>Comments</b>	<p>Council has reviewed this request for an upgrade of the concrete causeway on Haydons Wharf Rd. The causeway has been a feature of this road for many decades with “dip” signage installed on both approaches to warn motorists of the hazard.</p> <p>Council allocates resources across the LGA on a risk based approach. The presence of the advisory signage combined with very low traffic volumes relative to other roads within the LGA (like Ocean Dr, Hastings River Dr) are factors that reduce the likelihood of an accident when motorists drive to the road conditions.</p> <p>This location has not been identified for an upgrade. Council will continue to monitor and maintain existing infrastructure to a serviceable level within the limitations of resources and funding. Maintenance grading of the unsealed section of this road is scheduled for late August/early Sept.</p>
<b>Meeting Notes / Actions</b>	<p>The A/DI spoke to the response above. According to Mr McRae Schaefer, residents have been complaining about this issue for many years and following recent highway works, the problem is now greater. The drain continues to get blocked and needs to be addressed as there are residents that are often flooded in and there are people with medical issues that need access. The request is for Council to put in a box culvert on Haydn’s Wharf Road. Council will give further consideration to this request.</p> <p>The resident provided Council with a copy of a plan of survey and a related diagram, which will be forwarded to relevant staff for consideration.</p>

<b>Applicant</b>	Ms Therese Glen-Holmes
<b>Question 16 Submitted</b>	Please provide update on implementation of the small village sewerage scheme in Telegraph Point, and whether there will be an opportunity to rectify drainage issues at the same time.
<b>Comments</b>	The implementation of sewer and the applicable funding is not able to assist in any drainage works. It should be noted that drainage issues in Telegraph Point are currently prioritised as low when compared to the other stormwater issues across our LGA, however if there are specific drainage issues, it would be appreciated if these could be brought to Councils attention.
<b>Meeting Notes / Actions</b>	The A/DI spoke to the response above. The recent work done on the small village Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plan (PAMP) was referred to in relation to footpaths and a suggestion was made for Council to coordinate drainage / footpath works into the future.

<p><b>Question Raised from the Floor</b></p> <p>1.</p>	<p>Sam Cutler raised the fact there was a Telegraph Point Townscape Plan from 1993, but since that time there has been no plan for Telegraph Point.</p>
<p><b>Meeting Notes / Action</b></p>	<p>Council has requested a copy of the 1993 plan for review.</p>

<p><b>Question Raised from the Floor</b></p> <p>2.</p>	<p>Are Council able to purchase the ARTC land or at the very least request the ARTC maintain their land?</p>
<p><b>Meeting Notes / Action</b></p>	<p>Council has previously attempted to enter into discussions with the ARTC regarding purchase of this land for car parking purposes etc but the ARTC will not enter into such discussions. Council will write to the ARTC about an improved maintenance regime for this land.</p>