



DSRA Annual General Meeting

January 25, 10am

Swansea Courthouse, Noyes St

Meeting opened: 10.05

Apologies: Chris McEwen, Laurie King, Mark Pooley, Craig Selkirk, Kate Shield

Present: Steve Barrett, Gary Stoward, Liz Sealy, Leigh Sealy, Sallee Allford, Danny Allford, Neville Stewart, Danae Stewart, Donna Button, Karen Bracher (guest), Dianne Smith, Barry Smith, Yon Kikkert, Alan Swan, Kaye Swan, Neil Wiseman, Hilary Cooper, Dave Cooper, David Swifte, Michael Tyquin, Rob Curran, Kerry Mitchell, Robyn Moore (minutes)

1. Minutes of previous AGM

Motion: That the minutes of the previous annual general meeting (March 2019) are accepted as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Neville Stewart

Seconded: Donna Button

Carried

2. Minutes of General Meetings since the last AGM

Motion: That the minutes of the March 2019 and November 2019 general meetings are accepted as true and accurate records.

Moved: Neville Stewart

Seconded: Leigh Sealy

Carried

3. Business arising (none)

Reports

4. President's report (see attached)

Thanks to Mal Innes for his successful lobbying to get the Swan River Rd boat ramp and jetty upgrade organised.

Gary Stoward: Fire trailer should be available for all residents. Association received a grant of \$1000 for upgrade a few years ago.

Steve Barrett: Fire trailer could be used for planting efforts.

Danny Allford: Upkeep is essential. Neville & Danny replaced the fuel tank. Some one needs to do maintenance.

David Swifte: Swan River Rd needs upgrading. Very narrow – problematic esp with number of caravans using road.

Robyn Moore mentioned Geoff Jones' comments from the November general meeting: Geoff Jones spoke to Liberal MP John Tucker about Swan River Rd. He received a letter from Glamorgan Spring Bay Council saying that in 2021 there will be enough money to upgrade Swan River Rd.

5. Secretary's report (see attached)

6. Treasurer's report

Bank balance as at Jan 25 is \$4787.83. This includes \$574.03 of crowdfunding funds and \$3508.20 of Meredith River pedestrian/cycling bridge funds.

We had two successful grant applications for 2019:

Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal \$9 900

Great Oyster Bay Community News \$250

Adding fundraising (crowdfunding \$6 965, Meredith River bridge fundraising \$3 796.4) brings total fundraising for the year to \$20911.40.

We've also been notified of another successful grant application of \$12 000 from the Communities Environment Program \$12 000. We expect to receive these funds any day.

Working group reports

7. Meredith River pedestrian/cycling bridge group

Yon Kikkert reported that the group is at the stage of developing a business plan to accompany a planning application. The focus of the business case is to demonstrate the long-term maintenance and depreciation costs as Council is concerned about taking on an asset with high yearly maintenance costs. The group is aiming for a design with low maintenance. As well as working on the business plan, we're laying the groundwork for the planning application for the bridge.

8. Bushfire prevention

Steve Barrett gave an update on the group's progress since this time last year when we were trying to get smaller grants to assist members to clear defensible spaces around their dwellings and access ways. We were unsuccessful with these grant applications but got a much larger grant from the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal instead.

Approximately 50 properties were involved in the mulching effort, with 150 tonnes of green waste mulched. The mulch was given to fire-affected properties. Thanks to everyone who helped. Mick (from KAG enterprises) did a great job, working more than 8 hours per day.

Steve also contacted Council about getting good markers and signage on accesses to beach which could be important in emergencies especially for people who don't know the area well – a uniform system of poles may be helpful. Steve has spoken to Council several times about it but it'll need to go through PWS and have engineering certificates for the posts.

The *Living at Nine Mile Beach* booklet has been updated (electronic copy). Steve hopes it's being sent out to new property owners, particularly for those who rent out accommodation so that information can be passed onto guests. [Robyn: We're still waiting on Council signing off our updates.]

Fires have affected the area in last 12 months. The experience of the April one led us to try to bring the Dolphin Sands Emergency Management Plan to Council for immediate attention. Steve hopes our suggested improvements to the plan will be followed.

Gary Stoward noted that TFS did a fuel-reduction burn in July near the beginning of DS Rd.

Motion: That the information reports are accepted.

Moved: Danae Stewart

Seconded: Gary Stoward

Carried.

Election of committee members

4 nominations received:

President: Dave Cooper

Vice-president: Neville Stewart

Secretary & Treasurer: Robyn Moore

Committee member: Donna Button

No more nominations from floor

Dave Cooper explained that at the DSRA's face-to-face meeting with Council, we noted the number of properties in DS and the amount of rates raised annually, suggesting that we weren't getting 'bang for our buck'. Council's response was that we benefit from lots of other services. Our aim was to bring the road spend etc forward, but it seems as if this strategy was unsuccessful at this point. It's disappointing that we're not getting any traction.

Danae Stewart stated that there were 380 block of land here who are all ratepayers. There are lots of visitors to the area, but they end up having to walk on the road because roadside verges aren't mowed until after Christmas. Danae would like the verges mowed twice a year.

Barry Smith said that mowing at Cambria Drive had been done twice since winter, but not DS Rd.

Alan Swan asked about the association's ongoing activities with regard to the Cambria proposal, eg is there a working group?

Robyn Moore stated that there's nothing on the table at the moment (eg planning or development applications) to respond to or work towards.

Dave Cooper explained the history of the association's approach to the Cambria proposal. Firstly, the community were asked if they wanted the association's response to be based on an electronic survey completed by members or prepared by a working group. The community voted for a survey and were then asked the topics/questions that the survey should cover. These questions were developed into an electronic survey. After the survey was complete, the results were presented to Council on behalf of the DSRA. Dave explained that DSRA doesn't have a particular position on the proposal but represents the community by collating and putting forward community sentiment. When things progress with the Cambria proposal, we'll come to the community for input again.

Meeting closed: 10.50



Dear Dolphins

Welcome

Welcome to the AGM. I do hope everyone is enjoying the awesome summer that our patch of paradise brings each year!

Things have been quite busy since our last meeting. My previous report opened with the welcome return of our Vice President, Neville Stewart after serious illness. I'm very pleased to inform that Nev continues to thrive in the Dolphin Sands environment and is gaining strength by the day on a diet of fresh local produce from the land and sea.

I bear some sad news that fellow committee member Danny Allford is not re-nominating for a committee position for the up-coming year. Danny will be focusing on preparation for a well-earned break after a very successful career in his chosen field. I will most surely miss Danny's wisdom and open sharing of knowledge during committee meetings. The community must pay thanks to Danny for his 'no fuss' approach to extremely effective fundraising. We will miss his presence for sure.

Committee Initiatives

A number of initiatives have been engaged by the committee over the past year, these being:

- Creation and rollout of an emergency phone tree, with new landowners becoming engaged. This demonstrates great community culture
- Very successful crowdfunding campaign to assist repairing the ground of those affected by the April bushfire
- Securing of FRRR grant for green waste mulching – many thanks must go to Steve Barrett for his hands-on coordination of all activities during "mulch week"
- Securing of Communities Environment Program (CEP) grant for the removal of Radiata pine trees at the western end of Cambria Drive and the replanting of local native species
- A total of \$20 911.40 has been raised by the DSRA committee for 2019. This figure doesn't include the \$12 000 CEP grant which hasn't been received yet
- Formal follow up to Council's regarding clearing of the road verges

- An extremely successful roadside clean-up coordinated by Gary Stoward

Fire Trailer

As advised previously, the DSRA committee, after seeking legal advice particularly in regard to ongoing liability, has removed the fire trailer out of service.

The committee undertook research from local historic knowledge on the chronicle of the fire trailer. This has now concluded, and the unit has returned to community custodianship; a very pleasing result for the committee.

Bridge over the Meredith River

Whilst the working group continue to progress design and pricing, the project has progressed to the preparation of a business case to be put to GSBC. The group has recently made contact with the architect of Tahune Airwalk for peer review & advice.

Consultation with GBSC

Representatives of the committee met with council on October 8 to discuss all matters currently put to council by DSRA.

Significant Outcomes were:

1. Significant funds will be put into Dolphin Sands Road to repair and possibly create a widening for foot and cyclist traffic.
2. A working group has met with a consultant engaged by GSBC to update the Dolphin Sands Emergency Management Plan which was due to review in 2013. Council have committed to updating the plan, providing a contemporary plan to give existing and new landowners and other stakeholders critical guidance in the event of fire or other emergency.

Other Consultation

The committee continue to follow up correspondence with Crown Land Services on the installation of a locked boom gate to access Nine Mile Beach in the case of any emergency where vehicle access is urgently required. Whilst the lack of response has been frustrating, persistence is the strategy on this matter and will continue to be throughout 2020.

I can't sign off without a reminder for one and all to remain 'fire safe' – educate your family, especially children on your own Bushfire Survival Plan and rehearse regularly. Let's pray you never need it, but being prepared is the first significant step towards survival of your property and loved ones.

Kind regards

Dave Cooper

January 2020



DSRA Secretary's Report 2019

As I sit down to write this report, my overwhelming feeling is one of gratitude for the consistent support the committee receives from the community. We have a wonderful community who come forward to help in so many ways, big and small. I'm aware that we've asked for lots of input from community members this year – to donate to the crowdfunding campaign, to write letters of support for our FRRR grant, to help pick up rubbish from our roadside verges, to buy or sell raffle tickets ... – and we're truly grateful for everyone's support. Community input has helped the association having a very successful year in terms of social, practical and financial outcomes.

In particular, I'd like to thank Steve Barrett. The committee has had two main projects this year – the Meredith River pedestrian/cycling bridge and bushfire prevention. Steve is on both working groups and has helped in many ways – from writing grant applications to mulching green waste and selling sausages. Along with Gary Stoward and Yon Kikkert, Steve also put in many hours advising Council's consultant about the long overdue review of the Dolphin Sands Emergency Management Plan.

So many others helped in their own way – reviewing documents, writing submissions, painting signs, designing flyers, donating money or picking up rubbish. The Meredith River bridge fundraiser was a great example and showed what we can achieve when we work together. Community members solicited or donated prizes or produce, bought or sold raffle tickets and attended the BBQ. Other spent a day in Hobart running a BBQ at Bunnings to raise more money. Thanks to everyone who did their bit.

I see my main role as secretary to be a conduit for information to and from the members and other relevant parties. I endeavour to make all relevant information available to the community via the DSRA website, email list and Facebook pages. Other aspects of my role are:

- Communicating with members and responding to members' enquiries
- Coordinating DSRA initiatives, such as Bin Springs
- Updating the DSRA website
- Liaising with government personnel, Council, grant bodies and other relevant parties
- Participating in and supporting working groups – attending meetings with S Group, Moodies
- Participating in Council's Natural Resource Management (NRM) committee
- Submitting grant applications and acquittals

The bushfire in April added a whole new dimension to my role as the association launched a number of initiatives to support those affected by the fires (such as our crowdfunding campaign) and ensure our response would be better next time (such as the emergency phone tree, FRRR grant and requests to Council to remove coastal wattle from the roadside verges).

This year we have re-established our connection with Neighbourhood Watch and joined the newly formed Tasmanian Ratepayer and Community Alliance Network (TRCAN). The TRCAN is an umbrella group with the potential for collaborative action to benefit all ratepayers and residents of Tasmania.

They had two main initiatives for 2019. Firstly, to write to the Minister for Local Government on behalf of all member groups to request that future rates increases are capped at CPI (last year, rates in the Glamorgan Spring Bay Municipality increased by 9%). Secondly, to participate in the Local Government Legislation Review project.

Finally, a reminder that we're encouraging members to report rubbish to the EPA via their 'report rubbish tool', <https://rubbish.epa.tas.gov.au/>.

Thanks for helping make 2019 a great year

Robyn