



## **DSRA General Meeting**

**10am, Saturday, November 27, Swansea Courthouse, Noyes St**

### **Minutes**

Meeting opened 10.02

#### *Acknowledgement of Country*

Apologies: David Swifte, Paul & Paula Hanson, Diane Flannigan, Steve Barrett, Neville & Danae Stewart, Trish & Ian Jay, Kate Shield, Mark Pooley, Paul Walker, Joanna Ransome-Wallis, Liz Ristrom, David & Hilary Cooper, Karen & David Crawford

Present: David Galloway, Donna Button, Brenton Wheare, Yon Kikkert, Rob Churchill, Gary Stoward, Sue Barrett, Andrew Harvey, Karen Taylor, Sgt Tony Peters, Robyn Moore (minutes)

Sgt Tony Peters gave a brief introduction about his policing experience over 34 years. Tony will continue to patrol the Dolphin Sands area as often as possible. Any enquiries are welcome. Tony can be contacted on 131 444 or via email at [anthony.peters@police.tas.gov.au](mailto:anthony.peters@police.tas.gov.au)

David welcomed Tony, noted the good relationship the association has with Marcus Pearce and that we are looking forward to continuing that relationship with Tony.

1. Minutes of previous general meeting

Motion: That the minutes of the previous general meeting (May 2021) are accepted as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Donna

Seconded: Yon

Carried

2. Business arising (none)

#### **Reports**

3. President's Report (see below)

4. Secretary's Report (see updated report below)

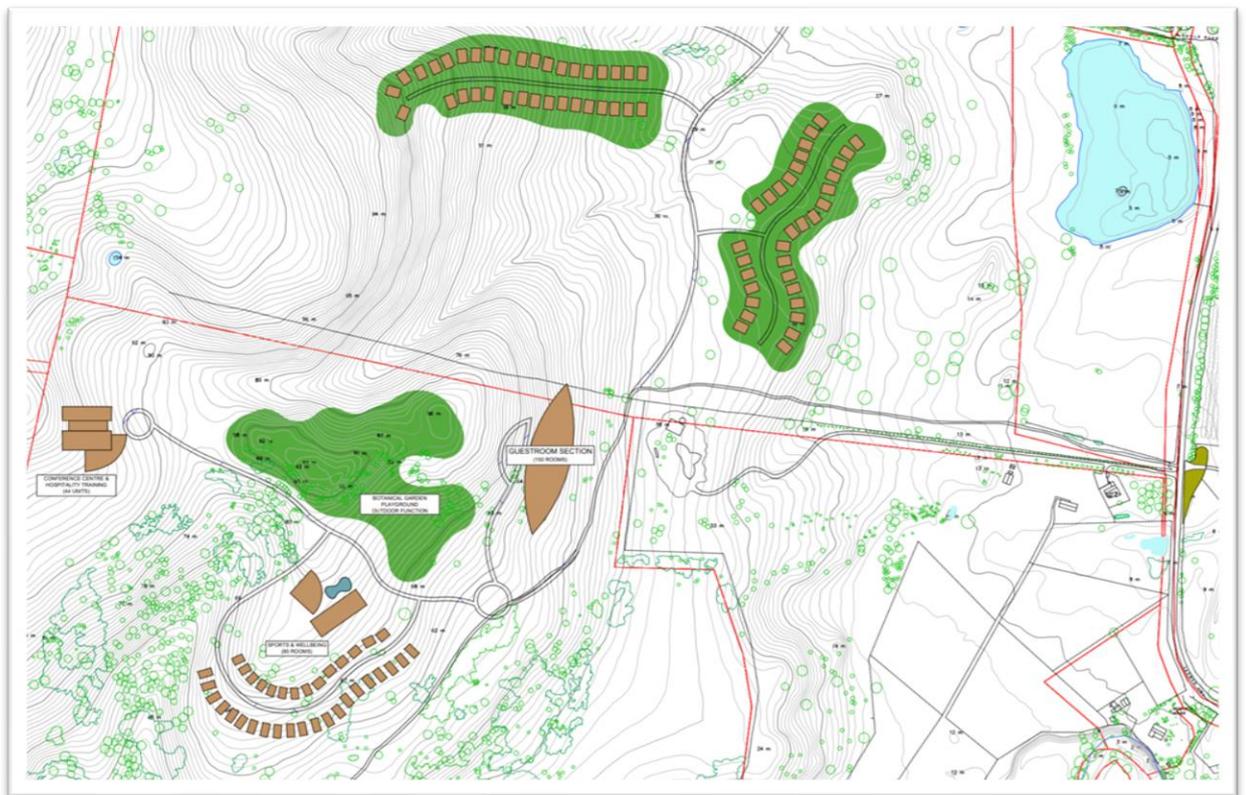
The association has about 120 financial members with another 100 on our community member email list. We try to be as inclusive as possible. We disseminate info and provide access to any of our services to all and invite input from everyone.

Robyn explained that the report circulated prior to the meeting didn't mention the meeting Steve Barrett and she attended in September with Peter Porch (GSBC), Dan Hoar & Denna Kingdom (TFS) & Fiona Steele & John Lloyd (PWS) to discuss fire & vegetation management on the peninsula. Peter Porch told us that clearing the roadside verges was imminent. Fiona Steele told us that PWS wasn't prepared to clear any coastal wattle in coastal reserve as the clearing would need to be 38m to be considered a protective fire break.

Aquifer – overall, results seem to be improving overtime. We'll do another round of water testing in summer.

Landcare – big thanks to Gary, Steve & Brenton; also to the SES crew who handle logistics and our safety when we're working on the road. We received a donation from the Swansea & District Garden Club which we're planning to use to create an endemic display garden near the recently installed picnic table. This project was approved by council at their November meeting. Plant sponsorship from Landcare Tasmania has been approved and our Landcare group will be available to help members with planting when the seedlings arrive in autumn.

Cambria Green – new information is available on the TPC website, including the Hotel Precinct Plan (see below) and some representations of views from the Tasman Hwy.



<b>CORRESPONDENCE IN</b>			
<b>Date received</b>	<b>Document subject or title</b>	<b>Author/Sender</b>	<b>Action</b>
24.5.2021	Grant variation approval	Dept. Industry, Science, Energy & Resources	Initiate coastal wattle mulching program
3.6.2021	GSBC complaint	Director Local Govt	forward to committee
9.6.2021	Works approval - cultural heritage plaque	Parks	forward to Matt & David
1.7.2021	Request for input - dog management policy	GSBC planning dept	reply & decline to participate
10.8.2021	Gorse has been sprayed	Peter Porch, GSBC	thanks
13.8.2021	Volunteer Management Framework	Fiona Steele, Parks	complete & submit
13.8.2021	Meeting to discuss vegetation management	Fiona Steele, Parks	Forward to David G & Steve B & accept
17.8.2021	Invitation to apply for plant sponsorship	Landcare	Inform members & submit application
20.8.2021	Donation	Swansea & District Garden Club	Bank, send thank you

<b>CORRESPONDENCE OUT</b>		
<b>Date sent</b>	<b>Document title or subject</b>	<b>Recipient</b>
2.6.2021	Letter of support - liquor licence	Melshell Oyster Shack
30.6.2021	Articles - mulching & picnic tables	GOBC news
30.6.2021	Beach access markers	GSBC works dept
2.8.2021	Funding application - weed management plan	Landcare
4.8.2021	Clearing roadside verges	Peter Porch, GSBC
9.8.2021	Clearing roadside verges	State Government MPs
11.8.2021	Farewell & thank you	Sgt Marcus Pearce
26.8.2021	Letter re Meredith River bridge	GOBC news
6.9.2021	Application for plant sponsorship	Landcare
16.9.2021	Thank you for roadside clearing	Peter Porch, GSBC & GOBC news
13.10.2021	Endemic display garden	Peter Porch, GSBC
19.10.2021	Plans for using donation	Swansea & District Garden Club
9.11.2021	Weeds on council land	Darren Smith, GSBC
17.11.2021	Thank you for turn-off signs	Darren Smith, GSBC

5. Treasurer's Report – Donna Button

Balance is ~ \$8700. Please refer to the website for full quarterly reports.

Financial movements of note include:

-Generous donation from the Swansea Garden Club of \$400.

-The CEP grant has now been fully expended – coastal wattle mulching. The final \$58 has been absorbed into general funds. \$450.00 was raised from the sale of mulch.

-The Neighbour Day Grant has been partially expended with the picnic tables finally installed. The balance has been allocated to the Aboriginal History Seminar that has been postponed and will now take place in 2022.

-Chainsaw safety course – still waiting to hear back about grant application.

6. Emergency Management group – Robyn stated that the group is happy that the roadside mulching has been completed. We're still waiting for beach markers to be installed but the works manager has assured us that it's on his list.  
At our Sept meeting with PWS, TFS & GSBC, Denna Kingdom from TFS emphasised that Dolphin Sands is **one of highest priority areas for bushfire on the east coast**. There are no nearby safer places. This means community members must either plan to leave early and/or prepare their properties for defence. Please revise your Bushfire Plan, test your pumps, etc & prepare your property for bushfire.

Motion: That the information reports are accepted.

Moved: Brenton

Seconded: Gary

Carried

## Guests

7. Sergeant Tony Peters (spoke earlier)
8. Michael Tyquin (Meredith River bridge project) entered meeting at 10.23. Michael explained that the proposed bridge will be narrow, like one near the entrance to St Helens. It's designed purely for pedestrians and cyclists. In terms of progress, discussions were held with Council staff in St Helens (Break O'Day Council), which led to new ideas and contacts. There'll be a federal election next year, so there's the possibility of funding to tap into. Michael's group simply want council to take carriage of the proposal to use federal funding for the bridge. They've had zero support from the three local councillors to date. The group are planning to meet with Glamorgan Council staff in the next couple of weeks to get direction. They hope to give a update to the community in March next year. Michael noted that considerable work had already been done, eg geology, local environment. The group wanted to ensure this previous effort wasn't wasted. Michael explained that all interested people have been covered, eg Chamber of Commerce, Tourism, etc and everybody was supportive except Council.  
Rob asked about response from Birdlife Tasmania. Michael said that report was done.  
Brenton asked about flooding. Michael said that this assessment had been done.  
Rob said that Council's issue is that they don't have a walking-cycling strategy but they will continue to keep applying for funding to develop a strategy.

Robyn noted that Council was driving other walking & cycling projects, such as the Orford Foreshore Masterplan, without have a strategy in place.

Michael said that to not support a separate, discrete funding project in the hope of a broader strategy, that might take 10-15 years to be funded, is wrong-headed. It's better to have infrastructure put in place so that it can be used.

Michael reiterated that all they're asking council to do is to take carriage of a federally funded program and push it through, in the same way that staff at St Helens did. As theoretically representing the community, Council should take carriage of it. The group simply want council support or reasons for not supporting it. Otherwise, there's the suspicion that some projects are going forward and others are being blocked. Michael emphasised that there's no animus towards council. The group is doing as much of the leg work as possible and asking council to push it through.

Brenton asked about accessibility for mobility scooters as well for aging population. Michael confirmed that the bridge would be accessible.

Michael and Tony Peters left the meeting at 10.38.

## Motions

1. ~~Motion: That the DSRA installs number plate recognition cameras and signage near the beginning of DS Road or on Swan River Rd.~~ Withdrawn

David explained that the motion has been withdrawn. The motion came about in order to reduce the risk of crime and improve options for detection. Installing security cameras is one option. Preliminary work has been done on costing etc. David acknowledged that the motion sounded as if the decision was 'signed, sealed, delivered' and that this had led to concerns within the community. When the idea was floated, there was good support but also strong opposition. There were concerns about the cameras being organised by a community organisation, legality, effectiveness, privacy and data management. The motion was withdrawn because of the level of concern that was raised. The association is considering if the idea of security cameras worth pursuing. They can also be installed on private land. Yon said that he had a clear memory of Sgt Marcus Pearce emphasising how important cameras were in solving recent crimes at Dolphin Sands. Marcus thought that a camera on the road would be enormously beneficial for the police. Yon's personal opinion is that he's ambivalent but appreciates concerns about surveillance cameras and what that means in terms of privacy & 'Big Brother'. He thinks the argument about crime prevention trumps everything else but that it shouldn't be up to a community organisation to manage data. David explained that he'd done some research. Meta-analysis shows that cameras are shown to improve clearance rates for crimes (from 18-38%). However, issues of privacy and data management would need to be worked out.

Rob suggested focusing on community surveillance via the crime stoppers program.

Gary asked how many private security systems were installed after previous lot of break-ins, when DSRA organised a relevant business to visit individuals and advise on security.

Robyn answered that DSRA organised the project but don't have follow-up information.

Donna observed that the long driveways in the area restrict ability for community surveillance.

Gary noted that bringing in rubbish bins helped.

Rob said that people shouldn't hesitate to call the police when alarms were triggered, even if it's the middle of the night. The single road exit assists police to catch people.

Karen noted that the police would need to be consulted before being expected to take on any additional work related to monitoring security cameras.

David suggested that the association sees if there's interest in setting up a working group to look at safety & security. The group could investigate installing personal cameras, working with Neighbourhood Watch, working with the police, issues around number plate surveillance cameras, etc. Call out for members to indicate interest.

### **Upcoming events**

- 10 Community bike ride New year bike ride ('Yonathon') from Bagot Point to Meredith River – Sunday, Jan 2, low tide at 3pm. At low tide, sand easy for riding. Would have tail rider to make sure no one falls behind. Relaxed ride. Good for families. Followed by BBQ at the picnic table.  
Brenton – community hub has about 6 bikes at the moment.  
Donna – if people arrive at Bagot Point by car, the association we transport drivers back to Bagot Point to pick up their cars.
- 11 Council community connect session: 10am Wed, Dec 8, Swansea Town Hall
- 12 Aboriginal history seminar – postponed to 2022. Robyn to check if it can be recorded. Robyn noted that Steve Barrett had attended a cultural burning workshop recently and that a session could be run in Dolphin Sands if there was enough interest, and we could secure funding.

### **Any other business**

- 13 Name change – Robyn explained that the word 'ratepayers' means that some community members don't realise that they're welcome to join. Asked whether it was time to consider a name change so that the name is accurate. Some possibilities are Dolphin Sands Community Association or Dolphin Sands Ratepayers and Residents Association. Rob noted that 'Dolphin Sands' is a recognised name with real meaning for the geographical area and suggested that the new name should retain this aspect. Call for other ideas for new names that can be brought to the next meeting as a motion (constitution will require updating).
- 14 Serrated tussock – Robyn explained that this is a weed of National Significance in Australia. It's a serious weed in pasture and native grasslands and a fire hazard. Serrated tussock has recently been seen at Cambria Drive. It can be difficult to distinguish from other native grasses, but right now, because it's seeding, it's relatively easy to identify – it has a fuzzy appearance due to the seed heads. If you notice any (or even if you're unsure), please contact Council's weed officer Amanda via email: [amanda@freycinet.tas.gov.au](mailto:amanda@freycinet.tas.gov.au) Let's stop this weed getting established.
- 15 Invitation to join the committee for a cuppa

Meeting closed: 11.12



## **DSRA General Meeting November 2021**

### **President's Report**

Dear members

It has been a very interesting start for the new 2021 DSRA committee.

Firstly, the new rating system for the municipality caused some debate amongst members with land owners in the Dolphin Sands area generally experiencing a rise in rates for the 2021-22 financial year. While no-one likes to pay more money, it is important that we contribute fairly and equitably as members of the Glamorgan Spring Bay Council area. We look forward to seeing how the change to rating will improve Council services into the future.

One of the great supporters of the Association, Sgt Marcus Pearce has recently retired from the Police Service. I would like to express our thanks to Marcus for the great work of Tasmania Police in the area and for his generosity of time for DSRA. A big welcome to Sgt Tony Peters who recently took over the sergeant's role in Swansea. We look forward to working with you Tony.

I would like to thank Robyn Moore and Steve Barratt for their persistent work with the GSBC in clearing the verges of the Dolphin Sands area access roads. The result has been that we now have a much improved fire-safe access and egress in the area. Anecdotally, there also seems as a bonus to be a marked reduction in the roadkill along Dolphin Sands Rd. The Association appreciates the work of GSBC and, in particular, Peter Porch, for organising the clearing. It was also good to see a great turn out recently by the Land Care group to clear the new verges of rubbish and weeds and plans are afoot to beautify the picnic area near the turnoff to Cambria drive following a donation from the Swansea Garden Club.

It was unfortunate to see that we had some more break-ins in the area in recent months. We should be considering how we can further improve the safety and security of the area and the committee will be looking at some strategies we can implement in conjunction with Tasmania Police. The committee would be keen to hear any input from the members on this including investigation of camera monitoring.

There are a few things on the horizon. In the new year, DSRA are excited to be hosting a seminar about the Indigenous history of the area. This will be a great opportunity to explore the rich Aboriginal history of the area, our mutual struggles and to gain a further appreciation of the beautiful part of the state in which we live.

Marine and Safety Tasmania have indicated that the launching ramp in Yellow Sandbanks Rd is on the agenda for improvements in their next round of works. While those works will be fairly straightforward, there is further investigation to be undertaken by MAST to ensure that there is minimal impact to Moulting Lagoon. In any case, we can look forward to seeing an upgrade of that

facility in the next couple of years. We will provide firmer details once they become available in the new year.

One of the key aims of the Association for the coming year should be to further improve relationships and dealings with the GSBC. An Association such as ours is, by nature, a broad church with a wide variety of views and opinions. Councils have to make decisions and allocate resources based on a view of the whole municipality, legislative and political considerations and sometimes those decisions are unpopular. The Association and its members should work to improve the interests of the ratepayers of Dolphin Sands and ensure that we can provide a forum where opinions and views can be shared and aired, feedback given and resolutions negotiated in a respectful manner.

As always, I would like to acknowledge the members of the Committee and others in the Association who commit substantial time to furthering the activities of the Association and improve the lot of all residents of the area.

On behalf of the committee, I wish all members a safe, happy and prosperous Christmas and New Year and look forward to your continued support of DSRA.

David Galloway

President, DSRA



## **DSRA General Meeting November 2021**

### **Secretary's Report**

Hello Dolphineers

As usual, it's been a busy few months since we last met.

#### Aquifer

We conducted our third lot of aquifer water testing in July. Only 9 samples were tested in this round – 3 from Cambria Drive and 6 between Cambria and Yellow Sandbanks. While there were no alarming results this time, none of the properties which have previously had concerning results were included in this round.

For most properties who have had their water tested in each round, the results have been quite consistent each time. A couple of properties which had previously had slightly concerning results for arsenic or lead (but still within the ADWG limit) have seen their results fall to more acceptable levels over time, which is a great outcome. However, another

property with an initial arsenic result of 6 has stayed at this level. We'll do another round of water testing in summer.

#### Landcare

We've been conducting regular working bees to pick up roadside rubbish and remove weeds. Thanks to all our volunteers, especially Gary Stoward and the rest of the SES crew who are instrumental in logistics and safety support.

We were delighted to unexpectedly receive a \$400 donation from the Swansea & District Garden Club. At our planning meeting in September, we formed a plan to use these funds to create display garden of attractive native plants near the recently installed picnic table (corner of Dolphin Sands Rd and Cambria Drive). We have in principle support from Council and the idea will be formally presented to Council at the November meeting. All going well, we should be able to share the outcome at the general meeting.

After the April 2019 fires, I applied for plant sponsorship from Landcare. We were shortlisted for funding this year and invited to submit an application. We've since been notified that our application has been successful (with some amendments). The seedlings will be ready for planting in autumn and the Landcare group will assist with planting for those who'd like support.

#### Outcome of Alexis Perez' court appearance in relation to the April 2019 bushfire

Mr Fontes Perez appeared in the Magistrates Court on 10/6/21. He entered a plea of guilty to complaint number 92217/19 (fire permit offence). Prosecution tendered no evidence to Complaint number 9383/19 (failure to take reasonable precautions to prevent the spread of a fire).

Magistrate Hey convicted Mr Fontes and ordered a fine of \$1300. The maximum for the permit offence was 50 penalty units (approximately \$8000). Magistrate Hey noted the significance of the fire, and that Mr Fontes' negligence was 'no excuse' and that he ordered the fine for general deterrence purposes. He considered Mr Fontes' clear remorse and the likelihood of him facing significant alternate consequences, i.e. possible civil claims for damages made against him.

#### Cambria Green planning scheme amendment

The Tasmanian Planning Commission has announced a directions hearing, from 10am on Monday, 13 December 2021. The purpose of the directions is to consider the following:

1. declarations of interests and associations by the delegates;
2. dates for the full hearing to consider the merits of the draft amendment;
3. confirming the parties and representors who wish to participate in the hearing;
4. identification of the expert evidence to be considered at the hearing;
5. the status of the Glamorgan Spring Bay draft Local Provisions Schedule;
6. timeframes for the exchange of expert proofs of evidence or further submissions in support of the representations; and
7. any preliminary matters the parties and representors wish to raise.

### Sundry activities/events

- In June and July, the road closure at Paradise Gorge in Orford created a few dramas for our members who regularly commute to the south of the state. However, we're pleased that safety concerns about this section of road have been addressed.
- In August, we were concerned that census papers left on gates was a potential security risk. We put a call out to our members and collected papers as requested before returning to census staff. Thanks to all the community members who helped with this.
- In August, Matt and Jason installed the cultural heritage plaque at Bagot Point. It's so great to have so many community members who help in so many different ways. Thanks Matt and Jason.
- Also in August we sent an emergency message service when a fire started. Thanks to a speedy response from local volunteer fire fighters, it was speedily brought under control. A big thank you also to the community member who made a generous donation to keep this service going.
- In September, Steve Barrett and I attended a meeting with Peter Porch (GSBC), Dan Hoar & Denna Kingdom (PWS) & Fiona Steele & John Lloyd (PWS) to discuss fire & vegetation management on the peninsula. Peter Porch told us that clearing the roadside verges was imminent. PWS not prepared to clear any coastal wattle in coastal reserve as would need to clear 38m to be considered a fire break.
- After the audacious theft of a fire-fighting water tank in September, we distributed Neighbourhood Watch signs and stickers. Thanks to Melshell Oyster Shack for helping with this. Please let us know if you still need to collect yours.
- As a member of council's Natural Resource Management (NRM) Committee, I've been involved in reformulating the Terms of Reference for the committee and drafting a response to NRM South's Strategy 2030.

As always, thanks to everyone who contributes to making our community better for all of us.

Robyn Moore  
Secretary