

PRESENT

Community Representatives:

Alan MacIntyre (Community - Camden Haven - Coast, Estuary)
Bob Jolly (Community - Lake Cathie - Coast, Estuary)
Kingsley Searle (Oyster Industry - Hastings - Coast, Estuary)
Tony Troup (Oyster Industry - Camden Haven - Coast, Estuary) - **Left during Item 10**

Council Representatives:

Councillor Peter Alley (Chair)
Councillor Lisa Intemann (Deputy Chair)
Melissa Watkins - Director Development and Environment - **Left during Item 08**
Debbie Archer - Manager Environmental Services
Blayne West - Natural Resources Manager
Jesse Dick - Environmental Projects Officer
Mark Edenborough - Senior Stormwater Engineer - **Left after Item 09**
Samantha Johnsen Executive Assistant to Director Development & Environment

Agency Representatives:

Tina Clemens (DPIE - Crown Lands - Coast, Estuary, Flood) - **Left during Item 10**
Shane Robinson (DPIE - NPWS - Coast, Estuary) - **Left during Item 10**
John Schmidt (DPIE - Biodiversity & Conservation Division - Coast, Estuary)
Nic Denshire (DPIE - Biodiversity & Conservation Division - Flood)
Maria Frazer (SES - Flood) - **Left during Item 07**

Guests:

Lih Chong (Jacobs Pty Ltd) - **Left after Item 07**
David Curry (Revive Lake Cathie)
Stewart Cooper (Saving Lake Cathie)
Peta Pinson (Mayor)

Three additional unknown guests were observed on the Skype call. Their Identification could not be confirmed.

The meeting opened at 2:00pm.

01 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Acknowledgement of Country was delivered.

02 APOLOGIES

CONSENSUS:

That the following apologies received be accepted:

- Andre Uljee (TfNSW - Coast, Estuary)
 - Michael Northam / Scott Anderson (DPIE - Fisheries - Coast, Estuary)
 - Matt Dawson (TfNSW - Coast, Estuary)
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03 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

CONSENSUS:

That the Minutes of the Coast, Estuary & Floodplain Advisory Sub-Committee Meeting held on 20 February 2020 be confirmed.

04 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were no disclosures of interest presented.

05 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

CONSENSUS:

That the Business Arising Schedule be noted with the following updates:

Item 11.02 - 30/01/20 - Forestry Operations, Lorne State Forest:

Cr Intemann and Alan MacIntyre requested that Council staff continue to attempt to contact NSW State Forests on this matter. Council staff will follow up again and will invite NSW State Forests to attend a future CE&F Committee meeting.

Tony Troup to contact the Chair and Deputy Chair directly with his concerns.

06 MEMBERSHIP OF THE COAST, ESTUARY & FLOODPLAIN ADVISORY SUB-COMMITTEE

There was general discussion on various aspects of the report and the Charter.

David Curry (guest) questioned whether past applicants needed to reapply when the new EOI period commenced. Council staff confirmed that past applicants will need to reapply and they are encouraged to apply for more than one position.

A revised EOI package was being finalised and will be released to the community within coming weeks.

CONSENSUS:

That the Committee:

1. Note the report.
2. Note that Council intends to commence re-advertisement to recruit new members. The re-advertisement period will be open for a minimum of four weeks.

07 NORTH BROTHER LOCAL CATCHMENTS FLOOD STUDY - DRAFT OPTIONS ASSESSMENT REPORT

Mark Edenborough and Lih Chong (Jacobs) provided the committee with a summary of the project and answered questions from committee members.

Alan MacIntyre noted that the reference list did not contain reference to the 2013 Worley Parsons Camden Haven Flood Study. Lih Chong confirmed that this document was used and the reference list will be updated to reflect this.

Alan MacIntyre queried whether properties that were identified for voluntary purchase had been contacted. Mark Edenborough confirmed that they had not, but will be specifically targeted for additional consultation through the exhibition period.

Bob Jolly queried what would happen if the properties identified as Option 4A and 4B were not willing to sell. Lih Chong confirmed that option 4C could be upsized with a larger capacity pipeline.

Alan MacIntyre queried the history of development in Camden Haven and noted that it was important to address as part of a consultation package.

Maria Frazer noted that SES is opposed to private Flood Evacuation Plans.

Tony Troup queried what impact the additional pipelines etc would have on downstream catchments in terms of water flows and quality, given that there are working oyster farms located within the Camden Haven River near the outlet of some of the urban streams.

Lih Chong and Mark Edenborough confirmed that water quality controls (Gross Pollutant Traps) could be installed on new trunk drainage lines. This would be investigated at detailed design stage.

Mark Edenborough confirmed that Council aims to approach DPIE to extend the grant to July 2021. The status of this application will not be known for some months.

Nic Denshire queried whether there will be further consultation after this stage of the project and queried whether consultation should be occurring now, given that Triple Bottom Line (TBL) and Multi Criteria Assessments (MCA) had not yet been undertaken. Mark Edenborough confirmed that there would be further consultation as part of the FRMS/P phase and that we will be completing TBL and MCA under the FRMS phase.

Tina Clemens noted that Crown Lands will need to be consulted where works are proposed on Crown lands.

CONSENSUS:

That the Committee:

1. Endorse the North Brother Local Catchments Flood Study - Draft Options Assessment Report.
2. Recommend to Council that the North Brother Local Catchments Flood Study - Draft Options Assessment Report be placed on public exhibition for a minimum of 28 days.
3. Request Committee feedback on the North Brother Local Catchments Flood Study - Draft Options Assessment Report.
4. Note that the committee members are not privy to grant funding arrangements between PMHC and DPIE.

08 COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM - STAGE 1 - DRAFT SCOPING STUDY

Blayne West provide the committee with a summary on the development of the Scoping Study.

The community representatives were concerned that there had been no consultation or request for input from them by Council. They would like to have been involved in the development of the Scoping Study and request that they are provided the opportunity to be involved in the development of future CMP stages, before documents are presented to Council and placed on public exhibition.

Melissa Watkins noted the committee members concerns but noted that under the Coastal Management Manual, a scoping study does not need to be developed in consultation with a committee, nor does it need to go on public exhibition. Melissa confirmed that Council has placed the Scoping Study on public exhibition for 28 days and committee members are encouraged to make a submission.

Alan MacIntyre wanted the Camden Haven wetlands and population growth to be specifically addressed in the Scoping Study and identified as key risks.

Lisa Intemann encouraged committee members to have offline discussions with Council staff about how to address these matters. Lisa also encouraged committee members to make a submission on the draft Scoping Study.

CONSENSUS:

That the Committee:

1. Note the report.
 2. Note the Sub-Committee community members concerns around lack of input into the drafting and development of the draft Scoping Study.
 3. Note the longstanding issues of wetlands protection in the Camden Haven and the need to address this matter.
 4. Note the need to consider future population growth of the area and the carrying capacity of the region to sustain a larger population.
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09 ACTIVE COAST, ESTUARY & FLOODPLAIN PROJECTS STATUS UPDATE

CONSENSUS:

That the Committee note the status of the active Coast, Estuary & Floodplain projects.

10 LAKE INNES / LAKE CATHIE ESTUARINE SYSTEM - UPDATE

Blayne West and Jesse Dick provided a presentation to committee members.

Bob Jolly noted that the REF for opening Lake Cathie was lacking an assessment on public health, specifically water quality, bushfire runoff, dead fish and mosquito plagues. Bob Jolly also noted that a berm scrape to 1.6 would not alleviate any of these concerns and that this recommendation from the State Government placed higher importance on the environment, rather than public health, but public health should be paramount.

Blayne West noted that stakeholders need to weigh all these issues up and it is a difficult balancing act with many competing interests.

John Schmidt and Shane Robinson noted that the Council resolution from 20 May 2020 was not a berm scrape and as such, resulted in a full opening of the lake. John Schmidt noted that the current Opening Strategy is at odds with best environmental practice and needs to be reviewed. Blayne West noted that the appropriate mechanism to do this was via the Stage 2 CMP for Lake Cathie.

Lisa Intemann noted that a berm scrape to 1.6m AHD would not assist in alleviating the impacts to public infrastructure that was already inundated (footpaths, parks etc). Lisa Intemann also noted that the 20 May 2020 Council resolution confirmed that the only responsibility for Council is now relating to flood management, everything else is the responsibility of the NSW State Government.

Kingsley Searle was concerned that the committee had not been included or involved in the discussions around the management of the lake and the opening.

Mayor Peta Pinson clarified her position on the lake opening and raised concerns that the

works that were undertaken were, in her opinion, were not consistent with Council's resolution from the May 2020 Council meeting (included below) to scrape the berm at a level of 1.2m AHD (Item 13.09) as a full opening was not intended by the resolution.

RESOLVED: *Alley/Intemann*

That Council:

- 1. Determines that the scraping of the berm at a level of 1.2m AHD provides best balance of the environmental, community and protection of infrastructure requirements.*
- 2. Request the General Manager to proceed to take the action as determined in 1. above.*
- 3. Request the General Manager prepare appropriate community information explaining the action as determined in 1. above to be taken and the possible impacts of the action.*
- 4. Request the General Manager to write to the Minister for Water, Property and Housing confirming that Council's ongoing physical responsibilities for management of the Crown owned Lake Cathie waterbody are strictly limited to the responsibilities of flood mitigation, stormwater drainage and community protection only and any actions outside of this scope (including public health issues and complaints about water quality, odour, colour, mosquitoes, fish kills, fish health, ecology of the waterway, salinity, acid sulphate soils, pollution, water safety and the like) will be directed to the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment - Crown Lands as the owner of the waterbody.*

CARRIED: 6/2

FOR: *Alley, Dixon, Hawkins, Intemann, Levido and Turner*

AGAINST: *Griffiths and Pinson*

John Schmidt noted that the REF was for flood mitigation but that the critical flood level was 1.89m AHD to protect sewer infrastructure. John Schmidt suggested that the opening strategy be reviewed to discuss this discrepancy.

Blayne West noted that the opening strategy would be reviewed in due course as part of the CMP process.

CONSENSUS:

That the Committee note the report.

11 GENERAL BUSINESS

11.01 DRAFT REVISED CHARTER

Lisa Intemann requested that the community representatives meet with Melissa Watkins to discuss amendments to the committee charter. The draft revised charter should then be circulated to the committee for input and comment and be discussed at another committee meeting before being reported to Council.

11.02 BUSINESS PAPERS

Kingsley Searle requested that for future meeting the agenda be separated from the attachments.

The meeting closed at 5:12pm.