

MINUTES

LAKE ILLAWARRA ESTUARY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

MEETING HELD AT
5.30PM ON WEDNESDAY, 28 OCTOBER 2015



PRESENT	
Cr Ann Martin (Chair) WCC	John Davey (Community Rep)
Cr David Brown WCC	Col Wilton (Community Rep)
Cr Marianne Saliba SCC	Danny Wiecek (OEH)
Cr Peter Moran SCC	Graham Towers (Dept of Planning)
Steven Savic (Community Rep)	Andrew Monk (RMS)
Annie Marlow (Community Rep)	Dr Kerrylee Rogers (Scientific Advisor)
	Dr Brian Jones (Scientific Advisor)

IN ATTENDANCE	
Kristy Blackburn WCC and SCC	Lee Furness SCC
Renee Campbell WCC	Mike Dowd WCC
Tony Miskiewicz WCC	Philomena Gangaiya WCC

- 1 WELCOME**
The Chair welcomed Committee members including new Committee member Cr Peter Moran and proxies. Round table introductions were conducted.
- 2 APOLOGIES**
Apologies were received and accepted on behalf of Cr David Boyle, Martin Berg, Jillian Reynolds, Martine Fraser and Max Boenisch.
- 3 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**
The Chair acknowledged the traditional Owners of the Land.
- 4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
No declarations of interest were received.
- 5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 12 Aug 2015**
Recommendation: Endorse the minutes of the previous Lake Illawarra Estuary Management Committee meeting held on 12 August 2015.
MOVED: Cr Brown
SECONDED: Steven Savic
ALL IN FAVOUR

All action items were progressed.

6. CORRESPONDANCE IN AND OUT

Correspondence In	Description	Action still to be undertaken
Dr Kerrylee Rogers (by request)	A list of suggested scientific reading regarding Lake Illawarra	For members to read at their leisure.
Recreational Fishers Sam Carriage and Andrew Connor (via Cr David Boyle)	Copy of an email trail re the efforts of local recreational fishers to have Lake Illawarra declared a "Recreational Fishing Haven".	LIEMC members to stay alert to the issue and consider making submissions to the state government for buy back of commercial fishing licences in Lake Illawarra.

Correspondence Out	Description
WCC Media Office on behalf of WCC, SCC and the LIEMC.	A media release informing the public that WCC and SCC are working together to manage the health of Lake Illawarra. That the LIEMC has been formed and is meeting to progress relevant issues.

7. LAKE ILLAWARRA WATER QUALITY REPORT (PRESENTATION)

Dr Philomena Gangaiya, who manages the Lake Illawarra Water Quality and Estuary Health Monitoring Program, presented the findings of her analysis of 18 months of Lake Illawarra water quality data.

It demonstrated that:

- Water quality and the estuary health condition are variable across the lake.
- There is significant nutrient enrichment in the more enclosed north-east and south-west sections of the lake.
- The estuary health condition generally reflects this same pattern.
- The current condition of the lake appears to have been the same for at least the last 5 to 6 years, and to have improved when compared with records of water quality before the entrance was trained.
- The lake appears to have become more saline since the permanent lake entrance was built.

Recommendation: That the Committee endorses the report entitled "Lake Illawarra Water Quality and Estuary Health Monitoring Program – Report August 2015" and its release to the public as well as supporting the drafting of a media statement regarding the release of the report.

MOVED: Cr Saliba

SECONDED: Annie Marlow

ALL IN FAVOUR

8. INFRASTRUCTURE MANAGEMENT UPDATE - SCC (PRESENTATION)

Lee Furness, Director Corporate Policy, Shellharbour City Council presented information regarding the status of Council managed land around Lake Illawarra. SCC has taken on LIA responsibilities including management of islands and jetties. Some work has been carried out trying to improve boat access to jetties with limited success.

9. INFRASTRUCTURE MANAGEMENT UPDATE - WCC (PRESENTATION)

Mike Dowd, Manager Infrastructure Strategy and Planning, Wollongong City Council presented information regarding the management status of Council/ State Government/ old LIA infrastructure and lands around Lake Illawarra. WCC has not yet accepted LIA lands, whilst some have been transferred to other state departmental ownership and management. Public safety is being managed on assets whose future management arrangements are still to be resolved.

10. DRAFT CONSULTANT BRIEF - DEVELOPMENT OF A CZMP FOR LAKE ILLAWARRA

Kristy Blackburn, Environmental Strategy Officer, Lake Illawarra presented an outline of the current draft consultant brief including how the project aims to be managed and the role the LIEMC will play in the process. Comments on the draft are due back to Kristy by COB November 13th.

Recommendation: The report be received and noted

MOVED: Cr Saliba

SECONDED: Dr Brian Jones

ALL IN FAVOUR

11. LAKE ILLAWARRA OFFICER REPORT

Kristy Blackburn provided information as outlined in the Business Paper on the following issues:

- The Mercury ran a short piece on Saturday 26th September outlining that the LIEMC was up and running.
- We are still awaiting the outcome of the project application to help fund the Lake Illawarra CZMP.
- I attended and presented a brief outline of the role of the LIEMC to Wollongong City Council Neighbourhood Forum 7 and 8 which take in WCC LGA areas adjacent to the lake.
- Both the WCC and SCC web sites have been updated with LIEMC links including information regarding Councillor and community representatives. The WCC webpage contains the draft minutes.
- The revised SCC Coastal Zone Management Study, Draft Emergency Plan and Draft Coastal Zone Management Plan are being finalised prior to public exhibition stage.
- WCC, SCC and OEH staff have been liaising with UoW to provide ideas for potential student research projects for the benefit of Lake Illawarra.
- Conservation Volunteers Australia (with support from WCC and SCC) have submitted a project application for 12 months of Green Army teams to continue work at 4 key sites around Lake Illawarra.
- Relevant state agency representatives met with WCC and SCC staff on Wednesday 21st October to discuss ways in which the various lake Illawarra management responsibilities can be better understood and/or coordinated. All relevant discussions/ outcomes will be tabled at LIEMC meetings.
- WCC is preparing a detailed design and REF for construction works at Judbooley Pde Windang to replace an existing retaining wall that is failing.

Recommendation: The report be received and noted

MOVED: Cr Saliba

SECONDED: Cr Brown

ALL IN FAVOUR

12. COMMITTEE MEMBER UPDATES (ROUND TABLE)

- WCC staff and dedicated local group are working hard to protect the valuable area around Hooka Creek. A project application is being discussed with LLS (Annie Marlow).
- Hard copies of two reports were made available to Committee members "Water Quality in the Illawarra – South Coast Region of NSW, UoW 2007" and "Wetlands Journal of the Coast and Wetlands Society inc Special lake Illawarra Edition Aug 2004" (Dr Kerrylee Rogers)
- A failing share-way at Kanahooka Bay is in urgent need of repair. Mike Dowd is aware of the issue and has issued a design brief (Col Wilton).

13. OTHER BUSINESS

- No other business was raised.

14. NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 3rd February was put forward as a suitable date. Kristy will confirm.

15. CLOSE

The meeting concluded at 7.30pm.

Minutes to be confirmed at the next meeting at a date to be confirmed.

ACTION SUMMARY

Item	Action	Officer	Status
7	Prepare a media statement regarding the public release of the "Lake Illawarra Water Quality and Estuary Health Monitoring Program – Report August 2015". Update the WCC website to include a copy of the report.	KB	
11	That comments on the draft consultant brief for the development of a CZMP for Lake Illawarra be forwarded to KB by COB 13 th Nov 2015	ALL	