



Lake Illawarra
ESTUARY MANAGEMENT
COMMITTEE

MINUTES

MEETING HELD
5.30PM WEDNESDAY, 19 SEPTEMBER 2018

MEMBERS PRESENT

Cr Cameron Walters (WCC) Acting Chair	Paul Knight (ILALC)
Cr Cath Blakey (WCC)	Col Wilton (Community Rep)
Cr Nathan Cattell (SCC)	Jillian Reynolds (Fisheries)
Annie Marlow (Community Rep)	Steven Savic (Community Rep)
Danny Wiecek (OEH)	Graham Towers (Dept of Planning)
Jason Carson (LLS)	Brian Jones (Scientific Advisor)

IN ATTENDANCE

Kristy Blackburn WCC and SCC	Caren Taylor SCC
Philomena Gangaiya WCC	Tuesday Heather SCC
David Green WCC	Claire Knight WCC
Mike Dowd WCC	

1 WELCOME

The Chair welcomed Committee members and thanked them for their attendance.

2 APOLOGIES – Apologies were received and accepted on behalf of Grant Meredith, Marianne Saliba, Renee Winsor, John Davey, Cr Petreski, Aunty Sharralyn Robinson, Cr Vicky King and Kerrylee Rogers.

3 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Chair acknowledged the traditional owners of the Land.

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – Paul Knight declared a conflict of interest in relation to agenda item 12 – Calderwood modification application. He has property directly impacted by this development. He did not participate in discussions and recommendations re this item.

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 11 July 2018

Recommendation: The minutes of the previous Lake Illawarra Estuary Management Committee meeting held on 11 July 2018 be endorsed:

MOVED: Col Wilton

SECONDED: Cr Cath Blakely

ALL IN FAVOUR

Acton items progressed as per Business Paper

6 IN-STREAM WATER QUALITY MONITORING PROGRAM – SHELLHARBOUR CITY COUNCIL – PRESENTATION – CAREN TAYLOR

Caren Taylor, Environmental Officer at Shellharbour City Council provided information about the SCC water quality monitoring program that has taken place in streams leading into Lake Illawarra since 2008. She has been recently undertaking a review of the sampling program in order to help develop a new regime for the future.

As well as demonstrating results, Caren discussed what management decisions have been made as a result of the program for example pollution incident on Industrial Road and Oakey Creek. Council wants to analyse and therefore utilise the data more effectively in the future to be able to make more management decisions eg upstream and downstream of developments.

The lake Illawarra Draft CMP draft expands this Shellharbour City Council in-stream water quality sampling program into the Wollongong City Council LGA. The review of SCC program will be assisted by WCC staff to ensure this expansion can be effective. Similar protocols are in place already.

7 UPDATE ON WATER QUALITY MONITORING RESULTS IN LAKE LILLAWARRA – PRESENTATION – PHILOMENA GANGAIYA

Philomena Gangaiya, Environmental Strategy Officer at Wollongong City Council presented a summary of the latest water quality monitoring results for the lake. This is a part of the joint water quality monitoring program between WCC and SCC. The program is supported by funds from OEH.

15 sites in and around the lake have been tested monthly for a range for water quality indicators. Two additional sites have been monitored in near real-time for a more limited number of physical parameters. The parameters monitored overall are temperature, dissolved oxygen, pH, salinity, turbidity, and nitrogen, phosphorus, and chlorophyll *a*.

The results show that seasonal and weather patterns continue to have an important influence on water quality. Over the summer months (November to April), nutrients and chlorophyll *a* concentrations increase with increasing temperature and daylight hours.

There is strong spatial variability in water quality and the estuary ecosystem health condition of the lake. The entrance channel and the areas of the lake close to it are generally in good to very good condition while areas further away from the entrance and in the more enclosed sections in the north and south of the lake are in much poorer condition. This can be a reflection of the extent of flushing of the lake and suggests that the extreme north and south sections have very limited flushing of the high nutrient loads in these areas. Catchment inputs are especially significant as the year to year variability in water quality and the estuary ecosystem health condition, particularly in the central part of the lake, is related to rainfall.

The increase in chlorophyll *a* in the south of the lake drains a catchment which has undergone a significant increase in the development footprint in recent years. This highlights the importance of putting in effective mechanisms to control catchment inputs to protect the lake into the future.

Continued monitoring of the lake is recommended to confirm any emerging trends in water quality and to assess the effectiveness of management measures to protect the health of the lake going into the future.

Changes to the monitoring regime are being implemented. Reduced sampling sites around the lake from 10 to 6. Remove MHL real-time monitoring and add 3 sites tested for human health (Beachwatch protocols). This Beachwatch sampling will start on 3 October.

The lake is now more marine-like rather than fresh water.

8 LIEMC LOGO SELECTION

Kristy Blackburn, Environmental Strategy Officer for Lake Illawarra presented the final four logo designs to the Committee. The development of a LIEMC logo is a current action in the Draft CMP. The logo will help to market the Committee and the CMP. It will also demonstrate that the management of the lake is a combined effort.

The committee voted on the four potential designs:

			
Lake Illawarra ESTUARY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE	LAKE ILLAWARRA ESTUARY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE	LAKE ILLAWARRA ESTUARY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE	LAKE ILLAWARRA ESTUARY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
Logo 1 - 8 votes	Logo 2 - 1 vote	Logo 3 - 3 votes	Logo 4 - 0 votes

Given the clear result from the first round of voting the Committee agreed that logo 1 would be the LIEMC logo and be used where relevant for Committee business moving forward.

9 CORRESPONDENCE IN AND OUT

Correspondence In	Description	Recommended Action
WOLLONGONG CITY COUNCIL	Invitation to comment on the Draft West Dapto Vision.	No comments received, so not progressed.
MEMA	Invitation to comment on the Draft Marine Estate management Strategy.	Feedback suggested a consolidated LIEMC comment would not be possible, so not pursued.

Correspondence Out	Description
Kristy Blackburn on behalf of some LIEMC members.	Submission to Dept of Planning re Tallawarra Lands development.

Recommendation: That the information be received and noted.

MOVED: Colin Wilton

SECONDED: Paul Knight

10 REZONING APPLICATIONS – LAKE CATCHMENT AND FORESHORE WCC

Item 2: Draft Planning Proposal Stockland Stage 3, West Dapto

- Public exhibition period is finished and receiving submissions.

Item 3: Draft Planning Proposal Lot 5 DP 1132746, North Marshall Mount Road, Marshall Mount

- Council resolved 2 lots proposed at bottom in exchange for Dombarton to go to Wollongong City Council.

Item 4: Draft Planning Proposal Yallah Marshall Mount – Road Reservations and Acquisition

- Deed for wider road. Corraling determination due to mapping areas.

Item 5: Draft Planning Proposal Lot 202 & 203 DP 1175709, Fairwater Drive, Cleveland

- Minimum allotment requested. Reported to local planning panel. Reports on the website. Wollongong City Council staff will be advising Council not to approve.

Recommendation: That the information be received and noted.

MOVED: Paul Knight

SECONDED: Colin Wilton

11 MAJOR CAPITAL WORKS: COUNCIL-BASED UPDATE

Floodplain Risk Management Plans are being updated at the moment. Brooks Creek – studies related to catchment are underway. Allens Creek, Duck Creek, Minnegang Creek and Kully Bay all progressing and will be completed in 2-5 years.

Redesign work in progress for Kully Bay GPT over the next 2 years involving RMS on both south and north flood committees.

Colin raised the issue of Oaklands Village erosion remediation work done by Crown Lands saying residents are complaining that it didn't go far enough up the channel. Kristy will discuss status of works with Crown Lands.

Colin enquired after the Windang boat ramp. Mike confirmed it was completed and the retaining wall was being done. The rest of the work is scheduled for February 2019. Council is aware that turf needs replacing.

Snags in lake channel (dead trees washed from Picnic Island) discussed. Good habitat for fish, but may be a boating hazard. Solution could be to move them to Picnic island foreshore to help prevent erosion.

Recommendation: That the information be received and noted.

MOVED: Paul Knight

SECONDED: Colin Wilton

12 LAKE ILLAWARRA OFFICER REPORT

Kristy Blackburn Environmental Strategy Officer for Lake Illawarra spoke to her report as outlined in the Business Paper. Further discussions were held regarding:

- **LIEMC** - LIEMC is one of the four Advisory Groups remaining at Wollongong City Council.
- **Update on project CMP for Lake Illawarra** – delay due to new Coastal Management Manual. Public exhibition will now be early next year. Negotiations have been finalised with Crown Lands and Property NSW regarding the draft. Management Action WQ1 is still being progressed.
- **Emergency works** due to Endeavour Energy's failing infrastructure (ie power poles) and erosion at Picnic Point. Dan explained it has been assessed by OEHL who have advised that softer options are to be being explored such as re packing with sand to stabilise embankment. It is hoped to remove the poles from the island within 2 years (move electricity over bridge instead).
- **PFAS Contamination** –Tuesday advised that the EPA will be concentrating on diverting all overland flow to containment pond and then providing restoration management rather than wider remediation works. Kristy to provide investigation website details.
- **LIEMC Bus Trip** - 4 October. So far 20 have confirmed attendance and Kristy requested final RSVPs

- **Fish Habitat Action Grant** – A project application is being prepared for four areas around Lake Illawarra identified on LIEMC walks where simple interventions would aid salt marsh growth. The Committee expressed their general endorsement for this project application.
- **Modification Application to the Calderwood Urban Development Concept Plan Approval** – Developers at Calderwood have applied to significantly increase the number of dwellings. Public submissions close on 11 October. The process for the LIEMC Tallawarra submission was confirmed with Governance staff at WCC who recommended a proviso be included “The following members of the LIEMC endorse this submission”. However, after discussion, it was agreed by the members present that the LIEMC Terms of Reference only allow the Committee to provide advice to both Councils regarding items of this nature, not to necessarily submit their own submission.

Recommendation: That interested LIEMC members provide their input to Kristy to collate. This LIEMC advice will then be provided to both Wollongong City Council and Shellharbour City Council with a request that it is included with their submissions.

MOVED: Cr Cattell

SECONDED: Annie Marlow

CONFLICT OF INTEREST: Paul Knight

Recommendation: That the information be received and noted.

MOVED: Cr Cattell

SECONDED: Cr Cath Blakey

13 COMMITTEE MEMBER UPDATES (ROUND TABLE)

Annie Marlow reported that Neighbourhood Forum 7 (NF7) discussed an incident in Lake Heights where WCC road construction crews were responsible for run-off entering straight into the lake. WCC does recognise that sedimentation into waterways is a significant issue but is still only being reactive to problems not proactive which means the damage is already being done. It was suggested that by contacting WCC with photos that the complaint should generate a response within 24 hours. The Draft CMP does have a management action to employ resources to be more proactive.

Jason Carson reported that LLS have received funds from the Marine Estate Program to fund water quality and habitat protection works in a wider area now, including the Lake Illawarra catchment. He will be trying to develop a project with Mr Lucchitti, who owns significant land on the foreshore between Mullet and Hooka Creeks.

Cr Cath Blakeley enquired about the Tank trap heritage site at Hooka Point. Heritage application is not about environmental values, but any works that effect environmental values (hydrology etc) would still need to be assessed.

Recommendation: That the information be received and noted.

MOVED: Paul Knight

SECONDED: Cr Cath Blakeley

The meeting concluded at 7.45pm.

Minutes to be confirmed at the next meeting to be held at 5.30pm on Wednesday, 28 November 2018.

ACTION SUMMARY

Item	Action	Officer	Status
	Put mangrove discussion on the agenda for the next LIEMC meeting	KB	Held over from 29 November meeting
11	Neighbourhood Forum 7 to be provided with a copy of <i>Who Manages What?</i> Brochure.	KB	Done 4/10
11	Kristy to follow up Oaklands Village works with Crown Lands	KB	Sent email to Ben Tax 4/10
12	Kristy to provide EPA PFAS investigation website to the Committee.	KB	Done 4/10
12	Members to provide input into Calderwood modification submission to Kristy by 21 September.	All	Collated advice sent to WCC and SCC 3 Oct.
12	Oversee negotiations with Fisheries, OEH and Shellharbour City Council and Wollongong City Council in order to develop a more acceptable Draft CMP WQ1 management action	KB	ongoing
13	Mike Dowd will follow up the water pollution issue (run off from unprotected works by Council contractors doing road resurfacing at Lake Heights) raised by Annie Marlow on behalf of NF7.	MD	