

**Barwon Heads Association**  
**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> August 2015**  
**Senior Citizens Centre 7:30pm**

**MINUTES**

1. Welcome by Chair Judith Brooks
2. Apologies Marg Ashby, Marg Pocock, G. Wallace Smith
3. Attendees: Sandra Gatehouse, Geoffrey Waite, Paul Fox, Jeremy Gaylard, Richard Hastings, Brenda Miles, John Romeril, Di Dower, Ann Waite, Virginia Ronaldson, Jenny Wallace Smith, Jack Stoney, Anthea Merewther, Howard Deane, other representatives from OGCA.  
Guest – Gary McPike

4 Guest speaker was Gary McPike General Manager Barwon Coast Committee of Management introduced by Sandy Gatehouse. The meeting was pleased to meet Gary and hear about his hand-on practical experience in community enterprises and his open and thoughtful approach to his new job.

Gary reminded us that Barwon Coast is financially autonomous and relies on campers to pay for revenue to cover most of its costs. Current projects and priorities include upgrading the Barwon Heads Football Netball Club; a master plan repair & rebuild of the Barwon Heads Seawall & Promenade; the redevelopment of the Surf Beach Complex at Ocean Grove; coastal erosion control and in particular discussion of the destruction of the stairs at 31W “Cylinders” and the closure of the car park. Not an easy fix. Government has asked for a Coastal Hazard Assessment to be carried out prior to any work being carried out. BC is also undertaking a review and renewal of its Coastal Management Plan

**Q & A:**

- Huge pile of sand observed between two bridges. Are you monitoring this? *Yes in conjunction with Vic Roads.*
- Where do CMAs and Parks Victoria fit into your structure? *CMAs are part of regional catchment plan. All liaise closely.*
- How are we going to plan for the development at Armstrong Creek and Ocean Grove that? *It is a real challenge. Lot of green field development on the Bellarine and this will have a huge impact on the coast.*
- How will you manage cliff faces? *Vegetation is vital to dune structure. We limit access to cliffs. Need invertebrates that live in dunes and are a major part of the food chain to fish that feed on these.*
- *Everything we do requires coastal management consent*

- Seawall to be built will be like for like. Another forty to fifty years left in parts of existing wall. Will look similar to present wall.
- Will there be rails? *The Department wont allow re building of wall without a hand rail. Will be same design as OG wall and the BH bridge road rail. Stainless steel with white painted timber rail.*
- Do you make rules about dogs? *Difficult issue for coastal managers. Work with COGG. Can help to bring in changes to dog regulations.*
- Is COGG responsible for communication of dog rules? Shared responsibility between us and local council regarding signage. Maybe need communication in Talking Heads at start of season.
- How can you help hold back the tide? *Basically policy advice comes from Government. Engineers will know which parts of coast are at risk Develop inundation maps which will inform decision.*
- Could dog droppings between Ozone Road and Jetty be picked up by Barwon Coast? *This is could be investigated in the future.*
- Can the river beach be groomed ? *Grooming beaches is expensive.*
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- Chair thanked Gary for a most informative presentation and wish him well in his new position.

5 Pedestrian Safety Project – VicRoads have scheduled a public consultation process for Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> August from 4:30 to 7:30pm.

6 Dangerous footpaths – continue to lobby CoGG. Attend meeting 25<sup>th</sup> August.

7 Local Crime Wave - general discussion of concern about break-ins in houses and cars, including some home invasions. BHA to make contact with local member Lisa Neville to express our concerns.

8 Local resident of Sheepwash Rd has made contact regarding the need for better bike facilities in Sheepwash Rd. Meeting discussed bike path. All agreed this road has never been properly finished and that this should be a priority. BHA to respond to resident.

9 COGG has deferred action on Geelong Road East widening- no budget allocation yet after two years of complaining.

**Next meeting Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September AGM 2015**

**Senior Citizens Centre**

**Meeting ended at 9: 00pm. Tea and refreshments were served.**