

THE COASTWATCHERS ASSOCIATION INC

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Meeting Room, Tomakin Community Hall, Tomakin, NSW

2 pm Saturday 28 October 2017

MINUTES

1. Open Meeting:

The Acting President opened the 2017 Annual General Meeting for the 2016-17 Financial Year, at 2.10 pm, and welcomed the members present.

Welcome to Country

**It was acknowledged that the meeting was held on the lands of the Yuin nations,
past, present and emerging.**

Open Meeting

Attendance and Apologies

Present: John Stowar (Acting President), Mark Rote (Treasurer), Richard Roberts (Secretary), Reina Hill (General Committee Member), Barbara Roberts (General Committee Member), Joslyn Van Der Moolen (General Committee Member), Lyndall Hatch, Anne Stowar, June Mills, Peter Dunn, Derek Anderson, Jan Phillips, Nick Hopkins, Gillianne Tedder.

Apologies: Noel Plumb, Cesar Galindo, Ainslie Morris and Mike Reynolds, Fran Anderson.

1. Confirm AGM Minutes 8 October 2016

It was moved Barbara, seconded Joslyn, that the Minutes of the AGM of 12 November 2016, be agreed to. PASSED.

2. Acting President's Report (John Stowar)

Acting Presidents Report is at Attachment B

It was moved Richard, seconded Derek, that the President's Report be agreed to. PASSED.

3. Treasurer's Report (Mark Rote)

The Treasurer's report was presented and discussed. The main expense was the new website.

It was moved by Nick and seconded by Derek that the Treasurer's report be accepted.

Action: A list of previous donations to be prepared by the Allocations Committee - Environment Fund.

4. **Auditor's Financial Statements**

The Treasurer submitted the audited Financial statement.

It was moved by Mark, seconded by June. PASSED

5. **Appointment of Auditor for 2017-18**

Renewal of current auditor was moved by Mark, seconded by June. PASSED.

6. **Election of Officer Bearers**

All positions declared vacant, nominations received. Derek Anderson acted as returning officer. Eight nominations received for seven positions. Cesar Galindo's nomination for general member was withdrawn as he submitted this on the basis that it would go ahead if it was needed for quorum.

In accord with the Coastwatchers Constitution, there being no other nominations received, the Chair declared each nominated person duly elected.

President: Noel Plumb

Vice President: Barbara Roberts

Secretary: Joslyn van der Moolen

Treasurer: Mark Rote

3 Ordinary Members; Reina Hill, June Mills, Gillianne Tedder.

Close Meeting at 2.40 followed by an Open Forum

Attachment A (received by the Secretary on 1 January 2018)

COASTWATCHERS ASSOCIATION INC.

ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

2016 - 2017

Committee of Management 2016-17 (elected 12 November 2016)

President	John Perkins
Vice-President	John Stowar
Secretary	Richard Roberts
Treasurer	Mark Rote
Member	Reina Hill
Member	Barbara Roberts
Member	Joslyn Van der Moolen

Committee Meetings 2016-17

17 August 2016
22-25 September 2016
12 October 2016
07 December 2016
08 February 2017
05 April 2017

Allocations Committee - Environment Fund

Richard Roberts (Chair)
June Mills
Reina Hill
Maureen Baker

28 OCT

Affiliations

NSW Nature Conservation Council
Environmental Defenders Office NSW
South East Region Conservation Alliance

Newsletters 2016-17

03 July 2016
19 September 2016
15 October 2016
20 January 2017
07 February 2017
22 February 2017
21 March 2017
18 April 2017
12 June 2017

Auditor

Ian Traynor Accountant,
Tuross Heads NSW 2537

Bank

IMB Bank,
Moruya NSW 2537

Insurance

NCC Member Insurance Policies for Public and Product Liability, and Volunteers Injury Assistance.

Regulatory Details

(i) ABN Number 66003550939 Australian Securities
and Investment Commission

(ii) Incorporation Number Y0001240 NSW Fair Trading

(iii) Charitable Funding Authority CFN 17576 NSW Trade and
Investment,

(This permits the not-for-profit Coastwatchers Association to publicly fundraise with NSW Government authority, for actual or potential issues such as the Charcoalition campaign, or any future legal appeals etc. These fund raisings are not tax deductible.)

**(iv) Registered on the Commonwealth Department of Environment and
Heritage's Register of Environmental Organisations**

(This permits the Association to obtain Commonwealth Government eligibility for tax deductible donations, specifically to the Coastwatchers Environment Fund)

President's Report

It is with pleasure that I welcome members and friends today.

In the 2016-2017 financial year we have held 6 Coastwatchers committee meetings. Though technically outside that in August, the Moruya Forest Forum was arguably a high point with an attendance of around 100 members and friends. This was a timely event in light of the recent renewed interest in logging the forests of Batemans Bay and Mogo. Our secretary, Richard Roberts, who masterminded the event is our representative on 'SERCA' the "South East Region Conservation Alliance" their aim being to end logging on the South Coast.

The Dargues Reef gold mine at Major's Creek has again been the focus of protracted efforts over the year and to our consternation, was given final approval by the Commonwealth Government in April. We continue to be concerned at its possible impact on the Eurobodalla Water Supply and vulnerable and endangered species as well as the long-term care and maintenance of the site. We believe that security bonds for rehabilitation are inadequate both during mining operations and after mining ceases. We further believe that potential impacts of projects of this nature should be considered over whole catchments rather than localised areas surrounding mined sites. I would like to specifically thank Richard Roberts and Dr Emmett O'Loughlin for their invaluable contributions to our submissions.

The need to always look beyond the immediate locale of a project is demonstrated by the difficulties of the Shorebird Recovery Program within our region. Because the nesting sites for shorebirds are above Mean High Tide level, they have no protection under the zonings of Marine Parks. Coastal developments, uncontrolled dogs and predation by foxes and feral cats are our chief concerns. I would like to acknowledge the dedication of our President, John Perkins to this work which has become all-consuming especially over the nesting season.

With Climate Change concerns, in particular anticipated sea level rises, I wish to acknowledge the environmental advocacy of our long-time Committee member, Reina Hill, our representative on 'CEMAC', Eurobodalla Shire Council's "Coast and Environment Management Advisory Committee." Her voice is essential on this large committee where developer interests are strongly represented and often antagonistic to coastal management reforms.

On-going monitoring of Council's agendas is an essential role for Coastwatchers especially in light of increasing pressures from tourism and developers. The Eurobodalla Rural Lands Strategy is an on-going consideration of what is best for the community. The proposed large residential subdivision around Bevan Road between Rosedale and Guerilla Bay is effectively a new suburb warranting close attention to ensure protection of wetland habitats and remnant vegetation while planning for inclusion of Open Space linkages for walkers and cyclists. It is also an opportunity to demonstrate the value of providing a range of housing styles to meet changing community needs.

I wish to acknowledge the role of Committee member Joslyn van der Moolen in bringing us into the 21st century with the establishment of Social Media accounts and our Treasurer Mark Rote in re-vamping our Website to enable improved navigation and management.

And I especially wish to acknowledge the commitment and contributions of both Richard and Barbara Roberts since the inception of Coastwatchers in the early 1980's. Along with Reina Hill they had the foresight to launch and nurture our Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Gardens. It has been a long involvement with numerous ups and downs along the way.

Richard's dedication to the professional production of our newsletters is exemplary. Nine newsletters have been produced this year covering not only local but wider environmental issues, many of global significance.

In spite of our relatively stable membership (from 125 at this time last year to currently 118), the difficulty of attracting younger members continues to be of concern. Our membership is ageing with some people moving on to meet their changed needs. Two long-serving members, Martin Phillips and Jim Baker passed away this year.

Has Society in general moved away from public interest groups that demand time and support? Has social media replaced these groups? In the not too distant future the picture may be much clearer.

The financial position of the Association remains very sound and I thank all members for their support in achieving this.

With unforeseen but much enjoyed grand parenting responsibilities in far North Queensland, I must relinquish my role with Coastwatchers. My hope is that the Association will continue to fulfil a most important function to the benefit of our community.

John Stowar, Acting President.