

Port of Apollo Bay Consultative Committee Meeting

Port of Apollo Bay - Outdoor Space at Sailing Club 1 Breakwater Road Apollo Bay.

Tuesday 1 February 2022 Time: 12.30pm

MINUTES.

1. ATTENDEES:

Jesse Morrow – Apollo Bay Sailing Club

Peter Biddle - Apollo Bay Ocean Rescue

Nick Polgeest - Apollo Bay Fishermen's Coop

Bill Gross – Apollo Bay Community Representative

John Marriner – Apollo Bay Community Representative

Russell Frost - Community - Commercial Fishers

Wayne Diffey – Community – Recreational Fishers and Boaters

Frank Castles/Simon McBeth/ Marcus Pola/Fiona Waddington – Colac Otway Shire, Cr Chris Potter – Councillor Colac Otway Shire.

ABSENT: Anthony Alfirenko – GORCAPA

2. APOLOGIES

Cath Olive - GORCAPA

Mick Heland - Apollo Bay Sailing Club

Markus Nolle - Apollo Bay Fishermen's Coop

Tony McGann - Colac Otway Shire

3. MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING

No issues

4. CITY DEAL PROJECTS – AN UPDATE

Project updates.

New stage. Detailed design is almost finished for the upgrade to access from start of Nelson street to the boat ramp car park. Design complete for Port depot and office complex. All detailed design complete apart from the Coop.

Planning process is now under way. It is expected that construction will be under way next year.

Cultural Heritage studies are complete. The 1st submission has been approved by Eastern Maar and the 2nd submission is currently being assessed.

Two coastal consent applications (Marine and Coastal Act) have been submitted to DELWP - One for the whole precinct and one for the Co-op. Awaiting approval.

Cost estimates have recently been compared with the budget. The harbour precinct and Coop appear to be in budget. The Skenes Creek to Wild Dog trail

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and Kennet River toilets/carpark etc are out of budget. Further funding or partial project completion are options. Further funding will be sought.

Coop – a preferred supplier has been selected for architecture but the lease is not yet finalised.

A letter of in-principle support has been received from GORCAPA for the Coop project. The concept of a restaurant is no longer an objection.

A construction licence will be binding. On completion ownership will return to the Coop. It is difficult for the Coop to borrow or raise money from the community without a lease in place.

The coastal consent application for the Coop is being prepared for the Coop by a consultant. Approval can be given without guaranteed funding. Consideration is being given to how the construction will be achieved without shutting down the whole precinct for the duration.

Fire hydrants will be included in the precinct.

Services: NBN, underground power and sewage are soon to be installed but some obstacles need to be moved first—mariners' ablutions block, public toilet, golf club shed etc. (in the Mother's Beach carpark).

Public toilets/mariners ablution block. Suggestions. To remove mariners' block for a period and give a discount on visitor berthing fees?

Visiting yachtsmen and recreational fishers berthing overnight mostly use this facility. It is also used by regular commercial visiting vessels (fishers).

Suggested to charge approx. \$20 instead of \$42 per night.

Visitors could possibly use the Recreation Reserve facilities instead.

To consult and confirm with Anthony Alfirenko (it is a GORCAPA reserve).

Suggestion that City Deals could run an account to cover the costs.

City Deals could run an account there and cover the cost.

City Deals could also approach local pubs/motels for a similar service.

Frank Castles

5. UPDATE ON PORT CONDITION AND CURRENT PROJECTS AT THE PORT

Sheet pile wall remediation.

Unfortunately, contract negotiations failed and we were not able to award the tender. The tender process is to be repeated. Only the sheet pile wall is to be in the tender specifications. The previous tender included remediation of the low landing area (currently barricaded due to erosion of rock wall facing west).

Diesel tank relocation

Delays in delivery of tank were experienced due to global supply chain issues. The tank is in Melbourne currently being fitted with pumps and instrumentation. Minor delays in Melbourne due to staff Covid illness in January. Installation expected in late February/early March.

CCTV cameras

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The equipment is on order. Delivery is delayed due to supply chain issues. The option of using more readily available, lower quality cameras was offered but refused by port management. The cameras on order are high resolution and fabricated from marine grade stainless steel to suit the harsh environment.

The Apollo Bay boat ramp has been added to the Boating Victoria program for boat ramp CCTV cameras. Two cameras will be provided at the ramp to enable users to see the ramp and car park conditions live on the Boating Victoria website or smart phone app.

An extra camera will be installed at the end of the lee break wall to monitor the harbour entrance. The output from this camera will also be live on the Boating Vic website.

This camera installation will be paid for by port management in collaboration with the Boating Victoria boat ramp program.

Slipway winch house upgrade

A new Colorbond steel shed – completion end June

Slipway cradle upgrade – under quotation. Completion end June

Oil disposal facility upgrade

New bund in new shed with new oil storage containment – completion end April.

<u>Upgrades to boat ramp/floating pontoons</u>

Project under tender. There are 5 interested parties. The ramp will need to be closed during construction. All 5 parties have indicated that it will not be feasible to leave one lane open.

There will be all abilities access. Pontoons will be 60 metres long, 2 x the current length.

Requests for grant funding - VFA Grants-

Last minute requests for funding under this program for 3 projects were made prior to Christmas.

Upgrade to boat ramp toilets - requested \$330k

Upgrade to fish cleaning tables - requested \$167k.

Shed for Apollo Bay Ocean Rescue – requested \$99k

Feedback from the program manager to date is very positive. Applications were well received. Hoping to get a response by the end of this week.

Bass Strait Freight

A sea freight contractor has expressed interest in using Apollo Bay as a freight hub to service King Island. Currently the contractor services the Flinders Island and Furneaux group and runs between Port Welshpool and Port Melbourne. Modifications would needed at the port to accommodate the vessel, which draws below 1metre but is approx. 70 metres in length.

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The concept is with the CEO. His proposal is to provide a freight link between King Island and Apollo Bay. A suggestion from John Marriner that investigation of other opportunities and a diversification of industries in Apollo Bay apart from solely tourism might be wise. Nick Polgeest suggested a research facility for marine science. SAFETY - RISKS, ISSUES AND INCIDENTS. 6. Covid-19 restrictions - Vaccination status to be checked for any contractors working at the port. Staff and all visitors to the office must continue to check in using QR code on the door as per the current state guidelines. Staff Ladders have been ordered for the 2 marina arms to trial. If they are acceptable 3 more will be acquired. They will be mounted in the pens between boats in the place that is least likely to be hit by a boat. They will lower the risk to marina users in the event of a man overboard from one of the boats or a fall from the marina. Marcus Pola Russel Frost for Co-op regarding vessel Tambo Bay. To consider change of berth position to make the berthing easier. It needs access to 3-phase power. Rescue of swimmer recently by Simon McBeth and the SLSC. A good outcome. 7. **GENERAL BUSINESS.** Low landing has lost some rocks revealing large voids. Emergency funding was requested to remediate the area. Unless another urgent situation arises in Victoria, funding should be available prior to end of June. The area is currently protected by bollards. This will be repaired by grout and concrete injection. Wayne Diffey – receives complaints frequently regarding the lack of capacity for trailers in the carpark. Complaints also on social media. The Harbour Development Plan includes the design for the carpark. More single car spaces will be made available. There is no plan for additional trailer spaces. Suggested to cut into the dunes behind the Sailing Club beach. The dune is a relatively new phenomenon. Frank Castles Simon has raised the opportunity and community requirement for new trailer parking bays with Shire planners and City Deals many times and requested that it be included in the Development Plan and City Deals project. Response has been that DELWP will not support proposal so it was not included. Simon stated that no one has ever asked DELWP. Frank to try to update the Development Plan and/or get some support from DELWP.



	GORCAPA transition. Simon and Frank and Lynn from DOT are on a steering committee for the transition process. The 3-year lease for harbour management by COS ends in 2022. In principle, management will transfer to GORCAPA. A staff no disadvantage clause and the expectation that services will remain unchanged as well as continuation of the POABCC committee will be conditions of the transition. Deloittes have been engaged to assist with the transition. The proposal was endorsed at OCM and was in principle agreed to. Council was concerned that the POABCC forum must remain in place as a condition of any changes.	
8.	ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS	
9.	NEXT MEETING Tuesday 3 May 2022.	