PORT OF APOLLO BAY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Colac Otway SHIRE MINUTES

Location: Conference Room Nelson St, Apollo Bay Date: Tue 21 February, 2023

CM Ref: D23/32585 **Time:** 12:30pm-1:30pm

Version: 1.0

ATTENDEES:

Anthony Alfirenko – GORCAPA Jesse Morrow – Apollo Bay Sailing Club Peter Biddle – Apollo Bay Ocean Rescue Nick Polgeest – Apollo Bay Fishermen's Coop

John Marriner – Apollo Bay Community Representative Wayne Diffey – Community (Recreational Fishers and Boaters) Bill Gross – Apollo Bay Community Representative

Marcus Pola – Colac Otway Shire Fiona Waddington – Colac Otway Shire Lisa Healey – Colac Otway Shire (Minute-taker) Cr Chris Potter – Councillor, Colac Otway Shire Cr Graham Costin – Councillor, Colac Otway Shire

APOLOGIES: Frank Castles – Colac Otway Shire Simon McBeth – Colac Otway Shire Russell Frost – Community (Commercial Fishers) Cath Olive – GORCAPA Markus Nolle – Apollo Bay Fishermen's Coop

Agenda Item 3: Confirmation of Previous Minutes		Action #
٠	Accepted.	
Ag	enda Item 4: City Deal Projects – An Update	
•	FW advised that the Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority (the Authority) are taking the lead on the continuing COS City Deal Deals projects. The COS project team are in the process of handing over the project files and records to the Authority for the handover. The Skenes Creek Coastal Trail project has concluded – surplus funds from the project are being redistributed across the remaining two COS projects (ie Apollo Bay Harbour Redevelopment and Kennett River Tourism Infrastructure Improvements). Funds are also being directed the Point Grey project at Lorne which is considered a local project with respect to the funding (funding for Harbour is now \$12.61M including expenditure to date).	
Ag	enda Item 5: Transition of Port from COS to GORCAPA	
•	FW advised that the major operational land parcel at the Port remains presently with COS, however is expected to transition to GORCAPA this year to follow the smaller parcels which have already transitioned. It is expected that the current COS Port staff will cross to the Authority as part of the transition. Noted that there is significant work required for the Authority to accept the major assets being handed over (ie breakwalls, marina etc). Some of the assets have funding for improvement works, and review and acceptance needs to occur prior to the transfer.	#1
•	FW is Acting Port Manager following resignation by Simon MacBeth, until end June 2023. Expected that COS will manage the recruitment process for the permanent replacement in June/July 2023 as opposed to the Authority (likely Frank Castles to manage).	#2
Ag	enda Item 6: Terms & Conditions of Berth/Mooring Occupation	
•	Needs review and rework alongside legal advice, last updated by COS in 2017.	\sim
Ag	enda Item 7: Swing Mooring Annual Inspection/Compliance Certificate	
•	Current \$556 annual swing mooring fee includes inspection by COS-engaged commercial divers. FW noted that repairs and compliance certification is not currently included in the annual fees. Currently at the Port, repair works are undertaken by the Port team and mooring holders are then invoiced for the repair works that are required to pass compliance. Noted that splitting repair costs is difficult at times and that guidelines on requirements for chains is not straightforward. DOT preference is for an external contractor to manage inspection repairs and compliance for swing moorings (particularly from a risk management perspective). This will come into effect at the Port from next year (2024).	#3

Following annual inspection, swing mooring holders will be required to engage an external contractor for repairs	
and certification of mooring compliance. Note that the port engages an appropriate commercial diving contractor who will be able to assist swing mooring holders. There is likely to be an increase in cost to mooring holders (eg	
Geelong holders pay approx. \$1,500 every two years).	
 FW raised 'star' pontoons as a potential mooring option for the Port in the future with many benefits over the current 	
swing moorings. A grant would be needed to fund this (estimated at \$100k plus installation costs). The star	
pontoons fit up to eight boat and have the advantage of a small pontoon area.	
Agenda Item 8: Material to Line the Slipway Cradle and Ladder at Tambo Bay's Berth (ABO32)	
	#4
• Port crew to confer with Markus N. to confirm what is needed to improve the lining of the slipway cradle. The ladder	#4
at Tambo Bay's berth is problematic. It is bent and rusted and gets stuck on the gunwales of Tambo Bay in some	
tide conditions. The ladder should be removed and replaced.	
Agenda Item 9: Update on Port Condition and Current Projects at the Port	
Sheet pile wall remediation	
• The contract for the sheet pile wall remediation is under negotiation – the preferred tenderer has submitted a design	
that deviates from that provided in the tender brief. The altered design is to be peer reviewed before it can possibly	
be accepted	
 COS Capital Works team will manage this project moving forward and have appointed a project manager. 	
 Expected completion in 2023. 	
• Q. Risks to public if not done? (AA) – FW advised that continued deterioration will occur noting that the project was	
funded by DOT under emergency funding as urgent works. JM raised that a major storm event could do extensive	#5
damage to infrastructure in the marina (such as occurred in Coffs Harbour which has a similar layout). The Authority	
requested that risks around sheet pile wall remediation are included in handover risk plan.	1
• Cr Potter to escalate urgency for sheet pile wall project to progress with COS CEO – has been delayed as a result	#6
of complications with the Port handover.	
• FW highlighted that there is also a separate fund for section A. Additionally, surplus funds from the grant for the	
sheet pile wall (section D) have been allocated in the funding agreement to be used for remediation of sections C	
and A.	
 Upgrades to boat ramp/floating pontoons SMcB thanked for this successful upgrade. All feedback so far is positive. Second all-access gangway to be put in place tomorrow to finalise the upgrade. 	
Boat ramp toilets – VFA Grant	
 FW in discussions with VFA to keep funding current – project is in a holding pattern while the Authority considers a 	
review process of the Apollo Bay Harbour Development Plan with respect to Marine and Coastal policy.	
review process of the Apolio Bay Harbour Bevelopment Hair with respect to Manne and Obastar policy.	
Fish Cleaning tables – VFA Grant	
 Coastal consent granted in late Dec 2022. Feedback was sought from the community on concept designs for the 	
tables. FW advised that, following some stabilisation works at the rock revetment, there will likely be three tables in	
an undercover area. Surplus funding from another source to be used for temp fencing to deter seal(s) – see also	
Item 10 below.	
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Ocean Rescue storage shed – VFA Grant	1
 As per Boat Ramp toilets above. 	
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Agenda Item 10: Safety – Risks, Issues and Incidents	
Seals at the boat ramp/fish cleaning station continue to pose a risk to public safety. FW has reached out to	
Fisheries who have confirmed that they can issue warnings and fines to people feeding or getting too close to the	5
seals (COS not authorised as this falls under the Wildlife Act). Compliance and education noted as key to mitigating	
risk.	<
Least desirable outcome is that DELWP close the fish tables and boat ramp in response to avoiding a seal attack	
(which they are authorised to do).	La De
 Sheet pile wall report to be added to the Harbour risk plan as ongoing risk (urgent) for GORCAPA reference. 	m 20
Oneer pile waii report to be added to the marbour risk plan as ongoing risk (digent) for GORGAFA relefence.	SA A
Agenda Item 11: POABCC Membership – Extension of 2-Year Term	
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 Agreed that POABCC memberships, which are now expired, are to be extended while the Port transition is in progress and that the same group will be active when the Authority takes ever 	ann ann
progress and that the same group will be active when the Authority takes over.	authors
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Agenda Item 12: General Business	
 Stickers to identify berth numbers are being installed in the coming weeks (berths are currently numbered but not signed). FW reported that the 10 security cameras installed last year are fully operational and have been used already for a 	
couple of incidents which have taken place at the Port. The dredge pipe outflow area is also covered by the camera.	
 There are also cameras provided by Boating Vic at the boat ramp. They enable views of the ramp, carpark and harbour entrance condition via the Boating Vic App (available for free). This allows the public to see if the carpark is full and to assess conditions at the entrance – great for people thinking of coming down to fish etc. PB raised that there is sometimes Port equipment and materials obstructing access to his boat – FW said to keep reperting when this ensure. 	
 reporting when this occurs. WD raised the lack of boat trailer parking (has significantly decreased since the carpark was sealed, noting that the sealing works are a good improvement). Normal cars continue to park in the boat trailer parks, particularly over summer. This was noted as a compliance issue which the Authority is currently under-resourced to manage effectively. FW raised that the site is constrained in terms of adding more boat trailer parks and a designer would need to be engaged to investigate possible solutions. 	
Agenda Item 13: Items for Future Meetings	
Not discussed.	

Next Meeting: Tue 2 May 2023, 12:30pm – 1:30pm (TBC)

Action Items							
#	ACTION	DATE	NOTES	RESPONSIBLE	STATUS		
#1	Finalise land transfer from COS to GORCAPA at POAB.	21/02/23	All transfer to be completed in 2023.	COS/GORCAPA	Ongoing		
#2	Recruit new Port Manager.	21/02/23	Late June/early July 2023. COS to undertake recruitment process.	FC, FW	On track		
#3	Swing mooring holders to be notified of impending change to requirements for compliance certification. External commercial diving contractor to be engaged for repairs and compliance certification.	21/02/23	Changes to commence from next inspection due date – September 2023.	Port Manager	On track		
#4	Remove/replace ladder at Tambo Bay's berth (AB032)	21/2/23	Marcus P to consult with the Fishermen's Coop (Markus N, Russell F and Nick P). To be replaced by end of April 2023.	Marcus P	Pending		
#5	Include sheet pile wall in risk plan for Port.	21/02/23	Add issues around safety to risk plan.	FW	Pending		
#6	Escalate urgency for sheet pile wall project to progress,	21/02/23	Cr Potter to raise with COS CE.	Cr Potter	Pending		