

Meeting minutes

Meeting name - Community Consultative Committee (CCC) – Eden Breakwater Wharf Extension Project and Revitalising Eden Program

Date – 3 February 2021

Location – Eden Fishermen's Club and via Microsoft Teams

Attendees

Jenny Symons (Chair), Natalie Godward (Port Authority of NSW), Kylie Yates (Port Authority of NSW - Observer), Paige Folta (Port Authority of NSW), Paul Webster (Port Authority of NSW), Andrew Mogg (TfNSW Maritime branch), Jennifer Robinson (TfNSW Maritime Branch), Grant Marsden (Crown Land), Neisha D'Souza (Property & Development NSW), Sara Bennetts (Property & Development NSW), Amanda Szalay (Property & Development NSW), and Coral Reynolds (Minutes).

Community representatives:

Rob Bain (POEM), Robin Arthur (Twofold Bay Yacht Club), Richard Lamacraft (Community Member), Gail Ward (Eden Tourism), Leanne Scott (Community Member), Debbie Meers (Cruise Eden), Mark Bateman (Eden LALC) (partly).

Apologies:

Polly Bennett (Port Authority of NSW), John Aveyard (Community Member), Scott Baker (Bega Valley Shire Council).

The meeting opened at 5pm.

1. Acknowledgement

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The Chair opened with an acknowledgement of the Traditional Custodians of the lands and waters of the shire – the people of the Yuin nation and the Monaroo people, and paid respects to elders past and present.

2. Conflicts of Interest

There were no new pecuniary or non-pecuniary conflicts of interest to declare.

3. Business Arising from the Previous Minutes

There was no business arising from the previous minutes.

4. Eden Cruise Wharf – upcoming activities

Natalie advised that:

- The Australian Government cruise ban has been extended to 17 March 2021.
- Cruising has resumed in Europe and Asia.
- Further information will be provided to the community prior to the resumption of cruises.

5. Eden Cruise Wharf – other

Natalie noted:

- Monitoring of environmental performance – fully compliant with nothing to report.
- Community complaints – none had been received.

- Contact details are as follows:
 - Phone: +61 2 6496 4721
 - Email: enquiries@portauthoritynsw.com.au
 - Website and information found at: <https://www.portauthoritynsw.com.au/port-of-eden/port-services-facilities/eden-wharf/>

6. Modification to Planning Approval

Natalie discussed the modification to the Planning Approval as follows:

- In July 2020 Port Authority lodged an application with the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment to modify the State Significant Infrastructure (SSI) approval for the Eden Cruise Wharf (Reference SSI-7734-Mod-2).
- The application was approved on 21 October 2020 for the following:
 - Vessels up to 100m in length to load/unload, refuel, carry out maintenance and servicing, and passengers embarking/disembarking at the Eden Cruise Facility between 7am and 10pm and to remain at berth 24 hours per day when a cruise ship is not at berth.
- Details of the determination including supporting documentation can be viewed at <https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/project/37096..>

Paul noted the modification provides the Port of Eden with the opportunity of having more vessels being able to use the wharf for up to a few days at a time including naval and fishing vessels.

7. Eden Welcome Centre update – Port Authority of NSW

Natalie advised that the timbers are all in place, heritage items are starting to be installed and the internal fit out is moving rapidly. Major construction activities undertaken to date include:

- installation of roof sheets and gutters
- installation of plumbing and electrical works
- Installation of mechanical ventilation
- installation of interior block walls
- block work on perimeter walls
- installation of exterior cladding
- plastering and painting
- glazing and tiling
- installing joinery, internal flooring and lighting.

Remaining activities to be undertaken include:

- final internal fit out
- installation of heritage items and external paths
- removal of contractor site sheds and site reinstatement.

Sara asked if the project was on track for possession in March. Natalie advised that the date for the Eden Visitor Information Centre to relocate to the ground floor is to be confirmed, however, the ground floor will be open by Easter.

8. Safe Harbour Project update – Maritime Infrastructure Delivery Office (MIDO) of Transport for NSW

Andrew gave an update as follows:

- In October 2020 TfNSW called tenders for the supply and installation of a 366 metre, fixed panel wave attenuator which comprises tubular steel piles and supporting precast concrete panels.
- The tender closed on 21 December 2020 and evaluation of the tenders is underway.
- Tenders will be assessed by TfNSW on the basis of best value for money which includes consideration of price, organisational capability, suitability of proposed methodology and a number of other criteria.

As the next CCC meeting is to be held in three months' time it is anticipated the CCC will be advised of tender progress at the meeting.

Robin asked if Andrew was able to advise how many companies had submitted a tender. Andrew stated that some had applied but was unable to give further details. Robin asked if it was possible for the CCC to be advised prior to the next meeting. Andrew advised that as soon as the tender outcome is known the

CCC will be advised. There is a process that needs to be followed and TfNSW is working as fast as they can to assess the tenders.

Rob raised the matter of the committee discussion of the planning of the marina. Jenny asked Rob to get in touch prior to the next meeting so that the item can be cross checked with the committee's terms of reference and then worked into the agenda if appropriate.

Mark asked what employment opportunities would be available for local indigenous workers noting the Aboriginal Participation in Construction (APIC) requirements for construction projects and that previously in the region non-local aboriginal organisations had been used on projects. Andrew advised the project will adhere to APIC requirements and wants to ensure that there are opportunities for local Aboriginal organisations. Natalie noted that Mundabaa had been employed on the Eden Cruise Wharf project.

9. Harbourside Activation Project update – Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

Sara gave an update as follows:

- Following vacation of the Sapphire Coast Marine Discovery Centre building Crown Lands (DPIE) has secured the site with a hoarding. This will limit access and further enhance security and safety at the site.
- The hoarding is now being decorated with attractive photographs of the Eden and Sapphire Coast area.
- The licence granted by DPIE to the Eden Visitor Information centre is now seeing some food vans locate to the site to assist with servicing the summer visitors.
- DPIE is continuing to investigate the future options.
- DPIE intends to clear and remediate the former Marine Discovery Centre site to allow for future revitalisation of the area.
- It is envisaged that the demolition and remediations works will commence around April/ May 2021 subject to securing the necessary approvals.

Sara advised that a DA has been lodged to demolish the building and that ownership has been transferred from Crown Lands to Property & Development NSW. Mark asked about the timing of redevelopment on the site. Sara advised that DPIE are still assessing options.

Sara advised that the next steps are contingent on securing funding and DPIE will advise the CCC once more information becomes available.

Attendees asked what utilities there are on the site and if there is a design for potential future redevelopment. Sara advised that the design will cater for a mix of cultural, retail, hospitality and flexible uses. Attendees asked if the CCC or the community will be consulted on the design. Sara advised DPIE will consult with the wider community once funding has been secured.

Leanne stated that she was surprised that DPIE hasn't engaged with the community and that they need to be engaged and not just informed. Sara advised that DPIE has engaged with some local stakeholders at a high level, seeking feedback on preferred uses on the site. Leanne reiterated that more consultation is required as per the previous levels of consultation undertaken for the Cruise Wharf and Wave Attenuator. Sara confirmed that further consultation will be undertaken with the community once funding has been secured. Leanne discussed the work that had been done in the community by Stan Soroka,

Sara noted that she had seen previous draft master plans designs for the site. and confirmed that these masterplans had not progressed because they were deemed not feasible.

Rob asked if DPIE had considered the implications of having a wave attenuator and potential marina which would expand operations in the port with more visiting vessels, charter and fishing boats and support businesses such as chandlers. Sara said this is being considered, however, DPIE are responsible for the Harbourside project (the site that the previous Sapphire Coast Marine Discovery Centre occupied and adjacent foreshore land) not the broader precinct. Rob noted it should be holistic. Paul advised this was why Port Authority is the lead agency involved in all of the Eden projects to ensure there is oversight across all three projects.

Gail advised that she agreed with Leanne re not being consulted with but just being kept informed. Gail stated that she had been in a meeting with DPIE representing Eden Tourism but had been a passive

participant and was surprised that the only engagement with the Eden Tourism was in the context of being requested to support DPIE's application for funding. Gail also noted that following their meeting there had not been any follow up provided. Sara advised that consultation was high level as the amount and outcome of the funding application is unknown. Sara confirmed that once funding is secured, future community consultation will occur.

Jennifer asked Sara for clarification as to whether the amount of funding would determine the design. Sara advised this was correct. Jennifer asked if they were seeking Federal or State funding, Sara confirmed State, NSW Government.

Leanne stated that once the wave attenuator was built, the desire would be for a marina to be built behind it and that the wharfside area needs to support a potential marina noting this a small area which will have visitors with cars and caravans.

10. Community Feedback

There was no feedback received.

11. General Business

There was no other business.

12. Next meeting

Attendees discussed the timing of the next meeting and 5 May was agreed. Leanne asked about the opening of the Welcome Centre and was advised that the community and CCC would be advised once the date was determined.

13. Meeting Close

The meeting closed at 5.45pm.