

Meeting minutes

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

Date – 23 September 2020

Location – Eden Fishermen’s Club and via Microsoft Teams

Attendees

Jenny Symons (Chair), Natalie Godward (Port Authority of NSW), Paige Folta (Port Authority of NSW), Polly Bennett (Port Authority of NSW), Leon Walker (Property & Development NSW), Grant Marsden (Crown Lands), Lynne Sheridan (Crown Lands), Sara Bennetts (Property & Development NSW), Amanda Szalay (Property & Development NSW), Tahlee Smith (Property & Development NSW), Nicholas Leung (Property & Development NSW), Ben Frazer (Property & Development NSW), Catherine Coren (DPIE) and Coral Reynolds (minutes).

Community representatives:

Rob Bain (POEM), Robyn Arthur (Twofold Bay Yacht Club), Gail Ward (Eden Tourism), Mark Bateman (Eden LALC) (partly) and John Aveyard (Community Member).

Apologies:

Richard Lamacraft (Community Member), Andrew Mogg (TfNSW Maritime branch), Paul Webster (Port Authority of NSW), Scott Baker (Bega Valley Shire Council), Leanne Scott (Community Member), Jen Robinson (TfNSW Maritime Branch) and Debbie Meers (Cruise Eden).

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 December 2020.
- Cruising has resumed successfully 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 modification is consistent with the current maritime uses of Snug Cove, which in addition to the Eden Cruise Wharf, includes several jetties that provide for the berthing of vessels similar to those proposed.
- No public submissions were received however, letters of support were received from the community and local businesses.
- Submissions were received from Government agencies:
 - Transport for NSW
 - Bega Valley Shire Council
 - Crown Lands
 - Environment Protection Agency
 - DPI Fisheries.
- Details of the submission including supporting documentation can be viewed at <https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/project/37096>.

7. Eden Welcome Centre update – Port Authority of NSW

Natalie gave an overview of the Eden Welcome Centre Project:

- Work on the ground floor of the Welcome Centre is progressing well with 70% of the horizontal timbers in place and the block walls erected up to first floor level.
- Installation of the timber joists to the first floor is well underway. Once this has been completed the block wall will be extended for the interior lift well.
- Major construction activities undertaken to date include:
 - installation of underground services
 - installation of plumbing and electrical works
 - preparation/restoration of timber elements
 - pre-fabrication of timber trusses
 - installation of structural timbers
 - installation of interior block walls
 - block work on perimeter walls.
- Activities to be undertaken over the next few months include:
 - ongoing installation of structural timbers
 - ongoing installation of interior block walls
 - installation of ground floor and first floor roofing
 - installation of external walls cladding and finishes
 - installation of the lift.
- The project is on time with completion of the first stage scheduled for late 2020.

Natalie gave an overview of the environmental initiatives on the project:

- The project is aiming for Green Star accreditation and that there are a number of initiatives including:
 - using recycled timber throughout the building
 - installing solar cells on the roof
 - installing energy efficient LED lighting throughout the building
 - installing rainwater tanks
 - reusing grey water for non-drinking purposes.

8. Bega Valley Shire Council – Community Information Session

Natalie advised attendees that a community information session was held on 6 August at the Eden Fishermen's Club which was well attended by the community and businesses in the area. The session was also live streamed for persons unable to attend due to COVID-19 restrictions.

The session provided an update about the progress of the Welcome Centre and Heritage Interpretation Plan, as well as the Eden Port Connectivity Upgrade project and Barclay Street Masterplan. The Port Connectivity Upgrade and Barclay Street Masterplan are both Bega Valley Shire Council projects.

Session attendees were given an update of the construction of the Welcome Centre, and an overview of the Welcome Centre Heritage Interpretation Plan by The Destination Agency. The Heritage Interpretation Plan will have three key themes:

- Eden's maritime history and key industries
- Aboriginal history and storytelling
- wildlife artwork panels.

The *maritime history pathway* captures the diversity, international connections, industry, entrepreneurship, and importance of Eden as a maritime destination through the lens of ship arrivals. Plaques will be created by local stonemasons and embedded into the exterior walkway of the Welcome Centre.

The *Aboriginal history and storytelling* recognises and celebrates the deep and ongoing connection of Aboriginal people to Yuin Guyangal country. These stories would be written by a local Dharawal man with strong Yuin connections, and this process would be undertaken with the full support and approval of the Eden Local Aboriginal Land Council. Stories will be embedded within timber panels on the ground floor interior.

There would be several *wildlife artwork panels* which would depict local wildlife, that will be routed into external timber panels. The artworks would be designed by Yuin artist, Cheryl Davison, whose work has been showcased by the likes of the National Gallery of Australia and the National Museum of Australia.

Robyn asked if the proposed move of the Eden Visitor Information Centre (EVIC) from their current location to the Welcome Centre was viewed as controversial by the community. Natalie advised that some attendees opposed the move and that Jenny Robb and Anthony Osborne had addressed concerns in the meeting.

Robyn asked if the existing EVIC office will still have visitor information after the EVIC has moved. Natalie advised there won't be any staff there but there will be a sign with basic visitor information.

John asked if there will be signage directing visitors to the Welcome Centre. Natalie advised there will be clear wayfinding and signage.

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

As there were no representatives from MIDO at the meeting Natalie gave an update as follows:

- Transport for NSW (TfNSW) will soon commence the tender process for the construction of a 366m fixed panel wave attenuator which will be comprised of tubular steel piles and precast concrete panels.
- TfNSW has considered different contracting options and has selected a Construct Only contract because it offers the best opportunity to achieve value for money for the community with the major benefits being:
 - likely participation by a broader range of contractors fostering a more commercially competitive outcome

- contractors do not have to include the cost of preparing a detailed design into their Tender submission
- as all contractors are pricing the same design, the Tender evaluation and contract award stages can proceed quicker than if TfNSW has to spend time, cost and resources verifying contractors alternative design solutions.
- The project will continue to work through the processes necessary to go to market for the competitive tender for construction. This has included placing a Notice of Upcoming Tender on the NSW Government e-tendering website <https://www.tenders.nsw.gov.au>

It was noted that Andrew Mogg had met with Rob and Robyn on the 22 September and had discussed the progress of the Safe Harbour project including the tender process and future departmental changes at Transport for New South Wales.

John asked if the tender was going to be based on the last design that stakeholders were consulted about in 2018. Meeting attendees advised this was correct.

John asked about ongoing maintenance of the wave attenuator and whole of life costs. As there were no representatives from MIDO it was agreed that this question would be directed to Andrew Mogg to respond to.

The previous CCC meeting had raised this matter, and it can be confirmed that TfNSW will have responsibility for ongoing maintenance costs.

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

Tahlee gave an update as follows:

- The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment is currently exploring options for the revitalisation of the Sapphire Coast Marine Discovery Centre site, as part of the Harbourside Activation Project.
- As part of this process, the Department has commissioned a building condition assessment to assess the current condition of the building.

Lynne advised that she had received a copy of the building condition assessment report and that this had been sent to the Sapphire Coast Marine Discovery Centre on 18 September.

John stated that he personally believes that this had been an issue for the last 10 to 12 years, in his opinion, with negligence by those it had been raised with and that a substantive decision about the building needs to be made as soon as possible. John noted that in this time at least three masterplans had been developed but not progressed.

Leon advised that the Government could not do anything until the lease held by the Sapphire Coast Marine Discovery Centre ends. This lease ceases at the end of 2022 and at this point there are no set plans. Consultation with key stakeholders would occur once a clear direction is known.

11. Community Feedback

There was no feedback received.

12. General Business

It was noted that Jenny Robb had resigned from the CCC. The meeting discussed the recruitment of a replacement for Jenny and updating the membership of the CCC.

Gail stated that someone from the Sapphire Coast Marine Discovery Centre should be on the CCC to represent the precinct.

Natalie advised that the CCC will look to directly recruit individuals and organisations and that Natalie and Paige will keep the CCC updated.

13. Next meeting

Attendees discussed the timing of the next meeting and Paige noted that there wouldn't be too much information about the projects if the next meeting was to be held in December. It was noted that it would be better to hold the next meeting on 3 February 2021.

14. Meeting Close

The meeting closed at 5.45pm.