

Meeting Minutes

Meeting name	Eden Cruise Wharf Community Consultative Committee		
Date	16 May 2023	Time	5:00 pm to 6:00 pm
Location	Virtual via Microsoft Teams and in person at the Eden Welcome Centre		
Meeting chair	Jenny Symons		
Attendees	Members of CCC and guests		

Attendees

CCC Members

Jenny Symons (Chair) – JS
 Gail Ward (Community member) – GW
 Jenny Robb (Community member) – JR
 John Aveyard (Community member) – JA
 Leanne Scott (Community member) – LS
 Richard Lamacraft (Community member) – RL
 Rob Bain (Community member / POEM) – RB
 Robyn Arthur (Community member / Twofold Bay Yacht Club) – RA
 Andrew Dooley (Transport for NSW - MIDO) – AD
 Clair Mudaliar (Eden Visitor Information Centre) – CM
 Deb Meers (Cruise Eden) – DM
 Eric Wolske (Eden Chamber of Commerce) – EW
 Mark Bateman (Eden LALC) – MB
 Michael Wilkinson (Austral Construction) – MW
 Peter Wild (Bega Valley Shire Council) – PeW

Guests

Russell Fitzpatrick (Bega Valley Shire Council) – RF
 Enwee Lindford (Transport for NSW) – EL
 Maddie Milazzo (Transport for NSW) – MM
 Nathan Penberthy (Transport for NSW - MIDO) – NP
 George Pajmakoski (Property & Development NSW) – GP
 Sara Bennetts (Property & Development NSW) – SB
 Samiru Manukulasuriya (Property & Development NSW) – SM
 Joseph Dbais (Port Authority of NSW) – JD
 Natalie Godward (Port Authority of NSW) – NaG
 Nerida Green (Port Authority of NSW) – NeG
 Sam Isaacs (Port Authority of NSW) – SI
 Emma Moxon (Port Authority of NSW / minutes) – EM

2. Apologies

Doug Walker (MIDO – Safe Harbour Project)

Paul Webster (Port Authority of NSW)
Emily Harrison (Bega Valley Shire Council)
Andrew Heathcote (Property & Development NSW)

2. Acknowledgement of Country (JS)

3. Introductions (JS)

4. Declaration of pecuniary interests (JS)

- Nil

5. Business arising from previous minutes (Jenny)

- The Committee endorsed the minutes of the 21 February 2023 meeting.

6. Port Authority Update

Complaints and non-compliance

- NaG notified the Committee that there had been no reports of non-compliance throughout the cruise season.

Cruise update

- NaG presented a summary of the 22/23 cruise season.
- MB asked if information is available regarding where cruise passengers are visiting. NaG advised that Cruise Eden have that information and she would connect offline to discuss.

Widening Weecoon Street

- JD updated the Committee on the Weecoon Street road widening project:
 - Contractor has been selected for the job following an RFQ.
 - Construction expected to start early June, take approximately 9 weeks, and be complete before the next cruise season.
 - Excavation will require closure of half of the road at a time.
 - Potholes in the area of the project will also be fixed during construction.

Eden Welcome Centre furniture

- JD provided an update on furniture, including bins, water fountains and bike rack:
 - Contractor who has been awarded road widening project will also be installing the furniture.
 - Work expected to be complete July/August 2023.
- NaG provided an update on the seating:
 - The Eden Men's Shed has been engaged to build the seating out of recycled timber fenders from the Mooring Jetty.
 - A seating plan has been developed in collaboration with NaG, CM, DM and EW.
- RL noted that there is a seat on Warren's Walk that is currently overgrown and not usable. RF advised he would the Eden Town Team to evaluate and rectify.
- CM stated that the recent carpark construction heavily affected traffic and requested that school holidays and peak periods be considered for any future works in the area.

Eden Mod 3

- SI updated the Committee on the proposed Eden Mod 3 project:
 - Planning approval is currently going through the Consistency Review process.
 - DPI had added a requirement to undertake sediment plume modelling when cruise ships enter and exit port limits to obtain more information as to the impact on seagrass.

- Due to additional work, there has been a delay impact on lodgement and public exhibition period, which has been pushed back to August.
- DM asked if the proposed modification would be in place by the end of the year. SI advised that it was unlikely.
- RA stated that recent viewing on his depth gauge showed less one metre less depth than previously in Snug Cove and Cattle Bay. SI advised that Port Authority do not have plans for maintenance dredging or additional survey area work. AD advised that Port Authority recently undertook a hydrographic survey for MIDO, however not in the area where RAs concerns lie.
- RL stated that when cruise ships are departing, clouds of silt are mainly caused by the tugs.

Action 1: AD to take discussion with RA offline regarding the depth of Snug Cove and Cattle Bay.

7. MIDO update

Safe Harbour project

- EL provided an update on the Safe Harbour project:
 - The Wave Attenuator and Mooring Jetty refendering works will be complete by early June.
 - Main construction of the wave attenuator is complete. Next will be installation of navigation aids, lighting and signage.
 - 109 piles have been replaced on the Mooring Jetty, with some additional works to replace the whalers between the fenders, replace wharf furniture and undertake carpark remediation.
- RL advised that recent strong winds resulted in some waves overtopping the wave attenuator. AD advised that the design allows for some wave overtopping and that the performance of the structure will be monitored.

Snug Cove Maritime Precinct

- MM advised the Committee that the RFP closes on 26 May 2023.
- Three proponents submissions will be reviewed along with the Business Case
- More information will be available at the next Committee meeting.

8. Property NSW update

- GP provided an update on the Sapphire Coast Marine Discovery Centre (SCMDC) site stating that he is working with internal asset management team to evolve the property maintenance.
- SB added that DPIE are investigating options to remove existing fencing to allow pedestrian access, however there is no commitment yet.
- JA asked if there were any plans for the future of the site. GP advised that DPIE are exploring options to transfer the site to MIDO to form part of the broader expansion and redevelopment of the Maritime Precinct.
- AD reiterated that the site was included in the Maritime Precinct offering and are expecting the RFP proposals to include this land.
- RF noted that it has been 3-years since the site was demolished. With an expectation of 90,000 cruise visitors coming this season it is not acceptable to have the fence in place. RF queried if something temporary could be done or the site be rehabilitated. GP responded that DPIE are closer to being in a position to remove the fencing and replace with stones to enable pedestrian access.
- EW stated that Chamber of Commerce were told the services had been removed during demolition but later discovered they weren't. EW stated that, in addition to cruise, the Mountain Biking trails were about to open and the site is an eyesore.
- EW stated that the Chamber of Commerce regularly have to respond to the community regarding the site and stated that they just need to know something was happening. JA

supported EW's comments reiterating that the community is anxious and angry because it has been 3-years.

- SB reiterated that the fencing could be coming down in 4-6 weeks and will keep the community informed. GP stated that there was an Aboriginal land claim on the site and that DPIE were currently going through that process.
- GP acknowledged receipt of the letter from the Committee regarding the issue and will issue a formal response to the Port Authority email it was sent from.
- GP advised that DPIE would attend the next Committee meeting to provide an update.
- AD advised that the RFP closes on 26 May and that once responses have been reviewed they will know if there is interest from the private sector to redevelop the site, at which point they will let DPIE know. RF asked if there was going to be a masterplan. AD responded stating there was no funding available for a masterplan, and that no public finance had been offered to date.
- SB noted that DPIE applied to the Bushfire Relief fund for funding but were unsuccessful, therefore there was no Government funding for the site.

Action 2: DPIE to submit formal response to the Committees correspondence.

Action 3: DPIE to attend the next Committee meeting to provide an update on the SCMDC site.

9. BVSC - Public utilities and services

- RF requested PW to check Council's capacity to provide services such as water and sewage to the SCMDC site.

10. Questions and general business

- DW noted that the lack of seating in the viewing platforms had been raised at the Cruise Debrief and appreciated that BVSC were addressing it.
- JA asked about the oiling of the Eden Welcome Centre. NaG advised that the project is being discussed internally regarding budget and would not commence until after the road widening project. Timing will be determined based on ability to complete the project before the next cruise season.
- DM asked about floating pontoons for disembarking. NaG advised that Port Authority has not yet reached a decision.

Proposed next
meeting date

25 July 2023

10. Close of meeting

- There being no further business the meeting was closed at 6.12pm.