

Wamberal Seawall Advisory Taskforce Meeting Record (Meeting 15)

Location:	Microsoft Teams	
Date:	30 August 2022	
Time	Started at: 1.00pm	Closed at: 1.45pm
Chair	Dr. Phil Watson	

Members present:

Dr Phil Watson – Chair, Adam Crouch MP – State Government, David Farmer – Central Coast Council, Maria Plytarias – DPE Planning, Catherine Knight – DPE Crown Lands (on behalf of Tim Deverell).

Observers present:

Dr Alice Howe (Director, Environment and Planning, Central Coast Council).

Item 1 Welcome, Acknowledgement of Country and Apologies

Apologies received: Sharon Molloy – DPE Environment, Energy and Science, Tim Deverell – DPE Crown Lands.

The Chair welcomed the Taskforce and completed an Acknowledgement of Country. It was noted the meeting was being recorded for the purpose of minute taking.

Item 2 Disclosures of Interest

No disclosures were received.

Item 3 Confirmation of Previous Meeting Record

The minutes and action log for meeting No. 14 were formally finalised, endorsed and distributed to Taskforce members on 1 July 2022.

Item 4 Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting

The Taskforce discussed outstanding matters arising from previous meetings as summarised below.

- 4.1 Crown Lands update on management of residual land parcels: Catherine Knight advised that the Mean High Water Mark investigation relating to the residual land parcel and unformed Council road, have now been forwarded to Central Coast Council. The outputs of the investigation include maps and GIS shapefiles. This information should assist Council with enquiries regarding land ownership and boundaries along the Wamberal beachfront, noting that Crown Lands has been approached by representatives of the Wamberal Protection Association over recent weeks, regarding questions of land ownership and status.

Crown Lands' investigation into the ownership of the residual land and the heirs and successors to the estate, is largely complete. The title to the residual land was cancelled some years ago, and this matter is being investigated with NSW Land Registry Services.

The last registered proprietor of the land was Harold Clarke Thompson, however tracing the present-day beneficiaries of the residuary estate has proved a difficult task as it was left to seven persons. Although a historical investigation has been conducted into the estate, the current heirs and successors remain unknown.

Both Council and Crown Lands may have powers to acquire the residual land under the Land Acquisition (Just terms Compensation Act) 1991, where the identity or whereabouts of the owner are not known and provided the authority has undertaken due enquiry. However, there are other statutory requirements and impediments on the use of acquisition powers by either Council and Crown Lands, that need to be considered. Crown Lands will be writing to Council about the findings of the investigation and are happy to participate in further discussions.

Item 5 Update from Central Coast Council

Dr Alice Howe (Central Coast Council) provided an update from Central Coast Council. Dr Howe advised that public exhibition of draft Minimum Engineering Design Requirements (MEDR) for protection works along Wamberal has concluded, with 256 submissions received. These submissions will inform the final version of the MEDR, which will likely be considered by Council at its September meeting. Engagement with landowners of Section C is underway with respect to the approval process for this section of terminal protection works, and expert advice has been sought from the Department of Planning and Environment to support assessment of any development application to implement the MEDR. Clarification of the NSW Government's position with respect to its landholdings on Wamberal Beach is also being sought. Council is considering options to address ongoing sand nourishment of Wamberal Beach and is seeking NSW Government support to implement a state-wide solution.

Item 6 Update from the Chair

Phil Watson provided an update as Chair of the Taskforce.

- The Chair advised that he had completed a detailed technical review of the draft Minimum Engineering Design Requirements (MEDR) which had been provided to Council for their consideration as part of the consultation process.
- The Chair also noted the considerable number of submissions received by Council throughout the public exhibition, highlighting the level of interest in this aspect of the process. The Chair reiterated his keenness to see the MEDR work finalised, having considered the public exhibition feedback. The MEDR will constructively guide landowner efforts to prepare conforming DAs for protection works along Wamberal Beach to accord with the overarching strategy in the certified CZMP.

Item 7 General Business, Review of Task Log, Next Meeting Date and Close

The Taskforce reviewed the task log and noted all outstanding prior actions have now been completed.

The meeting closed at 1.45am

Next Meetings: Late November 2022
Time/Date TBC
Microsoft Teams

Minutes finalised and endorsed 13 September 2022.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Phil Watson', written in a cursive style.

Dr Phil Watson
Chair
Wamberal Seawall Advisory Taskforce

Wamberal Seawall Advisory Taskforce

Action Log

Action number	Meeting date	Action	Responsibility	Notes	Status
4	11/08/2020	Phil Watson and Gary Murphy to meet monthly (or on as needs basis) with affected landowners' representatives	Phil Watson / Central Coast Council (CCC)	Meetings occur as required	Ongoing
45	3/08/2021	Council to document procedures around approvals with view to progress a preferred option by year end following phase 2 community consultation. Update to be provided at next meeting.	Casey Johnston (CCC) / David Farmer (CCC)	Update provided at 14 October 2021 meeting	Complete
46	7/09/2021	Casey Johnston to review project plan with Phil Watson and bring to next Taskforce meeting.	Casey Johnston (CCC) / Phil Watson	Update provided at 14 October 2021 meeting	Complete
47	7/09/2021	Casey Johnston to distribute presentation provided at info sessions to Taskforce members and explore making similar information available on the YourVoiceOurCoast page.	Casey Johnston (CCC)	Distributed to Taskforce members by Casey Johnston on 17 February 2022.	Complete
48	7/09/2021	Phil Watson, David Farmer and Adam Crouch MP to meet to discuss the role of the Taskforce moving forward and any changes to tenure.	Phil Watson, David Farmer (CCC), Adam Crouch MP	Taskforce continuing	Complete
49	14/10/2021	Crown Lands to provide advice about grant funding available for Council.	Tim Deverell (DPIE Crown Lands)	Update provided at 18 November 2021 meeting	Complete
50	14/10/2021	Phil Watson to circulate press release on Amendment Bill to members.	Phil Watson	Phil circulated to members via email	Complete

Wamberal Seawall Advisory Taskforce Meeting Record (Meeting 14)

15 June 2022

Action number	Meeting date	Action	Responsibility	Notes	Status
51	14/10/2021	Scott Cox to keep members updated on progress of site visit to Northern Beaches.	Scott Cox (CCC)	Update provided at 18 November 2021 meeting	Complete
52	17/02/2022	Revised Terms of Reference.	All Members	All members to review and provide comments back to Chair on draft revised Terms of Reference by COB 25 February 2022. ToR revised and completed at Meeting No.14 (15 June 2022).	Complete
53	15/06/2022	Revised Terms of Reference.	Chair	Chair to circulate agreed ToR with Meeting No.14 Minutes for publishing on Council's website.	Complete