

Wamberal Seawall Advisory Taskforce Meeting Record (Meeting 8)

Location:	Microsoft Teams
Date:	29 June 2021
Time	Started at: 12.32pm Closed at: 1.13pm
Chair	Dr. Phil Watson

Members present:

Dr Phil Watson - Chair, Adam Crouch MP – State Government, David Farmer – Central Coast Council, Casey Johnston – Central Coast Council, Catherine Knight – DPIE Crown Lands (on behalf of Greg Sullivan), Sharon Molloy – DPIE Environment Energy and Science, Maria Plytarias – DPIE Planning.

Observers present:

Scott Cox – Central Coast Council, Michelle Fletcher – DPIE Environment Energy and Science, Ben Sheath – Office of Adam Crouch MP, Zoie Magann – Central Coast Council (Minute Taker).

Item 1 Welcome, Acknowledgement of Country and Apologies

Apologies received: Greg Sullivan – DPIE 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.

David Farmer (Central Coast Council) and Casey Johnston (Central Coast Council) were introduced as new Taskforce members. David is Council's Chief Executive Officer and Casey is the appointed Project Manager.

Item 2 Disclosures of Interest

No disclosures were received.

Item 3 Confirmation of Previous Meeting Record

The Taskforce confirmed the minutes from Meeting 7 held on 16 March 2021. The finalised minutes were also forwarded to the Minister's Office to comply with reporting requirements in accordance with the adopted Terms of Reference (TORs).

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 enquiries have been made with NSW Trustee and Guardian regarding *bona vacantia*, but the issue could not yet be resolved. Now awaiting probate documents ordered from the State Archives to determine historic ownership of the lot in question. Suggested that Council seek legal advice regarding whether lot can be acquired pending outcome of investigations, and regarding construction of a seawall on unformed Council road.

- 4.2 Update on NSW Government / Council sand nourishment discussions: Phil Watson advised discussions with Transport NSW about this are ongoing. There is a report going to the [29 June 2021 Ordinary Council Meeting](#) in relation to this matter (page 47 of agenda).
- 4.3 Update on grant variation submission and approval: Casey Johnston confirmed the variation has been approved, which will support the Phase 2 consultation being facilitated by MARA Consulting.

Other things to note:

- Render designs are being produced by TERRA. Renders are an architectural representation of what the different protection options considered will look like in the current landscape along Wamberal. Initial drafts were reviewed by Council and MHL with feedback provided to TERRA for incorporation and updating.
 - Reports from MHL studies will soon be made available on [Council's Your Voice Our Coast page](#) for community information. Noted the Cost Benefit Analysis report has been delayed.
 - Council has included funds for completing the MHL studies in 2021-22 budget.
- 4.4 Update on Project Manager position hand over: Casey Johnston has been appointed as the Project Manager for Council. Casey previously supported Paul Donaldson with the project so is well across the details.

Item 5 Central Coast Council Update

David Farmer (Central Coast Council) introduced himself to the Taskforce and provided an overview of Council's current status.

The following key points were noted:

- Council and the community have experienced a challenging few months with regard to Council's financial situation. The main focus of the organisation is to secure the financial future of Council to ensure it can sustainably address the needs of the community. Council's Financial Recovery Plan is online here: <https://www.centralcoast.nsw.gov.au/council/news/financial-recovery-plan>
- A Public Inquiry into Council is now underway: <https://www.centralcoast.nsw.gov.au/council/about-council/public-inquiry>. The Administrator, Mr Rik Hart, will remain in place for the duration of the Inquiry, and the outcome will determine Council's political future.
- The Operational Plan 2021-22 is going to the [29 June 2021 Ordinary Council Meeting](#) for adoption (page 9 of agenda).
- Council is committed to seeing the Wamberal project through, in acknowledgement the organisation has been distracted with responding to the scale of the financial situation.

Item 6 Update from the Project Manager

Casey Johnston (Central Coast Council) provided an update as Project Manager.

The following key points were noted:

- Staff met with MARA Consulting last week to discuss Phase 2 consultation. Feedback from Phase 1 (November 2020) was reviewed in preparation for the next round of engagement, noting the current situation with COVID also needs consideration.
- Rendering projects are underway by the consultant (TERRA). Renders provide the community with an illustrative representation of what the different protection options considered will look like in the current landscape along Wamberal. Once designs are received, they will be placed online so community members can consider them before the official consultation commences for Phase 2. Expected that consultation will commence late July 2021 – noted response from Transport NSW about possible sand nourishment sources will hopefully be received by then.
- Reiterated that Council has allocated funds in budget to complete the MHL studies and related engagement.
- MHL reports (stages 1-4) have been submitted to DPIE to claim relevant grants. Stage 5 is 95% complete, awaiting live website release to finalise the milestone. Stage 6 report is currently being reviewed by Council to provide comments back to MHL.

Taskforce members congratulated Casey for her work on the project and progress to date.

Item 7 Update from the Chair

Phil Watson noted updates were covered during Item 4, and thanked members for coming together for this meeting.

Phil noted good news that Phase 2 engagement will commence shortly, acknowledging there have been some delays but progress is happening.

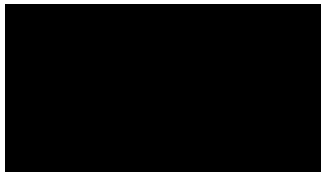
Item 8 General Business, Review of Task Log, Next Meeting Date and Close

The Taskforce reviewed the task log and noted action updates (see page 4).

The meeting closed at 1.13pm

Next Meetings: Tuesday 27 July 2021
10am – 12pm
Microsoft Teams

Minutes finalised and endorsed 8 July 2021.



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
14	8/09/2020	Paul Donaldson/Gary Murphy to circulate draft Coastal Erosion Policy to Taskforce members out of session.	Paul Donaldson (CCC)	29/6/21: Members agree action no longer relevant to project	Closed
19	13/10/2020	Paul Donaldson to provide update on potential sand sources following discussions with HCCDC contact.	Paul Donaldson (CCC)	Updates on sand nourishment provided as required (superseded by action 34)	Closed
26	13/10/2020	Paul Donaldson to finalise Project Plan and Governance Plan endorsed by Council	Casey Johnston (CCC)	29/6/21: action transferred to Casey as Project Manager Plan being drafted. Phil and Casey will progress offline and bring back to Taskforce when ready	Pending
34	16/02/2021	Phil Watson (DPIE) to facilitate the establishment of a sand nourishment working group between Northern Beaches Council and Central Coast Council. The Group to consider proposals for new sources of sand from various significant proposed infrastructure projects.	Phil Watson	29/6/21: working group has been established. Updates will continue to come to Taskforce as available	Complete
38	16/02/2021	Update Taskforce on management of residual land parcels, incorporating advice about road reserve option suggested by Malcolm Ryan.	Greg Sullivan (DPIE)	Update provided by Catherine Knight at 29 June 2021 meeting. Updates will continue to come to Taskforce as available	Complete
39	16/03/2021	Terms of Reference to be updated with further changes as discussed and re-circulated to	Phil Watson	Terms of Reference updated and placed on Council's website	Complete

Action number	Meeting date	Action	Responsibility	Notes	Status
		members. Amended copy to be placed on Council's website once provided.			
40	16/03/2021	Central Coast Council to facilitate filling of Project Manager role vacated by Paul Donaldson	Central Coast Council	Casey Johnston appointed to Project Manager role – attended 29 June 2021 meeting to provide updates	Complete