



Minutes of General Meeting – 24 August 2017

Held at Mapleton Bowls Club, Mapleton

1 Meeting opening, welcome and introductions

The meeting opened at 7:00 pm with President, Greg Smith in the chair. Greg welcomed attendees and acknowledged the Jinibara people, traditional owners of the land on which we are meeting.

The members of MADCA present, our hosts for the meeting, were also welcomed.

Greg reminded members that our meetings are open to delegates representing member organisations, members of those organisations and people invited to our meeting – eg representatives of prospective members, guest speakers etc.

Political candidates are not to attend without invitation from the Executive as this could get completely out of hand due to potential number of candidates in the 8 electorates. OSCAR or member organisations may hold forums for state candidates on LG issues.

We are keen to have member presentations at each meeting if possible but the President reminded members that viewpoints presented at OSCAR meetings are not necessarily the view of OSCAR or that we agree with such viewpoints.

2 Attendance

2.1. Present

Greg Smith and Bob Joubert (PSRA), Kathryn Hyman (STWWD), Charles Toms (ResDev), Melva Hobson (MCG), Lyn Saxton (DW), Gillian Hall (Fig Tee Telegraph), Tony Gibson (C&NSCC), Mark Jones (Coolum RA), Mike Gibson (EDV), Burnie Collins, Nita Lester and Max Standage (MADCA), Peter Baulch (YADCA), Kris Bullen (YCPA), Barry McDowall (MCG), Rob Thatcher (SPA), Narelle McCarthy (SCEC), Mike Goss and Barry McPhee (PBCH), Ken Keays and Susie Chapman (MCG)

Visitors: Fay Moss, Eve Kerr, Jacques Delporte, Mary Delporte, Eckhard Hempel (MADCA), Maxi Davidson, Cr Greg Rogerson (Division 10)

2.2. Apologies

Simon Cracknell, Johanne Wright (EDV), Bernard Keays (GMAN), Martin Peelgrane (MRA), Keith Sweatman (YADCA), Adriana Adamska-Bland (MRA), Marie Reeve (YADCA), Brian Raison (DW), Mike Perritt (ECNA), Angela Wilson

3 Minutes of previous meeting (distributed via website)

The attendees accepted the minutes of the general meeting held on 27 July 2017.

That the minutes of the previous meeting, with the amendments note, be accepted.

Moved: Tony Gibson

Seconded: Peter Baulch

Carried.

4 Business arising from previous minutes

4.1. Motion to join the QLGRA

That OSCAR apply for membership of the QLGRA and pay the annual \$50 membership fee.

Moved: Tony Gibson

Seconded: Peter Baulch

Carried.

4.2. Developer donation campaign

Greg suggested reading 'Game of Mates' by Cameron Murry who is a guest speaker at the QLGRA event to be held at Gympie on 2 & 3 September 2017.

Greg indicated that we had received responses from the LNP State members, Steve Dickson and Peter Wellington. Most responded (except Mr Wellington) to the effect that we should be calling for an end to Union donations as well. At the 2016 council elections there does not appear to be any evidence of union donations unlike the significant developer donations the bulk of which was made to Mayor Jamieson.

4.3. Tax Deductible Gift Recipient Reform Opportunities

The OSCAR submission, prepared by Melva Hobson, is on the OSCAR website (along with other submission made by OSCAR). It appears that these "reforms" would make it difficult for community groups to operate effectively due to the proposed new regulations.

4.4. OSCAR response to 6 July SCRC "meeting"

Melva provided an outline of reasons for the letter – Shaping SEQ, failure of process etc

In the first instance, OSCAR writes to the SCRC Mayor seeking his response to our (as outlined in Attachment 1 of the Agenda).

Moved: Melva Hobson

Seconded: Kris Bullen

Carried.

4.5. MRECG update

The first public consultation held in Coolum was inadequate and held in too small a venue to accommodate the forum. It was stated that around 40 people attended the Caloundra venue and around 300 people attended the Maroochydore event. The community is sending a clear message to Council – people predominately want geotextile groyne and it may appear that Council are recalibrating its position and seem more willing to concede there may be factors that were not taken into account in previous recommendations and limitations in the report on the cost benefit analysis. OSCAR was successful in its bid for membership of the MRECG and Susie Chapman is our nominated representative.

OSCAR members were encouraged to contact Councillors to strengthen the argument. Susie Chapman suggested that following the public session she had just attended at Maleny that night, opinion had changed somewhat, there was longer question time for example, it was alluded that the retention of the sand bags is now on the table to be looked at more thoroughly as the veracity of the cost benefit analysis may be too narrow. Members were encouraged to take part in the survey being conducted by council.

It was also suggested that given the process was supposed to start in May 2017, time constraints may make it impossible for Council to meet its December decision timeframe.

5 Correspondence

5.1. Inwards

Letter from Jackie Trad, Deputy Premier re our Planning Scheme amendments representation.

Letters/emails from Andrew Powell, Jarrod Bleijie, Glenn Elmes, Steve Dickson and Peter Wellington re developer donations.

Emails re from Chris Allen re MRECG.

Email from Victoria Nelson re progress in relation to availability of Councillor Registers of Interest on SCRC website.

5.2. Outwards

Submission to Federal Treasury re Tax Deductible Gift Recipient Reform.

OSCAR letters to Premier, Deputy Premier, LG Minister, Attorney-General, Opposition Leader and Shadow Attorney-General re developer donations.

Emails to Sunshine Coast state members re developer donations.

Member updates – 30 July, 7, 10 and 20 August 2017.

6 Financial report

6.1. OSCAR funds

Treasurer Charles Toms tabled the Financial Report and advised that the bank balance is \$3,128.02 with un-deposited cheques totalling \$70.00.

Income statement			
Income		Expenses	
Donations	100.00	Part payment 2 – website setup	(\$200.00)
Total Income	\$120.00	Total Expenses	(\$200.00)

Balance Sheet as at 24 August 2017			
Assets		Liabilities	
Opening bank balance	\$190.92		\$0.00
Plus Income received	\$4,341.00		
Plus Income not yet banked	\$70.00		
Less Expenses	(\$1,403.90)		
Closing bank balance	\$3,198.02	Total Liabilities	\$0.00

7 Membership report

7.1. Membership applications

The President tabled an application from two organisation seeking membership of OSCAR.

That the Seaside Shores Community Association Inc be confirmed as a member of OSCAR.

Moved: Tony Gibson

Seconded: Charles Toms

Carried.

There was some discussion regarding the agenda of the SCAI and the extent to which it was compatible with OSCAR's objectives. There was also concern expressed about OSCAR's reputation being tarnished with Noosa Council. It was further suggested that any member group applying for membership should comply with and adhere to OSCAR's principles. Narelle McCarthy expressed reservations about SCAI potential membership but indicated it would be unfair to exclude them as a member at this stage.

That the Sunshine Coast Alliance Inc Association be confirmed as a member of OSCAR.

Moved: Tony Gibson

Seconded: Bob Joubert

Carried.

8 General business

8.1. SCRC budget

Charles Toms proposed writing a letter to the SCRC re financial transparency and governance (as outlined in Attachment 2 of the Agenda).

Approve sending a letter to SCRC raising concerns about the 2017/18 SCRC Budget and requesting information about its business units.

Moved: Charles Toms

Seconded: Tony Gibson

Carried.

8.2. Gecko approach re Development assessment and approval processes

The issue of supporting Gecko's (Gold Coast and Hinterland Environment Council) letter to Deputy Premier was deferred until next OSCAR meeting.

8.3. OSCAR role leading up to forthcoming State election

Greg raised this issue and suggested that it is something OSCAR could investigate and asked member groups to consider if it is appropriate. Are member groups interested in hosting candidate forums across the Coast sponsored by OSCAR?

8.4. Survey of member organisations

Tony Gibson proposed a survey of member opinions (as outlined in Attachment 3 of the Agenda) be conducted.

Approve the undertaking of a member survey to establish the issues to address for excellence in local government as well as establishing matters to be addressed with candidates in future Council elections.

Moved: Tony Gibson

Seconded: Kathryn Hyman

Carried.

8.5. OSCAR individual membership

This item was deferred as Simon Cracknell was unable to attend the meeting.

8.6. MADCA presentation on the sewerage “pump-out” issue

Burnie Collins provided an update on this issue. Council originally subsidised the cost of Pump Out when it encouraged people to install this system, now it is user pays and people are locked into a system with enormous costs. It was agreed that council has allowed subdivisions into very small lots that cannot support onsite waste treatment forcing people to use Pump Out – the obvious question resonated, “why did Council allow such subdivisions”?

Reasons against Pump Out: odour, cost, health hazards, environmental hazards, difficulty selling property. There was much discussion and it was agreed the pump out option ‘stinks’! It is a decision made by Council that has had punitive effects on rate payers, it is unfair that ALL Sunshine Coast residents and rate payers are not provided with an essential service provided to other residents of the Sunshine Coast. Possible options available include; reticulated sewerage systems, onsite sewerage treatment and disposal systems, septic tank trench systems and holding tanks. It was explained that Maleny was recently sewered and it was surmised by Cr Rogerson that this was related to population discrepancy. The general consensus was that this was Council’s responsibility and that an increase in rates negated the responsibility of Council to supply sewerage solutions to rate payers as an essential service.

Melva suggested it was an issue for OSCAR to take up and recommended we urge council that they do not allow further subdivisions until this is resolved. Bob Joubert raised important points regarding our region being promoted as a first rate “city” with and international airport, the new CBD, Solar Farm, state of the art waste disposal facilities for the CBD, a highly esteemed University, costing rate payers hundreds of millions of dollars It was moved that:

OSCAR write to the Council asking for council to rectify the red tape between it and Unity Water as a matter of urgency and to incorporate pump out costs into general expenditure to deliver an essential service to all ratepayers.

Moved: Bob Joubert

Seconded: Lyn Saxton

Carried.

Further discussion regarding Council expenditure led to the suggestion that OSCAR correspond with Council to request a second action:

To request Council provide a breakdown of the \$300,000 pa administration costs for administering the current sewerage system and request that further subdivisions cease until the matter is resolved.

Moved: Melva Hobson

Seconded: Lyn Saxton

Carried.

8.7. Other items from the floor

None.

9 Meeting dates for future General Meeting

The next general meeting will be held at 7 pm on Thursday 14 September 2017 at the North Shore Community Centre, 701 David Low Way, Mudjimba.

10 Meeting close

The meeting closed at 9:30 pm.