

OLD BAR BEACH SAND REPLENISHMENT GROUP INC

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IT IS HOPED YOU ALL HAD A GOOD CHRISTMAS AND THE NEW YEAR IS TREATING YOU WELL

Seems like joint newsletter are becoming the “in practice” but when we start to get action from the NSW Government we will have reason to return to once monthly reporting of our progress. It is all so much procrastination - find another complication to delay protection of our beach.

Again I must complement the MidCoast Council on the effort that is being applied to our coastal problems – Andrew Staniland the Coastal Management Coordinator meets with our group once a month and has prepared the following very comprehensive report for our newsletter on what I call

“the big work for the beach”

Navigational dredging funding -

- Minister Toole and MP Bromhead announced State funding for dredging. This funding will undertake a few dredging locations in the MidCoast Council area. The commencement date for these works are expected to be within 2019. Presently Council is investigating if it is possible to have one contractor undertake all the dredging projects Council has to consider.
- Navigation dredging will occur within Scotts and South Creek in the Manning River. Dredged sand spoil has been identified to be placed on the northern side of Farquhar. This was done for two reasons, firstly the cost to pump further than this location makes the navigation dredging cost prohibitive, secondly, with the northerly movement it is proposed this placement will be beneficial for Manning Point.

Sand scraping -

- The licence to undertake the works has been received from Department of Crown Lands & Water. Council will now work to formally secure the assistance from James Carley. James and his team will advise when the best time to undertake the works. Plus they will undertake monitoring of the scraped material. We know that the scraped sand will be removed by the ocean, but at what rate? The study that James' team will undertake will give Council information to guide future sand scraping or sand nourishment campaigns. It is envisaged that this monitoring will advise the optimum amount of sand to be placed on the beach to provide the best result for the longest possible time.

Old Bar / Manning Point Coastal Management Program (CMP) -

- The planned process on how to generate the CMP has been swapped around. Council were always planning on undertaking a cost benefit analysis (CBA)* as part of the CMP project. However, initially this was to be undertaken towards the end of the project. Upon review, Council will commence this CBA sooner.
- Council meets with staff representatives from the Office of Environment and Heritage, Department of Industry Crown Lands & Water plus independent coastal scientists about the CMP and progress to date. At the next meeting, discussion will be based around the CBA, in

addition to other outstanding matters, such as the Ed Couriel report. The next meeting is to occur in February (date yet to be confirmed).

- *Cost Benefit Analysis (CBA) - looks at coastal management from an economical view point. From this perspective potential solutions are shown how they can be costed and by whom. This is generated by looking at all manner of economic data for the MidCoast Council area.

Racecourse Creek Flood Study and Risk Management Plan Grant application -

- Council initially submitted this grant to the Flood Management Grant application last year, but Council's submission was unsuccessful
- Council has resubmitted this grant application to the Coast and Estuary Grant funding round that closed on 30 January. Council will advise if we were successful with this funding, once it is announced.
- If successful the grant will focus on how Racecourse Creek moves across Old Bar Beach, and the potential wave run up and flooding issues for the rest of the creek and Pacific Parade during these events.

Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) -

- As part of the work to support the CMP, Council will contract an coastal engineering specialist to undertake GPR in Old Bar and Manning Point. GPR is (quite literally) an ultrasound for the earth. The radar will detect durable material (rock) and determine if it will be strong enough to withstand wave pressures. From this information, the contractor will generate maps to show how any durable material may assist with the management of coastal hazards. This information will prove extremely useful in the development of the CMP.

Manning Valley Coastal Zone Management Plan (CZMP)* -

- Council received advice from the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) on the 2nd January 2018, that the Manning Valley CZMP required minor amendments to permit certification. Following alterations to the document, Council resubmitted the CZMP for certification on 18th January 2018. The alterations undertaken for certification have not altered the actions or the overall intent of the document. OEH will review the document and certify the document.
- OEH will advise of certification. Council will officially 'make' the document (at a subsequent Council meeting) and send it for Government Gazette as per requirements of the Coastal Protection Act 1979.
- *The Manning Valley Coastal Zone Management Plan - is the plan that covers from Crowdy Head south to Blackhead (excluding Old Bar and Manning Point).

FARQUHAR INLET- The Navigational Dredging spoken of in Andrew's report relates to clearing "navigational Channels" in Farquhar and these are badly needed and will assist the tourist industry and I am told the oyster farmers. However our major need is for the dredging of sand from Farquhar as carefully identified in the Worley Parsons Farquhar Inlet Opening Management Plan (2010 – yes 8 years ago). From where we view the problem of restoring sand to our beach, our preferred option is to adapt the Worley Parsons "inland lake with notch" plan and utilise the sand (30,000 cu.metres = 2 kmx1.5mx10m) on Old Bar Beach.

GABION WALL – BADGER'S BEACH - If you have visited Badger's Beach during these last few weeks of heavy seas you will have noted that the beach created after the gabion wall was built (1992 – I have attached the comparison photos) is still holding firm, whilst the beach north, especially in front of the surf club, has been badly eroded,. A couple of times over these weeks parts of the wall were exposed, but for the whole it was mostly covered,

doing the work for which it was installed, protecting the 11 houses south from being undermined by the creek and being swallowed up by the sea.

“the hard work for the beach”-

SAND TRAPS -That doesn't leave much for me to report on except what I class as the “hard work” done by a group of keen volunteer workers looking to protect the beach in any way they can led by Barbara Fogarty and Pat Abdoo. Pieta at Manning Coast Care works with us and has obtained a licence for work south of Racecourse Creek by way of sand traps – She has also obtained a grant for this work and we have the material which was recovered from the failed dune fencing to help.

We found that the sand traps worked, being placed at an angle to the foredune, as against the dune fencing running parallel to the dune. The dune fencing just got washed away with the strength of the strong ocean and we can only assume that is because there is too little beach.

The group now intend propagating cuttings of pigface and sand Spinifex to plant behind the traps, so need polystyrene boxes please, and volunteers to take them home and water them until it's time to transplant. If you are able to help please contact me – 0407 229 145.

FUND RAISING

Our first Bunnings Barbecue of 2018, January 27, was very successful thanks to the hard work of Master Chef, Ian Dimmock, money collector & sandwich deliverer, Lindsay Higson, and all round helper, Bob Galvin. We don't raise a lot of funds from these Bunnings Barbecues, but they were our only source of income and served well to keep our name and work to the forefront of the locals. However after at least 8 years of these and being totally exhausted after January 27, I have called a stop, and we won't be doing any more.

on that sad note I say

REMEMBER

**“TO DO NOTHING IS DISASTER – WE MUST DO
SOMETHING”**

MY MOTTO

SAND ON THE BEACH “ANY WHICH WAY”

ELAINE PEARCE – PRESIDENT – mob. 0407 229 145