



**Koolewong and Point Clare - Tascott Progress Association Inc.  
including West Gosford south of the Central Coast Highway  
P O Box 193 Woy Woy NSW 2256**

**Email: [kpctpa@bigpond.com.au](mailto:kpctpa@bigpond.com.au)**

**Web Site: [www.kpctpa.com](http://www.kpctpa.com)**

**Mobile: 0412 462 218**

**General Meeting Minutes: 7.30 PM Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> September, 2014  
Point Clare Community Hall  
49 Brisbane Water Drive Point Clare. NSW 2250**

**WELCOME TO ALL MEMBERS and VISITORS.**

**GUEST SPEAKER-** The Association has foregone a guest speaker for this meeting and instead will host a special interest talk :-

**Brisbane Water Floodplain Risk Management Study –  
Recommendations for Floor Planning Levels**

**By member Gary Slack**

**The Brisbane Water Floodplain Risk Management Study was commissioned by Gosford City Council to investigate requirements to manage flooding problems in the area.**

**The Study found 2 processes were involved in elevating the water levels to cause inundation. The first was ocean surge. Ocean surge is caused by east coast lows that produce large ocean waves and elevated sea levels. This was found to be the major cause of flooding in the Brisbane Waters. The second, also caused by east coast lows, is stormwater which flows into the system from the heavy rain produced by the storm. Because the major component is ocean surge, the water levels rise slowly and the waters are passive with little movement or currents. This makes the flooding safer than in most other scenarios as in rivers and creeks where the water moves at high velocity and can wash away objects such as cars.**

**The Koolewong, Tascott and Point Clare area is also fortunate in that is adjacent to hills and easy evacuation to high ground is possible. This is not the case for areas like Davistown.**

**The Study has mapped the extent of flooding for varying circumstances. The extent of water inundation and water depth has been documented for 1 in 5year, 1 in 20year, 1 in 100 year and PMF, probable maximum floods ( the biggest possible flood in the perfect storm). The study recommended that 1 in 100 years figures be used to formulate Council policies.**

**This area experienced a major flood in 1974. It was regarded as a 1 in 100 year event although some experts regarded it as a 1 in 200 years event. Accurate and extensive measurements were made in this flood and water level achieved are extremely useful in confirming data in the document and in developing strategies to tackle future floods. It also provided valuable information as to what floor level height of houses was necessary to be above flood water level. It was also found that flood water was deeper in Gosford than other areas as the southerly winds banked up the water on the northern side of the system. The height of water in Gosford was 1.91Metres AHD, whereas Koolewong was 1.63AHD.**

Another factor that needs to be considered in flood planning is sea level rise. The State Government has advised that councils should plan for a 0.4metre rise by 2050 and a 0.9 metre rise by the year 2100. These are generous estimates and are considered overestimates in new research. South Coast councils are using 0.26metres at 2050 in their planning documents.

Water levels at Fort Denison are rising at 0.76millimetres a year at present and gauges in the Brisbane Water measuring approximately a 2 millimetre rise per year at present.

A new concept being considered in the study is impact of wind waves. Strong winds will drive waves on shore during floods and wave run up can occur. Council is planning to make it compulsory for strategies to be in place to prevent any such wave reaching the floor level of the house. It should be stressed however that wind waves are very different to ocean swell and will not cause the same damage. Many suggestions for methods to control wave run up are outlined in the study. Council has agreed to treat each property individually when assessing wave run up protection. Many other flood mitigation strategies have been evaluated. Some feasible and currently being implemented like non return valves on storm water outlets and some expensive and unlikely to be implemented like tidal flood gates at Half Tide Rocks.

Flood management options have been placed into 2 categories – Flood Modification and Property Modification. Flood modification addresses holding back the flood water, whereas property modification looks at modifying building to ensure the flood does minimal damage. Elevated floor levels in houses is an example of this. The Council has produced pamphlets outlining these strategies for various areas and one is available for Koolewong, Tascott and Green point and one for West Gosford and Point Clare.

Other things addressed in the study include evacuation plans for residents in all areas. In order for residents can get out easily and flood affected roads have been identified. The study has also looked at damage and cost of damage that will be caused by floods. The Council has just completed a survey of floor levels of all houses in the floodplain. Photos have also been taken of houses and an attempt will be made to use a system similar to Google Earth to indicate where a 1 in 100 year flood level will rise to on a house. Floor level data will be sold to insurance companies and will be made available to home owners. It is assumed the when insurance companies have this information, insurance premiums will vary depending on the floor level of the house and be cheaper for most. The Council proposal for floor level planning for future homes is as follows. The formula will be the still water level experienced in the 1974 flood + 0.4 metres for sea level rise + either 0.3 or 0.4 or 0.5 metres freeboard. From the property owners perspective the 0.3 metre freeboard is the best option. In most peoples views all freeboards provide ample protection and the 0.3 option requires fewer steps for the elderly, require less steep access ramps for the disabled, lower insurance premiums, lower building costs, less costly structures to prevent wave run up, better building design flexibility.

A recommendation will be that the Association write to the Council requesting this option and a motion was moved direction later. The Council seems to be favoring the 0.5metre option to possibly to provide a better demonstration of duty of care and to avoid possible future litigation.

A Council officer has requested a meeting with the Association Executive Gary Slack then moved the motion “That this Association write to the Council requesting that the still water level + 0.4metre sea level rise + 0.3 freeboard for floor planning levels be adopted by the Council as part of the Brisbane Water Floodplain Risk Management Plan’.

The President then chaired discussion and questions.

The motion was then put and passed.

The meeting was advised that further information was available by attending Council presentations on at :- 2.30 to 5.30 18<sup>th</sup> September, Peninsular Community Centre, Woy Woy or 4.30 to 9.39 8<sup>th</sup> October, Erina Library, Erina Fair.

Gary Slack was thanked for the presentation.

1. **Attendees:17, Visitors 3. Apologies 7.**
2. **Apologies. Laraine and Ken Goodworth. Jill Greenwood. Kate and Peter McDonald. Robert Findlay, Deirdre Howard-Wagner.**

3. **Acceptance of Minutes from previous General Meetings:  
July 2014. Held over to next meeting for add ins of Jon Fearon notes.**

4. **Treasurers Report: John Rossi- Introduce a Gold Coin Donation Box.**  
Funds available \$5262.15 – cashbook \$2438.21  
Reserve acc \$2823.94  
Moved John Rossi 2<sup>nd</sup> Lesley Brown.

#### 5. CORRESPONDANCE OUT:

- a) KPCT Prog Assoc Submission to Parliamentary Inquiry into EPA FINAL.pdf re Rail Freight passing through our Suburbs.  
We will email out submission and attach to Website. And Facebook.

#### 6. CORRESPONDANCE IN:

- a) [www.tec.org.au/](http://www.tec.org.au/) for Parks, open space and the urban environment.
- b) [Cardiff Citizens Alliance](#) [cardiffcia@gmail.com](mailto:cardiffcia@gmail.com) **Freight Train Noise.**
- c) [Hillary.Morris@gosford.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Hillary.Morris@gosford.nsw.gov.au) Re Goodaywang Reserve Volunteers
- d) [Sharon.Moore@gosford.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Sharon.Moore@gosford.nsw.gov.au) re Newcastle Permanent Charitable Foundation Community Grants Workshop
- e) [Lucy.Wicks.MP@aph.gov.au](mailto:Lucy.Wicks.MP@aph.gov.au) 2000 new local jobs for Gosford
- f) [Robert.Baker@gosford.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Robert.Baker@gosford.nsw.gov.au) re Draft Brisbane Water Floodplain Risk Management Study-Exhibition Document 20<sup>th</sup> August-12 November.2014
- g) [baysbulletin@hotmail.com](mailto:baysbulletin@hotmail.com) The Bays Bulletin Community Newsletter
- h) [Alison.Amos@gosford.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Alison.Amos@gosford.nsw.gov.au) Inner Wheels Interest Meeting
- i) [Sharon.Moore@gosford.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Sharon.Moore@gosford.nsw.gov.au) re Community Facility Support Program providing assistance to Management Committees that manage local community facilities.
- j) GCC Invitation to attend Status of Women Committee
- k) GCC Community Engagement Update Brisbane Water Foreshore Floodplain
- l) **BPN Important: Snap action tomorrow: Business Voting Bill**
- m) **RE: Couche Park Replacement Stairway from Couche Crescent**
- n) Neighbor Hood Watch Information Day on Wednesday 22nd October, 2014.
- o) [http://www.ipart.nsw.gov.au/Home/Industries/Local\\_Govt/Reviews/Fit\\_for\\_the\\_future/Review\\_of\\_Fit\\_for\\_the\\_future\\_criteria/News/Final\\_Report\\_released\\_on\\_criteria\\_for\\_Fit\\_for\\_Future\\_councils](http://www.ipart.nsw.gov.au/Home/Industries/Local_Govt/Reviews/Fit_for_the_future/Review_of_Fit_for_the_future_criteria/News/Final_Report_released_on_criteria_for_Fit_for_Future_councils)

#### 7: GENERAL BUSINESS:

- 1) **Review of regulation of railway systems activities under the Protection of the Environment**

**Operations Act 1997 – Fred Beringer to comment. Fred mentioned that he has had recent contact with the Northern Rail Noise Assoc and Cardiff Alliance Rail Noise Community.**

2) **EDO NSW** <[edonsw@edonsw.org.au](mailto:edonsw@edonsw.org.au)>

<https://www.facebook.com/edonsw> **Helen suggested that we contact this department re non compliance of rail freight noise**

3) **Kincumber Centenary School of Arts Celebration**

4) **Jon Fearon Weeds in Goodawang Reserve.**

Goodawang reserve is our special baby. The reserve is being returned to bush.

Contains Iron Bark trees, contractors have been brought in to do the weeding.

The weeding is what we are doing at the moment. Jon has examples of 5 weeds that need to be eradicated. Council are employing a contractor every Wednesday.

Main weeds to be removed; Asparagus Fern. Bridal Creeper, Polygala has pink flowers. Crofton weed and Lantana. Council has requested volunteers for this Bushcare.

Jon would like to encourage you to attend on Wednesday morning, funding is not going to be forever. We ourselves can keep on weeding the reserve.

Please let Jon know if you are interested.

5) **Leslie Brown would like to move a motion to have the wild rabbits eradicated by Gosford City Council.** - Rabbits are eroding along the foreshore banks.

Motion lost 9 to 8 votes. Deciding vote by President Rendall Wagner.

**Next Guest Speaker: Danielle Coleman**

**NATURE CONSERVATION COUNCIL NSW**



**Next General Meeting 13th November 2014**

**CLOSE OF MEETING: 9.10PM Followed by a light Super.**

**Minutes Secretary**  
**Helen Orchard**

**Chairperson**  
**Rendall Wagner**

**President**  
**Rendall Wagner**