



WTKCA AGM 8 July 2024

Michael J. Allsop

The Wagstaffe to Killcare Community Association ends its financial year at the end of February. This report covers our activities from 1 March 2023 to 29 February 2024. We usually try to hold our AGM in May but for various reasons this year it is a little later. For the sake of interest we include additional commentary covering the 4 months subsequent to close of our financial year bringing us up to AGM date.

Activities and Achievements

We had a full program of activities during the FY. The standard weekday activities in the Hall continued strongly, tennis court usage was good the court itself kept in good order, while hire of the Hall for weekend events was bolstered by some concerts with strong community attendance. The WTKCA events of Trash and Treasure and Book Fair both provided record levels of income for the association and could not have happened without the massive efforts put in by community volunteers. Trash and Treasure 2024 continued this successful formula subsequent to the end of our FY. The last event in the FY was Australia Day 2024 which followed the recent format at the rear of the Hall. This was very well attended and received several comments praising its format and the messages of the speakers. The collection was donated to the Killcare Surf Club this year.

In addition to these “operational” activities, the Association continued its advocacy for the amenity of the community more broadly. We had several particular achievements including the introduction of a shuttle ferry service during dredging operations, revised ferry timetable, sealing of Albert St Wagstaffe, landscape improvements at Wagstaffe Wharf and basketball / netball court improvements in Turo Park. We continued to advocate for the approval of the proposed mobile comms tower at Killcare Heights, the improvement of the Empire Bay Drive / Wards Hill Road intersection and the reconstruction of the Half Tide Rocks Track.

We continue to lead the development of a Hardys Bay Foreshore Masterplan as a co-operative effort with the Hardys Bay Residents Group and a splendid group of local urban design, planning, architecture and landscape architecture professionals. This has included briefings with senior officers and directors in Council as well as several local community workshops, resulting in formal documentation of a very high standard. The immediate next phase of work is in support of Council itself, who have committed to undertake a program of community consultation as a necessary approach to refinement and adoption of the plan itself, with a program of individual improvement projects to follow over the next few years. Without planting this seed, nothing would have happened and the dilapidation of our foreshore and adjacent roads would have continued unaddressed. The Association will continue to advocate for the execution of these projects in years to come, along with the support of our political representatives.

As we move into the latter part of 2024, the Central Coast Council will exit its period of Administration and come under the supervision of elected councillors once more. The Association will need to forge relationships with our specific Ward representatives as well as with other councillors who may have a bearing on the priority of attention needed for our area.

Financial Position

We continued our sound approach to management of the finances of the Association. Our successful fundraising activity, both through regular operations and events (eg Trash & Treasure), enabled expenditure on community projects which closely matched funds raised. Through improved interest rates we also saw a good contribution to reserves from interest on our term deposits. We maintain sound reserves for maintenance of Wagstaffe Hall, Turo Park Tennis Court and future Half Tide Rocks contribution to NPWS. The Association will review the latter in light of slow and reluctant progress by NPWS.

Subsequent to the end of our FY, we were advised of success in our application for a NSW Government Grant to be put towards renovations to the kitchen in Wagstaffe Hall. We will top this up with contributions from our reserves to ensure a top quality result fit for purpose.

Incoming Committee

Graeme Anderson acted as presiding officer for the formalities of committee election. We had 2 retirements (Barry Freeman and Helen Hill) whose contributions received a vote of thanks from the meeting. 6 members nominated for re-election and 2 new members were nominated, all of whom were duly recorded by the Secretary in advance and in accordance with our Constitution. As all positions were filled, there was no requirement for election, and all nominees were duly appointed. The committee as appointed comprises: Mike Allsop (President), Ian Bull (Secretary), Richard Urquhart (Treasurer/VP), Robyn Warburton, Martin Sieper, Bill Gregor, Noelene Brasche and Debbie Watson.

Please feel free to contact any of them if there are matters you would like to discuss. I would like to personally thank all returning members of the committee for their work and dedication to the community, and to thank our new members for joining in the efforts.

Guest Speaker – Jeremy Cox, Electrify Bouddi

Jeremy sent his apologies on the day of the meeting due to being delayed out of town but forwarded presentation materials to Mike Allsop, who presented on his behalf.

Electrify Bouddi is a new community group established with the intention of advocating reductions in energy usage at large and reductions in consumption of fossil fuels in particular. They have a governing committee and a growing list of interested members, with particularly enthusiastic response from younger families in the community. At the neighborhood level they are offering advice to residents about energy matters as well as analyzing the potential for both greater adoption of solar generation capacity and sharing of that capacity more broadly across the community, especially sites where solar panel installation may not be possible. Different interest groups within their community of interest also focus on the merits of home batteries, electric vehicles and the potential for EV charging. The Electrify Bouddi group hold regular meetings at Hardys Bay Club where interested residents are welcome to attend.

In Closing

WTKCA maintains relationships with all community groups in our area with a view to providing mutual support wherever possible. Many of our members are also involved in these other groups, and our focus can be applied to specific issues as they arise in conjunction with the efforts of others. We will continue this position in community advocacy to the benefit of all.