

LANE COVE COUNTRY CLUB

(Trading as Lane Cove Golf Club)

EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 7 AUGUST 2017 AT 7.30 PM

In Attendance Golfing Members (51):

James Abbott	Maureen Dunn	Ben Leckie	Norman Sarajinsky
Seppo Ahlstedt	Bill Edmondson	Andrew Limmer	Robyn Seale
Hamish Anderson	John Erasmus	Stuart McDonald	Howard Shaw
Margot Anderson	Walter Heim	Michael Meade	Mike Smith
Cindy Brown	Robin Horne	Wayne Meader	Greg Stephenson
Ian Butters	Frank Hurford	Kerin Moorehead	Margaret Tanner
Doug Cameron	Rosemary Hurford	Margaret Murden	Fraser Taylor
Alasdair Caush	Ron Jeffrey	Vanna Mutton	Nicolette Thorpe
Andrew Corish	Paul Johnson	Yve Nikellys	Bruce Trevena
Monica Cowper	Linda Jones-Meader	John Notley	Barry Watkins
Brian Doherty	Sue Kallas	Susan Ridd	Graham Webster
Mark Dooley	Paul Kelly	Jan Sadler	Alan Winney
Suzique Doughty	Janet Lean	Ralph Sadler	

In Attendance Social Members (5):

Meryl Horne	Kent Lipman	Max Thorpe
Gillian Levett	Anthony Powter	

Apologies Golfing Members (9):

Wayne Belgre	Robyn Glover	David McFarlane
Claire Climpson	Jeff Hickson	Alan Moss
Peter Doherty	Marie Hucker	Joan Weine

Apologies Social Members (1):

David Brooks-Horn

Michael Meade opened the meeting and appraised Member of the reasons for holding this meeting.

Ian Butters spoke (for over 30 minutes) and went through the slide presentation prepared by MM – main points being:

- We won't sign a lease unless the Second Schedule is replaced in full
- Land has to be defined
- Precise nature of proposed redevelopment must be detailed by LCC before we sign lease
- Public land – Council is charged with managing public asset

Ralph Sadler spoke next but not for long

Michael Meade reiterated the three options the Board is putting to the meeting to resolve the impasse.

Following are the questions and comments below from those present:

Barry Watkin - Stated the course is on books that Council own asset – however it is designated as Crown Land not NSW Govt land.

Michael Meade , in referring to the PowerPoint presentation which stated the Club was completed and opened in 1964. Around 1983 got into financial difficulties and not wanting to be involved in running a golf club handed the building over to LCC who took control of running the golf course and we took control of running the Members.

John Notley as an early member of the sporting committee, mentioned it was Council's idea to charge commercial rents despite clubs having built them. Suggested the Club send a letter to each of the Councillors making them aware of our situation.

Paul Johnson - will Council just push letter to one side? – broader issue - test if community would be supportive- may not be too concerned about building but would be interested in losing the golf course.

Brian Doherty – asked if the Councillors are well enough informed. If decision to send final letter recommended if no positive response we follow option 2 – going to the wider community.

Suzique Doughty – recommended going to Council Meeting – each speaker 3 minutes – we demand answers to letters - we should get many members there and fill Council room.

Sue Kallas –endorsed suggestion of informing Councillors.

Anthony Powter – no notes taken – (told later that he will write article for next issue of “Golf Grinder”).

Robin Horne – concrete proposal – Rushcutters Bay - we went to Council and Clover backed down – supported Suzique Doughty's suggestion of a group attending the Council Meeting.

Michael Meade – Informed the meeting we do have a number of supportive Councillors – when David Brooks-Horn Mayor tried very hard to help with the lease.

Greg Stephenson –David Brooks-Horn comes to Club regularly and is aware of the situation.

Vanna Mutton – Include a final date for response to letter otherwise we will go to 2.

Barry Watkin – we have short time frame before next election – 5 weeks – short time frame to put local pressure and request action – go straight to wider community – Councillors & staff too busy with forthcoming election – go to option 2 now.

Stuart MacDonald – option 2 if no response from Council within 7 days.

Max Thorpe – protocol re letter to Council and councillors. Advise councillors all get a copy of any communication from the Club to the Council.

Ralph Sadler – Councillors probably only read Executive Summaries in papers given them prior to Council meetings.

Wayne Meader – No.2 only way to go – has previously been to Council meetings on local matters – the Pottery Green case where the Council backed off and reversed the decision to use it for temporary parking.

Susan Ridd – what is resolution – interview in North Shore Times – people interested in green space being under threat – real golf game is 18 holes.

Cindy Brown – commented less than 20% of people read the North Shore Times – stalls on streets – outside shops – happy to be part of group.

Ian Butters – stated people are interested in green space rather than golf – talked about problems with 17th green – he is keen on No.2.

Local radio stations was also suggested as an option to get message to the wider community.

Vanna Mutton – suggested having public meeting.

Michael Meade – has and will speak further with Jackie Barker “In the Cove”.

Janet Lean – have to be very specific in what we are doing.

Ralph Sadler – gave story of tree trimming – safety fence – trial cutting hit off times from 10 minutes to 8 minutes didn't work – no Marketing Plan from Scott Riley despite numerous requests.

John Erasmus – what do we want? – how do we put pressure on Council? – specific action is required.

Ian Butters explained we need to be very specific when going public.

Michael Meade – online petitions.

Graham Webster – 4 things in lease – re-establishment of BBT – definition of land – clarity of our facilities – resolution clause.

Stuart McDonald – have to be specific what we do if Councillors and Council don't respond.

Ian Butters – way to put pressure on Council it is not their fiefdom - an EGM has been held and this is our course of action.

Michael Meade – we will find out who prospective Councillors are for the upcoming elections.

Ron Jeffieys suggested that members receive notice letter has gone to Council and what members can do to help if no response.

Michael Meade then said having now made this decision it is important that all members are advised we are going to Council and members are requested that they do whatever they can to support the Board.

At the conclusion of the meeting members were asked to consider the three options below:

- 1 Do nothing and wait to see what happens.
- 2 Widen this issue to the Lane Cove and wider community and seek support.
- 3 Issue a final letter to Council requesting action. Robust discussion followed with many members expressing a range of views and responses with the result that items 2 and 3 above were endorsed by a significant majority.

Strongly suggested that letter to Council also goes to Councillors, Anthony Roberts and include Federal Member for North Sydney, Trent Zimmerman.

Following robust discussion with a range of views and responses being expressed the result of the motion was that items 2 and 3 were endorsed by a significant majority. A vote was taken by show of hands – 47 for 2 and 3 and 5 for 3 only.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm

Signed

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Date