

FLINDERS BOATING SPECIAL COMMITTEE UNCONFIRMED MINUTES

DATE: Tuesday 31 January 2023
VENUE: Rose Garden Room
COMMENCING: 5.30pm

Mayor Rachel Summers opened the meeting at 5.30pm.

1. PRESENT:

MEMBERS		
Position/Organisation	Name	In-Attendance
Mayor - Chairperson (non-voting)	Rachel Summers	Yes
Councillor (1)	Councillor Aaron Burke	Apology
Councillor (1)	Councillor Carol Cox	Apology
General Manager - Flinders Council (non-voting)	Warren Groves	Yes
Manager Infrastructure (1)	Chris Wilson	Yes
Airport Operational Manager (1)	Richard Harley	Yes
Community Representative (1)	John Holloway	Yes
Community Representative (1)	Kevin Haines	Yes
Community Representative (1)	Robert Holloway	No
Community Representative (1)	Anne Rae	Yes
Community Representative (1)	Dennis Cooper	Yes
Community Representative (1)	Norm Hunt	Yes
Community Representative (1)	Robin Walker	Yes
Community Representative (1)	Justin Nicholls	No
Community Representative (1)	Aronn Daw	Yes
Community Representative (1)	Andrew Donnellan	Yes
Community Representative (1)	Craig Wheatley	No
Staff	Name	In-Attendance
Executive Assistant (minute taker)	Kyra Newman	Yes

The Chair, Mayor Summers, gave a summary of the Terms of Reference and highlighted the 'Purpose' statement within the document.

The Chair explained the purpose of the grant deed, and that the committee gives recommendations via a Notice of Motion (NOM), and then Council considers the NOM in an Ordinary Council Meeting.

The Chair explained to the committee that any work done on Council land or Council-owned infrastructure must be approved by Council.

Committee member Robin Walker expressed frustration in the Council process and the two-and-a-half-year delay to the initial project.

Committee member Dennis Cooper stated that a new Chair on the committee is a breath of fresh air and appreciates that there is now a note taker at the meetings. Dennis asked if recommendations from the past were taken to a Council Meeting previously and that he would like to look at each motion from Council.

Mayor Summers let committee members know that they can attend Ordinary Meetings of Council and ask questions during public question time.

The previous meeting dated 11 October 2022 was described as a discussion and not an official meeting by some of the committee members, however the Chair corrected this statement as this was recorded as an official meeting at Council. New committee member Aronn Daw described that this particular meeting was a great way to gain community input regarding the Whitemark Boat Ramp Project.

2. WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Council confirmed the appointment of the following members to the committee:

- Justin Nicholls
- Aronn Daw
- Andrew Donnellan
- Craig Wheatley

The Chair welcomed new committee members and looks forward to their input on this committee.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:

Moved: Kevin Haines Seconded: Andrew Donnellan
That the minutes from the 11 October 2022 meeting of the Flinders Boating Special Committee be confirmed.

CARRIED

4. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST (Councillors only)

None received.

5. PROPOSALS FOR EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS

Discussion on the proposals presented at the previous meeting on how best to expend the funds provided by MAST (\$120,000) to 'upgrade boat ramps on the Island'.

Audit existing boat ramps (including Cape Barren Island) to determine upgrades and prioritise proposals by community survey.

The boat ramps that would be included in an Audit are located at Whitemark, Emita and Palana. Cape Barren Island would also be included as it is part of the Flinders Municipality.

General Manager, Warren Groves, explained that engaging an independent on-island consultant to do the audits on Council-owned boat ramps could be beneficial. Committee members agreed that a consultant such as Mike Nicolls, would be of value to Council and any future projects.

Dennis Cooper stated that if the audits were to happen at present that it would be bad timing.

Kevin Haines would like to focus on the Whitemark Boat Ramp Project.

Andrew Donnellan expressed concerns over safety on other Council-owned boat ramps and stated that an audit would be a great opportunity to develop a plan on how to proceed with other projects and looking for other funding.

Robin Walker stated that the children of the Island need something to jump off or swim around in Whitemark, however does not think that the boat ramp should be the area for this.

Anne Rae asked if it could be possible for Council to put up a sign at the Whitemark Boat Ramp with a safety warning.

Moved: Dennis Cooper Seconded: John Holloway

A recommendation be made to Council that an audit be carried out of other Council-owned boat ramps on the Island and that Council seeks separate finance to the Whitemark Boat Ramp project.

For: Dennis Cooper and John Holloway.

Against: Andrew Donnellan, Aronn Daw, Anne Rae, Chris Wilson (abstained), Norm Hunt and Robin Walker.

Motion failed.

Moved: Andrew Donnellan Seconded: Aronn Daw

A recommendation be made to Council that an audit be carried out of other Council-owned boat ramps on the Island with the funds from the Whitemark Boat Ramp Project (Marine And Safety Tasmania funding).

For: Andrew Donnellan, Aaron Daw, Anne Rae and John Holloway.

Against: Dennis Cooper, Kevin Haines, Norm Hunt and Robin Walker.

Motion failed.

Extend and widen the existing Whitemark boat ramp and add another jetty on the other side.

Committee members do not see the relevance in this suggestion. However, having two boat ramps would allow for access to and from the sea from all wind types.

Aaron Daw expressed concern over upsetting the community if Council were to add two boat ramps in the one area without engaging in discussion with the community.

The Chair would like to see more community consultation regarding this topic as these assets are on Council land. Marine and Safety Tasmania (MAST) do not have a say on the rules of Council-owned boat ramps, as they are owned and maintained by Flinders Council. Therefore, MAST policies are not applicable.

Progress the non-engineered upgrades to the Whitemark boat ramp, as previously recommended by the committee i.e. extension of fenders and addition of a ladder at the end of the jetty.

Committee member, Robin Walker, would like to see the Boat Ramp in Whitemark made safe before proceeding with the Whitemark Boat Ramp Project.

Moved: Dennis Cooper Seconded: Robin Walker

A recommendation be made to Council that the following work is undertaken at the Whitemark boat ramp:

- **Extension of additional fenders to 300mm of the seabed;**
- **Extra fender, if not two, and one ladder on the end of the jetty;**
- **Access ladder on the boat ramp side of the jetty and handrail included;**
- **White rubber strips on all the fenders;**
- **An appropriate life saving device; and**
- **Rubbers on all of the jetty, with fittings to be stainless steel.**

CARRIED

The committee agreed that a letter of thanks be sent to Mick Rose, who provided information to Engineering Plus on behalf of the committee.

Aaron Daw would like to create a way to engage island boat users to gain their community input on Council boat ramps on the Island and for the information to come back to Council to use for future

projects. Warren and Rachel can use Council E-Newsletter contacts to assist with engaging people on the Island. This could also be advertised in the Island News and on Facebook.

General Manager acknowledges that it may feel like this process is taking a while to progress and encourages committee members to look to the future of this project, to focus less on the past and work as a team to achieve positive results for the community as a whole.

6. NEXT MEETING:

1 March 2023 at 5.30pm in the Rose Garden Room

7. CLOSE OF MEETING

Mayor Rachel Summers closed the meeting at 6.57pm.