

President's Report

on behalf of the

Bonny Hills Progress Association (BHPA) Committee

Annual General Meeting, 20 April 2021

BHPA and its purpose

BHPA committee is a team of volunteers elected annually. The nub of our charter is to champion and protect the Vision for Bonny Hills agreed by our community and recorded in the Bonny Hills Community Plan, 2019.

What did we do in 2020/21?

Our last AGM held in August 2020 was delayed by 5 months and run via Zoom due to COVID19. The report for that 17-month period is on our website¹.

Highlights for the last 8 months were:

1. A successful application for a Stronger Country Communities Fund grant to construct a verandah extension on our Community Hall, has resulted in a useful addition to the amenity. This project was very competently managed by Committee member, Bill, with construction undertaken by Paul Thompson and Sean Greenwood.
2. Our nominee Judy Love was awarded local Environmental Citizen for 2021 and has been further nominated by Council for a NSW Award. Well deserved Judy!
3. Public exhibition of the DRAFT Bonny Hills Reserves MasterPlan resulted in many submissions from residents. Council feedback is that we are a very engaged community! Great work Team Bonny's!
4. Some progress on getting a fix for the dangerous Houston Mitchell/Pacific Highway intersection but much more to achieve in the short and long terms.
5. Regular meetings with the Mayor and CEO of Council are now in place.

Lowlights

1. Sewage releases from the Wastewater Treatment Plant have caused considerable angst for residents. The primary reason for this is large volumes of stormwater getting into the sewerage system in high rainfall events.
2. The realisation that stormwater runoff into our creeks and Ocean is of very low quality, (AND is likely to be coming from older parts of Bonny Hills, NOT well-designed new developments like Area 14).
3. Both these problems need urgent attention, and we are on the case.
4. Actions in our Community Plan are running behind time, partly due to a slow down caused by COVID19 and partly because they were omitted from Council's

¹ The 2019/20 report can be found at www.bonnyhills.org.au/newsletters.html

Operational Plans. We need to ensure a number of these get into Council's next Operational Plan.

5. Council appears to have put attention to the Bonny Hills Community-Council Action Team on the back burner, despite attempts by BHPA to ignite interest in reactivating it.

Behind the scenes

- BHPA has made submissions to Council and others. These can be found on our website at – www.bonnyhills.org.au/bhpa_actions.html
- BHPA supported Bonny Hills Tennis club and the Bonny's RFS in applications for Grants; and the WBHSLSC for maintenance of the external defibrillator.

Community consultation

- BHPA Facebook pages
 - Our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/BonnyHillsProgressAssociation> has around 690 followers.
 - The Back to Bonny's Facebook page has a specific role of gathering historical material
- The BHPA website www.bonnyhills.org.au serves as a publicly available resource regarding BHPA modus operandi and activities.
- Bonny Hills Newsletter articles and press releases, thanks Pam

While communication with Council has been improved at the Mayoral/CEO level there are still glitches when dealing with some sections of Council that we need to work on.

Report Card

Were BHPA's efforts in 2020/21 a useful contribution to Bonny's? You be the judge.
A special thanks to:

- Our great outgoing committee – Bill, Elizabeth, Ian, John, Kathy, Pam, Paul, Ross, Tony; to Florence Williams our auditor; and for the support of BHPA members
- PMHC staff for all their efforts on our behalf over the last 7 months
- And to our volunteers.

Challenges for the incoming committee will include:

- Solving sewage and stormwater problems
- Lobbying for a fix to the dangerous H-M/Pac H'way intersection
- Progressing projects in the Community Plan:
- Raising funds for projects – public art and adult exercise equipment.
- Engage with motivated residents via focused project subcommittees.

Roger Barlow, President
On behalf of the 2020/21 BHPA Committee.