

July 2010

Waters Edge

Welcome to the June 2010 edition of the Water's Edge. No doubt fires are roaring and you are all rugged up for the very cold snap we have been having of late.

As always I am happy to receive any emails/correspondence from members who wish to add news or information to the "Waters Edge" newsletter mcclurgs@westnet.com.au or 8 Groyne Rd Geographe

Lynda McClurg

Committee Members

The current committee members are:

Peter McClurg	Chairperson
Bob Godridge	Vice Chairperson
Simon Denney	Treasurer
Jane Sparkes	Secretary
Bruce Blundell	
Lynda McClurg	
John Valentine	
Dave Watts	

Each committee member has taken on the responsibility of overseeing 5 different areas of the Port Geographe Development as follows:

Coastal Management - Peter McClurg

mrbbus@westnet.com.au

Waterways & Canal Flushing- Bob Godridge

robg@oceanbroadband.net

Landscaping/Parks & Gardens - John Valentine

valservice@westnet.com

Infrastructure and Construction - Dave Watts

buscabs@computerwest.net.au

Newsletter – Lynda McClurg

mcclurgs@westnet.com.au

If you have concerns or questions, direct them to the appropriate committee member. As most of the committee work during the day, email is preferable. Leave a contact name, number or email, so that the committee member is able to contact you.

Alternatively you can send emails to the Association's email address:

portgeographeloa@gmail.com

Postal Address

PO Box 1456

Busselton WA 6280

What Do We Know? An Update...

Seagrass study The seagrass study was finished and released on 5th May. A public information day was held at the sea rescue building, on the 8th May, to show the results of this study and projections of a number of proposed solutions and their effects on the coast in the Port Geographe/Wonnerup/canal areas.

There was a general consensus that a different groyne reconfiguration would be needed to minimise the impact of the seagrass in these areas, but that the sediment study would need to be finished (expected in Sept 2010) to allow modelling of groyne designs.

It is expected that any groyne reconfiguration will need to be funded by the state government, shire and developer.

A reference group with all stake holders who may be affected by the groyne reconstruction will be set up. Members who have property in the Moonlight Bay area are most likely to be impacted by the proposed groyne reconfiguration and are encouraged to contact the association so they can be involved in the process.

In the interim, seagrass and sand bypassing will need to continue. The association will work with the shire and department of transport to make this as smooth, safe and with as little inconvenience to residents as possible.

The Pedestrian Bridge: Further to our report in the February newsletter, the shire has engaged engineers to assess and identify the faults with the bridge. The Shire now has the reports to hand and is making progress to access the specific bridge bond put up by the developer so that they can engage contractors to rectify the faults and have the bridge finally opened for community use.

Seagrass/Sand bypassing 2010: The one off 2010 autumn bypassing program appeared to run relatively smoothly with main goals of (1) replenishing the Wonnerup coastline prior to the winter storms (2) cutting back the build up adjacent to the western groyne to minimise the potential winter seagrass blockage of the canal entrance, being achieved. A new real time H2S monitoring system was trialled and worked effectively to minimise issues associated with odour spikes. At this point the Shire & DOT have put in place strategies to enable them to access the developer's bond money earlier if required to attend to seagrass and sand bypassing issues as they occur after this winter so that we are not again left with excessive seagrass wrack on the Port Geographe and Moonlight Bay beaches this forthcoming summer.

Canals: We have been made aware by the Department of Transport (DOT) that the latest stage of the canals does not appear to be the appropriate depth for jetties and pontoons to be legally constructed. Any landholders in this area, intending to put in jetties need to contact the DOT for further advice.

A reminder to all members of their responsibilities to navigate vessels safely and within canal speed limits. Excess speeds create wake/wash problems as well as safety issues for other more passive users (canoeists, kids in dinghies). If any boat users are unsure of their speed, then attempt to leave no wake.

The Developer: The association has had no formal contact with the Developer since the last newsletter, nor has the Shire or DOT.

Short Stay accommodation. Over the next few months the Busselton Shire Council will give consideration to proposals for the regulation of holiday homes in this shire. The objective of the proposed regulation is to give the shire power to regulate the location and management of holiday home rentals. Details of the proposals can be viewed on the Shires website

www.busselton.wa.gov.au

Anyone with any queries should contact the *Manager of Strategic Planning and Sustainability* – Paul Needham on 9781 0444

What Are Your Concerns?

Thanks to all members who have contacted the association to advise us of the issues within the Port Geographe Development that cause the greatest concern. Please continue to do this. For example, we would be interested in feedback on the proposed Ford Rd extension.

Membership

The AGM is fast approaching and will be held in September 2010. Landowners who wish to vote at the AGM or serve on the committee need to be financial members of the PGLOA. *The current year's subscription to the PGLOA membership needs to be paid by July 31st 2010.*

Renewal forms for the 2010- 2011 membership will be sent out after the AGM. There are exciting times ahead so, encourage your neighbours to join if they are not already members.

We urge all members to attend the AGM to have your say, and, that any members who wish to nominate for a position on the committee please contact the secretary for nomination forms.

Regards

Peter McClurg (Chairperson)

Important Contact Details

Whilst the PGLOA continues to make representations to the relevant authorities on behalf of the residents of the Port Geographe Development, with regard to the seagrass wrack, canal safety, and a variety of other issues related to the Port Geographe development, we encourage you to individually voice your concerns to the shire, the state and the developer. To assist you, the following contacts may be useful:

Contacts:

Ian Stubbs

Shire President

ian.stubbs@busselton.wa.gov.au

Matthew Smith

Acting Shire CEO

matthew.smith@busselton.wa.gov.au

Oliver Darby:

Shire Engineer

oliver.darby@busselton.wa.gov.au

Sharon Woodford-Jones:

Port Geographe Compliance Officer.

Sharon.Woodford-Jones@busselton.wa.gov.au

Shire Councillors

(This email will reach all councillors)

councillors@busselton.wa.gov.au

Troy Buswell

Local MP

troy.buswell@mp.wa.gov.au

Barry House

Chairman Port Geographe Consultative Committee

barry.house@mp.gov.au

Simon O'Brien

State Minister for Transport

Minister.OBrien@dpc.wa.gov.au

Adele Farina

MLA South West Region

adele.farina@mp.wa.gov.au

Nola Marino

Federal MP

Nola.Marino.MP@aph.gov.au

John Howell

Health Department