

Joint Meeting with Foreshore Committee:

Balnarring Beach Community Association delegates attended a meeting with the Foreshore Committee in April. We expressed our concerns about commercialisation of the foreshore and proposals for works that begin in July.

- *The good news is that the spit pathway is not planned to go ahead until 2017, permit permitting.*
- *Ecologist Mal Legg's Fauna Survey will not be released until July which is a pity because we will not see his recommendations until after boardwalks and perhaps cabins start.*
- *We raised a number of questions about Cultural Heritage plans, approvals and permits and found that none have been applied for as yet.*

BBCA appreciated the opportunity to discuss these matters with the Foreshore Committee.

Balnarring Beach Road

On exhibition now for a 60km speed limit. Have your say as we have not previously considered this change.



Balnarring Beach Road Speed Limit



PLEASE WATCH OUT FOR BIKES IN BALNARRING BEACH!

Getting out and about is one of the best things about living in Balnarring Beach. Without footpaths, roads become a shared space for cars, walkers and bikes. Speed humps and the 40kph signs have been put in place to help keep all road users safe.

Please be on the look-out for bicycles, particular children on bicycles, and take extra care when driving by them. While summer and holiday periods see the population of bike users swell, there are a number of school aged children living in Balnarring Beach who ride to bus stops or school regularly.

Taking care and being mindful of all road users' means that we can all continue to get out and about, making the most of the natural environment and using environmentally friendly modes of transport!



BALNARRING BEACH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION INC.

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UPDATES

The major shopping centre re development adjacent to the village has been passed by the council.

We believe that the parking and open space provisions are totally inadequate and will spoil our village character. David Gill put our view at the Council meeting.

Mornington Peninsula Shire Council letter sent to remove Esplanade / foreshore fence. Hopefully action soon.

Waiting on ecologist Mal Legg's publicly funded Balnarring Beach Fauna survey to be released to the public. It may effect development on the spit.

Our Fauconshawe blind corner is undergoing Council monitoring but any action is probably a long way off. We will keep pushing.

BBCA member *Russell Mein*, retired professor (engineering hydrology – Monash University) and *Rupert Steiner*, Committee member and part of the present water testing team have our endorsement as reps on Melbourne Waters new working party seeking a solution to the creek and estuary odour problem.

We are interested in running a 'digital diary' to monitor kiteboard activities on our local beaches to ensure safety requirements are met. Anyone with expertise in this area could help enable the public to contribute information for Parks Victoria assessment and follow up.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

120 residents attended the 2015 AGM in January at the Westernport Yacht Club.

Retiring Committee members Di Williamson, Sue Deland, Laurence Reddaway and Belinda Williams were thanked for their service.

A new committee was elected

President: David Gill

Secretary: Kirsty Watson

Heather Montague, Rupert Steiner, Pam McKenzie and Toni Delaney with Robyn Hicks and Graham Anderson seconded to the Committee at its first meeting.

Our Guest Speaker, newly elected **Cr Tim Wood** spoke about his background and role as local councillor.

Tim has been involved with pleasing major changes at our council in recent months including a new CEO and tight budgeting. Less pleasing is his recent vote concerning the Russell Street shopping centre redevelopment.

Subscriptions \$15 a household or \$10 single. By cheque with the enclosed subscription form or by direct bank transfer to BBKA at Bendigo Bank.

Membership is now at 300.

Grant from Shire:

BBKA have applied for a community placemaking grant from the shire with the aim of improving community awareness and connections in our area.



Our new noticeboard

Stanley's Road / Frankston-Flinders Road Intersection

Vic Roads have now accepted our recommendation that this dangerous area be a 60km zone.

Blue Carbon

David Gill was invited to a recent lecture by Dr Paul Carnell, marine and coastal ecologist from Deakin University about the enormous value of seagrass, mangroves and salt marshes in carbon sequestration and the role coastal habitats play in adaption to climate change.

Look up "Blue Carbon" research for some good news.



Merricks Creek a new investigation underway

NEW CONSTITUTION

The *Balnarring Beach Ratepayers' Association* was formed in 1989 to assist us all to enjoy the unspoiled environment of our Coastal Village. It was open to ratepayers, who live in the area designated by the Shire as being bounded by High View, Bayview and Cliff Roads.

The original aims of the association were:

- To ensure protection of the coastal village nature of the area
- To minimise commercial exploitation and recreational overuse of the area
- To encourage visitors to contribute to the welfare of the area
- To protect, maintain and restore the natural environmental features of the area
- To bring to the attention to bodies and authorities any matters of concern to members, which are consistent with the preceding objectives

At the 2015 AGM members voted that the committee prepare a new constitution in line with the 2012 'new model rules' for associations. www.consumer.vic.gov.au

This is also an opportunity to consider our aims and objectives, eligibility for membership after our recent name change to "Community Association" and changes to committee format.

Your suggestions are welcome. The proposed changes will be made available later in the year and voted on at next year's AGM.