

Stockton Community Group Inc Meeting Minutes

Date: 9th April 2025

Chair: Alison Rigby

Venue: Stockton Surf Club. Pitt St, Stockton

Minutes: Carolyn Bailey

1. Meeting Opened: by Alison Rigby at 7.35 pm with Acknowledgement of Country

Present: Carolyn Bailey, Scott Brooks, Keith Craig, Garry Cullinane, Willow Forsyth, Alison Rigby, Ian Taggart, Melanie Taggart, Lindy Nisbett, Darelle Tynan, Brenton Burden, Vicki Burden, Cherie Loughlin, Ann Clark, Alicia Sheen, Sylvia Buckman, Keith Ipson, Jean Stokx, Ros Slatery

Apologies: Barbara Whitcher, Sue Luke, Mick Hocking Gill

2. Declaration of conflict of interest: nil declared

3. Confirmation of previous minutes meeting held: 12th February 2025

Accepted: Keith Craig Seconded: Garry Cullinane

4. Guest Speaker:

Alicia Sheen, Waste Education & Behaviour Change Coordinator, City of Newcastle (CN)

Alicia provided an overview of waste management and recycling activities by City of Newcastle, partner companies, and state-wide targets and initiatives. CN is licensed by the EPA for waste management.

Primary aim is to reduce land fill. CN has land fill capacity for approx. 30 years, with neighbouring councils already nearing capacity.

CN have a number of strategies to support household waste management and reduce landfill including:

- Free voucher and kerbside bulk waste collection options for residents.
- <https://newcastle.nsw.gov.au/living/waste-and-recycling/bulk-waste-service>
- Problem waste collection sites
- Soft plastic program – Curby <https://curbyrewards.com>
- Low waste living workshops
- Discounted composting equipment
- Repair cafes
- School and community education events
- Recycling Solutions Australia shop @ 32 Rural Dr Sandgate Ph: 0412630011

For further information on these initiatives visit:

<https://newcastle.nsw.gov.au/living/waste-and-recycling>

General discussion on:

- Battery disposal and fire risk, poly-Styrofoam disposal, option to upsize households bin, food waste (being negotiated) Further information: <https://newcastle.nsw.gov.au/living/waste-and-recycling/waste-and-recycling-a-z>
- Role of CN to improve access to recycling disposal sites
- Opportunity for collection events on Stockton, such as: chemical waste
- Opportunity for value added product initiatives with CN and businesses, currently no partnership initiatives planned

4. Outstanding and New Actions

- SCG Inc still has grant funding to offer members a St John's Ambulance First Aid Training, before 30th June 2025. If you would like to take advantage of this free training contact SCG via email: stocktoncomgroup@gmail.com
- Letterbox drop of April newsletter is underway.

5. Standing items

5.1 Treasurers Report: (Lindy Nisbett)

Bank Balance: \$4,270 (Note - \$760 for CPR training yet to spend)

Expenses: \$1395

\$710 April Newsletter

\$600 Website 2 quarters (Jan - Jun)

\$85 CPR Training

Income: \$3035

\$3000 NCIG Grant (Newsletters)

\$35 Membership Fees

Reminder - annual membership fee is \$5 if you are able to support SCG Inc.

Visit <https://stocktoncommunitygroup.com.au>

Working party updates

5.2 Stockton Beach Group (Alison Rigby)

- SCG Inc has submitted a response to the Draft Extended Stockton Coastal Management Program document. Key issues related to lack of clear agency accountability, budget allocations and timeframes. Concerns re lack of CN consultation opportunity for Stockton residents also raised.

5.3 Air Quality & Environment (Keith Craig)

- The new Orica scrubber system is performing to expectation for improved air quality and particle release.
- Odours from the canola oil plant on Kooragang have been noted. The plant's odour is mitigated with the regular replacement of a biological bed. Increase in odour should be reported to the EPA to ensure the company is held to account for timely replacement of the biological bed.

5.4 Community and Crown Land (Carolyn Bailey)

- Correspondence to CN and Councillors requesting update on work to improve public toilets at the Activity Hub/ferry and community consultation process.
- SCG Inc is undertaking a Pedestrian Mobility Campaign. The community is encouraged to report areas of concern for pedestrian access and safety to SCG Inc via email: stocktoncomgroup@gmail.com . Where possible please include a photograph.

6.0 Correspondence: list available upon request

7. General business/Business without notice

- Dr Willow Forsyth provided an overview of Stockton beach erosion history, current status and significant concerns with the Draft Extended Stockton Coastal Management Program document. Of note is the lack of a clear Disaster Risk Governance framework and State government ownership of actions. Stockton Surf Life Saving Club have a petition circulating. Residents, visitors and other supporters can sign the petition on-line, or using the flyer (letterbox drop), return to the Post Office, Lexie's Café or IGA by 12th April 2025.

8. Meeting closed: 8:40 pm.

Next Meeting: Wednesday 10th September 2025, Stockton Surf Life Saving Club at 7:30 pm