

We warmly invite everyone to our Annual General Meeting.
Every resident and ratepayer is entitled to participate.

New residents – we hope you will feel welcome to contribute to the future of the village community,

Agenda for meeting 20 June
Tomerong Hall, 7.15pm

AGM –
Welcome and introductions
Acceptance of last year's AGM minutes
Report to the Community
Financial report
Nomination of returning officer
Election of new office bearers:
Chairperson,
Secretary,
Treasurer,
Minutes Secretary,
Publicity Officer

Ordinary meeting –
Minutes, business etc as usual

Minutes of all meetings are available from the Community Forum's display stand next to the Post Office notice board.

All meetings are held at 7.15pm on the third Wednesday of the month, every second month, even numbered months (beginning each February).

Meetings may be called at other times as and when sought by the community or when issues arise needing urgent attention (e.g. matters on which views need to be put to Council) .

We follow the Shoalhaven City Council's guidelines in the conduct of meetings and in what we do. You can obtain a copy of those Guidelines at Council's inquiry desk.

Tomerong Community Forum

Report to the Community 2006–2007

Notice of Annual General Meeting 7.15pm Wednesday 20 June 2007

Our community forum is recognised as a
'community consultative body'
by the Shoalhaven City Council
— but only so long as it is representative
and with sufficient community participation.

We have reduced the frequency of meetings in the past year because participation declined.

It is good if roles change, new energies and perspectives bring pursuit of new community benefits.

We have secured results in the last several years,
we do expect to achieve more in the next year.
We would be very pleased for you to be part of this.

Richard Bates, Chairperson *Dennis Argall, Secretary*

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02 4443 4499

2006–2007 Taking up the issues:

There have been three main issues concerning us in the past year: roads, facilities for young people and landcare.

In 2004–2005, we secured Council's support for the study of the need for a 'local area traffic management scheme.' Council concluded that we did not need such a scheme but the business of meeting with senior Council officers here and walking around looking at our situation and needs bore fruit. **We developed a good working relationship facilitating representations since. More general maintenance has resulted, upgrades are taking place. Sealing of two pieces of road west of Hawken Road are now on the draft works plan from 2009 on. We need to ensure those items stay in the program.**

The **road marking in the centre of the village**, along Hawken Road was altered to provide greater safety and legality for traffic when there are school buses parked.

We lobbied for **sealing of Church Street** to the back of the school and that happened during 2006.

We lobbied for the **50km/hr speed sign to be moved further east on Pine Forest Road**; this issue is reportedly stuck in the RTA but has become a matter for renewed lobbying by us this year following an accident between a truck and a cyclist and all the activity with the new subdivision. Council are working hard for us on this.

We lobbied the RTA for improvement of the **Princes Highway – Hawken Road intersection**. The RTA has steadfastly maintained that the basic design is right, but in the resealing and re-marking of the intersection we secured new road markings — the unusual left turn and go right arrows which seem to have improved driver behaviour. We have thanked the RTA for that.

The intersection of the Princes Highway and Island Point Road attracted widespread concern with repeated high speed accidents last year and one infant fatality. We are leading representations on that matter. As a result of our representations, in February we secured a private meeting (here in Tomerong, joined also by St Georges Basin

Forum) with senior RTA management. We have secured temporary warning signs. **We are determined not to let the commitment to restructure the intersection slide away.**

We have expressed concern about the **inadequacy of facilities for young people**. We have urged young people to get together and say what they want so we can support real needs.

We have sought and obtained from Council good signage for the **small park in Church Street**. Council's attention having been drawn to the park, they have determined to refurbish it in 2007–2008 and Council has resolved to design this in consultation with this Forum.

As a separate matter, **we have sought and secured Council support for a BMX track for Tomerong**. Location not yet clear. It is important to have community engagement with the Forum to get the best results on these issues of park and BMX track. This is clearly a priority for boys. What about girls? We'd like to hear from them!

At the April meeting we discussed a new request from community — **public space for horse riders**. We are working on that.

Especially with the pressure of new settlement in subdivisions it would be good to have a **landcare program** to help with new vegetation, weed issues and the quality of our creeks that run into St Georges Basin. We lost the ball on this last year and need to restore momentum.

Future identity and character of Tomerong

All councils in New South Wales are working to a state government requirement that they produce a new 'Local Environment Plan' (LEP). They are also obliged to shift from a situation in which different villages in the Shoalhaven have individual 'Development Control Plans' (DCP) to ONE DCP for the whole of the Shoalhaven.

Council has indicated that under this single DCP individual village development might be shaped by 'character statements' for villages. Would you like to be part of designing that for Tomerong.

In any case, village character is shaped by what we do, how we form a community, not just building shape. *Come and be part of this!*