

APA AGM 2023

President's report to AGM 2023

Before I present my formal Report of our activities for the year to you, I want to acknowledge the contribution of my fellow APA committee members during 2023 and to thank them for their work on our behalf. I also want to thank our bookkeeper Trish Wingfield for her work, and to acknowledge the efforts of our NBC Community Liaison Coordinator Andrew Johnston, formerly of Rob Stokes' staff, who since June 2023 has been very active in making enquiries within NBC on our behalf and in communicating replies back to us. Andrew continues the excellent work begun by Trish Chaney, and I would like to thank Trish, Rita Frost and other Community Liaison staff for their help during the year.

The APA has had a busy time since our long-serving former President Peter Mayman reported to you at the 2022 AGM. Originally, we thought that we would need to devote a great deal of time and energy to considering Council's work towards one integrated Local Environment Plan (LEP) for the entire Northern Beaches area. While we did spend time and effort developing a comprehensive submission to NBC on the draft of the Conservation Zone review, which in part contributed to its revision by NBC, work on both the Review and the LEP itself have been delayed due to several factors.

Firstly, the Conservation Zone Review, a very important document with widespread ramifications for Avalon, is still with the NSW Department of Planning, which has yet to reply to Council. When Council exhibit a revised version we will again be making another detailed submission so that the zoning continues to be appropriate for Avalon Beach.

The revised LEP timeline now is for a draft to go on exhibition for public comment in late 2024, with finalisation not until late 2025. APA hopes to join with other associations in commissioning a planning consultant to help with our submission on what will be a large, complex and extremely important document for everyone in Avalon Beach, Pittwater, and in fact the Northern Beaches as a whole.

In other activities, your committee made or followed up submissions on a wide range of issues during the year: This is only a partial list, but as you can see it covers a range of topics:

- Public pathway adjacent to 32 Watkins Road – proposed sale & closure of Reserve, street signage
- NBC draft Conservation Review -
- DA for 2a Allen Ave Bilgola Beach
- Proposed Barrenjoey Headland commercialisation by NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service
- Proposed North Sydney Planning Panel approval to progress the MCLAC Lizard Rock DA through the Gateway process (450 home sites)
- 48 The Serpentine Bilgola Beach - Modification to DA
- Volunteer Week Award – APA successfully nominated Marita Macrae
- Black metal safety barriers on Barrenjoey Rd

- 52 Old Barrenjoey Rd DA (shop - height)
- Avalon Customer Contact Centre - threatened closure
- 11 Capri Close DA
- Central Road parking changes
- Paradise Beach tidal pool renovation
- Support to NBC to continue invigoration of Careel Creek.
- Flooding in Avalon Beach – including the Shared Space, Old Barrenjoey Rd at Dunbar Park, carpark outside Woolworths
- Avalon Beach Shared Space – letter to NBC requesting longer term goals, design study & timeline
- 189 Riverview Rd - Modification to DA
- Support for NBC grant application to continue remediation of Careel Creek

The issues we will be grappling with in 2024 will most likely include:

- making a submission to NBC on the revised Conservation Zone Review
- considering any other LEP support policy documents exhibited during the year (and also the draft LEP if it is exhibited in late 2024)
- following up on longer term goals, design study & timeline for the Avalon Beach Shared Space, should the current trial be successful.
- continuing to address inappropriate residential development leading to lessening of the tree canopy in Avalon Beach.