

WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH THE SISTERS BEACH WORKING GROUP?

ROLE OF THE GROUP

To assist the Waratah Wynyard Council (WWC) to progress Recreation, Community Centre and Camping discussions

WHO IS ON THE WORKING PARTY?

COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES ARE: Jono Vincent, Ben Saward, Stuart Gula, Lynn Hutchinson and Jay McGough (Council sought Expressions of Interest from any interested community members and representatives of the Sisters Beach Community Association to be on the Working Party. Everyone who expressed interest by the due date was subsequently invited to join the Working Party.)

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES: Councillors Darren Fairbrother and Celisa Edwards

COUNCIL SECRETARIAT SUPPORT: Provided by Tracey Bradley, Director Community & Engagement, WWC
The group meets fortnightly. The first meeting of the group was 14th August 2019.

WHAT IS THE GROUP WORKING ON?

ADVENTURE PARK:

At the moment the main focus is on the upgrade to the hardstand area.

Ben Saward and Jono Vincent are taking the lead on this project on behalf of the Working Group.

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER: A design for an Adventure Park (combined skateboard/scooter/bike and half basketball court) was developed. About 50 interested community members attended a BBQ at the hardstand on 22 September to view the plans and to show their support for the project.

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER: Feedback on the design has been received and the design has been updated to take account of some of the suggested changes. Adventure Park Plans can be viewed on the Sisters Beach Community Association website www.sistersbeach.org.au or on the Sisters Beach Community Facebook Page. Plans can also be viewed at the Sisters Beach General Store.

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER: Finalising design, undertaking site survey, obtaining Council approvals and indicative quotes.

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER: Developing fundraising strategies and seeking funding opportunities.

DECEMBER/JANUARY: Fundraising and Grant Application/s undertaken.

FEBRUARY/MARCH: Completion of fundraising and result of funding application/s.

MARCH 2020 ONWARDS: Subject to achievement of funding goals, work will commence – estimated construction time is 2 months.

HOW WILL THE PROJECT BE FUNDED?

We have a current commitment from Waratah Wynyard Council to provide \$70,000.

An application to the Tasmanian Community Fund will be submitted in January and successful applications will be announced in March. Other funding opportunities will be investigated.

A business and community sponsorship program will be developed to invite cash donations and/or in-kind work to progress the project. Their contributions will be acknowledge through signage at the site.

The Sponsorship Program will have three levels of participation:

Platinum Partners – are organisations or businesses that make a contribution of \$10,000 or more (such as WWC)

Gold Supporters are those who make a contribution of \$1,000 or more

Silver supporters are those who make a contribution of \$500 - \$1,000

Bronze supporters are those who make a contribution of \$200 - \$500

If you are interested in making a contribution please contact Ben Saward. Email: BSaward@bonneygroup.com.au

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PROPOSAL TO BUILD A COMMUNITY CENTRE IN SISTERS BEACH

Jay McGough will be leading this project on behalf of the Working Group.

This project will be commenced early in the New Year. The proposal is based on feedback from the Sisters Beach Community to the WWC which is documented in the *Sisters Beach Open Space Plan 2015* and in the *WWC Open Space, Sport and Recreation Plan 2016-2026*.

Proposed Community Centre Planning Activities:

Community consultation to identify the possible location, need for and potential uses of a Community Centre in Sisters Beach.

- Key stakeholders such as potential users (both providers of activities and users of those activities – businesses, individuals and groups) will be invited to contribute their ideas. The general Sisters Beach Community will also be asked to contribute their ideas.
- Identification of a suitable site for a Community Centre – the focus will initially be on land that is currently owned by WWC. Other sites will only be considered if Council owned land is deemed to be unsuitable.
- Identification of possible management models and identification of streams of income to maintain the proposed Community Centre into the future.
- This initial round of community consultation will identify whether the proposal has sufficient support for the Working Group to progress into the planning stage.

Planning stage will include:

- An exploration of design and management models in other similar communities to inform our project.
- Development of a draft design and indicative costing.
- Selection of management model and development of a plan to ensure capacity for on-going maintenance and future capital works.
- Community consultation around proposed location, design and management model.
- Development of final design, costings, development approvals etc.
- Exploration of funding options.

PUBLIC CAMPING IN SISTERS BEACH

Following recent developments in regard to Public Camping across the Waratah Wynyard Council area, especially the cessation of all public camping at Boat Harbour Beach, the Community Representatives on the Working Group felt that it was up to WWC to take the lead on undertaking a comprehensive community consultation with the Sisters Beach Community around Public Camping here at Sisters Beach.

The Council developed a draft *Sisters Beach Public Camping Discussion Paper* and Working Group members provided feedback on the draft. Council will now progress the Community Consultation via their discussion paper.

This document will outline level of demand, possible site/s, restrictions, costs and strategies to manage Public Camping, including enforcing compliance with Public Camping Guidelines. For Public Camping to occur, a sustainable Management Model will have to be put into place – that is, who will enforce the rules, who will collect the fees, who will maintain the site etc.

If you have an opinion around Public Camping in Sisters Beach, please take the opportunity to inform the Council of your point of view. Methods for providing this feedback will be identified in the Discussion Paper.

In the meantime, Council has undertaken to provide signage to indicate that Public Camping is not currently permitted in Sisters Beach – it is expected that there will be no Public Camping available here for the 2019/2020 Holiday Season.