



Tuross Head Progress Association Inc.  
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## **Tuross Head Progress Association Inc**

### **Summary Notes - THPA Member's Information Session**

**4 February 2025, 2:00pm at Kyla Park Hall**

1. Welcome to Members
  - a. The President welcomed the 26 members present – plus 2 visitors
2. Committee Present
  - a. Tom Webster President
  - b. Max Castle Vice President
  - c. Evelyn Ashcroft Junior Vice President
  - d. Jenny Irvine Treasurer
  - e. Bruce Hatchman Secretary
3. Apologies

Peter Howman, Kim Ulrick, Darryl Pretty, Pat Wagstaff, Linda Steadman, Tony Jackson,
4. Summary of Previous Meeting
  - a. The minutes of the meeting 3 December 2024 were now available on the THPA web site
5. Committee position changes
  - a. President Tom advised of the following position changes on the Committee:
    - i. Max Castle has resigned as Vice President due to ill health
    - ii. Max will take leave of absence from the Committee until such time as his health allows him to attend meetings
    - iii. Evelyn Ashcroft has been promoted from her role as Junior Vice President to that of Vice President.
    - iv. The role of Junior Vice President is now vacant
    - v. Max has also resigned as Chair of the Fishing and Boating subcommittee. Tom Webster has taken over that role.
6. Health subcommittee update
  - a. Arn presented the health subcommittee update paper that had been previously circulated to all members
  - b. A good discussion to clarify points made was in response to members questions from the floor
  - c. THPA formally launched the EQUITY OF FUNDING AND ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE CAMPAIGN
  - d. Members enthusiastically tested out the SUPPORT THE CAMPAIGN WEBSITE
7. Bushfire subcommittee update
  - a. Gary updated members on the activity of the bushfire subcommittee
  - b. It was noted that ESC has not replied to our previous letter sent via our lawyer.

- c. The independent fire risk assessor is preparing two reports. One for RFS Submission and one for THPA to lodge with ESC
  - d. The following points were noted:
    - i. The reports will contain factual evidence that will counter many propositions that are and have been put forward by ESC
    - ii. The buffer zones along Hector McWilliam Dr and Trafalgar Rd do not generally meet required clearance distances
    - iii. The RFS has put out a request for submissions in relation to a draft bushfire safety plan for our region
    - iv. THPA has lodged a submission as has the independent expert
    - v. The feeling is that RFS are simply going through the motions
    - vi. ESC needs to clear appropriate AFZ designated areas of risk to at least 20 metres. There are arguments afoot regarding protected plant species.
    - vii. The next step is to lodge a report to ESC dealing specifically with their obligations to keep Tuross Head a safe place
    - viii. There was a point made in relation to the comparison of safer places within both Shoalhaven Council and ESC respective areas. The comparison showed that ESC was way off the mark.
    - ix. A “Safer Place” initiative has been launched as a project for 2025
8. Fishing and Boating subcommittee
- a. Max Castle presented on the latest developments concerning Coopers Island.
  - b. It was noted that a meeting was held recently onsite with attendees from fishing groups and a member of the NSW upper house
  - c. Max started by noting that the problem has now been going on for 6 years
  - d. It was observed that the landowner was labelled a farmer but is suspected as being a developer
  - e. Police met with ESC and closed public access to Coopers Island
  - f. Following a conclusion that the ownership of the land adjacent to the weir, via which access could be gained to the waterways, was neither registered to the Crown, ESC of the farmer, Crown Lands eventually gave title to the adjacent property owner.
  - g. The view is that the state government have not acted to properly resolve the matter and just want us to go away
  - h. There has been no response Counsellor Mick Johnson to material that was sent to him for his consideration
  - i. In summary, our chances of gaining access to Coopers Island looks grim
  - j. We will keep up the notifications to Kristy McBain to further the complaint regarding the transfer of the land
9. Infrastructure subcommittee
- a. Tom Webster presented an update on activity
  - b. Requests for members to advise this committee for any projects that need to be put before ESC was reinforced
  - c. Submissions were made by John Tilbrook which included
    - i. Proper lighting at Kyla Park Hall

- ii. Refurbishment of Coila toilet block which was promised in the 23/24 financial year
    - iii. Installing soccer goalposts at Kyla Park Oval will occur in April
  - d. Tom advised that he was liaising with the Bay Police to have one of their community officers attend a meeting and talk about all things relating to ur community
- 10. Finance report
  - a. Cash balance was \$28,969.22
  - b. Earnings for period to 28 Jan 25 was 311.99
  - c. It was noted that there were costs for which we have not received invoices of roughly \$2K
- 11. Publicity subcommittee
  - a. The name of the committee has changed to “Communication and Community Engagement”
  - b. The current engagements have been focussing on Health committee initiatives
  - c. Members have recently been notified regarding media and poster activity
  - d. Newsletters are on track for monthly publication
- 12. General Business
  - a. Many speakers from the floor thanked Max profusely for his time and efforts on behalf of THPA, citing the many achievements for which he can take credit
  - b. Tom asked members to continue to put forward ideas for the committee to consider for the betterment of the community
  - c. Evelyn asked the members to take flyers to spread amongst friends and the community generally to assist with gaining numbers for the support of the health initiatives prior to the upcoming election
- 13. Next Meeting,
  - a. 2:00pm on 4 March 2025 at Kyla Park Hall

Meeting Closure