

Port Mandurah Residents' Association

Newsletter — May 2011

www.portmandurah.com.au



PO Box 1339

Mandurah WA 6210

PROPOSED CHANGES FOR PMRA

At its April 2011 meeting, the PMRA committee resolved to:

- (1) *“devise a protocol that will enable a management fee to be drawn from the Specified Area Rate budget to be levied to cover the cost of the responsibilities of PMRA as outlined in its (revised) constitution”; and*
- (2) *“proceed with actions to remove the responsibility for jetties from the Department of Transport and transfer to the City of Mandurah.”*

The implications of these two actions will have significant and far-reaching consequences on the way in which we as a ratepayers group operate and how we interact with the City of Mandurah (CoM).

The reasons and need for these actions are unique and may have some ramifications beyond the normal ratepayer group and local government relationships.

PMRA responsibilities for expenditure of Specified Area Rate (SAR)

All Port Mandurah residences pay, in addition to normal council rates, an extra rate specifically for canal estate management. Through the Local Government Act (1995) and Waterways Management Policy (POL-EMV 06), PMRA has the responsibility for providing recommendations to the City on canal management matters in accordance with that policy. In effect PMRA provides representatives to a committee of the CoM on behalf of the canal residents for planning and oversight of SAR expenditure. PMRA also provides communication mechanisms through its newsletter, website and social activities.

Currently PMRA represents 30-40% of permanent residents and a lesser number of absentee owners. Significant resources are used in recording, invoicing, collecting and receipting annual subscriptions from members. However it is only those “financial members” that PMRA can represent. Over 60% of ratepayers are disenfranchised and have no recourse to decisions that are made about expenditure of funds collected on their behalf.

We propose that a small amount of the SAR budget be allocated to the business of running PMRA. PMRA would then include all residents as “members” and through the democratic principles of the constitution, which will require minor amendment, every resident will have the opportunity to participate in the key function to oversee expenditure of SAR.

Jetty Licencing (abolition of annual jetty license fees)

Jetty Licensing has been an unjust imposition on canal owners and is based on an historic set of circumstances that has no relevance to the present situation or land tenure. The City sets and approves jetty construction criteria and collects a fee for this process, just as it rightly does for any construction on private property which includes the jetty envelope which is part of your land.

PMRA through SAR contributes to the management and maintenance of the entire waterway, and the construction supervision and maintenance of jetties can easily fall into the duties of the existing City jurisdiction. Any role played by Department of Transport is an unnecessary duplication of services and responsibilities that are currently undertaken or can more simply and effectively be undertaken by existing services that we already pay for through SAR.

We propose that the function of jetty inspection and recommendation of any action of non-compliance or jetty failure be formally done by the City. We also propose that any extra cost to the City be absorbed and accounted for in the SAR under existing budgeting procedures and that the SAR is set accordingly. The effect should be a net saving to the residents and a more efficient system. We believe that we can have licences abolished but do not underestimate the task.

Implementation of these changes will take time, we will need to revise our Constitution, and issues will undoubtedly be raised. Please help us to work through these issues and provide feedback to your committee.



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<p>Mandurah Psychological Services Pty Ltd Call: Julie-Anne Davies for appointments: 0417 968 569 Email: mandurahpsychology@westnet.com.au Shop 18, 4-10 Old Coast Road & Mary Street</p>	 <p>81 Pinjarra Rd, Mandurah Phone: 08 9586 5388</p> <p>Southpoint Star It figures. </p>		

Holiday Rentals
 PMRA discussed this issue at its last meeting in response to several letters we've received from members expressing their concerns regarding short term rentals, the negative impact it's having in our community and the lack of respect shown by some tenants. Currently there are no clear guidelines being issued by the City and some people are running a business from these homes without consultation with neighbours. What's your view? We will collate the information and make a submission to the City with a request for stricter guidelines to satisfy all residents if that's the general consensus. We are not opposed to short term rentals but, for the benefit of all residents, we believe that some rules need to be put in place so our quality of life is not diminished by transients.

Neighbourhood Watch is a community based self-help organisation which aims to reduce the incidence of preventable crime, making your area a safer place to live and preserving your way of life. You can find out more about how you can assist Neighbourhood Watch, and how they can help you by visiting www.mandurahnhw.org or emailing admin@mandurahnhw.org or phone 9581 4182.



Picaroon Park Olive Festival



PMRA Committee 2011

Please contact a committee member for information and assistance on any Port Mandurah matter. Please note that the Secretary is currently away and can only be contacted by email.

- President Selby Munsie swmunsie@inet.net.au 9581 4178
- Vice President Faye Grey faye.grey@bigpond.com 9535 2681 or 0407 986 937
- Secretary Linda Thorpe lindathorpe@hotmail.com 9583 5921 or 0410 285 323
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On Sunday 17th April the inaugural Olive Festival in Picaroon Park was held. We had a fun morning picking olives while swapping recipes and pickling processes. The morning concluded with morning tea in the park and a commitment to return next year with our pickled olives and any tips and hints we have learned over the year. One conclusion reached during the morning was that there are many variations on how to get the best results preserving your olives.