

## Meeting notes

### Floodplain Management Advisory Committee

Date	20/11/2020	Time	09:30 am
Venue	Forester Office Chambers – Breese Parade Forster	Note-taker	Peter Hatton
Present	Scott Nicholson (MCC – Acting Chair) Evan Vale (MCC) Peter Hatton (MCC) Oleg Makarynskyy (MCC) Richard Murphy (DPIE) Greg Crisp (Community Rep) Peter Neal (Community Rep) Lesley Woods (Community Rep) Eric Saville (Community Rep) Zoom (online) attendees – Matthieu Glatz (MHL)		
Apologies	Cr. Peter Epov (Chair) Cr. Karen Hutchinson (Deputy Chair) Andrew Staniland (MCC) Richard Pamplin (MCC) Tony Day (SES) Maria Fraser (SES) Rhett Pattison (MCC)		

### Meeting items

Item	Key points/actions
1 <b>Introduction</b>	Meeting opened at 0932.  Scott Nicholson welcomed all attendees and opened meeting with an Acknowledgement of Country. Scott explained that in the absence of either the Chair or the Deputy Chair the Terms of Reference allow the meeting to be chaired by an alternate member as long as other members agreed. Scott proposed he chair the meeting and all present agreed.

<p><b>2</b></p> <p><b>Previous Meeting Minutes</b></p>	<p>Accepted: Eric Saville</p> <p>Seconded: Peter Hatton</p>
<p><b>3</b></p> <p><b>Floodplain Management Program Update</b></p>	<p>Evan Vale (MCC)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evan introduced his newest team member Oleg Makarynskyy (Senior Coastal and Flood Engineer) and noted the vast experience he will bring to the team.</li> <li>• Evan advised that Council were working with the SES to resolve an issue with the Harrington Flood Gauge datum anomaly.</li> <li>• October 26 Pacific Palms event – relatively localised event with 124mm in the first hour and 248mm in a 3 hour period in the Pacific Palms area. The 3 hour total equated to a 1 in 2000 year event (BOM). Road and village access closures as well as property inundation resulted.</li> <li>• Manning River FRMSP completed and Council adopted 28/10/2020.</li> <li>• Karuah River (Stroud) FRMSP completed and Council adopted 28/10/2020.</li> <li>• Gloucester FRMSP on public exhibition which closes 09/12/2020.</li> <li>• Port Stephens Foreshore FRMSP on public exhibition which closes 09/12/2020.</li> <li>• Racecourse Creek (Old Bar) on public exhibition which closes 09/12/2020.</li> <li>• Upper Myall (Bulahdelah) Review currently in Study Review stage (refer online MHL presentation content).</li> <li>• Future Activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Grant applications for the Review of the Wallis Lake/Wallamba River FRMSP and the Town Creek (Nabiac) Flood Remediation Works were both unsuccessful although alternate Federal funding for the Nabiac Town Creek Remediation has been secured.</li> <li>- Remote Area Flood Extents – Technical Brief being prepared.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Evan proposed the next FMAC Meeting will be held 05 February 2021 at MCC Administration and Customer Service Centre Yalawanyi Ganya Taree.</li> </ul>
<p><b>3</b></p> <p><b>Review Upper Myall (Bulahdelah) FRMSP</b></p>	<p>Matthieu Glatz (MHL)</p> <p>Matthieu gave an informative and detailed presentation to the committee with the main points being –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A large amount of data has been collected and reviewed to date with special mention of the assistance of the images and local knowledge provided by Eric Saville.</li> <li>• Drainage system data included in review and some pipe and culvert size anomalies were found.</li> <li>• A number of key previous Studies were used in this review.</li> <li>• The first round of Community consultation conducted with the mail out of a flood survey to members of the Bulahdelah community.</li> <li>• Extensive model calibration including data from more recent 2015 event undertaken.</li> </ul>

	<p>Member comments –</p> <p>Richard M – raised that this study area contained a number of complex flooding inputs especially in relation to the “head on” meeting of the Crawford and Myall River systems.</p> <p>Evan V – noted that the town entry bridge over the Myall River results in a choke point. The other important consideration is the very short 6 hour timeframe for flooding to reach peak.</p> <p>The Chair thanked Matthieu for his presentation. Refer attached MHL presentation for more detail.</p>
<p><b>General Business</b></p>	<p><b>Racecourse Creek Old Bar FRMSP –</b></p> <p>Evan V – online video presentation available from Council website. Proving to be a good tool for public consultation.</p> <p>Peter Neale – the creek has become a dumping ground for residents with property backing onto the creek. The David Street road culvert crossing pier also becomes a choke point with debris buildup.</p> <p><b>Manning FRMSP –</b></p> <p>Various discussions on flood gate condition, maintenance and auditing. Possibility of grant funding to maintain flood gates raised. The existence of Drainage Unions was raised and it was suggested that stakeholder consultation between Council and Drainage Unions be undertaken in relation to flood gate management (Evan to convene meeting).</p> <p>Farquhar inlet discussion included the height and condition of the beach berm with Evan commenting that there has been evidence of wave overtopping of the berm occurring as recently as early Nov in normal sea conditions. The berm is at 1.6m AHD and two adhoc surveys have shown that the level of the sand behind the berm is still lower than the notch level of 1m AHD. There was also discussion as to what is the most suitable flood notch height with comment that the current Entrance Opening Management Plan height of 1.0m AHD be lowered to zero AHD. Evan advised that Council has a licence to maintain a flood notch and when there was enough sand the notch would be constructed. There was also group discussion on when and where inlet dredging should occur including where to place the removed sand.</p> <p><b>Upper Myall (Bulahdelah) Review –</b></p> <p>Eric Saville raised the matter of the operation of the Big4 Caravan Park at Bulahdelah in relation to the unauthorised work they have carried out. Evan commented that the matter was in the hands of Councils Compliance team for actioning.</p> <p><b>BOM Flood Gauges –</b> Evan reported that he had noticed that the data from 5 existing flood gauges in the Lower Manning was no longer available on the BOM website and had made enquiries to the BOM as to why. (Note: This has subsequently been rectified post meeting.)</p>

	With no further General Business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 11:20.
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### Next meeting

Date	05 February 2021	Time	9:30 am
Venue	MCC Administration and Customer Service Centre Yalawanyi Ganya Taree.	Note-taker	Peter Hatton