



SHCG

**Scotts Head
Community
Group**

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Ordinary Committee Meeting, 5th May 2026 @ 6pm, Reserve Hall, Scotts Head

Minutes

Commenced: 6.00 pm

Acknowledgement of Country: Delivered by Chair

Apologies: Moira Ryan, Janet Granek, George and Elizabeth Druissi, Matt Ward, Alan Turner, Ali Christopher, Neil Cuneen

Members Present: Tony Crimmins (TC), Jason Howard (JH), Deena Gilroy (DG), Richard Collins (RC), Caroline Winter (CW), Daniel Blackman, Alan Peters, Louise Ryall, Margie Burns, John Schmidt, Karen Welch, Mary Webb, Karen Brading

Guest Speaker - Daniel Blackman

The Scotts Head Community Group welcomed guest speaker Daniel Blackman from the Mid North Coast Legal Centre, with Chair Tony Crimmins thanking Daniel for taking the time to speak with the group. Tony noted from personal experience that many people in smaller communities often struggle to understand where to begin when they need legal assistance - or even whether help is available at all.

Daniel explained that MNCLC is a not-for-profit organisation providing free legal services across a large stretch of the Mid North Coast, from Nabicac through to Woolgoolga. The service operates permanent offices in Port Macquarie and Coffs Harbour, along with a range of outreach services - including regular fortnightly visits to Macksville.

The organisation is funded through a variety of government-supported programs and provides free legal information, advice, advocacy and community education to help people to understand their rights and resolve disputes before they escalate into larger problems.

Daniel's own work is heavily focused on disaster recovery support and community education, although the organisation assists with a broad range of legal and advocacy matters.

Daniel clarified that MNCLC generally does not provide free assistance in areas such as Family Law, wills and estates, immigration, or criminal law. One notable exception is traffic-related matters - particularly issues involving fines and driving offences. Daniel noted that there has recently been an increase in matters involving incorrectly worn seatbelts detected by cameras, and that MNCLC has been able to assist people through clarification of processes, advocacy, payment arrangements and referrals to agencies such as NSW Revenue.

The primary focus of MNCLC is civil law and legal aid assistance. Much of their work involves helping individuals navigate difficult situations involving government agencies, grants, insurance claims and consumer rights. Daniel explained that many people simply do not know where to turn, and that having knowledgeable advocacy and guidance can often completely change the outcome.

Areas where the organisation regularly assists include:

- Consumer law disputes
- Victim support matters
- Domestic and family violence support
- Disability support claims
- Employment matters, including unfair dismissal
- Insurance disputes
- Debt and financial hardship issues
- Privacy and discrimination matters

Daniel shared several practical examples of recent assistance provided by the service, particularly following floods and natural disasters. These included helping residents dealing with housing issues near river systems, supporting people caught up in increasingly sophisticated scams, and assisting residents facing poor workmanship during insurance repairs and recovery works.

One particularly important area of support has involved advocating for people experiencing financial hardship after flood zoning changes - situations where residents can no longer obtain insurance and are subsequently unable to sell their homes. Daniel explained that MNCLC has often been able to help ensure banks and organisations provide fairer consideration and more reasonable outcomes in genuinely difficult circumstances.

Another strong message from Daniel was that the organisation is highly collaborative and willing to work alongside other services wherever feasible, including undertaking pro-bono work in appropriate situations.

A key takeaway from Daniel's presentation was that even when MNCLC cannot directly assist with a particular legal matter, they are often able to refer people to the most appropriate legal service or organisation. Sometimes simply knowing where to start - or who to speak to - can make all the difference. He provided a range of helpful brochures and contact details (see below) for attendees.

For anyone in the community needing guidance or support, the Mid North Coast Legal Centre can be contacted on (02) 6580 2111 or via email at info@mnclgal.org.au.

As Daniel pointed out during the discussion: "What you don't know, you don't know - and that's often what prevents people from moving ahead and resolving things."

MID NORTH COAST LEGAL CENTRE

FREE LEGAL HELP

GIVE US A CALL
Tel: (02) 6580 2111
Telephone Interpreter Service available

info@mnclgal.org.au
www.mnclgal.org.au

The banner features a group of diverse people smiling and the MNCLC logo.

MID NORTH COAST LEGAL CENTRE

Many of life's problems have legal solutions.

We may be able to help you!

How can our FREE legal advice help?

- Do you have questions about your employment?
- Having trouble with fines or driving matters?
- Have you experienced discrimination?
- Would you like information on domestic & personal violence?
- Do you owe someone money, or they owe you?
- Are you having problems with a contract or have you been ripped off?
- Having trouble with the police?

MNCLC is funded by the Community Legal Centres Program administered by Legal Aid NSW.

The brochure features a dark blue background with a yellow and white graphic element.



PART A - STANDARD ITEMS

1. Minutes of previous meeting:

The minutes from Mar 24th 2026 were deemed a true reflection of the meeting.
Moved : RC Seconded : JH

2. Disclosure of interests (refer last page)

No change since Feb 2025

3. Correspondence and Communications (inc. newsletter, website & socials)

a) Correspondence

- i) Skate Park liaison between SHCG and Council’s Community & Engagement officer, to facilitate community user participation. The process has now commenced - and funds from the community have been transferred to council.
- ii) Call to TC from Michael Kemp's office on 20 April, to advise the Community Building Participation Funding Round had just been advertised. This was discussed at the last Leadership Group meeting, as a way to fund the refurbishment of the change rooms at the oval. **(See more Part B - under General items).**

b) Communications (inc. newsletter, website & socials)

- i) There was extensive dissemination of information to the community via website & socials to inform and encourage involvement in strategic plan consultations on Sunday 3rd May. **(See more Part B - under General items)**

- Wave advertising \$320
 - Membership \$20
 - PO Box Annual renewal (\$192)
 - Skate park contribution (\$5,000)
- Closing balance as at May 4, 2026: \$3,682.69

Gardening account - 02058166

- Opening balance from last meeting: \$3,029.60
- Changes:
- Gardening donations \$ 51.95
- Closing balance as at May 4, 2026: \$3,081.55




Skate park fund account - 02063935

- Opening balance from last meeting: \$6,762.50
- Changes:
- Transfer to main account (\$183.73)
 - Skate park contribution (\$6,578.00)
- Closing balance as at May 4, 2026: \$0.77

Other items

Exploring set up of Humanitix account to manage Coast & Cultivate bookings

Account Summary: Screenshot account balances as at 4 May 2026

 <p>Business Access BSB 533000 Acc 32831060</p>	<p>\$3,682.69</p> <p>Balance \$3,682.69</p>
 <p>Business Access BSB 533000 Acc 02058166</p>	<p>\$3,081.55</p> <p>Balance \$3,081.55</p>
 <p>Business Access BSB 533000 Acc 02063935</p>	<p>\$0.77</p> <p>Balance \$0.77</p>

d) Secretary – Deena Gilroy (DG)

Issued the **March minutes** and the **May agenda** provided via email to the Chair TC for SHCG-wide distribution.

e) Public Officer – Richard Collins (RC)

Reserve Hall Refurbishment Update: RC advised that he, Caroline and Ezra met on Tuesday 28 April to progress final arrangements for the long-awaited Reserve Hall refurbishment project, including finalising quotations and confirming commencement planning.

After a lengthy period of planning and discussion, it now appears the project is finally moving into delivery phase, with works needing to be completed by the end of the financial year — an exciting

milestone for the community and all those who have been advocating for improvements to the Hall facilities.

As previously discussed, the refurbishment works will require the temporary relocation of current user groups during the construction period. RC confirmed he is happy to reconnect with affected groups, provide reminders and updates, and assist in facilitating the transition arrangements as required.

Latest update – Work scheduled to commence beginning of June.

g) Gardeners Sub-Committee – George Driussi

In Georges absence, we advise readers to take note of the new plantings mentioned in the Newsletter (available on our website) - and note that sub-tropical Garlic is also one of the favourites we will see!

h) Manager Reflections Holiday Park - Caroline Winter

- CW advised there had been an excellent convergence of visitors across the Easter school holiday and ANZAC Day period, with the Park reaching full capacity during the second week of the school holidays - a very positive outcome for the village and local businesses
- CW also extended a sincere thank you to Tasty Bites Bakery (Scotts Head) for providing Easter treats for visitors, which were very well received — particularly the thoughtful use of paper packaging
- Marine Rescue NSW conducted a highly successful pancake breakfast within the Park, attended by approximately 150 children and families. The event was praised as a great example of community collaboration, with several positive outcomes achieved. Marine Rescue volunteers also collected cans and bottles from the event and surrounding areas, helping reduce waste disposal costs while raising funds through the 10-cent container return scheme to support Marine Rescue activities. The event also provided valuable opportunities for community education and water safety awareness
- CW advised that Ecolinx has now been engaged for a further six months to continue reserve and weed management works, with recent efforts focusing on the Little Beach headland area. Consideration is also beginning around what may be involved in possible future cultural burning activities - as part of broader environmental management practices - with a focus mainly on awareness and understanding.
- CW noted that she continues to learn more about the many complexities associated with managing the Park and surrounding Crown land areas, including the distinctions between cultural and commercial fishing activities and the associated management considerations and risks
- Cath O'Donnell recently delivered a well-attended and highly engaging community talk on bees, attracting both local families and experienced beekeeping enthusiasts. The session also inspired many helping hands - young and old alike - to assist in revitalising the camp kitchen herb garden.
- Club Scotts also delivered a complimentary program of activities throughout April for both guests and the wider community, helping create many positive shared experiences, receiving very encouraging feedback from participants
- With the busy holiday period now slowing, CW reiterated TC's earlier encouragement for as many community members as possible to complete the Strategic Plan survey and participate in helping shape priorities for the future Scotts Head Master Plan

CW also echoed RC's advice that the long-awaited refurbishment of the Reserve Hall meeting room is now imminent. **Latest update – Work scheduled to commence beginning of June.**

- CW further advised that NSW Crown Lands will not be renewing leases for the remaining 12 long-term semi-permanent vans within the Park. It was noted this is not unique to Scotts Head and is occurring more broadly across coastal holiday parks throughout NSW. CW acknowledged this news has understandably been upsetting for affected residents and visitors, with difficult conversations required as a result

5. Vote in New Members

Name of new member/s - Karen Brading, Colleen Henry

Moved : DG Seconded : RC

PART B - NEW OR ONGOING ITEMS

6. **General Business**

a) **Master Plan Project Reference Group – 26 March Update:**

TC advised the preliminary Reference Group meeting which was held just after our previous SHCG meeting in April, focused on confirming the project scope, process and timeline for the Scotts Head Master Plan.

A particularly positive outcome was the inclusion of Buzz Brazel Oval within the project considerations, ensuring the area will form part of the broader long-term planning discussions.

Two further Reference Group meetings are also scheduled for 28 May and 18 August. These sessions will bring together additional information, community feedback and emerging ideas as the project progresses.

Following this process, the outcomes and recommendations will be collated into a report for wider public consultation before being presented to Council for consideration and endorsement. Once a preferred direction has been determined, Council will then be in a position to seek grant funding opportunities and incorporate priority actions into future Operational Plans to help bring the agreed vision to life.

b) **Master Plan Community Consultation held 3rd May** - covered in Chairman's report Part A 4.a)

c) **Skate Park Update** - as covered under Correspondence - Part A. 3.a) - and - also worth noting, SHCG facilitated council contact with an extended group of relevant Scotts Head families and users for inclusion in consultations.

d) **Meeting with Local Member Michael Kemp 31st March:** TC and DG met with local State Member Michael Kemp to discuss SHCG's ongoing advocacy for secure recurrent funding to support the long-term maintenance, repair and environmental management of Scotts Head's foreshore areas - and related community facilities.

During the meeting, TC expressed appreciation for the noticeable improvements currently taking place across foreshore and environmental areas managed by Reflections Holidays. He acknowledged the recent efforts to address run-down facilities, as well as the additional staffing and resources being directed toward environmental maintenance and management.

While appreciative of these positive steps, TC also highlighted the community's concern that there remains no guaranteed recurrent funding model in place to ensure this level of maintenance and improvement continues into the future. It was noted that there appears to be limited direct funding support from NSW Crown Lands, despite Crown Lands retaining ownership responsibility and contracting management functions to Reflections.

Concerns were also raised regarding the absence of clearly articulated, measurable long-term maintenance and improvement plans to guide ongoing environmental stewardship and facility upkeep for the Scotts Head precinct.

Mr Kemp advised there is an established process for progressing these matters, and indicated that a formal briefing paper from SHCG would assist him in advocating further on the community's behalf. TC has since provided the requested briefing material to Mr Kemp's office, and the Group remains hopeful that this may help progress a more secure and sustainable funding outcome for Scotts Head.

e) **State Gov't Building Community Participation Grant Program 2026:**

The NSW Government's Building Community Participation Grant Program for 2026 is now open, and SHCG has been working with local builders to obtain input and indicative costings for a proposed upgrade of the Buzz Brazel Sporting Fields change room facilities.

We are pleased to report that verbal support has been received from Council for the submission of the application, and SHCG will now formally "throw its hat in the ring" in pursuit of funding for the project

If successful, the proposal would deliver a significant refurbishment and upgrade of the existing amenities, greatly improving the quality, functionality and presentation of the facilities for local sporting groups, community users and visitors alike.

7. Action Tracker

Meeting	Owner	Description & Status
24 Mar 2026	JH	To include item in Newsletter on RRR meeting held on March 10th
24 Mar 2026	TC	Liaise with MNC Legal Centre to arrange for information session to Scotts Head Community Completed.
08-Apr 2025	JG	Engage with NVC Community Development Officer (Jocelyn Box) re: representation from local Aboriginal community – Ongoing.
08-Apr 2025	Reflections	It appears the issue of illegal campers has significantly abated, and the urgency to address it via the boom gate strategy has eased. Revisit this option should it become problematic again in the future.
08-Apr 2025	TC	Research/locate evidence of a commitment toward the maintenance of Adin Street Reserve (Access filing cabinets with Moira Ryan). Completed

Tony Crimmins (TC), Janet Granek (JG), Jason Howard (JH), Richard Collins (RC), Deena Gilroy (DG), George Driussi (GD)

PART C – Meeting dates – (proposed for remainder of 2026)

Reserve Hall, at 6pm on Tuesdays – 16 June, 28 July, 8 September, 20 October, 1 December

Refer page 1, PART A (2) - Disclosure of Interests (last updated 11 Feb 2025)

Tony Crimmins	Member	Deputy Community Representative Gaagal Wanggaan Board of Management
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Meeting closed: 8:00 pm