

Cape Conversations

Cape Paterson Residents and Ratepayers Association Newsletter – November 2025



Bass Coast Statement of Planning Policy is now Finalised – It's Time to Celebrate!

The Cape Paterson Northern boundary is finalised. At last! The Statement of Planning Policy for the Bass Coast Distinctive Areas and Landscape was published in the Victorian Government Gazette on Tuesday 14th October. That means it is now legally enforceable for all future rezoning applications.

You can visit the Engage Victoria website for an update.

<https://engage.vic.gov.au/project/distinctive-areas-and-landscapes-program/page/bass-coast>

The northern boundary is now at Seaward Drive and is a Protected Settlement Boundary. Under the DAL legislation the boundary cannot be changed at the whim of a future Planning Minister (as it was in 2011). Any future change will require the approval of both houses of State Parliament.

Many members of our community have participated in the extensive planning process to achieve the desired outcome of protecting our unique coastal village from inappropriate overdevelopment. Future generations will benefit from this achievement, and our fragile coastline will be protected from overuse. Our community should justifiably be proud of this achievement.

The Statement of Planning Policy will now be embedded into the Bass Coast Planning Scheme.

This has been a long journey for the CPRRA, going back to 2009. We'll provide an update and have a celebration at the AGM in January so come along and share our community's success story.

Thank You John Coulter

The Cape Paterson community is indebted to long-term CPRRA Committee member John Coulter for his unwavering dedication and commitment over the past 16 years to ensuring our beautiful coastal village is protected from inappropriate expansion. Our community is indeed grateful for John's efforts and his quiet and persistent approach in achieving a successful outcome.

Diary Dates

Committee Meetings

November 29

Parents' Group

December 5

Working Bees

No working bee in December

Annual General Meeting

January 17, 2026 (see page 2)

Patrols Commence

22 November

Cape Acquathon

18 January 2026

Green Waste Amnesty

Don't forget about fee free green waste disposal from Saturday 1 to Sunday 23 November. Weeds, and some plants that cannot be mulched such as palm fronds are not accepted.

CPRR Annual General Meeting – 17 January 2026

For your diary - CPRRA's AGM will be held at the Cape Paterson Community Hall on 17 January 2026 from 11:00AM. As well as the normal business of reports and elections (see the call for committee members adjacent), we are going to celebrate the return of the village settlement boundary to Seaward Drive.

It has been a long struggle and there are people we would like to express our appreciation to and give you an opportunity as well to share your joy and relief as a community.

As always, we invite all to the meeting (but restrict elections and other voting to members only). A more formal notice will be sent in December.

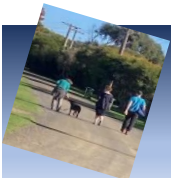
Call for New Committee Members

As many of you will be aware we declare all positions vacant at our AGM and formally seek nominees for the upcoming year. Some of us have been on the committee for several years and, as we enter a post-DAL era, think that it's time for a refresh, to bring new energy and ideas and hear from new voices.

Thus far, the incumbents who are not nominating for the executive roles are Vice President and Secretary. There are also general committee roles that we would love to fill.

The CPRRA was formed in the 1960's and continues to advocate for the community and make a difference. Cape Paterson is a very active and involved community with a wealth of talent and energy.

If you think you might be interested - just email us: secretary@capepatersonasn.org.au and we'll be happy to chat with you in confidence. If you'd like to have a look at our rules and our strategic direction, check the website: <https://www.cprra.org/about>



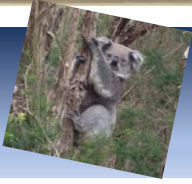
Planning and Infrastructure – enhancing liveability

Local Area Traffic Management Study (LATMS)

The final consultant's report on LATM Study for Cape Paterson has been made available on the BCSC website: https://hdp-au-prod-app-bass-engage-files.s3.ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/4017/6052/9459/25840_Cape_PatersonFinal_LATM20251015.pdf

The plan was adopted by Council at its meeting on 15 October. The proposals recommended in the LATM are unfunded, and the implementation of the proposals is subject to successfully obtaining funding from external funding sources such as the Black Spot Program and Transport Accident Commission (TAC) road safety funding.

CPRRA commends BCSC on undertaking the Study and looks forward to working with Council in prioritising projects with a particular focus on pedestrian and cyclist safety, reducing speed as well as parking and protection of our wildlife in line with our strategic direction. It is disappointing that CPRRA's request to include the eco village in the Study Area was not embraced.



Biodiversity

— protecting and conserving our environment

Working Bees

Our hardy volunteers spent the last few months continuing planning on the Boat Ramp slope (Hut View Road) as well as planting out more areas where boneseed has been removed over the past few years west of the Cape Paterson Surf Lifesaving Club.

Our October working bee saw us extend the boneseed eradication and we'll do more planting out next year.

Thanks to our band of volunteers for another successful year of working bees and continuing to protect our fragile coastal environment.



Our intrepid volunteers at work

Weed watch: *Dolichos* Pea (aka Dunny Creeper!)



This is yet another invasive species originating from (you guessed it!) South Africa.

Its common name is "Dunny Creeper" and was used in the past to screen and surround outside toilets. Sadly, it was used extensively during the time when unregulated camping occurred in the coastal foreshore between Cape Paterson and Inverloch (1920-1950).

It was used because it grew and spread quickly and it still persists in our coastal reserve. The flower develops pea like pods which are then spread by wind or eaten by birds. If you see these, please remove them and dispose in green waste or landfill bins.

Research on the Impact of Litter on Plovers

Birdlife Australia informed CPRRA that a PhD student at Federation University is studying the effects of material discarded by humans (anthropogenic) on Hooded Plovers and Red-capped Plovers.

Birds interact with litter through ingestion, entanglement, and use of litter as nesting material, however the impacts of these interactions (i.e., whether they cause mortality and injury) are not clear.

Hannah Faraone will be collecting data from nests after they have failed or hatched - so we may see someone on the beach examining Hoodie sites. She will either be wearing Fed Uni clothing or a lanyard to identify herself.



Wellness

— enriching our community



A Place to Learn, Grow and Visit – Heather Allen, President

The Farm first opened for membership in September 2022 and now has 83 members. Although most of our members are resident in the eco village, farm membership is open to all and we encourage you to come and visit us, look around, talk to our fulltime farmer Adrian James or alternatively visit our website at <https://capecommunityfarm.org.au/>.

Membership is \$100 a year and this allows you to rent food cubes and grow your own produce (\$54 per year per cube), participate in many volunteering opportunities where you will learn gardening and growing tips from our farmer, meet other farm members and generally engage in a thriving sustainable community.

Members have priority access to our events along with discounted ticket pricing. Events range from social activities such as our Passatta day earlier in the year, a trivia afternoon at the Tavern and our masterclasses (of which we ran or are in the process of running six in 2025) These have included sourdough bread making, pickling and preserving, nature journaling, coiled basket weaving and Vietnamese cooking.

Members can also purchase produce and seedlings from the garden at 50 % discount compared to non-members and enjoy discounted rates on the reset tubs we use in our food cubes.

We would love to see you at the farm and have you consider joining our community.

Adrian James, our farmer, can be contacted at farmer@capecommunityfarm.org.au and Heather Allen, President at president@capecommunityfarm.org.au