



**SOUTHERN PORTS - ALBANY**  
**PORT COMMUNITY CONSULTATION COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Minutes of Meeting**

Wednesday 28 February, 5:00pm

Port of Albany, Board Room  
85 Brunswick Road, ALBANY

**PRESENT:**

**Committee members:**

Chair	Ian Moss
Community Member	Angela Ritchie
	Dawn Atkin
	Edwin McLean
	Geraldine Ennis
	Michael Hunter
	Rod Symes
	Tina Queale
	Tony Harrison
City of Albany representative	Andrew Sharpe (Teams)

**Southern Port (SP):**

Board representative	Wiebke Ebeling
Regional Manager	Paul McSweeney
Environment Manager	Paul Mackey
Corporate Communications Manager	Alana Monaghan (Teams)
Office Coordinator	Denise Fisher

**APOLOGIES:**

CEO	Keith Wilks
Deputy Chair	Graham Foster
Community Member	Simone Klose
	Dawn Atkin

**ITEM 1 WELCOME**

The Chair opened the meeting at 5:00pm and welcomed the committee.

**1.1 Potential conflicts of interest**

Nil conflicts of interest were noted.

**1.2 Records of attendance / apologies**

Apologies were noted.

**ITEM 2 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the previous PCCC meeting held on 29 November 2023 were agreed as being a true and correct record.

The meeting noted the response to the Questions on Notice received from Tony Harrison at the previous meeting were emailed to the committee with the agenda.

**ITEM 3 BUSINESS FOR DISCUSSION**  
**Albany Port Pilot Cottage Precinct Redevelopment**  
**Paul McSweeney, Regional Manager**  
**Paul Mackey, Environment Manager**

- The Pilot Cottages have a significant historical and cultural history. The cottages were first constructed in 1853 and housed the pilot crew and coxswains.
- The Pilot Cottages are State Heritage listed. Recently the Heritage Council had a tour of the site, with positive interested received.
- Southern Ports have received letters of support from the Chair of the WA Heritage Council, GSDC and the City of Albany.
- The precinct is located midway along the Boardwalk between Binalup and Albany's city centre. The site is now part of the City of Albany Kinjarling Albany Connect 2026 Strategy. Thank you to the City of Albany, Andrew Sharpe and team for the strategic vision.
- The project commenced in 2017 with baseline conditions report undertaken by Heritage Architect Conservation Management Strategy developed for the site.
- In 2021 Southern Ports partnered with UWA's School of Design to consider options for reinvigorating the Pilot Cottages.
- Current work is underway with the University of Notre Dame to undertake a research standard archaeological investigation.
- The redevelopment will yield adaptation and reuse of the existing fabric that does not adversely impact on the Heritage value. There will be a significant amenities upgrade, covered alfresco area, café and playground with interpretation of the site history.
- A funding business case has been submitted to The Treasury.
- For the Bicentenary 2026, Albany Port are working on 'Voiceprints' an oral history of Albany Port and Princess Royal Harbour. The project will capture the working women and waterfront workers and families. Recently Margaret Fisher (86), the wife of late Jim Fisher, lived and worked in the Pilot Cottages from 1961 – 1992. They raised 5 children in the cottages. The interview will be recorded in Voiceprints.
- It is envisioned Albany Port will take responsibility for maintenance of the precinct, a self-guided museum experience in the cottages and a small coffee / café business onsite.

**ITEM 5 ALBANY PORT UPDATE**  
**Paul McSweeney, Regional Manager**

- At the end of January 2024 trade is 30,000 ton in front of comparative trade from last year's record.
- Opportunities to facilitate trade from Berth 6 continue to be investigated. The Berth is occupied 16% of the time, with the Port not owning or having control of the ship loader.
- Berth 3 blast and paint works are nearly finished. Berths 1 & 2 works will commence next, with pylons, deck, soffit and fender repairs. Berths 1 & 2 are 20 years past their design life. Southern Ports are continuing to work on strategies for replacement of the Berths.
- Albany Port are working with lease holders at the western end of the Port Reserve to manage asbestos. The fenced areas around the administration office are where there were previous asbestos buildings. The area will be remediated. Albany Port has recently updated the Asbestos Register.
- The last round of Community Investment Program has allocated approximately \$18,000 to community groups within the Great Southern.
- The site occupied by Ampol Australia has been a fuel depot at Albany Port for approximately 50 years. They will cease operations and a process has begun to decommission and clean up the site.
- The new tug Svitzer Karoline is expected mid March. This will be the second replacement tug.

- Capt. Rob Liley has recently announced his retirement. Paul acknowledged Rob's service at Southern Ports as Harbour Master. Capt. Jean Naude has been appointed as Interim Harbour Master.
- Albany Port continue to have a strong record on safety, with one LTI of twisted ankle in a rabbit hole and twisted back with lifting a traffic cone in the last 2 years.

The committee enquired about the Vital Foods site and concerns of asbestos. The Regional Manager replied the site is owned privately. Southern Ports and the City of Albany are doing what they can to encourage the site to be cleaned up.

## **ITEM 6 ENVIRONMENT UPDATE**

### **Paul Mackey, Environment Manager**

In the previous meeting there was a comment regarding the poles being installed at the grassed area on Brunswick Road. Paul Mackey advised it is a safety back up to stop the slasher from going over the bank edge.

The Oral History Project Voiceprints is part of Albany Port's contribution to the Bicentenary 2026. One episode will be premiered at the Open Day coming up on 27 April 2024.

## **ITEM 7 MEDIA REPORT**

### **Alana Monaghan, Corporate Communications & External Affairs Manager**

- Minister for Ports, the Hon. David Michael visited Albany a couple of weeks ago, including a Port tour with Keith Wilks, RM and two ELT members.
- Comms activity over the past quarter has included:
  - media related to the Albany Waterfront Project is from the western end of the port boundary to the Wool Stores. The project has commenced stage 2 led by GSDC.
  - working with Tourism WA on potential indigenous welcome statement project.
  - liaising with Svitzer on the media announcement for the two new tugs.
  - support for our stakeholder function, which was recently held in Albany.
  - profiling Albany as a cruise destination, including advertising leading up to the season on socials.
  - media for Australian Bluegum Plantation's 300<sup>th</sup> vessel.
- Steve Lewis Regional Scholarship was recently launched. The applications close on 6 March.
- Southern Ports was successful at the DCN awards, taking home two high commendations and Port of the Year.
- Community Investment Program - there were ten groups in Albany who were supported in the last quarter. There is a meeting tomorrow to assess the current round of applications.
- Currently planning the annual corporate photoshoot in Albany.
- The Albany Port Open Day advertising will commence soon.
- The next Stakeholder satisfaction survey will be kicking off next month, with the PCCC expected to be contacted for feedback.
- Southern Ports is expanding the communications team, with hopefully a presence in Albany. The Community & Relationships Partnership Manager is one of the new roles.

## **ITEM 8 MEMBER DISCUSSION**

There are seven PCCC members whose term expires on 30 June 2024. The Secretary will email the members with Renomination Forms. At the PCCC meeting in May the applications will be considered and a recommendation to the CEO.

The PCCC provided positive feedback on the Albany Stakeholder Function and how great it was to see how many women are in leadership roles.

The meeting discussed the water speed limit around Mistaken Island, recently there have been two near misses of a swimmer and diver. Paul Mackey said to contact the DoT to discuss as they have jurisdiction of recreational vessels.

The cruise ships visiting Albany and encouraging them to stay longer and overnight were discussed.

Tony Harrison acknowledged the response for the QoN. The proposed transshipping operations as part of the Grange Resources Southdown Project was discussed.

Andrew Sharpe mentioned the Council approved for the Structure Plan to guide the development of the old wool stores. More information is on the City of Albany's website.

The PCCC provided positive feedback on the footpath works being developed on Marine Drive.

A question on the highest level tide data was taken on notice.

## **ITEM 9 ITEMS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION/PRESENTATION**

The list of items for discussion from previous minutes include:

- Collaboration with the Albany Community on the Bicentenary 2026 – City of Albany
- Albany Harbours Sustainability Group
- Albany Waterfront Project - GSDC
- Albany Marina - DOT

**Meeting closed: 6:25pm**

### **2024 meeting dates**

29 May

28 August

27 November