

**LORNE AFFORDABLE HOUSING ONLINE COMMUNITY MEETING 1
5 JUNE 2023**

Penny Hawe (Chair). Introductory remarks

I'm from Friends of Lorne, I'm chairing the session tonight and I am speaking to you from the traditional lands of Gadabanud people. I pay my respects to elders past, present and emerging.

A few months ago I was in the Lorne Post Office, with my form for stopping the mail for few weeks as we were going away. I passed it across to Amkur. He looked at it, and frowned and said 'this is going to cost a lot, but look, if we just change this date and for those 2 days we hold it here, then look, you'll save \$8.90.' *I was delighted.* And then a couple of weeks ago I learned that Amkur, who just went to the bother of saving me \$8.90, travels every day to work here from Pt Cook.

So that is what tonight's about. There's a lot of people like Amkur. *We have a collective responsibility to make Lorne affordable for those who work here - people who are part of making Lorne such a wonderful place to live.*

Here on the organising team we have **Anna McIldowie**, whom many of you know as a keen community advocate and **Alicia Hooper** who is the housing officer from the Council. In a moment I'll turn over to them to walk us through the methods we'll use to ask questions.

But let me first start by acknowledging Ian Stewart, the founding chair of the Committee for Lorne. Ian's leadership on this topic resulted in the production of the report on some of the different options we may be able to take. I also want to acknowledge that joining us tonight we have 6 of the Surf Coast Shire councillors, the CEO of the Surf Coast Shire Council, and also the chair of the Board of the Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority

This is just the first of several open public meetings like this. Our aim is to educate ourselves about different ways to solve the problem, learn from other places, share information, and set up the mechanism to deliberate on options and the most likely combinations of options that might work best here.

Tonight, we will start with a few words from **Gary Allen** our local councillor and then shift across to our speakers: **Leon Walker**, from the Lorne Business and Tourism Association, to talk about seasonal worker accommodation needs, Cr **Libby Stapleton** to tell us what they are doing to create affordable housing up the road at Aireys Inlet, and Assoc Prof **Louise Crabtree-Hayes** from the Western Sydney University, who is an expert in Community Lands Trusts. The CfL report (*Accommodating Lorne's Future*) suggests we should have one of those. Hardly any of us really understand what they are. But Louise does!

The speakers have been asked to talk for no more than 10 minutes allowing us to have a ton of time for questions. We'll run through to 5.30pm. Don't worry, if you're not sure who can answer your question, ask it anyway and if none of the speakers or other participants can answer it, we'll get it answered for next time. Finally, we've asked **John Higgins** the incoming Chair at CfL to make a few remarks at the end. We're recording the meeting to make sure we don't lose information or questions.

So over to you now Alicia and Anna to explain the way we'll ask questions and get us to practise.