



Mornington Peninsula
Beach Box Association

Advocacy Plan 2025-30

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The Mornington Peninsula Beach Box Association acknowledges and pays respects to the elders, families and ancestors of the Bunurong people, who have been the custodians of this land for many thousands of years. We acknowledge that the land on which we meet is the place of age-old ceremonies, celebrations, initiation and renewal; and that the Bunurong people's living culture continues to have a unique role in the life of this region.

OVERVIEW

The extraordinary coastline of the Mornington Peninsula is the region's most valuable asset. Victorians live, work or visit it every year, along with interstate and international visitors. A unique addition are the 1300 beach boxes which enhance the foreshore, adding to the local communities, businesses, tourism and recreation of the region, safeguarding its wellbeing and biodiversity.

Mornington Peninsula Beach Box Association (MPBBA)

Founded in 2001, the Mornington Peninsula Beach Box Association (MPBBA) is a volunteer run incorporated association representing licensees of beach boxes within the Mornington Peninsula Shire.

With more than 1000 members – and growing – covering more than 1300 beach boxes located on more than 20 beaches across the Peninsula, the MPBBA seeks to conserve and enhance the diverse bio-cultural landscapes on the Port Phillip side of the Peninsula.

Beach box licensees are an integral part of the broader community who respect the local foreshores and environment. They are responsible for high standards of care and maintenance of their beach boxes and the surrounding foreshore and beach. In so doing, licensees make a significant contribution to the community's cultural, historic, landscape and coastal places.

Through licence and transfer fees, Shire rates and waste service charges, licensees contribute more than \$3 million in revenue annually to the Mornington Peninsula Shire, Dromana Foreshore Committee of Management, Capel Sound Committee of Management and the Whitecliffs to Camerons Bight Committee of Management.

This advocacy document captures the key issues identified by our members around sound coastal management and adaptation ahead of the November 2026 Victorian election. This is a five-year plan, acknowledging that, for many of these issues, there is no 'quick fix'.

Most of the issues presented – particularly those relating to coastal erosion, stormwater management and beach amenity – are not specific to beach box owners. Rather, they impact any Victorian who lives, works or visits the Peninsula.

Our members are ready, willing and able to partner with the Victorian Government and its agencies and other key stakeholders to find innovative solutions to secure better environmental outcomes, improve the beaches, foreshores and water quality, and protect and enhance this treasure of Victoria's coastline for our community for generations to come.



Beach boxes, Capel Sound

KEY ADVOCACY PRIORITIES



Address coastal erosion and inundation impacting beaches and infrastructure including paths, carparks, beach box structures and coastal areas on the Mornington Peninsula by working with Government, its relevant agencies, the Shire and other relevant stakeholders



Improve stormwater management by working with Government, its relevant agencies and the Shire to address the impacts to human health; damage to properties, beach box structures, footpaths, carparks and other coastal infrastructure; detrimental consequences to our natural environment, and social harm.



Abolish the annual waste service charge the Mornington Peninsula Shire levies on licensees of beach boxes. No waste service bins nor pick up service is provided.



Improve amenity along the Peninsula including coastal infrastructure and beach foreshore maintenance, addressing sand accretion, better management of foreshore vegetation, littering, vandalism and graffiti.



Seek a Planning Scheme amendment incorporating a heritage overlay to reflect individual or groups of beach boxes to recognise their historic, cultural and iconic significance on the Mornington Peninsula.



COASTAL EROSION

THE ISSUE:

Coastal erosion is a major issue for the Mornington Peninsula as identified in the Mornington Peninsula Shire Council's [Our Coast, Our Future](#) document.

Impacts associated with changes in wave action are acknowledged in several government reports calling for urgent action over the last decade. Storm activity and rising sea levels associated with climate change have also had a detrimental impact. Combined with man-made features including dredging and widening of the heads along the Peninsula, several foreshores are being impacted, affecting beach box licensees. These include:

- Mt Martha North Beach, Mt Martha;
- Shire Hall Beach, Mornington;
- Fishermans Beach, Mornington; and
- Shelley Beach, Portsea.

[A 2023 report commissioned by DEECA](#) regarding the stability issues with the cliff immediately behind the beach boxes at Mt Martha North, which identified several landslide risks, resulted in about 50 licensees being denied access to their boxes for six months. Stakeholder groups have been advocating for many years for appropriate solutions and that failure to implement recommended solutions by consultants and stakeholder groups is why the issues remain – and, in some instances, worsened.

The Association is willing and eager to work with relevant stakeholders to agree priority projects and quantify the costs to fund a significant program to deal with beach erosion and the impacts of stormwater management along the Peninsula.

COMMUNITY BENEFITS:

- ✓ Retain iconic beaches of the Mornington Peninsula
- ✓ Improved public access, safety and amenity along these beaches, foreshores and public paths, including the Esplanade
- ✓ Addressing these issues will not only benefit licensees, but all who live, work and visit them.
- ✓ It will also increase visitation and address anti-social behaviour.

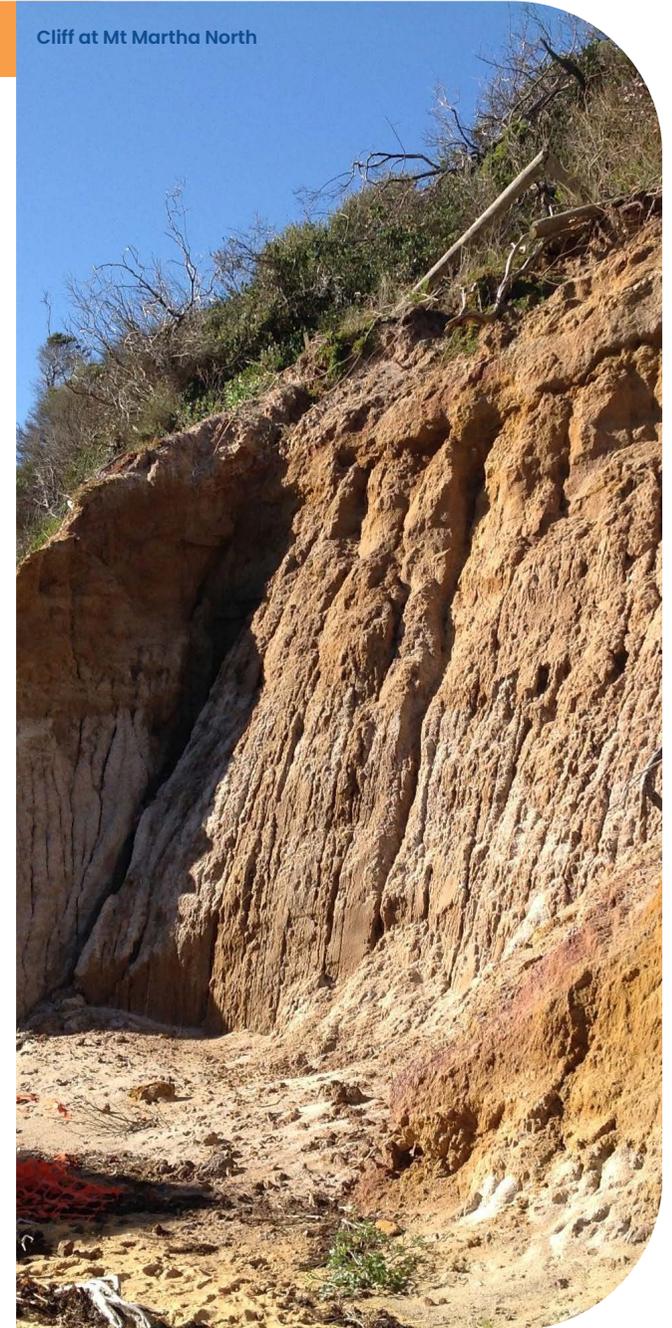
RESPONSIBILITY:

Mornington Peninsula Shire and State Government (DEECA)



Energy, Environment and Climate Action

Cliff at Mt Martha North





COASTAL EROSION

Mt Martha North Beach, Mt Martha

Mount Martha North Beach is one of the most degraded beaches in the whole of Port Phillip Bay. Its location sees it exposed directly to prevailing winds from both the north and the west/southwest. The beach is under constant threat, as is the adjacent cliff and associated infrastructure – both public (various access points and The Esplanade) and private (beach boxes). Since the early 2000's, northerly winds have predominated, denuding the beach from time to time and denying the beach's natural replenishment.

In mid 2010, and again in late 2021, replenishment works were undertaken without any associated works to retain the sand. This provided barely three seasons of benefit before being swept away.

The cliff at the rear is inherently unstable which has been exacerbated by wave action at the base. This has been addressed periodically by the sand replenishment and by 'temporary' rock revetment works. Erosion caused by storm water runoff from the Esplanade and intersecting streets adds to the problem. The cliff's instability presents a direct, ongoing threat to the Esplanade which provides an important alternative north-south route to the Nepean Highway and Peninsula Link.

In short, the beach has no protection from the elements.

A natural rock groyne forming an extension of a small promontory marking the northern end of the beach provided it with a level of protection until the rock was eroded away and its reinstatement represents an obvious means of mitigating erosion and retaining sand.

THE ASK:

Sand replenishment is only a temporary solution. Enabling sand to be retained on the beach through more long-term sophisticated solutions is required. Engineered solutions are needed.

The Association is advocating for a groyne to be reinstated in place of the natural rock groyne to help mitigate erosion and retain sand. This action has been considered previously by Water Technology in 2017, [Mount Martha North Coastal Processes Investigation and Future Management Recommendations](#).

The installation of an artificial reef to mitigate coastal erosion has also been considered previously. A study conducted by ASR in 2011, [Assessment of Submerged Reefs for Coastal Protection in Port Phillip Bay](#) in which Mount Martha North Beach was one of the study sites found "that this approach can be used as part of an effective shoreline protection and management plan for Port Phillip Bay". This solution has been effectively implemented at several locations across the Bellarine Peninsula.

RESPONSIBILITY:

Mornington Peninsula Shire and State Government (DEECA)

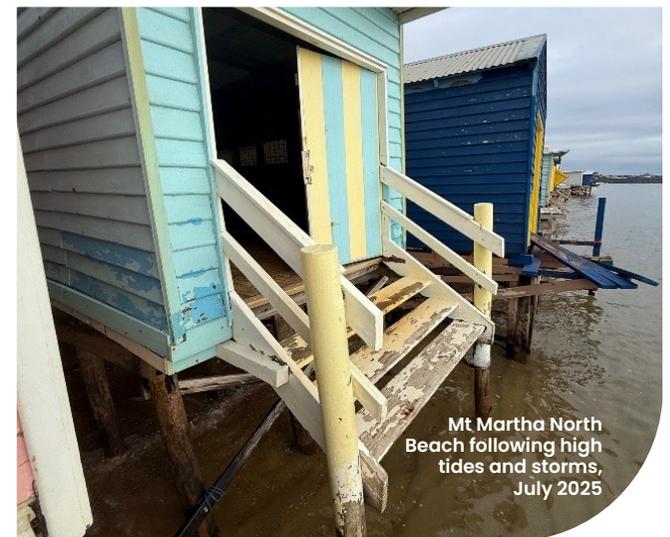


Energy, Environment and Climate Action

Mt Martha North, April 2022



Northern end of Mt Martha North Beach, October 2025



Mt Martha North Beach following high tides and storms, July 2025



COASTAL EROSION

Shire Hall Beach, Mornington

Shire Hall Beach is one of the most degraded beaches on the Peninsula. The installation of concrete wave screens on Mornington Pier in 2013 significantly altered the physical profile of the beach to the point where it is now eroded almost beyond practical use. There has been significant sand loss resulting in a much narrower beach, rocky shoreline, unstable beach boxes and disappearing sand dunes and vegetation.

Various expert studies effectively predicted this would occur, including SKM's [Mornington Safe Harbour Environmental Effects Statement](#) and Mornington Harbour Parks Victoria Pier Protection. It was also confirmed in the Mornington Shire's desktop review.



Shire Hall Beach, Mornington, markings on box show previous sand level, May 2024

Combined with the storm water drainage issues, the beach and foreshore area have been badly eroded resulting in a loss of public amenity, anti-social behaviour resulting from lack of visitation, safety issues for licensees accessing their beach boxes and difficulty for visitors accessing the beach safely.

THE ASK:

The Association believes a range of potential solutions exist, including:

- The installation of artificial reefs or groynes;
- Amendment to the design of the wave screens on Mornington Pier, such as the replacement of the current wave wall with a semi-permeable one
- An annual redistribution of sand from Mothers Beach to Shire Hall Beach;
- Planting more coastal vegetation on sand dunes;
- Appropriate monitoring of the physical profile of the beaches and the movement of sand; and
- Creating a better stormwater drainage system.

RESPONSIBILITY:

Mornington Peninsula Shire and State Government (DEECA)



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Before: Shire Hall Beach, 2010



After: Shire Hall Beach, 2022





COASTAL EROSION

Fishermans Beach, Mornington

The removal of wooden groynes from the middle area of this beach and dredging of the Bay have resulted in significant erosion. There is a danger of cliff collapse in several places. Footings have been exposed on some parts of the retaining walls; parts of the wall have collapsed and not been repaired. The loss of sand resulted in the middle stairs requiring additional steps - indicative of sand loss of 1 to 2 metres.

THE ASK:

Concrete footings remaining on the beach from an old toilet block or beach box have acted as a groyne helping save the beach, retaining walls, cliff and the Esplanade from further damage.

However, the Association is advocating for groynes to be reinstated. This will have the dual impact of retaining the sand, securing retaining walls and protecting the cliff, vegetation, and The Esplanade for licensees and the wider community. The Shire had also previously fenced off some areas and erected danger and warning signs.

RESPONSIBILITY:

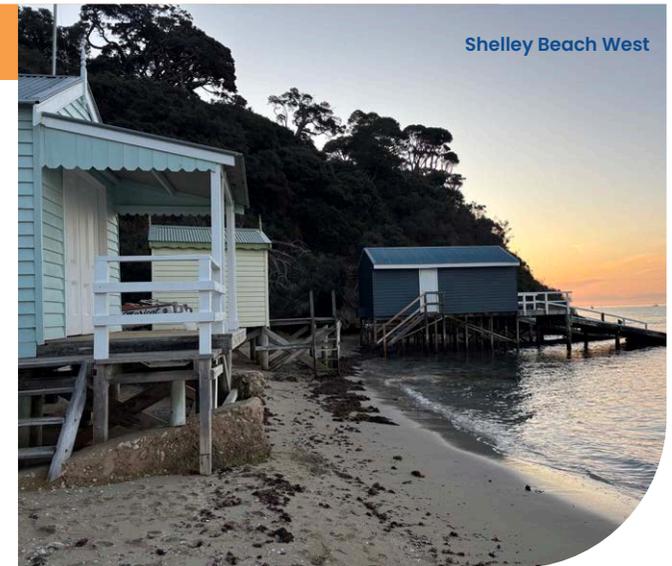
Mornington Peninsula Shire and State Government (DEECA)



Energy, Environment and Climate Action



Old groyne footings and concrete footings exposed during periods of sand loss at Fishermans Beach.



Shelley Beach West

Shelley Beach West, Portsea

Since the channel deepening, there has been increased wave action at the western end of Shelley Beach. Combined with north westerly winds this has resulted in erosion to the cliff, damage to vegetation, significant sand loss, damage to steps at the western path and a threat to beach boxes.

THE ASK:

A groyne be constructed on the existing rock shelf that extends near the cliff, reducing the effect of the wave action.

RESPONSIBILITY:

Mornington Peninsula Shire and State Government (DEECA)



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STORM WATER MANAGEMENT

THE ISSUE:

Significant rainfall during storm events, combined with inadequate drains and their management, has caused coastal erosion, resulted in pollution levels that don't comply with Environment Protection Authority Victoria standards, and detrimentally impacted marine life.

Significant rainfall during storm events and increased urban development with large, roofed areas and hard surfaces without a proportional increase in drainage outfall infrastructure has also significantly contributed to the issue. In some instances, storm water drains are posing a risk to public safety.

The most heavily impacted areas are:

- **Waterfall Gully Drain (McCrae):** Significant drainage issue, causing polluted water in the outfall near Ray Barker Park.

In late 2023, Melbourne Water received queries regarding the water quality of the Waterfall Gully Creek due to significant stormwater management issues at Waterfall Gully Drain, McCrae.

To understand if water quality was an issue, Melbourne Water funded Mornington Peninsula Shire to undertake a small [water quality sampling program](#) for the catchment.

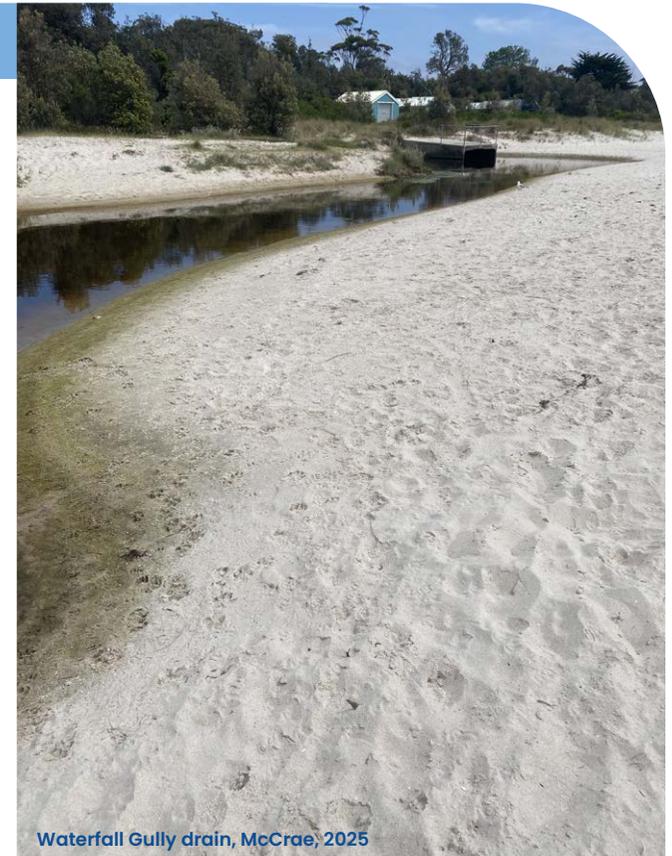
Based on the advice of Melbourne Water's senior water quality scientists, the most likely sources of the pollution were:

- **Septics leaking** into the drainage system (high E.coli and high ammonia levels);
- **Sewer leaking** into the drainage system (for the same reasons); and
- **Illegal cross connection** into the drainage system.

The other heavily impacted area is at **Dromana:** Drainage issues have resulted in erosion and polluted water at the McCulloch Street and Foote Street drains.



McCulloch Street drain, Dromana, October 2025



Waterfall Gully drain, McCrae, 2025



Drainage issues resulting in erosion and polluted water at McCulloch Street, Dromana



STORM WATER MANAGEMENT

Other beaches along the Mornington Peninsula impacted by inadequate management of drains include:

- **Mt Martha North:** Lack of proper drainage on the Esplanade at Mt Martha above Mt Martha North beach, particularly in the vicinity of Helena Street, Augusta Street and Alice Street resulting in uncontrolled run-off has contributed to the cliff's instability and a threat to the Esplanade.
- **Shire Hall beach:** Inadequate drainage has resulted in damage to the foreshore and access paths.
- **Mt Martha South:** Flash flooding levels of up to two metres in undersized drainage culverts such as those at Hearn Creek in March 2017, October 2022 and October 2024, combined with up to 500mm of rain in the adjacent carparks, have inundated at least a dozen beach boxes with silt. This has compromised sub-floor structural ventilation, washed out carparks, and regularly denude the beach of around 1000 tonnes of sand.
- **Safety Beach:** Drainage issues at Sheep Wash Creek.
- **Ranelagh Beach:** Stormwater drainage issues causing erosion.

Hearn Creek silt trap lid following storm, Mt Martha South, 2022



THE ASK:

Installation of appropriate drainage along the Esplanade at Mt Martha North. Appropriate upgrade to drainage outfalls at McCrae, Shire Hall Beach, Mt Martha South, Safety Beach, Ranelagh Beach and Dromana.

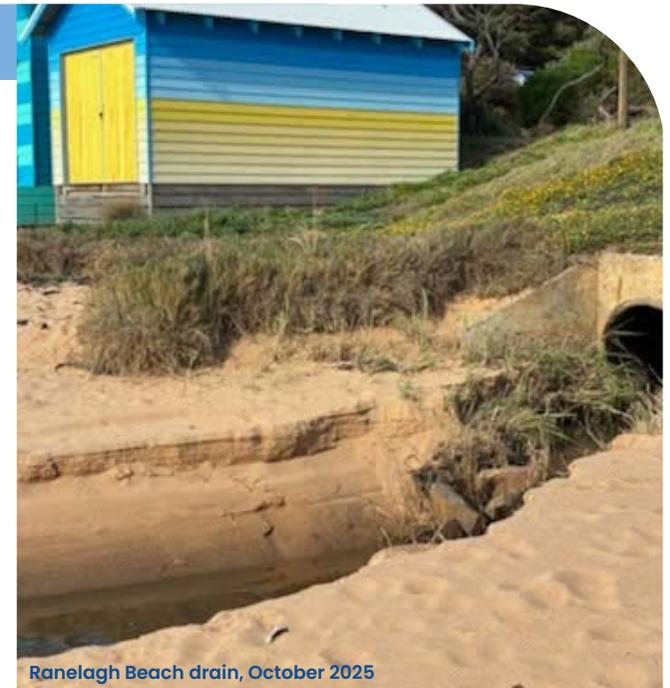
Regular testing of storm water by EPA Victoria to determine E.coli levels. The Association is willing and eager to work with all key stakeholders to agree priority projects and quantify the costs to fund a significant program to improve stormwater management along the Peninsula.

COMMUNITY BENEFITS:

- ✓ Preservation of the Peninsula's iconic beaches, coastal infrastructure and foreshore areas. Improved water quality for all Victorians living, working or visiting these beaches; improved public access, safety and amenity.

RESPONSIBILITY:

Mornington Peninsula Shire and Melbourne Water



Ranelagh Beach drain, October 2025



Sheep Wash Creek, Safety Beach, October 2025



MAINTENANCE OF COASTAL INFRASTRUCTURE

THE ISSUE:

Coastal infrastructure including retaining walls, toilets, stairs and paths should be properly maintained for the safety and benefit of all beach goers.

THE ASK:

- An asset audit to be undertaken by the Shire and relevant foreshore Committees of Management, working with the MPBBA to agree priority projects to be budgeted for by priority.
- A high priority would be to identify retaining walls at risk.
- If the management committee advises they will not undertake repairs, affected licensees will be contacted to see if they will contribute funds for repairs.
- This would require the Shire to streamline approval processes for the proposed repair works to be undertaken, particularly if they are to be completed by licensee.
- Identify other infrastructure including toilets, stairs and paths that need repairs and maintenance.

COMMUNITY BENEFITS:

- ✓ Improved public access, safety and amenity for all Victorians who live, work and visit these areas.

RESPONSIBILITY:

Mornington Peninsula Shire and
State Government (DECA)



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Fishermans Beach Mornington October 2025



SAND ACCRETION MANAGEMENT

THE ISSUE:

Accretion of sand to the side, behind and underneath beach boxes results in a high risk of termite infestation, access issues, maintenance issues, public safety risk and potential loss of licence.

Currently there are several areas where the permitted method of removing sand by bucket and spade is clearly not feasible.

THE ASK:

- Approval for an electric [sand pump](#) to become a permitted sand removal method to redistribute sand from unwanted locations to other useful zones on the beaches at the cost of the licensee;
- Where sand accretion is in dramatic proportions, MPBBA seeks the support of the relevant foreshore committee to assist in the removal of the impacted sand.

RESPONSIBILITY:

Mornington Peninsula Shire and State Government (DECA)



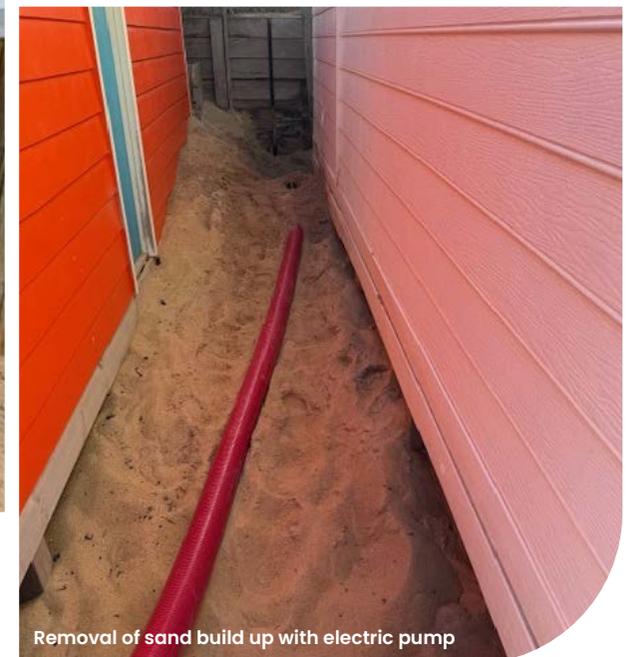
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Sand build up at Mount Martha South



Removal of sand build up with electric pump



Removal of sand build up with electric pump



VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

THE ISSUE:

Lack of regular management of foreshore vegetation including trees, shrubs and excessive undergrowth can pose a fire risk, public safety risk, cause access issues and increase the chances of break-ins.

Some committees of management undertake regular trimming of vegetation and ensure vegetation is trimmed back to within a particular distance from all sides of a beach box.

Vegetation in some areas on the Rosebud foreshore has not been trimmed for many years. Rosebud Police have commented that some areas pose a fire risk and increase the opportunity for break-ins or vandalism.

The Whitecliffs Foreshore Reserve undertakes routine vegetation maintenance in Spring with follow-up in early December. Emergency works may be completed at any time where boatsheds may be damaged. Licensees can request non-urgent works via an online Vegetation Works Request.

All foreshore committees of management need a consistent, coordinated policy and action plan, including a weed mitigation program.

THE ASK:

The Mornington Peninsula Shire and all foreshore committees to undertake regular trimming and management of vegetation including identifying trees at risk of falling or losing branches.

COMMUNITY BENEFITS:

- ✓ Improved amenity and access on impacted foreshores; reduced fire risk; increased public safety.

RESPONSIBILITY:

Mornington Peninsula Shire and relevant Committees of Management



Rosebud, October 2025



Rosebud, October 2025





HERITAGE LISTING OF BEACH BOXES

THE ISSUE:

The heritage recognition of the historic, cultural and iconic significance of the many beach boxes along the Peninsula should be respected.

The community values the unique environment and history associated with beach boxes. Heritage recognition would respect community sentiment and protect the linked history around the Peninsula.

There are currently no beach boxes on Crown land on the Mornington Peninsula listed on the Shire's Heritage Overlay. The Shire commissioned a [heritage study of beach boxes on the Mornington Peninsula](#) by noted heritage planner Graeme Butler & Associates which was published in 2004. The Butler Report recommended several individual and groups of boxes be considered for inclusion on the Heritage Overlay.

The heritage value of the beach boxes at Dendy Street, Brighton has been recognised and included on the Victorian Heritage Register.

The MPBBA has commissioned its own research by a consultant town planner to consider Mr Butler's report and the ramifications of proceeding to a Planning Scheme Amendment, like that enacted regarding the Brighton beach boxes in the City of Bayside. The Association supports the consideration of a Planning Scheme Amendment.

THE ASK:

A Planning Scheme Amendment to protect the inclusion of individual or groups of beach boxes on the Mornington Peninsula Shire.

We are of the view that the heritage study and Planning Scheme Amendment for the Brighton beach boxes precinct is a useful precedent.

The MPBBA seeks to discuss the implications of Mr Butler's report with the Shire to consider if Council intends to update or proceed to implement any actions proposed by Mr Butler's Study. We believe any further consideration should be via a joint working party between Council and the Association.

COMMUNITY BENEFITS:

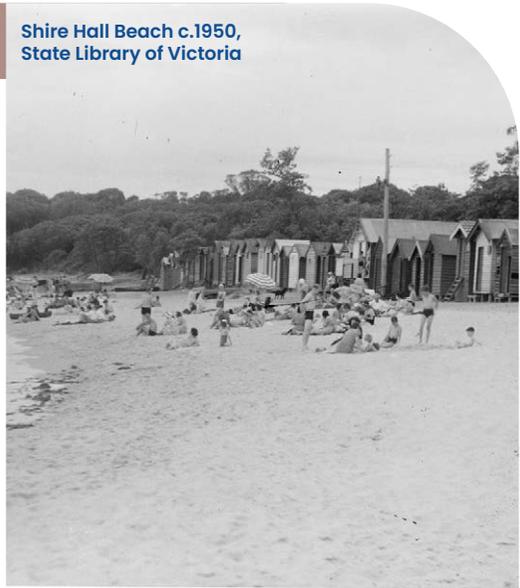
- ✓ Like their Dendy Street, Brighton counterparts, the Mornington Peninsula beach boxes are of aesthetic significance to the Victorian community in exhibiting the iconic colours and forms of beach boxes of the Victorian coastline.
- ✓ The visual impact of the vibrant, brightly painted exterior walls of the beach boxes are enhanced by their coastal setting. Images of the beach boxes, in many cases with Peninsula's coastline featured in the background, are iconic to the State.
- ✓ They are renowned not only for their function, but for their landmark qualities as a backdrop to many celebrations and casual visits to the Peninsula's beaches.

RESPONSIBILITY:

Mornington Peninsula Shire and State Government (DTP)

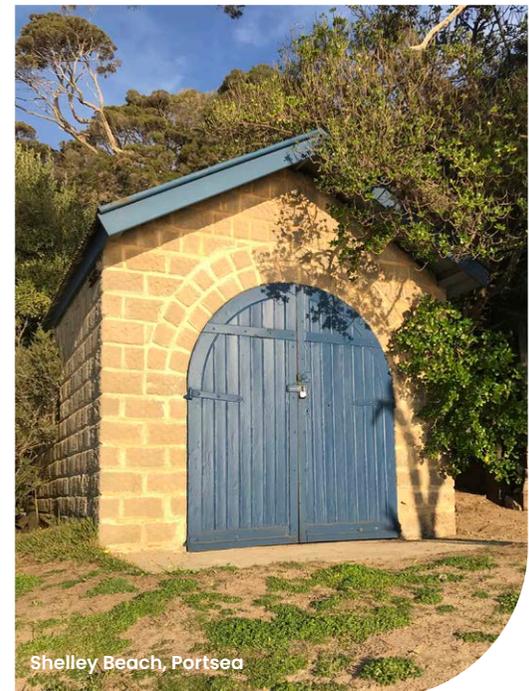


Department of Transport and Planning



Shire Hall Beach c.1950, State Library of Victoria

SHIRE HALL BEACH, MORNINGTON, VIC.



Shelley Beach, Portsea



DISPUTE RESOLUTION

THE ISSUE:

If a beach box licence is revoked, there is no compensation and currently no offer by certain committees of management to relocate to another site. Currently, there is no appeal process for beach box licensees disputing a decision by their Committee of Management or DEECA. The various Committees of Management (ie Council) have the final say determining outcomes. The only pathway for an appeal currently is to go to DEECA, and then possibly to the Minister that appointed the Committee of Management.

The MPBBA has concerns about the interpretation of the State Government's [Guidelines for the management of existing bathing boxes and boatsheds on marine and coastal Crown Land - March 2022](#)

THE ASK:

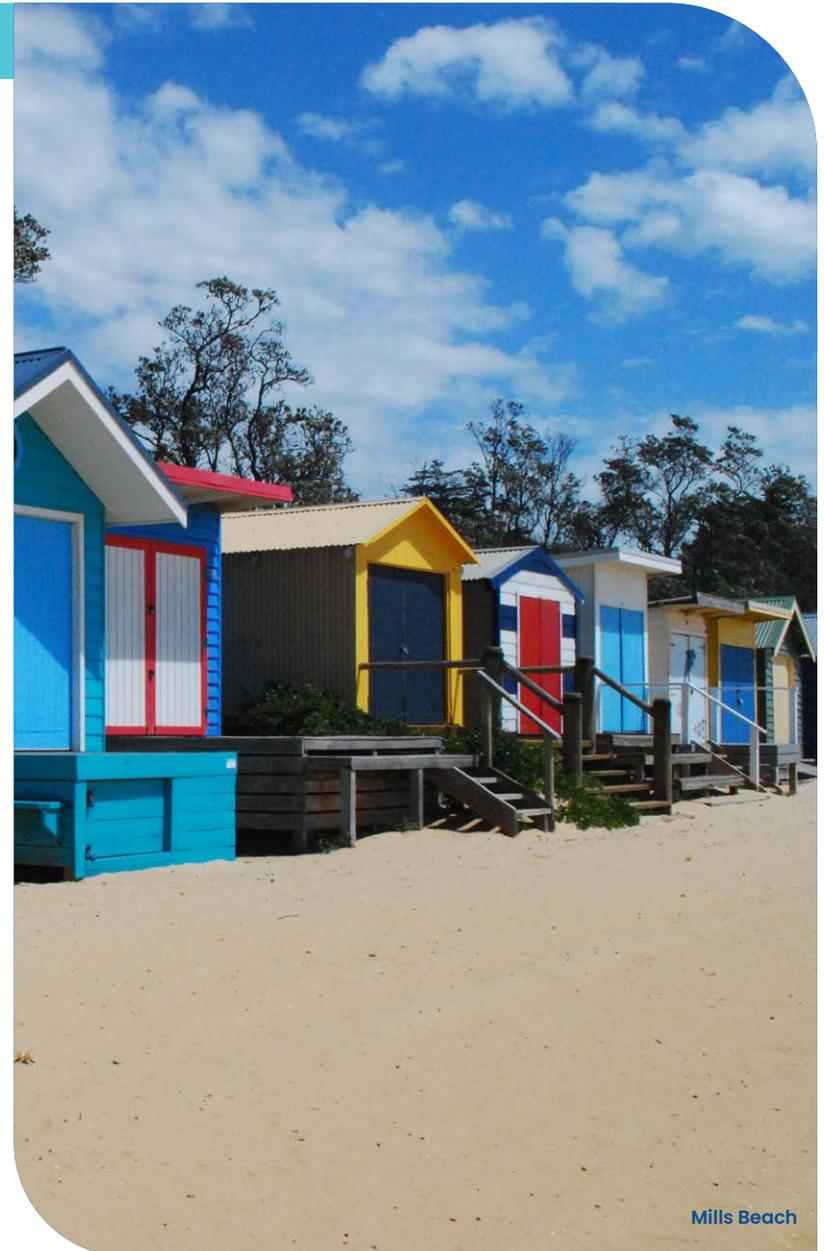
- That the relevant committee of management consult as early as possible with the licensee regarding any concerns about renewing a licence, as solutions may be found to resolve the concerns.
- If a beach box site is no longer considered viable and the licensee is ordered to demolish their box, alternative sites should be investigated and an offer made to the licensee to relocate to an alternative site. (Several relocations have been permitted in recent years by the Whitecliffs to Camerons Blight Foreshore Committee of Management.)
- That a formal dispute resolution process be inserted in all licences to assist where renewal is in doubt.
- That an appeal clause be included in the licence or Boatshed Policy that refers disputes to either an independent expert ([eg the Resolution Institute](#)) or to the Victorian Civil and Administrative Appeals Tribunal (VCAT). The Association is willing to obtain a legal opinion regarding the most effective process.

RESPONSIBILITY:

State Government (DEECA) and Foreshore Committees of Management' as joint responsibility.



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Mills Beach



MORNINGTON PENINSULA SHIRE BEACH BOX POLICY

THE ISSUE:

The Mornington Peninsula Shire Boatshed and Bathing Box Policy 2000 needs to be updated in line with more current policies such as the Brighton Beach Box Licence.

In 2020, a new draft Policy went out for public consultation with the MPBBA and others lodging submissions. A second draft was issued in the same year with another submission by the MPBBA, before work stopped.

THE ASK:

- Mornington Peninsula Shire to provide a further draft Policy for comment in line with licences agreed at Brighton Bathing Box Association.
- Consult via a Shire and MPBBA joint working party regarding the draft policy, then share with all beach box licensees for comment.

RESPONSIBILITY:

Mornington Peninsula Shire



Dromana Beach, January 2025



SOLAR POWER

THE ISSUE:

Under existing [State Government guidelines](#), the installation of solar power is prohibited on beach boxes.

Cl.3.5 Connection of Services

Cl. 3.5.1 'There is to be no new power, drainage, sewerage, water, gas, telecommunications, surveillance cameras or similar services connected to bathing boxes or boatsheds'.

Cl. 3.5.2 'There is to be no installation of solar or wind power systems or non-portable standalone power sources such as deep-cycle battery banks.'

However, only a few beach boxes are connected to electricity.

Beach boxes are often subject to significant vandalism. Solar power would permit surveillance cameras to be installed, providing a deterrent and assisting police in reducing the incidence of graffiti and anti-social behaviour around beach boxes.

THE ASK:

Amend the [State Government guidelines](#) to allow approval of solar power and surveillance cameras to beach boxes. The licensee would be responsible for the cost of the approved items.

COMMUNITY BENEFITS:

- ✓ Approval of solar power and surveillance cameras for beach boxes would improve safety, discourage vandalism and assist police with identifying individuals who break into beach boxes.

RESPONSIBILITY:

Approval required from State Government and Committees of Management.



Wall mounted solar panel



WASTE SERVICE CHARGE

THE ISSUE:

The Mornington Peninsula Shire is the only municipality in Victoria that levies a waste service charge on licensees of beach boxes – despite no such service being provided.

The MPBBA believes Council does not have the authority to levy this charge because it is not providing the service (ie no bin or pickup service is provided for each beach box).

THE ASK:

Mornington Peninsula Shire Council to remove the annual charge from beach box licensees.

Mornington Peninsula Shire Council should make this change through the Council-proposed Revenue and Rating Strategy review.

After a few years of registering an objection to Council regarding this waste service charge on licensees, the MPBBA started legal proceedings which resulted in a court case MPBBA VS MPSC concerning the charge for the financial year 2018–2019. The judge found the charge on beach box licensees lawful.

Since the hearing on 1 August 2019, there have been significant changes in the law and further developments. The judge relied on the Local Government Act 1989 for his decision and that act has now been superseded by the Local Government Act 2020.

The State Government's best practice [Service Performance Principles](#) took effect in March 2024.

Council should implement these guidelines which state that "It is **not good practice** for a council to levy a Service Rate or Charge to fund services that do not provide a direct benefit to the occupancy subject to the Service Rate or Charge."

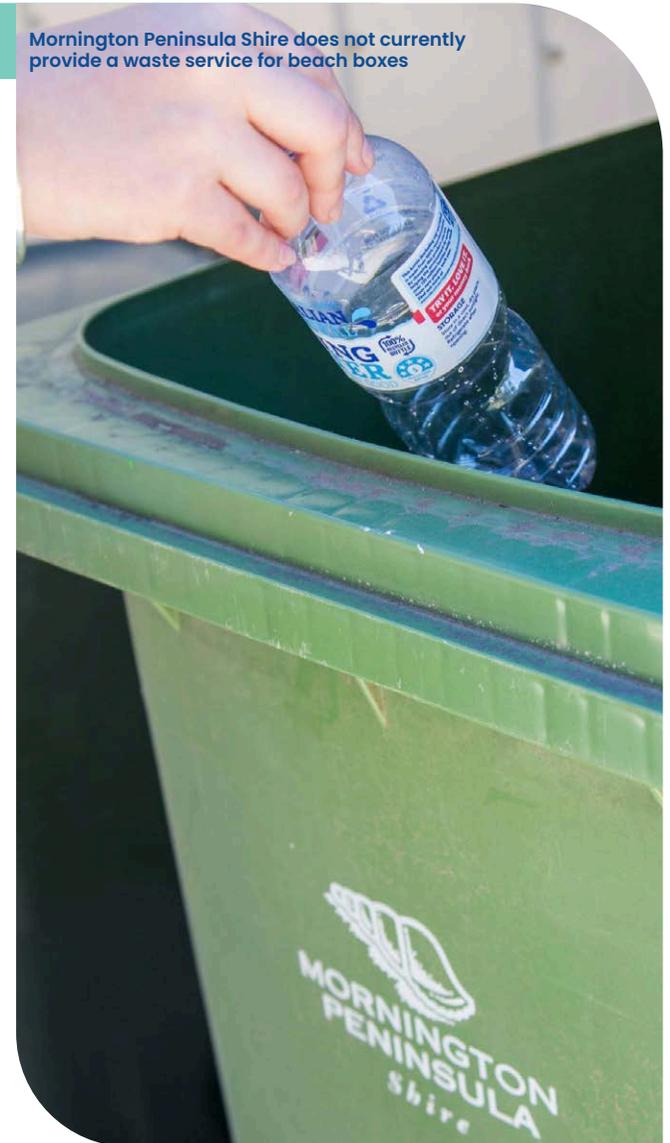
If the proposition to remove the charge is rejected by Council, MPBBA will request the Essential Services Commission implement the State Government policy and refuse Council permission to continue the charge.

RESPONSIBILITY:

Mornington Peninsula Shire and Essential Services Commission



Mornington Peninsula Shire does not currently provide a waste service for beach boxes





LOCAL AMENITY (including Vandalism and Graffiti, Anti-Social Behaviour and Homelessness)

THE ISSUE:

Break-ins, damage and graffiti occur regularly to beach boxes, resulting in cost and distress to licensees, use of valuable police time and affect the amenity and enjoyment of the foreshore for all visitors.

Combined with anti-social behaviour such as public drunkenness, abusive language directed at visitors, drug-taking and illegal lighting of fires, the local amenity and enjoyment of the foreshore is being impacted not only for beach box owners, but indeed all visitors.

The issues associated with homelessness and rough sleepers occupying beach boxes or the abutting area are difficult for beach box licensees to manage. While licensees are sympathetic to the plight of individuals impacted by homelessness, they need help in finding alternative accommodation.

Licensees have reported break-ins, fires, evidence that areas around boxes are used as toilets, health concerns, litter, safety concerns and discouraging visitors to foreshores.

The benefits of murals in public spaces are well recognised in reducing graffiti, encouraging tourism, providing opportunities for local artists and youth, increasing visitation in quiet areas and increasing community pride in the area.

A mural project could be funded through grants, or licensees may be willing to fund or co-fund.

THE ASK:

- Improved signage near tracks at Mt Martha South beach and Shire Hall beach which cover the consumption of alcohol/drug use/illegally lighting fires and the penalties. Police to patrol problem areas, especially in summer.
- Mornington Peninsula Shire to review and strengthen their [Graffiti Policy](#)
- Mural art project to deter graffiti and increase visitation to areas.
- The MPBBA is keen to explore collaborating with the Shire, committees of management, community groups and local businesses to identify areas with groups of beach boxes that would benefit from a mural project.
- Licensees further secure their boxes. This could include lining the walls with substantial timber plywood, integrated door locking mechanisms and installing security alarm systems (either stand-alone or communicated back to base) with the installation of a solar charging system for battery regulation should a grid connected electricity supply not be available.

COMMUNITY BENEFITS:

- ✓ Improved amenity and public safety for all beachgoers

RESPONSIBILITY:

Mornington Peninsula Shire and Foreshore Committees of Management



Shire Hall Beach mural on beach box



Graffiti at Shire Hall Beach





LITTER MANAGEMENT

THE ISSUE:

Excessive litter left on foreshores detracts from the experience of all foreshore visitors and may create public safety issues, especially with broken glass. Some licensees regularly collect large amounts of litter from the beach and surrounding boxes.

THE ASK:

- Provide bins in identified areas.
- Triennial review of appropriate signage by the Shire at the entrance to paths to the beach in 'hot spot' areas.
- Illegal/unacceptable activities and penalties to be clearly displayed to discourage this behaviour.

COMMUNITY BENEFITS:

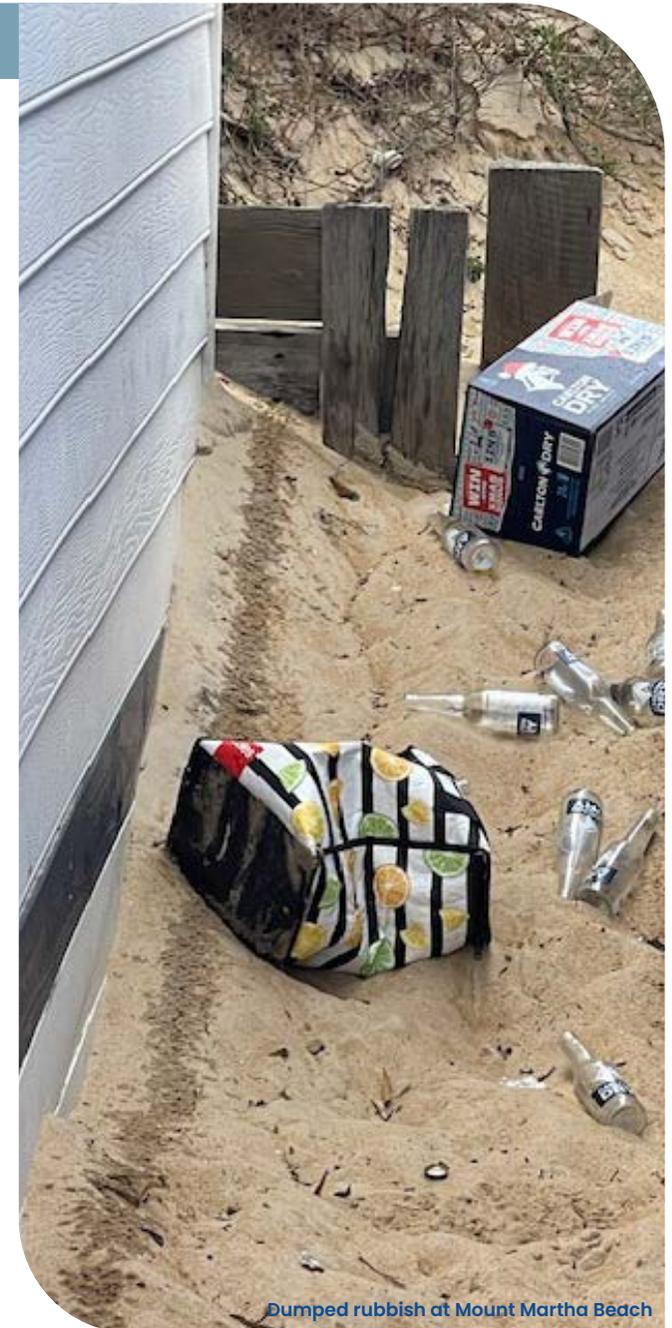
- ✓ Improved amenity and public safety for all beachgoers.

RESPONSIBILITY:

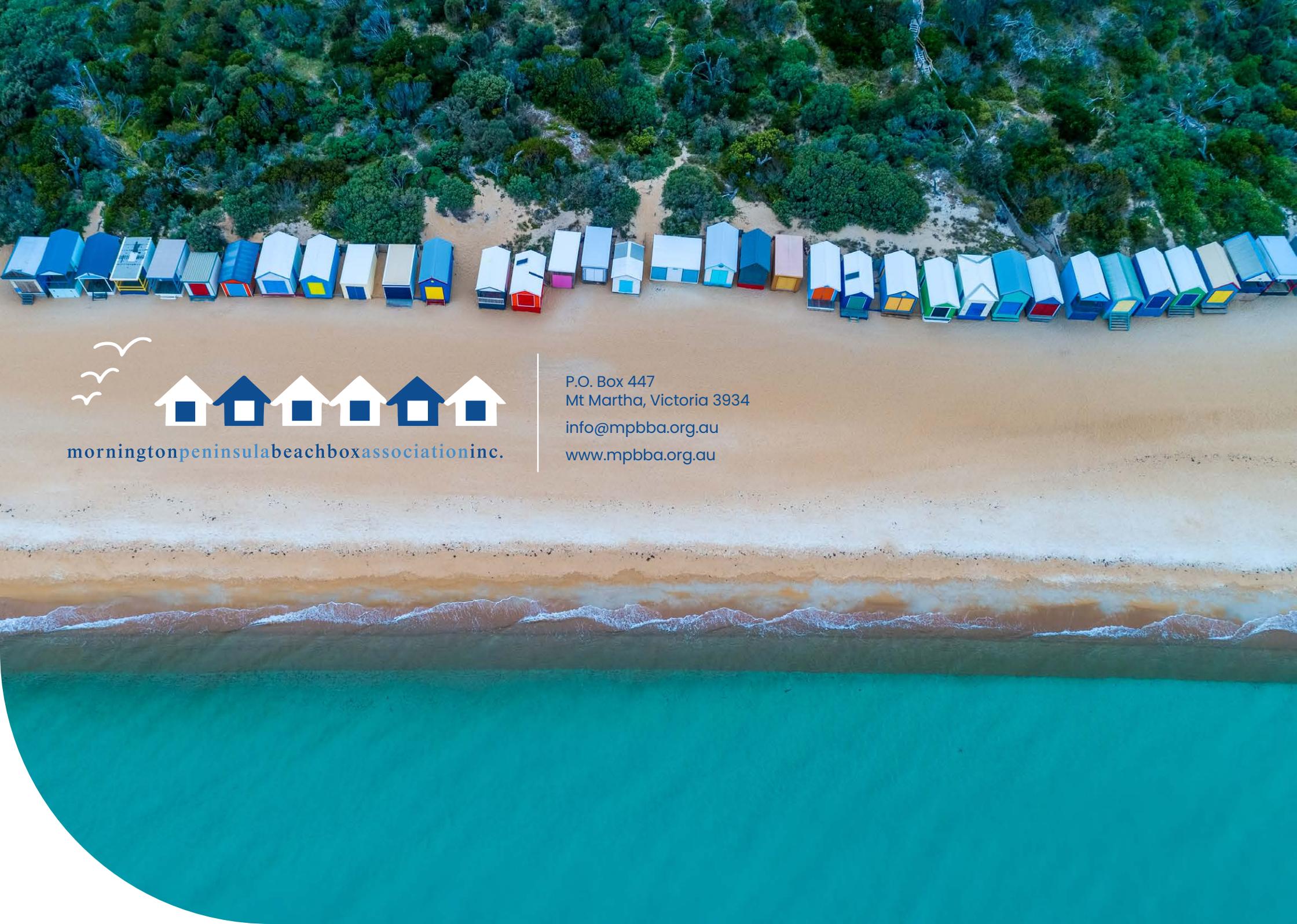
Mornington Peninsula Shire and Foreshore Committees of Management



Overflowing bin at beach path entry, Blairgowrie Foreshore



Dumped rubbish at Mount Martha Beach



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