

## **Press release – 17 Apr. 2007**

### **New action group for Swanbourne**

A group of concerned Swanbourne residents met at Swanbourne Beach this morning to launch a new group, 'SOS Swanbourne'. The group aims to be a voice for the Swanbourne community, in the face of several burning issues that have come up recently, such as a new marina and the current motion carried by Nedlands Council to build three beach volleyball courts at Swanbourne Beach, levelling the foredunes in the process.

For more information on the group's activities, a website and blog have been put together: <http://sos-swanbourne.typepad.com/>. The website will keep the community informed and will be a forum for the Swanbourne residents to express ideas and provide feedback on issues that affect them.

The group will have a presence at the beach every Saturday until the beach volleyball issue is resolved. A petition is circulating for local residents and other community beach users to sign.

Already over 90 local residents have signed the petition, which clearly indicates widespread community objection to the destruction of the dunes.

The Annual General Meeting of Nedlands Electors was held last night and a motion presented by a member of the community was carried by a substantial majority calling on the council to rescind its decision to level the dunes for the volleyball courts. This motion will be presented to the council for discussion at their meeting on the 24th April.

The group urges Nedlands councillors to carefully review the issue in the light of strong community opposition. Options include relocating the courts to a less environmentally-sensitive site away from the beach.

We call on all councillors to be accountable to their community and be truly representative of Nedlands residents, or else risk a community backlash that could threaten the operations of the council as a whole.

Contact: Jean-Paul Orsini  
SOS Swanbourne  
0405 006 720