

# AVOCA, ROYAL GEORGE & ROSSARDEN LOCAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Avoca, Royal George & Rossarden Local District Committee held at the Avoca Community Centre on Thursday, 28 January 2016 commencing at 6.06pm

## **1 IN ATTENDANCE**

Helen Reynolds (Acting Chair), Jacinta Allen, Dalija Wells, Tony Gee, Susanne Jones, Cr Mary Knowles, Des Jennings (General Manager), Gail Eacher (Executive Assistant)

Guests: Helen Richardson, Jane Mitchell, Leanne Phillips

## **2 APOLOGIES**

Claudia Freeman, Shirley Freeman

## **3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

### ***Dalija Wells / Jacinta Allen***

That the minutes of the meeting of the Avoca, Royal George and Rossarden Local District Committee held on Thursday, 24 September 2015 be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings.

Carried

The Committee noted that at the meeting of 26 November 2015 there was no quorum.

## **4 DECLARATION OF ANY PECUNIARY INTEREST BY A MEMBER OF A SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL**

In accordance with the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1993*, a member of a Special Committee must not participate in any discussion or vote on any matter in respect to which the member:

- a) has an interest; or
- b) is aware or ought to be aware that a close associate has an interest.

A member has an interest in a matter if the matter was decided in a particular manner, receive or have an expectation of receiving or likely to receive a pecuniary benefit or pecuniary detriment.

## **5 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

### **i) Monitoring Water Quality / Water Consumption**

The Committee were notified that TasWater had advised that

- They would hold a community information session in the near future re the water pipeline supply from Fingal to Avoca
- Construction of a water pipeline is expected to be completed by the end of 2016.
- That the shade cloth on the shelter provided for the tank at the town hall would not be improved as it was a temporary supply.

TasWater provided no comment in relation to the provision of a hose fitting for the tank at the fire station.

### **ii) Rossarden issue - Vehicle wrecks**

Noted that vehicle wrecks at the back of Baker Street houses and on the nature strip on the street frontage in Baker Street, Rossarden continue to be an issue.

The committee noted that removal of vehicles from private property would be at the discretion of property owners.

Information relating to the removal of vehicles has been provided to property owners by members of the Committee. Noted that some vehicles had been removed, however additional vehicles had also been parked.

### **Action**

*Council to write to Crown Lands to follow up in relation to any vehicles which have been abandoned on land owned by the Crown.*

#### **iii) 10 Year Plan**

At the August meeting the 10 year plan list together with minor amendments was adopted. The list has been considered by Council officers and proposed actions listed.

### **Action**

*The Committee agreed to consider and prioritise the list at an extraordinary meeting.*

#### **v) Policing**

Information re the laws governing the discharge of firearms to be provided to Council for inclusion in a future news item to be published.

Tasmania Police had been advised of meeting dates for 2016.

#### **vi) Green Waste/Builders Rubble**

a) At September meeting suggested that Council make provision for a once per month free green waste day at the tip as this may alleviate the need for Council to clean up green waste which has been illegally dumped.

b) Noted that the Tip operators were no longer accepting builder's rubble.

### **Action**

*a) Matter to be included in 2016/17 Budget requests.*

*b) Matter to be investigated.*

#### **vii) Footpath Program**

Previously the committee had requested that details of Council's footpath programme be circulated to the membership.

Noted that no new footpaths were planned for Avoca, plan was for maintenance only.

#### **vii) Affordable Housing**

Recommendation of the Committee had been noted Council and would be investigate by council officers. The committee noted that were this to occur, it could lead to a boost in pupil numbers at the local school.

Noted that in order for a community to be considered suitable for affordable housing, the community is required to be serviced by online sewerage. This being the case Avoca would be considered ineligible.

## **6 PENDING ITEMS**

#### **i) Rossarden – Walks and Attractions**

The Committee have previously requested that access be provided through Crown land to the Rossarden waterfall. GPS coordinates for the waterfall and access have been established by Council's Engineering Assistant.

Noted that Cr Knowles is working with NRM Officer, Monique Case, and Gary Cobb to progress this matter.

### **Action**

*Matter on hold.*

#### **ii) Road Closures/Improvements**

At previous meetings the deterioration of those roads previously managed by Forestry

Tasmania and Gunns had been noted and discussed. The Committee requested Council consider liaising with Break O’Day Council in order to improve “forestry” roads so that tourist attractions, such as waterfalls, could be accessed.

Council had sent a letter to the Break O’Day Council providing in principle support for the upgrading of gravel forestry roads to waterfalls project as tabled at that meeting.

At 29 May meeting noted that Cr Knowles had been in contact with the State Government re this matter and, at 28 August 2014 meeting, the Committee were advised by Cr Knowles that at the recent meeting with the Premier at Council’s Chambers, the matter had been discussed.

#### **Action**

*Placed on hold pending funding opportunities/ ownership issues*

#### **iii) Rossarden sculpture**

Designs to be considered, possibly mining themed. Eddie Freeman to provide design concepts.

Awaiting design concept of “miner” from Eddie Freeman.

#### **Action**

*Matter on hold.*

#### **iv) RV Friendly Status**

The Committee has previously requested that Council pursue RV Friendly status for Avoca.

Noted that an alternate site had been identified. However, should that site be developed overnight parking on the river bank would no longer be permitted, and that this may discourage stopping in Avoca. Need to consider whether to pursue the matter.

Noted that works associated with the preparation of a site would need to be considered in the 2016/17 municipal budget.

Agreed to place the matter on hold until such time as a full complement of members are in attendance at the meeting at which time a decision would be made on the course of action to be taken.

#### **Action**

*Matter on hold.*

## **7 CUSTOMER REQUESTS**

The following requests have been issued – update to be provided:

Meeting Date	Customer Request	Detail	Status
8/2015	Disposal of rubbish at football field and river	Rubbish is being dumped at football field between railway line and river on river’s edge, needs to be removed. (Request resubmitted).	Indicated that CR complete, however, garden waste, vinyl etc. still not removed.
8/2015	Boucher Park BBQ	Polycarbon cladding on BBQ vandalised and repaired, however, repairs are not satisfactory as sharp edges – polycarbon requires replacing.	Complete.
8/2015	Road Sign – Storys Creek Road	The Committee noted that a road sign was lying on the grass on Storys Creek Road in close proximity to Avoca.	TasRail notified. Committee noted that the height limitation sign for the rail bridge had still not been re-erected.
8/2015	Tree stumps – Storys Creek Road	Requested that the stumps that were left behind when the trees were felled be removed.	Complete
9/2015	Speed Signage – Rossarden entrance	That a speed reduction sign be installed before the sharp bend at the entrance to Rossarden (approx 1km from the bridge on the Avoca/Rossarden approach (sign installed on the opposite side of the road facing other direction, may have been installed on the wrong side).	Installed 5/11/15.

Meeting Date	Customer Request	Detail	Status
9/2015	Ruins at Walter Street Rossarden	House in Walter Street burned down some time ago. Council to please pursue clean up of the property.	Compliance matter being pursued.
9/2015	Barbecues at St Pauls River Recreation area	Requested that the old barbecues at St Paul's river be removed and that an adequate fire pit be installed.	Requires formal decision to be made by committee when full membership complement present.
9/2015	Directional sign – dog exercise area	Requested that a sign be installed at Boucher Park directing dog owners to the St Pauls River recreation area to exercise dogs.	Not a designated dog area, therefore signage is not to be erected.
9/2015	Doggy Bag Dispensers	Requested that an alternative design doggy bag dispenser be sourced and utilised as some difficulties are encountered in accessing the bags if the bags are not protruding from the dispenser.	alternative dispensers have been sourced for next time we order
9/2015	Open Drain on Falmouth Street Avoca – environmental concerns	Noted that there is a stench emanating from the open drain on the lower side of Falmouth Street (opposite the junction of Churchill St – on no through road section). Appears to be grey water with perhaps oil / paint content.	At time of visits by EHO no evidence of contaminants. Drain to be sprayed and cleaned out so that the situation can be monitored.
11/2015	Dead wallabies on walking track	Wallabies have been shot and left on the walking track near the old railway station, can the carcasses be removed?	Carcasses removed.
11/2015	Tree fallen into Creek at Rossarden	An old tree has fallen into the creek close to the bridge at the Avoca entrance to Rossarden. Can this be removed – concerns that may cause issues if there are heavy rains.	On Works list. To be considered when next in the area.
11/2015	Constant running water cnr Falmouth/ Blenheim Streets	Water is constantly running on the north/eastern corner of Falmouth and Blenheim Streets. Is this Council or TasWater issue?	Matter referred to TasWater.
11/2015	Waste and Recycling collection	Re previous enquiries, waste and recycling appear to be collected simultaneously and mixed. Conflicting stories provided by different drivers. Council need to establish process; and whether the waste and recycling are being dealt with appropriately.	Waste collection observed by officer, nothing untoward detected. Complete.
1/2016	Vehicle access to the St Pauls River at Royal George	Noted that there had previously been vehicle access to the St Pauls River at Royal George, which was now restricted by boulders. May be useful to provide access so that the Fire Service could access and residents would be able to access the water source for domestic use.	
1/2016	Boucher Park – Cenotaph Lighting	Cenotaph light out of order. Requested that the light at the cenotaph be repaired or preferably replaced with a light flush to the ground (which also provides lighting for the exercise equipment). Preferably prior to ANZAC day.	
1/2016	Roadworks in Avoca	Committee requested information in relation to road/infrastructure works currently being undertaken in Avoca.	
1/2016	Boucher Park & St Pauls River recreation area	Requested that additional bins be provided for waste, as bins are oft overflowing.	
1/2016	Animal carcasses on Council roads	Committee requested information in relation to the removal of animal carcasses (road kill) from Council roads	
1/2016	Newspaper article re Animals on the road	Requested Council place an item in the local newspapers requesting road users to slow down and be aware of the wildlife on the roads.	
1/2016	Signage - Animals on the road	Requested that signage be erected on State and Council roads warning road users to be aware of the wildlife on the roads.	
1/2016	Broom Plants & Pine tree on Road verge	Broom (and possibly pine tree sapling) growing on road verge between frontage of town hall and Esk Highway needs to be removed.	

## **8 ASSOCIATION REPORTS**

### **i) AMIC**

- Funding received to create sporting history display/exhibition, expected to be held last quarter of 2016
- Working with Max Employment – additional employee
- Fundraising continuing.

### **ii) Rossarden & Friends Kids Xmas Group**

- Function held, catered for 138 children and their families – great day.

### **iii) Rossarden Museum**

- Monthly Darts Calcutta fundraiser to be held at Union Hotel Avoca on 12/2.

## **9 NEW BUSINESS**

### **i) 2016 Meeting Calendar**

The Committee noted the following dates for the 2016 monthly meetings of the Committee. The meetings to be held on the last Thursday of alternate months at 6.00pm, as follows:

- 28 January
- 31 March (note Easter is 25-28/3)
- 26 May
- 28 July
- 29 September
- 24 November

### **ii) Keep Australia Beautiful**

Correspondence noted.

### **iii) Sergeant Lewis McGee – Plinth at Ross – Anniversary of VC 04/10/2017**

Correspondence received from Dept of Premier and Cabinet noted. Ross Local District Committee to consider correspondence on 2 February. Committee queried if 2 allocations of funds would be available for Sgt McGee given that he was born in the Ross/Campbell Town area and enlisted in Avoca. Matter to be considered further in conjunction with Ross LDC.

### **iv) New Membership**

Noted that at the December 2015 Council meeting, Council accepted the nomination and appointed Susanne Jones as a member of the Local District Committee.

Noted that an advertisement had been placed in the Examiner seeking nominations for selected committees.

## **10 CLOSURE & NEXT MEETING**

The Chairperson closed the meeting at 7.25pm.

The next meeting to be held on Thursday, 31 March 2016 at the Avoca Community Centre commencing at 6.00pm.