

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, 30 June 2016 commencing at 6.05pm

1 IN ATTENDANCE

Claudia Freeman (Chair), Shirley Freeman, Helen Reynolds, Jacinta Allen, Dalija Wells, Shirley Squires (to 6.30pm), Cr Mary Knowles, Gail Eacher (Executive Assistant)

2 APOLOGIES

Susanne Jones, Des Jennings (General Manager)

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Shirley Freeman / Helen Reynolds

That the minutes of the meeting of the Avoca, Royal George and Rossarden Local District Committee held on Thursday, 31 March 2016 be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings.

Carried

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

TasWater have advised:

- The contract has been awarded to Water Industry Solutions Pty Ltd on 7 Jun 2016. A letter of acceptance and letters of non-acceptance issued.
- The design component has commenced. Subject to authority approvals, construction is expected to start late August 2016.
- The project is scheduled to be completed by 31 Dec 2016.
- The diameter of the pipeline is under review as part of the design phase of works.

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.

DPIPWE officers are following up with the owner of the wrecks which are sited on Crown Land.

iii) 10 Year Plan

At the August 2015 meeting the 10 year plan list together with minor amendments was adopted. The list has been considered by Council officers and proposed actions listed.

Noted that members had requested Council to commence with the items listed in the 10 year plan which relate to the main street – matters included in the budget item request for

2016/17. Also noted that the committee have requested that a tree plan for Avoca be drawn up.

Council Budget approved at the 27 June council meeting – matter to be discussed at 28 July meeting.

iv) Green Waste/Builders Rubble

At September 2015 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.

Matter included for consideration in the 2016/17 budget deliberations – for discussion at 28 July meeting.

The Committee noted that the nearest tip site that does take rubble would be Launceston, however, council's do not generally offer a facility for ratepayers to dump rubble.

v) Affordable Housing

The committee noted that the provision of affordable housing could lead to a boost in pupil numbers at the local school.

Noted that the following response had been received from the Department of Health and Human Services:

...At this stage there are no programs that could be utilised for affordable housing to be constructed in Avoca. The only program Housing Tasmania has nearby is the upgrade to the Fingal Neighbourhood House.

Mayor Downie wrote to Mrs Dalija Wells and Mr Tony Gee on 2 May as follows:

...In reference to services, the State Government publication Tasmania's Affordable Housing Strategy 2015-2025 page 12. discusses the Appropriateness of Supply which states "... new supply needs to be located close to services and public transport needs ..." this is also reflected in What can we do better and the Key Reform Directions (page 19) of the document.

Council has since made enquiries with the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) advising of the desire of the community for consideration to be given to the provision of affordable housing in your area. In response the DHHS has advised as follows "... I apologise for the delay in responding to you. At this stage, there are no programs that could be utilised for affordable housing to be constructed in Avoca. The only program Housing Tasmania has nearby is the upgrade of the Fingal Neighbourhood House."

It appears that currently no opportunity exists to pursue this matter, however, should an opportunity arise in the future you may again wish to approach Council to advocate on behalf of the community.

vi) 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 considered 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.

AMIC wish to submit a proposal for funding to install a plaque.

Action

Council officer's to discuss with AMIC representatives. **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 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) Customer Requests – On Hold

Meeting Date	Customer Request	Detail	Status
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.	On Hold - Matter to be considered when bridgeworks have been finalised by Department of State Growth.
3/2016	St Pauls River recreation area – guide posts	Guide posts need replacing – preferably with more substantial product.	On Hold - Matter to be considered when bridgeworks have been finalised by Department of State Growth.

7 CUSTOMER REQUESTS & ENQUIRIES

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 to be made that the area be cleared of rubbish periodically as part of general maintenance. Council officer's to contact Crown Land re request.
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.	Further advice received from TasRail that the matter is to be addressed as a matter of urgency. Noted signage still not reinstalled

Meeting Date	Customer Request	Detail	Status
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.	EHO monitoring the drain.
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.	No further action to be taken.
3/2016	Footpath reinstatement	Throughout Avoca, following works undertaken by TasWater the footpaths have not been reinstated.	Complete.
3/2016	Unsafe house/shed - asbestos	House and shed on corner of Falmouth and Arthur Streets still not repaired – loose asbestos still evident.	Matter referred to building compliance. No further action.
6/2016	BBQ Shelter – Boucher Park	Requested that a light be installed within the BBQ shelter at Boucher Park.	
6/2016	Storey's Creek Road – grading of unsealed section	i) Enquired why there was a section of Storey's Creek Road that was unsealed; and ii) advised that the unsealed section of the road was severely potholed and required grading.	
6/2016	Bio-cycle at Boucher Park	Bio-cycle at Boucher Park needs to be assessed to establish whether it is working efficiently and establish correct operation/ water distribution.	Chris/Roydon/Jack
6/2016	St Paul's Place - Flood debris/sand & mud on footpath	Section of footpath on St Paul's Place (opposite No. 9) is covered with mud & flood debris.	
6/2016	Road marking – white lines on Rossarden Road	Road marking (white lines) need to be reinstated on Rossarden Road. Road has been resurfaced and the line marking needs to be reinstated (Storey's Creek turnoff to bridge).	
6/2016	Road marking – white lines on Royal George Road	Consider installation of road marking on Royal George Road.	
6/2016	Police presence	Requested that a letter be written to the Commissioner of Police requesting a greater police presence in Avoca, especially of an evening.	
6/2016	Load limit signage on Gipps Creek Road	Noted that the load limit signage on Gipps Creek Road (Pepper Hill) has been turned so that load limits are not visible to road users. Also on Storey's Creek Road before Gipps Creek Road turnoff.	

General Enquiries

- Royal George Hall – Committee have requested department contact details.
- Roadside Spraying – Committee queried what spraying is undertaken by Council, i.e. weeds only, verges or road edges; rural and/or urban.

8 ASSOCIATION REPORTS

i) AMIC

- AMIC have requested that Council contact Department of State Growth and request that the following works be undertaken at Boucher Park:
 - That the plane trees be relocated (currently planted within the annexed area of the park) to the road verge on the eastern boundary of Boucher Park between the bus shelter and Falmouth Street.
 - That playground fence / protective barrier be installed in close proximity to the post and rail fence, along the internal boundary of Boucher Park from the western entrance (amenities block entrance on St Paul's Place) to the southern

entrance (on Falmouth Street) k and not as previously planned (on three sides of the playground area within Boucher Park)

It is understood AMIC members have discussed these matters with the site manager, who has advised that the request needs to be generated by Council.

- The Committee have procured a Lone Pine seedling and wish to plant it within Boucher Park. Council Officer's to advise any requirements, i.e. location and permissions required. Also requested that a tree guard be provided by Council.
- Graphic Designer and Roving Curator to visit on 25 July to advise re the sporting panels.
- AMIC members interviewed by Country Courier editor Alison Andrews.
- Free Wifi now available, email and website to be established. Council have advised that signage is to be installed shortly. AMIC wished to extend their thanks to Council for installing the service.

ii) Rossarden & Friends Kids Xmas Group

- Masquerade Party to be held 20/8.
- AGM to be held on 16/8.

9 NEW BUSINESS

i) Draft Tasmanian Cat Management Plan

The Committee noted the Council Report.

ii) Mr Tony Gee

Members of the Committee expressed regret at the recent passing of Mr Tony Gee and recognised his considerable input into the Committee during the term of his membership.

10 CLOSURE & NEXT MEETING

The Chairperson closed the meeting at 7.10pm.

The next meeting to be held on Thursday, 28 July 2016 at the Avoca Community Centre commencing at 6.00pm.