

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, 19 January 2017 commencing at 5.10pm

1 PRESENT

Shirley Freeman, Helen Reynolds, Susanne Jones, Jacinta Allen
Claudia Freeman (Chair) and Dalija Wells from 5.15pm

In Attendance: Gail Eacher (Executive Assistant)

Guest: Jo Churchill, Cumulus Studio

2 APOLOGIES

Shirley Squires, Cr Mary Knowles, Des Jennings (General Manager)

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Helen Reynolds / Jacinta Allen

That the minutes of the meeting of the Avoca, Royal George and Rossarden Local District Committee held on Thursday, 24 November 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) Town Entrance Design

Jo Churchill from Cumulus Studio attended the meeting to discuss the design of the Avoca Entrance Statement.

The committee provided the following direction:

- **Signage wording;** Welcome to, Thank you for visiting. Est 1834.
- **Signage colours and materials;** no bright colours, material that reflects the town; ie. tin, blue stone/sandstone.
- **Signage type;** Flat, laser cut, silhouette, words, combination of street trees and sign. Combination of solid and lightweight signage.
- **Signage representation;** the meeting of the two rivers, Eagle, Forest, Coal and Tin. (not representative of the historic buildings).
- **Location;** after the Tip and Water Tank. (when entering the town) Possibly distracting from tip. On the old bridge platform. (when entering from the West)
- Not to be too small that it gets lost.
- Create tourist interest possible connection with silhouettes on the Midland Highway.
- Contemporary looking sign.
- Sign to be on private land if solid.
- Planting of native trees e.g. Red Flowering eucalyptus.

Committee invited to submit ideas to Cumulus Studio through Gail. Preliminary design to be prepared for the March meeting.

Ms Churchill left the meeting at 5.40pm.

ii) Rossarden issue - Vehicle wrecks

DPIPWE officers continue to follow up with the owner of the wrecks which are sited on Crown Land at the back of Baker Street houses and on the nature strip on the street frontage in Baker Street.

Noted at the November meeting that:

- Sims Metals have inspected the area, permissions to be sought to access the site. Sims Metals estimate awaited.
- Reported that a further vehicle may have been abandoned on side of oval at Schell Street – investigated by Police and Council officers, established vehicle is registered and in use.

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

In October 2015 Council received correspondence from the Dept of Premier and Cabinet re the 100th anniversary of the awarding of the VC to Sergeant Lewis McGee and available funding opportunities.

Late last year, funding applications were submitted for the 100th anniversary of the awarding of the VC to Sergeant Lewis McGee, in respect of the following:

- Avoca – plaque and function to unveil on ANZAC Day 2017
- Ross – event on anniversary of VC
- Development of brochure for distribution to schools.

The Committee noted that funding was received for the brochure only.

iv) Other Matters

The following matters were raised at the November meeting and are currently under investigation:

Vicinity of new bridge following bridge construction:

- Alignment of intersection of Esk Highway and Storys Creek Road needs some attention following completion of bridge construction, exiting of Storys Creek Road line of sight interrupted by Armco barrier (especially if driving a sedan / small vehicle) – engineering advice to be sought and then followed up with State Growth, as appropriate.
- Armco barrier on corner of Esk Highway and Storys Creek Road (town hall side) was removed (now only guide posts) needs to be replaced with a barrier/bollards which would not impede line of sight, but provide a substantial barrier.
- Landscaping at intersection needs to be undertaken (broom and wattles need to be removed). Noted that the area had recently been slashed (included in the slashing programme). Further suggestion that the area be landscaped – small shrubs and ground cover or grasses (heaths) on slope (preferably plants endemic to Tasmania); should be inviting to complement the proposed entrance statement.
- Landscaping of riverbank precinct - to continue from existing recreation area where bridge has been removed, i.e. to the north of the new bridge on the eastern river bank.
- Request existing Armco barrier is extended along Storys Creek Road to prevent access to the river bank precinct from the steep bank.

State Growth:

- Esk Highway – entrance to Avoca speed limit changes from 100km to 50km (requires installation of 80km signage).
- Red Hill railway crossing – between bridge and Milford Dam – not sufficient drain depth on top side of road – during rain events causes water to flow across the road making driving conditions dangerous.

Works matters:

- Advice received that damage caused to bitumen following recent flood events in following locations: Avoca – Grey and Blenheim Streets and Storys Creek Road vicinity of railway bridge. Noted that asphaltting is in progress across the municipal area.
- Requested that weeds and saplings on verges (poplars in particular) be sprayed.

- Appears to be break in stormwater line, under roadway, on unmade section of Churchill St (further information to be provided).

Complete:

- Soldiers Memorial Park at Red Hill rail crossing, utilised as tip site area – State Growth notified, advised that area is cleaned on a regular basis.
- “Be Aware of Children” signage to be installed at both entrances to Royal George, request submitted.
- Queried, whether street sweeping and mowing of verges coordinated so that street sweeping takes place after mowing, to avoid drains being blocked, advised that this is done where possible.

6 PENDING ITEMS

Matters on hold:

- i) Rossarden – Walks and Attractions
- ii) Road Closures/Improvements

7 ASSOCIATION REPORTS

i) AMIC

- 4/2 – Rossarden fire training
- 11/2 - Avoca Market
- 13/2 – Rossarden Progress Association meeting
- 21/2 – AMIC meeting
- Exhibition – Sporting History of Avoca District open for further 3 months
- Museum has not been opening regularly due to staffing issue.

ii) Rossarden & Friends Kids Xmas Group

- 14/2 – Meeting to be held

8 GENERAL BUSINESS

Noted

- that trees had fallen and others had been felled on Rossarden Hill Road.
- TasWater had held a meeting at Rossarden on 18/1 – viable, sustainable solutions being sought to provision of water. Options being considered. For further information, contact Cr Knowles.
- Esk Main Road Shoulder Sealing from Stynes Creek Bridge for approximately 1.2km toward St Pauls Bridge commencing January to be completed by mid-April 2017.
- Cr Knowles provided photographs of proposal for upgraded children’s playground at Avoca.
- Paterson’s Curse identified at locations in Avoca area and been reported to Council.
- 2017 Australia Day event being held at Perth Recreation Ground commencing at 4pm.

Requested that Council promote the confinement of animals to properties.

Thanks to Council for the works undertaken at Boucher Park to repair the French drain.

9 CLOSURE & NEXT MEETING

The Chairperson closed the meeting at 6.25pm.

The next meeting to be held at the Avoca Community Centre commencing at 5.00pm, 30 March 2017.