

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 March 2017 commencing at 5.10pm

1 PRESENT

Claudia Freeman, Shirley Freeman, Helen Reynolds, Susanne Jones, Jacinta Allen, Shirley Squires

In Attendance: Cr Mary Knowles, Gail Eacher (Executive Assistant)

2 APOLOGIES

Dalija Wells, 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, 19 January 2017 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

Cumulus Studios has been contracted to complete concept design works for Avoca Entrance Statements. Jo Churchill attended the 19 January meeting at which time the committee provided direction. The Committee were invited to submit ideas to Cumulus Studio through Gail.

Two preliminary designs were provided by Cumulus Studios for consideration.

The committee agreed that option 2 was the preferred option style, however, requested the following changes be made to the design:

Visual from both sides

- The flying eagle to be removed from the body of the signs and incorporated into the top of the sign, so that it is above the solid bulk of the sign and visible from both sides.

Entry signs

- Remove the people
- The dog to be located together with the sheep (or remove if not distinctive)
- Introduce some wildlife, i.e. a Deer (Stag) and kangaroo
- Church to be more defined, larger and dropped down a little
- More blank space between the lines of the wording.
- Remove the eagle from the face

Exit signs

- Remove all features from the sign
- Retain the wording: "Thank you for visiting Avoca"
- Allow more blank space between the lines of the wording

The committee agreed that the sign should not be too busy and materials used to not be reflective.

That the tall design concept option, Option 2, be progressed subject to the required amendments as listed.

Carried

ii) Rossarden issue - Vehicle wrecks

The Committee noted that DPIPW 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. Quotes have been received, pursuing information re progress with DPIPW officers.

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

Noted that Ross Local District Committee are reviewing the content for the brochure.

The Avoca, Royal George & Rossarden Local District Committee requested that

- the brochure include the information regarding Sergeant McGee's place of residence at the time of his enlistment
- they be provided an opportunity to see the proof of the brochure prior to production being finalised.

iv) Budget 2017/18

Matters for inclusion in the 2017/18 budget deliberations were discussed, with the following priority projects being put forward:

- Installation of Entrance Statements at Avoca, including landscaping
- Armco barrier Esk Highway/Storys Creek Road
 - town hall side - Armco 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.
 - existing Armco barrier is extended along Storys Creek Road to prevent access to the river bank precinct from the steep bank
- Upgrade of children's playground at Avoca – tractor theme
- Christmas lights installation, to be located in the tree alongside the BBQ shelter at Boucher Park
- Installation of a locked power point box at the BBQ shelter for use when running events (currently run cables from AMIC)
- An additional piece of adult exercise equipment to be purchased for Boucher Park (Cr Knowles to advise).

v) Roads, Roadworks, Verges and River Precinct

The committee noted that the following matters raised at a previous meeting 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.

Further information is required in relation to the following Works matter:

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

Complete:

- 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 – spraying completed week ending 12 March.

vi) Country Courier

Noted that an item on the confinement of animals to properties will be included in the April Country Courier.

6 PENDING ITEMS

Matters on hold:

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

7 ASSOCIATION REPORTS

i) AMIC

- Applied for Council funding to erect a shed at AMIC.
- ANZAC day event to be held at 11am (not as previously advertised)

ii) Rossarden & Friends Kids Xmas Group

- BBQ cancelled, to be rescheduled.

8 NEW BUSINESS

i) Shipping Container By-Law

The following documents were circulated:

- the draft Shipping Container By-Law; and
- the paper *Making By-laws (2)* which details the steps Council must follow when making by-laws.

As part of the initial process, Council invited comment from Key Stakeholders, as a first step to making a by-law, public consultation will follow later.

Members to provide comment direct to Council and/or Cr Knowles.

ii) Overnight Camping – Policy Review

Noted correspondence received from Council.

iii) Road Maintenance Matters

- Royal George Road

- at Benham gate, culvert has been undercut
- approaches to Milford Bridge (single lane), vegetation needs to be cut back – vehicles approaching are obscured by vegetation
- Storys Creek Road
 - (close to Avoca) – considerable debris collected against the small bridge over South Esk River needs removal
 - (near rail bridge in river precinct) – deep culvert/drain alongside road, needs attention as within the area where Campers park (currently witches hats placed at edge)
- Plantings at new bridge need attention. Flowering gums removed (between bridge and sawmill) need to be replaced.
- Vegetation/trees on roadsides on Esk Highway, especially in vicinity of Llewellyn, needs to be cut back.

iv) General Matters

- Following flyers provided by Family Violence Consultative Group made available for distribution
 - Safe Homes, Safe Families: Responding and Reporting
 - Upcoming NAPCAN Training and "Play Your Part" Award Nominations
- Noted that recently new rabbit calicivirus strain RHDV1 K5 was released at several sites across Tasmania, in the north (Barrington, Binalong Bay, Bridgenorth, Falmouth, Jackeys Marsh, Railton and Rowella) and South (Cambridge, Hobart and Port Arthur). The public is urged to get involved by helping to track the spread of the virus. Report sightings of rabbits or evidence of disease in your region visit www.rabbitscan.org.au
- Green Army been undertaking good work at Rossarden
- Shirley Squires and Cr Mary Knowles have resigned from the Ambulance Service
- Willow trees are growing up in the South Esk River, in the vicinity of bridge on Storys Creek Road close to Avoca
- Vegetation on unmade section of Churchill Street appears to have been poisoned
 - If so, was this undertaken by Council, as signage should be installed as the blackberries are consumed by locals.

9 CLOSURE & NEXT MEETING

The Chairperson closed the meeting at 6.37pm.

The next meeting to be held at the Avoca Community Centre commencing at 5.00pm, 25 May 2017.