

AVOCA, ROYAL GEORGE & ROSSARDEN LOCAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE

NOTES of the Meeting of the Avoca, Royal George & Rossarden Local District Committee held at the Avoca Community Centre on Thursday, 25 May 2017 commencing at 5.10pm

1 ATTENDANCE

i) Present

Claudia Freeman, Shirley Freeman, Jacinta Allen

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

ii) Apologies

Susanne Jones, Dalija Wells, Des Jennings (General Manager)

As there was no quorum, an informal meeting was held at which time the following notes were taken.

2 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

i) Town Entrance Design

Awaiting advice from Department of State Growth prior to final design by Cumulus Studio. Cr Knowles to provide information in relation to the deer depicted in the entrance statement.

ii) Rossarden issue - Vehicle wrecks

DPIPWE officers continue to follow up the possible removal of the vehicle wrecks.

iv) Budget 2017/18

Discussed the following items which were submitted for consideration in the 2017/18 budget deliberations:

- 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 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 (tractor theme); and additional adult exercise equipment – Boucher Park, Avoca
- Installation of a locked power point box at the BBQ shelter for use when running events (currently run cables from AMIC)
- Installation of Christmas lights – Boucher Park (tree alongside BBQ shelter)

v) Roads, Roadworks, Verges and River Precinct

Update provided re following matters raised at previous meetings:

a) Vicinity of new bridge following bridge construction:

- Alignment of intersection of Esk Highway and Storys Creek Road, line of sight interrupted by Armco barrier – *barrier realigned matter complete.*
- 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 barrier/ bollards which would not impede line of sight, but provide a substantial barrier – *Members in attendance were of the opinion that the Armco is probably not necessary, suggest Council should not pursue unless the matter is safety related.*
- Landscaping at intersection needs to be undertaken (broom and wattles need to be removed) - *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. *Signage now in place advising users to utilise the formed road to access/exit river reserve. Should this not deter offenders then further controls may be implemented. Note this is a police matter and they should be advised if offenders observed.*
- Vegetation/trees on roadsides on Esk Highway, especially in vicinity of Llewellyn, needs to be cut back.

b) 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.
- 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

c) Council:

- Storys Creek Road
 - (close to Avoca) – considerable debris collected against the small bridge over South Esk River needs removal
 - Willow trees are growing up in the South Esk River, in the vicinity of bridge on Storys Creek Road close to Avoca – *Not Council's jurisdiction, Council to notify the responsible State Department.*
 - (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 – *being addressed together with Entrance Statement, consulting with DSG, unlikely that all plantings will be reinstated. Requested new plantings receive attention – protective surrounds need to be removed and some plants replaced.*

d) Committee needs to provide 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.

vi) General Matters

- 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.

vii) Country Courier

Item on the confinement of animals to properties to be included in future Country Courier.

3 PENDING ITEMS

Matters on hold:

- Rossarden – Walks and Attractions
- Road Closures/Improvements

4 ASSOCIATION REPORTS

i) AMIC

- *Fingal Valley and Greater Esk Tourism – Action Plan meeting 15 & 16 June – ensuring representatives from local businesses*
- *Roof to be replaced*
- *ANZAC Day event successful*

- *Garden shed to be erected (attached to BBQ shelter)*
- *Work for the dole placement due to conclude – request for an extension in progress*
- *Market to be held 10 June*

ii) Rossarden & Friends Kids Xmas Group

- *Darts evening to be held 9 June*

5 NEW BUSINESS

i) Rossarden – timber bridge replacement

Replacement of the timber bridge at the entrance to Rossarden - works will require a road closure (approx. 1 week) detour will be in place through Storys Creek (temporary bypass was considered around the bridge but due to the steep nature of the creek this is not possible). The works will be done in the winter period (expected to be August) Emergency services will be notified.

Requested that it be advertised in the Country Courier and posters be put up at the Post Office.

ii) General Matters

- *Avoca, Royal George and Rossarden website – website to be upgraded. Attendees suggested colours remain the same as the current site.*
- *Green Army project at Rossarden complete*
- *Landcare – Broom Plants regrowth to be poisoned.*

6 CLOSURE & NEXT MEETING

The Chairperson closed the meeting at 5.55pm.

The next meeting to be held at the Avoca Community Centre commencing at 5.00pm, 27 July 2017.