

## AVOCA, ROYAL GEORGE & ROSSARDEN LOCAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE

NOTES of the Meeting of the Avoca, Royal George & Rossarden Local District Committee held at 10 Falmouth Street, Avoca on Thursday, 27 July 2017 commencing at 5.10pm

### 1 ATTENDANCE

#### i) Present

Shirley Freeman, Helen Reynolds, Susanne Jones, Dalija Wells

**In Attendance:** Gail Eacher (Executive Assistant)

#### ii) Apologies

Claudia Freeman, Jacinta Allen, Shirley Squires, Cr Mary Knowles, Des Jennings (General Manager)

### 2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

#### Helen Reynolds/Susanne Jones

That the minutes of the meeting of the Avoca, Royal George and Rossarden Local District Committee held on Thursday, 30 March 2017 be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings.

Carried

### 3 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.

### 4 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

#### i) Town Entrance Design

The meeting noted that the

- entrance statement was in the final stages of design
- design aspect required some amendment, especially with regard to the signage at the western entrance, to enable the exit sign to be viewed from the highway
- entrance design included the planting of an angled stand of 7 Acer Fairview Flame trees on the southern side of the western entrance.

It was noted that attendees supported the proposed required changes to the entrance statements, however, it was noted that one member did not support the planting of exotic trees.

#### ii) Budget 2017/18

The following items were funded in the 2017/18 budget:

- Replacement of a timber bridge with a concrete structure on Rossarden Road over Storys Creek (\$205,000) and McShane's Road over Hop Pole Creek (\$230,000).
- Installation of an irrigation system, lighting of the shelter and outdoor power point (\$15,000).
- Replacement of the Museum roof (\$17,000 allocation).
- Street furniture and playground budget (municipal wide), Boucher Park high priority.
- Entrance Statement (municipal wide), Avoca priority for completion in 2017/18.

#### iii) Installation of Christmas lights/display

Previously request made to install Christmas lights/display at Boucher Park (tree alongside BBQ shelter).

Alternate to lights discussed, consideration given to nativity scenes / Christmas, theme etc, cut-outs

to be painted by local children (perhaps use luminous paint, be displayed in Boucher Park, affix to playground fence and/or BBQ shelter. Council could contribute, provide/pay for materials. The project would provide ownership to local children and be unique.

#### ***Dalija Wells/Helen Reynolds***

The Committee requests Council to progress the Christmas Artworks project proposal with the Avoca Primary School; and reallocate funding (in-kind/other) from the Avoca Spring Festival (cancelled) to the project.

Carried

#### **iv) Roads, Roadworks, Verges and River Precinct**

Update 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 - following completion of bridge construction, exiting of Storys Creek Road line of sight interrupted by Armco barrier, barrier realigned.  
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 a barrier/bollards which would not impede line of sight, but provide a substantial barrier. Guide posts installed, not to be progressed unless considered a safety issue.  
Complete.
- Landscaping at intersection needs to be undertaken (broom and wattles need to be removed) - area included in the slashing programme).  
Complete.
- 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 installed, advising users to utilise the formed road to access/exit river reserve. Should this not deter the offenders then further controls may be implemented. Note this is a police matter and they should be advised if offenders observed.  
Landscaping not to be progressed due to the area being subject to flooding.  
Complete.

##### *b) State Growth:*

- Esk Highway – entrance to Avoca speed limit changes from 100km to 50km (requires installation of 80km signage) – Signage installed.  
Complete.
- 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. Drains cleared. Noted bitumen appears to be lifting.  
Complete.

##### *c) Council:*

- Storys Creek Road
  - (close to Avoca) – considerable debris collected against the small bridge over South Esk River needs removal – Department of State Growth advised.  
Complete.
  - 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, DPIPWE advised, no further action by Council.  
Complete.
  - (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).

Included in Council's maintenance regime.

Complete.

- Plantings at new bridge need attention. Flowering gums removed (between bridge and sawmill) need to be replaced – being addressed together with Entrance Statement. Complete.
- Royal George Road
  - at Benham gate, culvert has been undercut – works programmed.
  - approaches to Milford Bridge (single lane), vegetation needs to be cut back – vehicles approaching are obscured by vegetation – slashing of vegetation undertaken annually. Complete.

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.
- Vegetation/trees on roadsides on Esk Highway, especially in vicinity of Llewellyn, needs to be cut back.

#### **v) 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. Noted. Complete.
- Sergeant Lewis McGee – Anniversary of VC 04/10/2017 – requested that the Committee be provided an opportunity to see the proof of the brochure prior to finalization for production. Information to be sought from Ross Local District Committee, following their 2 August meeting.

### **5 PENDING/ONGOING ITEMS**

Matters on hold:

- i) Rossarden – Walks and Attractions
- ii) Road Closures/Improvements
- iii) Rossarden issue - Vehicle wrecks – DPIPWE officers continue to follow up the possible removal of the vehicle wrecks.
- iv) Country Courier - item on the confinement of animals to properties to be included in future Country Courier.

### **6 ASSOCIATION REPORTS**

#### **i) AMIC**

- Next meeting 15 August.

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

- No report provided.

### **7 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 Emergency services will be notified.

Contractor advised works proposed to be undertaken approx. mid-August, dependent on the weather. A date is to be advised a.s.a.p.

**ii) Avoca, Royal George and Rossarden website**

New website - screen shots provided. Photographs required.

**iii) Meeting time and venue**

The Committee discussed the timing of meetings. Meeting time to be changed to 12.30pm, in accordance with the 2017 schedule, with meetings to continue to be held at the Ash Centre.

***Helen Reynolds/Dalija Wells***

*That future meetings be held at 12.30pm at the Ash Centre.*

Carried

**iv) ALGA National General Assembly 2017 Motions**

The Committee noted that earlier this year the Northern Midlands Council had submitted two motions to be debated at the Australian Local Government Association's National General Assembly (NGA) 2017.

The outcome of the debates and the process that will now ensue is outlined below:

Motion Number: 49 - That the National General Assembly lobby the government for a more strategic approach towards community organisations, commitment to build community organisations and grow community social capital.

*This motion was carried by the NGA and will now be considered by the ALGA Board at a Special Board meeting convened to deal with all NGA Resolutions.*

Motion Number: 79 - That this National General Assembly lobby Federal Government for a centralised data system on weed management and additional funding for authorised weeds officers across the nation.

*Motion 79 was carried by the NGA and the Resolution will now be considered by the ALGA Board at its Special meeting.*

**v) 2017 Emirates Melbourne Cup Tour**

The Committee noted:

The 2017 Emirates Melbourne Cup Tour is to visit the Northern Midlands on Wednesday 27 September 2017. The programme as follows:

- Eskleigh, Perth, from, 10.30am – 11.30am
- Cressy District High School, from 11.50am – 12.45pm
- Aged & Community Care, Longford, from 1pm – 2.15pm
- Family friendly Community Fun Afternoon at the Longford Racecourse, from 2.30pm – 4.30pm
- Helping Hand charity fundraising function at the Queens Arms Hotel, Longford, from 5.30pm – 7.30pm.

Event flyer circulated. Council requested that the Committee share this event across networks, and "like" and "share" the event on Council's Facebook page.

**vi) White Ribbon**

Event details circulated.

**vii) Dog Audit**

The Committee noted that a dog audit was currently being undertaken and officers would be undertaking audits across the municipal area.

**9 CLOSURE & NEXT MEETING**

The Chairperson closed the meeting at 6.05pm.

The next meeting to be held on 28 September 2017, 12.30pm at the Community Centre (Ash Centre) in Arthur Street.