

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE AVOCA, ROYAL GEORGE & ROSSARDEN LOCAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE HELD AT AVOCA COMMUNITY CENTRE ON THURSDAY 19 JANUARY 2012 COMMENCING AT 6.05PM**

**1 IN ATTENDANCE**

Mrs C Freeman (Chair), Mrs G Eacher (Secretary), Mrs S Squires, Mrs S Freeman, Ms M Hunt, Mrs H Reynolds, Mrs C Grey, Cr M Knowles

Guest – Mrs V Burn

**2 APOLOGIES**

Mrs M Dennis

**3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

***M Hunt/S Freeman***

*That the minutes of the Avoca, Royal George and Rossarden Local District Committee Meeting held on Thursday 24 November 2011, subject to the amendment of 7 (ii) to read "Churchill Street" and 7 (iii) to read "Mrs Shirley Squires", be confirmed as a true 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.

*No declarations were received.*

**5 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

**i) Monitoring Water Quality St Pauls River**

The following information was provided by Mr Chris Wicks, Environmental Health Officer, on 13 January 2012:

*I have spoken to Michael Reid from Mineral Resources Tas and he advises that the EPA have continued water monitoring over recent months but the results have not yet been*

*fed into a report, we should expect a report soon. In addition MRT have been working on drainage tasks. Michael will send me an update on Monday, which I will forward to you.*

At the time of the meeting no further information had been received.

## ii) **Flood Warning Advice – Avoca**

Cr Knowles advised that the matter had been formally discussed at the Flood Warning Consultative Committee meeting of 25<sup>th</sup> November and the following information was reflected in the minutes:

### **NMC request for Avoca General Store to receive flood warnings**

- *NMC requesting flood warnings for South Esk are disseminated to the Avoca General Store.*
- *Committee of the view that road closure and flood warning information is available in the public domain, and if the Avoca General Store has demonstrated emergency response function then warnings should not be provided. Suggested NMC can forward the flood warnings to the store as a duty of care function.*

*Action 10: Bureau writes to NMC outlining the policy on issuing flood warnings, with options to access warning information.*

Mrs Eacher advised that no correspondence had been received from the Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) in this regard.

### ***M Knowles/S Freeman***

*That the Committee request Council to forward the advisories received from the Bureau of Meteorology, which are forwarded to Councillors, to Mr Alfred Hicks at the Avoca General Store and Mr Shirley Freeman at the Avoca Post Office.*

***Carried***

## iii) **Annual Special Rubbish pick-up**

The meeting was advised that it was the intention of Council to provide an annual special rubbish pick-up for eligible pensioners in the Avoca, Royal George and Rossarden townships; however, upon the service being advertised, nobody in the above mentioned towns contacted Council to request the service.

Mrs Eacher advised that Council believed that the advertising of the “Special Rubbish pick-up” may have been inadequate and that details of the service will again be advertised later in the year for the collection in December 2012.

The committee agreed that the advertising of the service in the Examiner was insufficient.

*The Committee **RESOLVED** that in future, in addition to Council advertising the “Special Rubbish pick-up” service in the Examiner, that Council provide the Post Office and Avoca General Store with notices advising details of the Special Rubbish pick-up for display.*

## iv) **New Stove – Avoca Hall**

The Committee acknowledged that the new stove had been installed at the Avoca Hall but advised that it had not yet been used.

## v) **Overgrown Vegetation**

- a) The Customer Request submitted was noted; and

The Committee acknowledged that the Council allotment had since been slashed. Confirmation of the location of the overhanging bushes referred to was established, being 2 shrubs on the nature strip in front of the Community Centre (Arthur Street) which limits the vision of drivers exiting driveways located in the vicinity of the shrubs.

- b) The Committee noted that the following properties were extensively overgrown:
- ~~8 St Pauls Place~~ Storys Creek Road (specifically thistles); and
  - the property at the end of St Pauls Place (beyond Churchill Street), which extends from St Pauls Place to Falmouth Street.

*The Committee **RESOLVED** to request Council to ascertain the ownership of both properties and request that they be slashed and the thistles eradicated.*

## **6 GENERAL BUSINESS**

### i) **2012 Australia Day Celebrations and Official Opening of the Avoca Museum and Information Centre**

Cr Knowles advised that:

- she would be attending a 2 day workshop on the setting up a museum room with Sue Atkinson.
- lockable glass cabinets had been installed and Cr Knowles requested that local artists display their artworks, crafts, etc at the centre – with a photographic record to be kept of the items on loan.
- the temporary fence, which had been a donation from the Education Department, had been sold and removed and that the funds raised from the sale of the fence would be retained by the Avoca Museum and Information Centre.
- the Australia Day celebrations would commence at 12.30 pm with a barbecue, followed by speeches and presentations at 2pm (to allow for the attendance of the Mayor and General Manager from Break O’Day Council); with activities such as face painting and games available.

## **7 NEW BUSINESS**

### i) **Installation of Electrical Power Point in Barbecue Area**

The committee discussed the advantages of the provision of a power point in the barbecue area; and

*The Committee **RESOLVED** to request Council to install an all weather electric power point in the barbecue shelter to enable users of the barbecue area to make use of an electric kettle.*

- ii) Mrs Squires advised that the attendance of the Environmental Health Officer (EHO) was still awaited at the site at 9 St Pauls Place where green/slimy water was surfacing. Mrs Squires requested that the EHO attend and suggested that the possible cause may

be a broken drain.

**iii) Flag Pole**

The Committee noted that the flag pole and seat at Boucher's Park had been repaired. The Cross donated for the Cenotaph was to be installed.

**iv) Mrs Freeman suggested that the teenagers and young people of the village needed an activity to keep them occupied. Following discussion,**

*The Committee **RESOLVED** that the members would hold discussions with the youth of Avoca.*

**v) Waste Transfer Station**

The Committee noted that there had been an unscheduled closure of the Waste Transfer Station during the Christmas period due to the bins being overfilled. It was suggested that

- an extra bin may be required; and
- the emptying of the bins needed to be completed in a timely manner

during the Christmas period.

Further, it was noted that after hours dumping had occurred at the Waste Transfer Station with access being gained via the rear of the property. The meeting was advised that Council had been informed in this regard.

**vi) Avoca Police Station**

The Committee enquired whether Council had taken any further action in relation to the closure of the Avoca Police Station. Cr Knowles advised that Council had written a number of letters in this regard and believed that Council had exhausted all options at this time.

**vii) Committee Meeting Dates**

Following discussion, it was agreed to set the following dates for the bi-monthly meetings of the Avoca, Royal George and Rossarden Local District Committee for 2012:

- 22 March
- 24 May
- 19 July
- 20 September
- 22 November

**viii) Cross on the Cenotaph**

The Committee noted that progress was being made toward the installation of the cross which had been donated to be installed on the Cenotaph.

**7 CLOSURE & NEXT MEETING**

The Chairperson closed the meeting at 6.50pm. The next meeting to be held on Thursday, 22 March 2012 at the Avoca Community Centre commencing at 6.00pm.