

**MINUTES OF THE ROSS LOCAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE READING ROOM,  
ROSS ON TUESDAY 25 FEBRUARY 2014 COMMENCING AT 3.05PM**

**1 ATTENDANCE**

Mr K Draper (Chair), Mrs F Doe, Mr T Jacobson, Ms G Jenkinson, Mrs J Bennett, Mr A Cameron, Mrs R Quill, Cr M Knowles, Cr A Calvert (to 4.10pm), Mrs G Eacher (Secretary)

Guest: Mr S Plowright – Campbell Town District High School

**2 APOLOGIES**

Mr Chellis

**3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

Mrs R Quill/Mr T Jacobson

That the minutes of the Ross Local District Committee Meeting held at the Ross Reading Room on Tuesday, 21 January 2014, subject to the inclusion of Mrs R Quill being in attendance, 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

It was noted that no declarations of any pecuniary interest were declared.

Mr T Jacobson – Ross Nursery

Mr K Draper – Ross Nursery

**5 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

**i) Management of Fire Hazards**

Map of the Ross Village tabled, requested that a plan be circulated at the March meeting showing the actual street numbers allocated to each property in the Ross Village, in order that blocks which require attention can be identified.

***Action***

*Map denoting all properties to be provided to the Committee.*

**ii) Shipping Containers**

At the 21 January meeting, issues relating to the proliferation of shipping containers in the

Ross Village were discussed. Council's Planning Department provided a discussion paper on the use of shipping containers, which included a schedule providing details of approved shipping containers.

The Committee perused the information provided and requested further information, including the following:

- Containers located at which sites were still listed as being active applications;
- whether it was possible to place restrictions on containers, e.g. colour, reduced permitted time, etc.

The Committee noted that in some cases containers had been converted into "permanent" structures, which included the installation of windows and carports.

#### **Action**

*Planning Officer's to provide further information.*

### **iii) Wood Carvings**

The matter of a suitable timber carving for the township of Ross, to be undertaken by Mr Eddie Freeman, was discussed at the 21 January meeting and at that time, the Chair requested that the Committee give further thought to the matter.

The following suggestion has since been made:

- a carving depicting stone masons working on the bridge be erected in the area behind the cenotaph in the vicinity of Class Wood.

#### **Action**

*Further discussion to be undertaken.*

### **iv) Campbell Town District High School**

Mr Steve Plowright, Principal of the Campbell Town District High School, attended the meeting to discuss matters relating to funding and students.

He noted that

- few issues had arisen with students in 2013, which resulted in only 4 suspensions across the year;
- in general students were performing well;
- 5 new teachers had been engaged at the commencement of the year, all of whom had been pleasantly surprised with the attitudes and maturity of students;
- the school has a policy of restorative justice, with students learning from their mistakes;
- the facilities were adequate and the school had benefitted from federal funding;
- the school participates in the Beacon Foundations – Inspiring Positive Futures programme;
- the Childcare facility was an asset to the community and improved outcomes for children entering Kinder;
- the aim of the school is to have the best school and transition programme;
- businesses/organisations volunteer their services to mentor students;
- a large number of students are employed part-time;
- to ease the transition to College, Cressy District High School and Campbell Town

District High School have developed a program to introduce students from the two schools to one another prior to their attendance at College.

The Chair thanked Mr Plowright for his attendance at the meeting.

Mr Plowright left the meeting at 3.50pm.

**Action**

*No further action.*

**v) Northern Midlands Council Strategic Plan 2007-2017:  
Structure Planning & Sustainability items**

Council's Strategic Plan 2007—2017 recommends that under Structured Planning and Sustainability, Local District Committees are to be provided with briefing notes regarding strategic planning.

The Strategic Plan also seeks to have the provision for the commercial and service needs reviewed through Local District Committees.

The Committee referred to the notes prepared by Council's Senior Planning Officer, Mr Paul Godier and queried whether a light industrial area was to be included and commented that the Regional Planning Scheme was still under review.

**Action**

*Mr Godier to be invited to attend the March meeting to discuss this matter further.*

**6 MATTERS PENDING**

**i) Customer Requests/Works**

Request	Status	Action by
Footpath outside newsagency is damaged	To be asphalted in summer time.	Works & Infrastructure Dept.
Plant poplar trees in the existing guards on private property (western side of the road, at southern entrance)	To be planted when time permits. Suggested that the water line installed to existing trees be extended to new plantings.	Mrs Doe & Mr Chellis
Pavers—section of the nature strip outside the Ross General Store	To be installed when time permits	Works & Infrastructure Dept.
Maintenance of town cannon	Grant funding set aside—work to be undertaken in the New Year	RSL
Maintenance required seat (all slats broken) in High Street, near intersection of High & Church Streets	CR issued. Repaired 13/2/2014.	Works & Infrastructure Dept.
Weed at Ross Sewerage Lagoon	Letter sent to TasWater re Cumbungi Weed at the lagoon.	TasWater
Culvert at northern entrance to Ross needs to be inspected		Works & Infrastructure Dept.

**ii) 2014/2015 Budget**

Priorities to be discussed.

## **Action**

*Deferred to March meeting.*

### **iii) Development of Walkways in Ross**

Previously, Mr Chellis provided comments regarding the work to be undertaken by Council – limited to the provision of a fence at top of sharp embankment in the proximity of the reservoir, where soil had been recently dumped.

It was advised that a recommendation from the Ross Local District Committee for Council to lease the unmade streets would not be progressed due to the cost associated with on-going maintenance of the said area of land.

## **Action**

*Matter to be held over pending Mr Chellis' attendance.*

## **7 NEW BUSINESS**

### **i) Wifi for Ross**

Suggested that a Wifi hotspot be established in Ross in the vicinity of the town hall. Proponents indicated that they believed the initial cost would be approximately \$500-\$600, plus approx. \$100 per month.

RESOLVED that following discussion with Mrs Cadogan-Cowper of the Wool Centre, the Chair would approach Tourism Northern Tasmania to pursue the matter.

## **Action**

*Mr Draper to pursue.*

### **ii) Nursery/Landscaping Business – 7 Badajos Street**

*Messrs Draper and Jacobson declared an interest in the matter, signed the register and left the meeting at 4.08pm.*

The Committee noted that complaints had been received relating to the expanded business being conducted at 7 Badajos Street, including the associated signage which was placed on the footpath at the corner of Badajos and Church Streets; and requested Council investigate the rights relating to permitted use of the property. The Committee were advised that the matter was already the subject of investigation as the issue had already been brought to the attention of Council officers.

*Messrs Draper and Jacobson returned to the meeting at 4.10pm; at which time Councillor Calvert left the meeting.*

## **Action**

*Matter to be further investigated.*

### **iii) Outdoor Gym Equipment**

Discussion took place in regard to the possible installation of outdoor gym equipment at Ross Sports Ground (similar to that at Campbell Town). Cr Knowles referred to the equipment that had been installed at Avoca and suggested that the Committee prepare an application for submission to the next round of Tas Community Fund in approx 6 months; Cr Knowles stressed the importance of the involvement of the community in the project and

the preparation of the application.

The Committee agreed that

- the Chair liaise with the Chair of the Ross Sports Club;
- notice to be issued re the project and placed in the Post Office with an information/suggestion box – to engage community and ascertain required equipment;
- in due course, the Chair to liaise with Ms Green re finalisation and submission of the application for the TCF funding.

#### **Action**

*Matter to be pursued.*

#### **iv) National Sheep Dog Trials**

The Committee noted that National Sheep Dog Trials would be held in Ross in 2015 and that the National Sheep Dog Trial Committee are seeking prizes and assistance from the local community.

#### **Action**

*Committee members to liaise with the community.*

#### **v) Maintenance issues**

The following matters were raised:

- a. Broken tree – opposite Mens Shed.
- b. Speed limit – changed signage on both entrances/exits to Ross – now 100km/h, request that consideration be given to changing to 80km/h.
- c. Signage – Antique shop signage which had been affixed to trees in Church Street and nursery sandwich board sign.
- d. Road Repairs – Bitumen breaking up on the northern entrance/exit to Ross (town side).
- e. Tree that recently had dangerous limb removed by Council staff needs attention at the excise site.
- f. Resident requested that the matter of painting of white lines on the roads in the CBD be considered.
- g. Bridge Path – noted that the bitumen should not abut the sandstone bridge as damage is being caused.
- h. Burning-off – noted that prior notice should be provided to neighbours and that permission must be sought from TFS.
- i. Female Factory – willow tree in grounds requires attention, Wool Centre/Parks & Wildlife Service responsibility.
- j. Recent dig out, gravel and bitumen patch on High Street not adequate.
- k. Mowing of verges – verges need to be mowed to the edge/footpath.
- l. Tooms Lake Road – increased usage.
- m. Stage curtains at town hall need attention; noted that repairs have been undertaken previously, however, repairs have not previously been effective and the repairs have failed/fallen apart within days. Needs attention to faulty tracks, tears, hems etc.

## **Action**

- a. *Broken tree – opposite Mens Shed – **CR to be issued.***
- b. *Speed limit – changed signage on both entrances/exits to Ross – now 100km/h, request that consideration be given to changing to 80km/h – **CR to Traffic Management Committee.***
- c. *Signage – Antique shop signage which had been affixed to trees in Church Street and nursery sandwich board sign – **referred to Compliance Officer.***
- d. *Road Repairs – Bitumen breaking up on the northern entrance/exit to Ross (town side) - **CR to be issued.***
- e. *Tree that recently had dangerous limb removed by Council staff needs attention at the excise site – **CR to be issued.***
- f. *Painting of white lines on the roads in the CBD – **agreed to take no further action.***
- g. *Bridge Path – noted that the bitumen should not abut the sandstone bridge as damage is being caused – **letter to be sent.***
- h. *Burn-off of property – prior notice to be provided to neighbours and permission sought from TFS – **no further action.***
- i. *Female Factory – willow tree in grounds requires attention, Wool Centre/Parks & Wildlife Service responsibility – **no further action.***
- j. *Recent dig out, gravel and bitumen patch on High Street not adequate – **CR to be issued.***
- k. *Mowing of verges – verges need to be mowed to the edge/footpath – **CR to be issued.***
- l. *Tooms Lake Road – increased usage – **no further action.***
- m. *Stage curtains at town hall need effective repairs to be undertaken – **CR to be issued.***

## **8 NEXT MEETING/CLOSURE**

Next meeting to be held on Tuesday, 18 March 2014 commencing at 3.00pm. The Chair closed the meeting at 4.55pm