

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ROSS LOCAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE HELD IN THE READING ROOM, ROSS ON TUESDAY, 20 MAY 2014 COMMENCING AT 3.00PM

1 IN ATTENDANCE

Mr Keith Draper (Chair), Mrs Debra Cadogan-Cowper, Mr Terrence Jacobson, Mrs Gwyneth Jenkinson, Ms Robyn Quill, Mr Allan Cameron, Miss Amanda Mason (Secretary), Karin Muir (Guest – 3:10pm – 3:25pm).

2 APOLOGIES

Mrs Jill Bennett, Cr Andrew Calvert, Mrs Fiona Doe

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Allan Cameron/Terrence Jacobson

That the minutes of the meeting of the Ross Local District Committee held on Tuesday, 15 April 2014, be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings.

Carried.

It was noted that the issue of the gate at the top of High Street is to be included on future agendas.

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*, Part 5, S48A – S56, 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 should be noted that any person declaring an interest is required to notify the general manager, in writing, of the details of any interest declared within 7 days of the declaration.*

5 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

i) Ross Public Toilets

Committee to discuss the upgrade of the Public Toilets and view.

The Committee viewed the Public Toilets with Karin Muir who has been cleaning the toilets for 6 years. It was noted by the Committee that:

- leaves blowing into the disabled toilet are becoming a slip hazard, a preventative screen to stop leaves blowing in would assist;
- moss by the front wall is a slip hazard;
- the toilet block as a whole is tired and needs refurbishing: updating hand dryers, soap dispensers, painting, tiling inside walls to waste height, additional laser light in ceiling and sign on the front wall (preferably with a picture for international visitors) that clearly displays it is a public toilet;
- Karin contributes personally to installing a Perspex flap on the bottom of the baby change room door to prevent leaves blowing inside, installed a sign on the baby change door, and supplies large cakes of soap.

Decision: *Gwyneth Jenkinson/Robyn Quill*

That the toilets be refurbished rather than rebuilt and that Karin Muir (current cleaner of toilets) be included in the discussions as to what works are required.

Carried.

Action

Amanda to investigate whether or not there has previously been any money allocated by Council to the toilets, and if so does it remain available.

ii) Wifi for Ross

The Chair to discuss with the Wool Centre, and thereafter with Tourism Northern Tasmania the possibility of establishing a Wifi hotspot in Ross, possibly in the vicinity of the town hall.

The Committee noted that installing Wifi at the Wool Centre has not been pursued at this stage. Concerns were raised in respect to cost and monitoring of use. It was discussed that Wifi hotspots are being installed on the East Coast as a Council initiative.

Action

Debra to contact the East Coast Visitor Centre and enquire as to the process they have undertaken for the installation.

iii) Outdoor Gym Equipment

At the 25 February meeting, discussion took place in regard to the possible installation of outdoor gym equipment at Ross Sports Ground (similar to that at Campbell Town).

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.

It was noted by the Committee that the Ross Community Sports Club has agreed for the equipment to be installed at the Club. It was further noted that the supply and installation of the equipment has been included in the budget deliberations for 2014/15.

An enquiry was made as to whether or not there are funding grants available to fund the equipment.

Action

Amanda to investigate whether funding grants available.

iv) Bridge at Ross

Committee to review attached correspondence received from DIER regarding the fretting and breakdown of the sandstone bricks in the bridge, and discuss.

Works have commenced on the bridge - drilling to determine drainage requirements.

The Committee noted the Ross Bridge Conservation Plan of 2003 (hard copy held by the Wool Centre) and it was agreed that consideration should be given to this plan by the Committee when issues involving the bridge arise.

Action

Debra to notify Andrew Hargrave of DIER of the existence of the Plan and request additional copies.

v) Old School at Ross

Update to be provided as to the progress of sale of the Old School.

The Committee noted that several Real Estate Agents were invited to submit proposals for the sale of the school. Three proposals have been received. The proposals will be taken to the next Council meeting on 26 June 2014 and a decision made on that occasion as to who the successful agent is to market and sell the school.

Action

Amanda to advise Committee when decision has been made by Council.

6 MATTERS PENDING

i) Customer Requests/Works

Request	Status	Action by
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 Does & Mr Chellis to liaise re purchase/planting of new trees. Ongoing.	Mrs Doe & Mr Chellis
Pavers—section of the nature strip outside the Ross General Store.	Councillors inspected on annual bus tour. Ongoing.	Works & Infrastructure Dept.
Maintenance of town cannon.	Peter Jackson has offered to spray and paint. A request was made for a sign to be erected saying “Keep Off” or “No Climbing” and the chain link barrier to be re-erected to prevent people from climbing on the canon.	RSL Works & Infrastructure Department.
Seat in High Street, near intersection of High & Church Streets (all slats broken)	Seat has been removed. Seat will be returned, but concrete base must be laid first which will not be done until other concreting works required in Ross.	Works & Infrastructure Department.
Weed at Ross Sewerage Lagoon.	Further letter was sent to TasWater and confirmation received on 29 April 2014 that weed has been sprayed.	Complete
Speed limit – changed signage on	Issue was discussed at the April meeting	Traffic Management

Request	Status	Action by
both entrances/exits to Ross – now 100km/h, request that consideration be given to changing to 80km/h.	of Council’s Traffic Management Committee. Nick Browne from DIER will investigate and report back to Council’s Traffic Management Committee at next meeting (two weeks).	Committee
Signage – Antique shop signage which had been affixed to trees in Church Street and nursery sandwich board sign.	No further update since further request sent to Compliance Officer advising signs continue to be displayed.	Compliance Officer
Tree that recently had dangerous limb removed by Council staff needs attention at the exercise site.	Works complete on 4 April 2014.	Complete.
Stage curtains at town hall needs attention to faulty tracks, tears, hems, hanging mechanism etc.	Inspection has occurred and curtains have been connected where they were falling down, and the tension fixed in the curtains. Will attend to hemming up part of curtain near the stairs. Quote for work to be provided to Council.	Corporate Services Manager Robyn Quill
Light on Uniting Church needs repair.	Controls are inside the Church and have been altered resulting in the light not working. Request that Council check controls and signpost light switch so it is not altered again.	Works & Infrastructure Dept.
Trees overhanging public property, especially on Tooms Lake Road.	Customer request issued.	Works & Infrastructure Dept.
Drop offs on Tooms Lake Road in vicinity of railway line.	Programmed for 7 April 2014. It was noted that Council has extended the bitumen on one side of the road, enquiry as to whether other side will also occur.	TasRail Works & Infrastructure Dept.
14 Park Street, Ross – relocation of house	House has been removed save for small part remaining (laundry). It was noted Owen Kay will clean site when all of house removed. It was requested that 16 Bond Street also be cleaned up (site where house originally sat).	Planning & Development

Request	Status	Action by
Pattersons Curse infestation at Mr Morrison	Correspondence has been sent to owner and Northern Weeds officer David Lane is aware of issue.	NRM Officer
21 Bridge Street – fence built of pallets	Inspection has occurred and fence not in breach of planning requirements therefore no further action will be taken.	Complete
Hawthorns at Southern entrance to Ross	Customer request issued for them to be trimmed. Noted that hawthorns are on private property and can only be trimmed by arm slasher which has to come from Beauty Point therefore will not be done until machinery in region for multiple jobs.	Works & Infrastructure Department.
Program for tree trimming in Ross	Update as to timetable. Wayne Chellis to attend next meeting to go through works program re trees with Committee.	Works & Infrastructure Department.

7 NEW BUSINESS

i) Seating on west side of bridge

The Committee discussed a request received that seating be provided on the West side of the bridge. It was concluded that seating would be too close to the road and dangerous, therefore, will not be pursued.

Action

No further action.

ii) Sandstone bank next to bridge

The Committee discussed the clean up of the sandstone bank next to the bridge.

Action

Discuss next meeting with Wayne Chellis.

iii) Emptying of bins

A request has been received from a community member that the bins at the gate at the entrance to the convict cemetery be emptied once/week as it appears to be missed and is often full.

Action

Amanda to issue customer request.

iv) Convict cemetery

The Committee noted that Council has a 99 year lease over the convict cemetery and as such its maintenance will be included in Council's works schedule.

Action

No further action.

v) Signage

The Committee discussed the need for a sign at the end of the Female Factory walkway saying "Convict Cemetery" as visitors often don't realise they are to keep walking to reach the cemetery. It was noted that Parks & Wildlife are developing an additional sign for the Female Factory which will include information on the convict cemetery.

It was noted the nursery sign at the corner of Badajos and Church Street is on display without approval.

Action

Amanda to issue customer request re Nursery sign.

vi) New street bins

An update has been requested as to when installation will occur.

Action

Amanda to enquire and provide update.

vii) Shipping containers

Keith Draper has a list of approved shipping containers and as such will do a circuit of the town and identify which containers are not approved and advise Council.

Action

Keith to update when inspection complete.

viii) Street drainage

Corner of Badajos & Bond Streets, drainage works that was scheduled and budgeted for this financial year has not occurred. A request was made for an update as to when this is to occur and if it does not occur in this financial year will the funds be carried over?

Action

Amanda to enquire and provide update.

ix) Future planning for Ross and surrounding region

The Chair requested all Committee members start considering short and long term plans/projects for Ross for discussion.

It was suggested that reference be made to Geoff Cadogan's paper, written some years ago, regarding the community's needs as a starting point.

Action

Amanda to locate paper.

x) Publishing Minutes Online

It was noted that a request has been made by a community member regarding the publishing of Local District Committee Meeting minutes.

Action

Amanda to ensure minutes published (noting must wait until they are ratified at following month's meeting first).

xi) Dog Control

A request was made for a reminder to the Community regarding keeping dogs under control.

Action

Amanda to put notice in "Your Region" and investigate a mail out with rates notices.

xii) Community updates as to progress of committee

The Committee discussed providing a community update as to what the Committee has achieved in the past 12 months, as well as information as to who is on the committee and what the purpose of the committee is. It was agreed this is a good idea.

Action

Keith to draft report and circulate to Committee members for approval.

Amanda to arrange for publishing in Country Courier and small part in Your Region.

xiii) Film Society

It was noted by the Committee that the Film Society is carrying on successfully.

Action

No further action.

xiv) Events

It was noted by the Committee that the Painting the Town Competition was a success again this year with the same number of entrants this year, plus entrants from the Oatlands School.

The Picnic at Ross was held on 18 May 2014 and it was noted that numbers were down, however, most likely due to poor weather.

Action

No further action.

xv) Steps to Female Factory Site

It was requested that the steps to the Female Factory be investigated for safety reasons, perhaps the installation of a handrail is required.

Action

Amanda to issue customer request.

xvi) Anglican Church Light

Light is not working and requires attending. It was noted Keith has a key to the Church if required by Council.

Action

Amanda to issue customer request.

xvii) Badajos Street

There is a tree with its limb down that requires attendance.

Action

Amanda to issue customer request.

xviii) Leaf collection

The Committee requested more frequent leaf collection at this time of year due to leaves becoming a slip hazard on footpaths.

Action

Amanda to issue customer request.

xix) Trees on the Boulevard

The Committee requested the trees be attended to by the Works Department as they require tidying and maintenance.

Action

Amanda to issue customer request.

xx) Tooms Lake Road

White lines require repainting.

Action

Amanda to issue customer request.

xxi) Gate at top of High Street

Action

Item to be retained on agenda for monitoring.

xxii) Budget for Ross

The Committee has requested a breakdown of the \$45,000.00 allocated in the budget for works at Ross for last financial year.

Action

Amanda to investigate breakdown and report back to Committee.

xxiii) Street lights

Enquiry as to who outages are reported to.

8 NEXT MEETING/CLOSURE

Next meeting to be held on Tuesday, 17 June 2014 commencing at 3.00pm.

The Chair closed the meeting at 3:40 pm.

