

MINUTES

MEETING OF THE ROSS LOCAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE HELD AT THE READING ROOM, ROSS ON WEDNESDAY, 4 MAY 2016 COMMENCING AT 3:06 PM

1 PRESENT

Mrs Christine Robinson (Chairperson), Mr Arthur Thorpe, Mr Keith Draper, Mr Allan Cameron, Mrs Debra Cadogan-Cowper, Mr Herbert Johnson

2 IN ATTENDANCE

Mrs Candy Hurren (resident), Cr Mary Knowles, Cr Leisa Gordon, Miss Amanda Mason (Governance & Community Development Officer), Mr Tony Thorogood (resident)

3 APOLOGIES

Mrs Fiona Doe, Mrs Jill Bennett, Ms Helen McQuade, Ms Noelene Brown, Mr Des Jennings, Cr Andrew Calvert

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.*

Nil declared

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Mr Allan Cameron/Mr Keith Draper

That the minutes of the meeting of the Ross Local District Committee held on **Wednesday, 5 April 2016** be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings.

Carried unanimously

6 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

6.1 Memorial Plinth – Sergeant Lewis McGee VC

Funding program opens in mid 2016. Miss Mason to monitor and when open discuss further with the Ross RSL for eligible projects, noting the township of Avoca also have an interest in holding an event to acknowledge Sergeant Lewis McGee VC.

6.2 Rabbits

The Department of Primary Industries Water and the Environment have released the RHDV virus (calicivirus) at the following sites in Ross: Esplanade, High Street, Bridge Street and Ross Recreation Ground.

Enquiry was made as to whether or not Ross was on the list for release of the new strain of RHDV in August.

Action

[Miss Mason to make enquiries and report back.](#)

6.3 Ross Cannon

Miss Mason meeting monthly with the RSL re the cannon. Still awaiting quote from conservator. Advice received on 4 May 2016 was that the preference of the RSL is to not build a shelter but rather restore and conduct ongoing maintenance. RSL also looking into quotes for conservation.

6.4 Ross Entrance Statements

Agreement reached with the Department of State Growth re locations. Council progressing planning approval.

6.5 Street lights

Miss Mason reported the list of non-amber street lights to TasNetworks. TasNetworks have agreed to replace the non-amber lights on Church Street. However, some lights on the list were off the main street, and these cannot be replaced to amber due to the type of light fitting installed.

It was noted one heritage style light has been missed.

Action

[Mrs Robinson to obtain number and report.](#)

6.6 Rubbish

Committee raised concern at the previous meeting regarding increasing amounts of rubbish on the sides of the road. Committee to note the following link: <http://www.cleanupaustraliaday.org.au/> and discuss further if they wish to progress.

Concern was expressed for the large amount of rubbish domestic and commercial rubbish being left in street bins in Ross.

Action

Mrs Robinson to request insurance requirements and coverage for participation in Clean Up Australia.

Miss Mason to prepare a formal thank you to Mr Ray Webb for his excellent work in rubbish collection.

7 MATTERS IN PROGRESS

7.1 Motions to Council

Motion (17/02/2015): *The Ross Local District Committee request the Northern Midlands Council to have all cats registered is being investigated by Council officers.*

Update:

The State Government have released a draft Cat Management Plan. This is open for public submission until 30 June 2016. Council officers are reviewing the plan.

Motion (05/05/2015): *That the Ross Cannon be included on the heritage listing in the Northern Midlands Council Planning Scheme was noted by Council at its meeting of 18 May 2015 for investigation by Council and has been referred to the Planning Department to be included in next amendment to the Northern Midlands Planning Scheme.*

Update:

Anticipated report to May Council meeting with suggested amendments to the Heritage Code.

Motion (02/12/2015): *That Council pay for an acoustics engineer to assess the Ross Town Hall.*

Update:

Report received with quote for installation of sound proofing panels. Further discussion to be held with the Film Society.

Motion (05/04/2016): *That the Ross Public Toilet be retained outside the Town Hall due to the flow of buses was noted by Council at its meeting of 18 April 2016.*

8 NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Classwood

Mrs Robinson was asked to express on behalf of Mrs Bennett her disappointment in the colour of the paving outside Classwood, and the fact it was not similar to that on the eastern side of the Town Hall as was planned.

Enquiry was also made as to what would be planted in the planter boxes. Mrs Hurren indicated she would like to plant some herbs around whatever plants Council install.

Action

Miss Mason to note with the Works Department.

8.2 Progress Association

Mrs Robinson requested a formal thank you be sent to the Progress Association for their contribution to the community.

Action

Miss Mason to prepare letter.

8.3 Thank you

Mrs Robinson formally thanked Mrs Hurren for re-starting Bingo in the Town Hall on Monday evenings.

8.4 Trucks passing over the bridge

Concern was raised re trucks passing over the Ross Bridge complying with the load limit. Complaints can be reported to Council or directly to the Department of State Growth.

8.5 Rural Alive and Well

It was reported that there have been meetings with Wendy French, coordinator from Rural Alive and Well. Meetings have been well attended and the process has commenced for forming a group: Ross-Alive and Well. Plans to have a joint stand at the Campbell Town Show and during the Picnic at Ross. The purpose of the group is to gain understanding on how to identify mental health issues and when a need is identified the group can contact the appropriate agency for support.

8.6 Church Wall

It was reported by Mr Draper that the damaged wall at the Anglican Church is scheduled for repair soon.

8.7 Ross Community Group

It was noted by the Committee that Mr Kim Peart has circulated a flyer to the residents of Ross inviting interest to form a community association in Ross.

8.8 Airport rates

Mr Thorpe reported he has received several questions regarding whether or not the failure for the airport to pay its rates will result in a rate increase for rate payers this financial year.

Action

[Miss Mason to obtain information and advise.](#)

8.9 33 Church Street, Ross

It was noted by the Committee that Council has purchased 33 Church Street, Ross. Once planning for the site gets underway, input from residents will be sought.

8.10 Compliance issues

Enquiry was made for an update on whether or not the various compliance issues raised through the group are being progressed.

Action

[Miss Mason to obtain information and advise.](#)

8.11 New shop in Ross

Cr Gordon reported that a new shop will be opening on Church Street this month which is positive to see new business in the town.

8.12 Picnic at Ross advertisement

Cr Knowles reported that through the Heritage Highway Tourism Association the Picnic at Ross is being advertised on the red double decker buses in Hobart.

8.13 Sculptures for Ross

Mr Thorogood suggested that Ross should be considered for the installation of some Eddie Freeman sculptures. For example the stonemason for the Ross Bridge, or his wife, or the unofficial "mayor" of Ross, Jack (the dog) who recently passed away.

Action

[To be considered further with development of the Ross Town Square.](#)

8.14 Work at the Female Factory

Mrs Cadogan-Cowper reported that work will commence shortly at the Ross Female Factory to clear broken and dead trees.

8.15 Nominations – Ross Local District Committee

Committee to note that the term of the committee expires in June 2016. Nominations are now open.

8.16 State Growth

Miss Mason reported that there will be blasting works on the Midland Highway between 4 May 2016 and 8 June 2016 on Wednesdays, between 1pm and 2pm, near the Mona Vale Road, 4km south of Ross. Delays of up to 15 minutes to be expected.

9 NEXT MEETING/CLOSURE

Next meeting to be held **1 June 2016 at 3:00pm**.

The Chair closed the meeting at 4:02 pm.