

MINUTES

MEETING OF THE ROSS LOCAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE HELD AT THE READING ROOM, ROSS ON WEDNESDAY, 2 NOVEMBER 2016 COMMENCING AT 3:02PM

1 PRESENT

Mrs Christine Robinson (Chairperson), Mrs Margaret Langridge, Mr Arthur Thorpe, Mr Tony Thorogood, Mr Allan Cameron, Mrs Debra Cadogan-Cowper

2 IN ATTENDANCE

Mrs Candyce Hurren (Guest), Mrs Amanda Bond (NMC), Cr Leisa Gordon

3 APOLOGIES

Cr Andrew Calvert, Mr Keith Draper, Mrs Jill Bennett, Mr Leigh McCullagh, Mr Tim Johnson, Mrs Helen Davies

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 Arthur Thorpe/Mrs Debra Cadogan-Cowper

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

Carried unanimously

6 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

6.1 Ross Town Square Master Plan

Comment on the concept plans being sought, closing on 4 November 2016.

The general comments of the Committee were:

- Against chess board.
- Against public toilet.
- Against area being dog friendly.

6.2 End of Year Function

Zeps booked for 29 November 2016 at 6:00pm.

6.3 Ross Cannon

Quote received. Council officer met with Chairperson of the Tasmanian Wool Centre and Secretary of RSL. Funding opportunities being sought. Noted, if cannon approved to be heritage listed within the planning scheme, will now require permits to do any works.

6.4 Ross Entrance Statement

Permit from Department of State Growth received today. Is programmed next on works schedule for completion.

6.5 Road Safety

Motion to investigate the installation of a broken white line on Roseneath Road from the highway to the 50km/hr sign, and on Chiswick Road, from the highway to the 50km/hr sign was noted for investigation by Council at its meeting of 19 September 2016.

The installation of a white line from Beaufront Road to Roseneath Road be investigated.

Northern Midlands Council to conduct traffic count on both roads over busy summer period and assess once data received.

6.6 TasWater

Further concerns regarding the capacity of fire hydrants during power outages on the eastern side of Ross were relayed to TasWater. Discussion also had with Deputy Chief of the Ross Fire Brigade regarding the concerns. These were noted for discussion at the next Fire Brigade training.

Comment made that the pump on the Ross Fire Truck is of transfer capacity only.

Any further concerns to be raised directly with the Fire Brigade.

6.7 Geophysical investigation

No further action.

6.8 ANZAC Funding

A funding application has been submitted for an event and the production of a brochure to commemorate Sergeant Lewis McGee VC. Update to be provided on outcome when available.

6.9 Macquarie River

Department of Primary Industries Water & Environment investigating removal of trees, preventing washing down river and damaging Ross Bridge. Department of State Growth investigating broken panel on bridge.

6.10 Spraying Program

Council has a weed management policy and program for verges and recreation areas. Action taken according to resources available. If specific areas identified, Council's NRM Officer may be able to investigate additional funding to address issues.

6.11 Stormwater assessment

Data for all Northern Midlands townships has been collated and consultant is preparing the report. It is hoped to be complete within next 12 months, however, specific timeframe for Ross not provided. Once report prepared, actions will be prioritised and worked into the Council capital works program.

6.12 Library

Building officer has inspected and recommends the walls be battened and replastered, painted and new carpet installed, estimated at \$8,000 (without knowing what additional work may be required once shelves removed).

Action

[Ross Community Sports Club to be advised and item listed in 2017/18 budget.](#)

6.13 Customer requests

Discussion on an App for submitting customer requests has been had with Council IT Officer. There are a number of options available. Matter being progressed.

6.14 Tacky Bridge

Funds were not allocated in this year's budget for any works on the Tacky Bridge.

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:

Awaiting outcome of Final Cat Management 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:

Approved at the Council meeting of 19 September 2016. Awaiting outcome of Planning Commission decision.

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

Update:

An allocation of 50% of the cost of the acoustics work has been allocated in the 2016/17 Council budget. Northern Midlands Film Society have offered to contribute to the cost, awaiting response from Ross Progress Group and Ross Rodeo. Ross Community Sports Club have declined to contribute.

[It was requested the funds allocated for the acoustics work be redirected to painting the building this financial year.](#)

8 NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Northern Midlands Council Strategic Plan

Committee to note the draft strategic plan and provide comment via feedback forms available at the Ross Post Office, or via online survey.

8.2 Northern Midlands Council Australia Day Awards and Volunteer Recognition

Nominations are now open for Northern Midlands Council Australia Day Awards and Volunteer Recognition. Nomination forms available online. Nominations close on 9 December 2016.

8.3 State Government Stimulus Package

Committee to note Council's decision at its meeting of 17 October 2016 regarding the stimulus package on offer from the State Government (interest free loan):

That Council prepare an application under the State Government ALGCP program for up front funding to a limit of \$5,000,000 and arrange for the following identified projects to be brought forward immediately if funding is approved:

• Campbell Town Multipurpose Complex	\$1,750,000
• Cressy Amenities	\$220,000
• Longford Football Club	\$550,00
• Ground lighting	\$800,000
• Ross Square Master Plan	\$300,000
• Office Car Park & Disabled Access	\$200,000
• Additional footpaths	\$250,000
• Longford Community Centre Masterplan	\$1,000,000

with the final list to be confirmed by Council's Executive.

8.4 History of buildings

Suggestion was made for interpretive signage to be developed and displayed on building in Ross.

Action

Mr Thorogood to progress research.

8.5 Aurora Australis

Mrs Robinson tabled a letter from Mr Steve Robinson seeking support for the installation of a viewing platform for the Aurora Australis.

The Committee supported the letter from Mr Robinson

8.6 Commemoration of Ross Bridge 180th Birthday

Cr Gordon expressed disappointment that she was refused a ticket to the recent Ross Bridge 180th birthday celebration. The disappointment was noted by the Committee and background provided that the purpose for the event was to reconnect the community of Ross by way of a free luncheon, funded by one of its community groups. Aside from the mayor, invitations were only extended to residents of Ross.

8.7 Female Factory/Ross Quarry

Mrs Cadogan-Cowper reported that Parks & Wildlife will be attending to the weeds and pile of green waste.

The quarry site is being cleared, with the next stage being fencing and interpretation. It is anticipated being open to the public in the next 6-12months.

8.8 Calicivirus

Requested a request be placed with the Department of Primary Industries Parks Water and Environment for the calicivirus to be released in Ross in 2017.

9 NEXT MEETING/CLOSURE

Next meeting to be held **7 December 2016 at 3:00pm.**

The Chair closed the meeting at 4:30pm.