

MINUTES

MEETING OF THE ROSS LOCAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE HELD AT THE READING ROOM, ROSS ON WEDNESDAY, 7 DECEMBER 2016 COMMENCING AT 3:04PM

1 PRESENT

Mrs Christine Robinson (Chairperson), Mrs Debra Cadogan-Cowper, Mr Allan Cameron, Mrs Jill Bennett, Mr Arthur Thorpe, Mrs Helen Davies

2 IN ATTENDANCE

Cr Leisa Gordon, Mr Des Jennings (General Manager), Mrs Amanda Bond (Regulatory & Community Services Manager), Miss Georgina Brown (Executive & Communications Officer), Mr Herbert Johnson (Guest)

3 APOLOGIES

Cr Andrew Calvert, Mrs Margaret Langridge, Mr Tim Johnson, Mr Tony Thorogood, Mr Keith Draper

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, 2 November 2016** be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings with the inclusion of Mrs Helen Davies as an apology and the following amendments:*

Item 8.6 – 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.

Item 6.5 - the installation of a white line from Beaufront Road to Roseneath Road to be investigated.

6 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

6.1 Ross Town Square Master Plan

Final report to be presented to the December Council meeting.

6.2 Ross Cannon

Council decided at its meeting of 21 November 2016:

1)

- a) Council accepts the quote of MSCD construction to restore the BL 15lb Mark I No. 788 Field Gun, Ross;
- b) Upon conclusion of the restoration Council directs officers to develop a maintenance plan for the BL 15lb Mark I No. 788 Field Gun;
- c) Council enters into an agreement with the Ross RSL Sub-branch for the upkeep and maintenance of the BL 15lb Mark I No. 788 Field Gun;
- d) Council officers formally approach the Tasmanian Wool Centre and the Ross RSL Sub branch seeking a contribution toward the cost of the restoration of the BL 15lb Mark I No. 788 Field Gun; and
- e) Council officers initiate community consultation in respect to covering of the BL 15lb Mark I No. 788 Field Gun to ensure its longevity.

2) That Council make this decision available to the public.

Ross RSL and Tasmanian Wool Centre have been advised of decision.

Commemorative Grant application submitted Friday, 25 November, 2016 for funding toward the restoration.

Mrs Cadogan-Cowper advised the Wool Centre will contribute \$5,000 toward restoring the cannon.

The process for community consultation regarding covering the cannon is yet to be determined.

6.3 Ross Entrance Statement

Work has commenced (noting the weather has impacted progress).

6.4 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. Traffic count was completed in November.

Mrs Bond confirmed the data received was collected over a one-week time period. Concern was raised the one-week data was collected over a low visitor time of year and a suggestion was made to complete another traffic count in summer, when tourist numbers increase.

Northern Midlands Council's engineer is currently on extended leave and will assess upon his return, which is expected in February 2017.

7 MATTERS IN PROGRESS

7.1 7.1.1 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:

Still awaiting outcome of Final Cat Management Plan.

7.1.2 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:

Planning Commission held a hearing, awaiting the outcome of this decision.

7.1.3 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. Ross Rodeo and Ross Community Sports Club have declined to contribute.

Suggestion of the Committee to reallocate the Council funding for the acoustics to painting of the Hall raised with the Northern Midlands Film Society. Film Society do not support this suggestion.

It was raised the Longford Film Society are using FM radio to transmit film through earphones.

It was noted the acoustics are an issue for all functions, not only Film Society.

Mrs Bond confirmed funding streams open in January 2017. The criteria for these grants will be reviewed and if eligible, an application will be submitted to obtain further funding towards the restoration of the cannon.

Action

Mrs Bond to pursue funding when streams open.

7.2 ANZAC Funding

A funding application has been submitted for an event and the production of a brochure to commemorate Sergeant Lewis McGee VC has been approved.

Awaiting formal advice from government to proceed.

8 NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Meeting procedures

Discussion to be had in respect to meeting procedure and disseminating information after a meeting.

Members were reminded when reporting to community after meetings, to take care when quoting members and ensure information is relayed accurately.

8.2 Annual report

Northern Midlands Council invites the community to submit comments on the 2015/2016 Annual Report for discussion at the Annual General Meeting. A copy of the Annual report can be downloaded via www.northernmidlands.tas.gov.au

8.3 Overnight Camping

Self-contained vehicles parking for prolonged periods can be reported to Council's compliance officer for investigation.

8.4 Christmas Dinner

Committee thanked Mrs Bond for organising Christmas dinner.

8.5 Thank you to Med's Shed

The Committee noted Mrs Muir gives the reading room chairs to the Men's Shed for repair as required.

Action

Miss Brown to send letter on behalf of Northern Midlands Council and Ross Local District

Committee thanking the Med's Shed.

8.6 Toilets

A report will be presented to Council in December seeking decision to progress the development now the main plan of the Ross Town Square is complete.

8.7 Female Factory

It was reported the thistles have been sprayed and area has been mowed.

8.8 Town Hall

Concern was raised regarding the size of the island bench in the Ross Hall kitchen.

Action

Work request to be initiated to investigate if cabinet on island bench can be altered to increase space.

8.9 Church Street

It was noted cars continue to park at the top of Church Street on the grass island and in front of the church.

8.10 Portugal Street

Enquiry was made regarding access key to bollard on Portugal Street for local property owners.

Action

Mrs Bond to make enquiries and report back to committee.

8.11 Defibrillator

Committee noted a defibrillator is located at the Town Hall.

Action

Mrs Bond/Miss Brown to investigate if Wool Centre can hold key to Town Hall to access defibrillator in case of an emergency.

8.12 Fire hazards

Several areas of concern were raised during the meeting, including the railway line from 500m north of Badajos Street to Tooms Lake Road crossing.

Action

Council's compliance officer to follow up.

8.13 Stormwater and streets

An enquiry was made regarding Council's stormwater assessment. Data collected and awaiting report. An enquiry also made in respect to the street works program for Ross. Reported Council's capital works program is very delayed at present.

Action

Miss Brown to make enquiry and report back at next meeting.

8.14 Works manager

Mr Jennings advised the committee Mr Leigh McCullagh has taken responsibility of the Works Manager position for 12 months and any engineering advice will be contracted externally.

8.15 Weeds

Concern was raised regarding weeds in district including wild mignonette on Fitzroy Street, growing on the footpath.

Action

Miss Brown to notify works department.

8.16 Signage

Committee noted an allocation was made in the budget for signage in Ross.

Action

Mrs Robinson, Mrs Davies and Mrs Cadogan-Cowper to meet and discuss detail and provide to next meeting.

8.17 Volunteer recognition

It was noted there are a number of volunteers in Ross who should be recognised. Reported nominations for Council's volunteer recognition awards are now open.

Action

Mrs Bond/Miss Brown to send volunteer recognition nomination forms.

8.18 Promotion of the Ross Local District Committee

Discussed the need to promote the Ross Local District Committee as community awareness is low. Noted information has been placed in Post Office notice board on several occasions.

Action

Miss Brown to include local district committee article in January Country Courier.

8.19 Ross School Oval

Council have requested feedback on a proposal to subdivide and sell the Ross Oval now the Ross Town Square has been purchased.

Mr Allan Cameron/Mrs Helen Davies

The Ross Local District Committee does not support the development or disposal of the former Ross School oval.

Carried unanimously.

8.20 Swimming pool

Ross swimming pool opens next week, 10th December 2016.

8.21 Thank you

Chairperson thanked everyone for their help and input during the year and wished those present a safe and merry Christmas.

9 NEXT MEETING/CLOSURE

Next meeting to be held **8 February 2017 at 3:00pm.**

The Chair closed the meeting at 4:17pm.