

MINUTES

MEETING OF THE ROSS LOCAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE HELD AT THE READING ROOM, ROSS ON WEDNESDAY, 1 FEBRUARY 2017 COMMENCING AT 3:05PM

1 PRESENT

Mrs Christine Robinson (Chairperson), Mr Allan Cameron, Mrs Helen Davies, Mrs Jill Bennett, Mr Keith Draper, Mr Tony Thorogood, Mrs Debra Cadogan-Cowper, Mrs Margaret Langridge, Mr Arthur Thorpe

2 IN ATTENDANCE

Cr Andrew Calvert, Mrs Amanda Bond (Regulatory & Community Services Manager), Mr Leigh McCullagh (Works Manager), Miss Georgina Brown (Executive & Communications Officer), Mr Herbert Johnson (Guest), Mrs Candyce Hurren (Guest)

3 APOLOGIES

Cr Leisa Gordon, Mr Tim Johnson

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/Mr Allan Cameron

*That the minutes of the meeting of the Ross Local District Committee held on **Wednesday, 7 December 2016** be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings.*

6 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

6.1 Ross Village Green Master Plan

Council decided at its meeting on 12 December 2016:

- i) Accept in principle the Ross Town Square Master Plan;
- ii) Adopt the Parkland Style Design (Option One) for the site;
- iii) Endorse the name 'Village Green' for the site;
- iv) Have prepared detailed documentation of construction and tendering purposes;
- v) Consider funding components of the Master Plan in forthcoming Council budgets, and request Council Officers to seek to secure external grants to assist with the implementation of the Master Plan

Carried

Funding confirmed through the State Government's Northern Economic Stimulus package. Tender design is currently being sought.

6.2 Ross Cannon

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

Wool Centre will provide \$5,000 towards project. Awaiting response from RSL in respect to financial contribution.

6.3 Ross Entrance Statement

Works in progress. Concern was raised that the rusted lettering may bleed into the sandstone. A suggestion to powder coat black the lettering, however an amendment to the planning approval would be required.

Council's Building and Maintenance Supervisor has coated the rusted lettering with heavy duty sealer to prevent rust bleeding into the sandstone. Works team will go ahead with installation of rust coated lettering to entrance statement.

6.4 ANZAC Funding

Table content for brochure.

Avoca Museum and Information Centre have researched Sergeant Lewis McGee, V.C and provided content for brochure for the Ross Local District Committee's review.

Mrs Robinson, Mr Cameron, Mr Thorpe and Mrs Cadogan-Cowper volunteered to form a working group to review the content provided by Avoca Museum and Information Centre and undertake additional research on Sergeant Lewis McGee, V.C, considering copyright

restrictions on images/publications.

Action

Miss Brown to email soft copy of brochure content to the Committee.

6.5 Defibrillator

A defibrillator is located at the Ross Town Hall and Ross Swimming Pool. The Ross Local District Committee requested an additional key to the Ross Town Hall be provided to the Wool Centre to allow access to the defibrillator in case of an emergency.

Council's Corporate Services Manager would prefer to limit the number of keys in circulation. The Town Hall is open very often and the Ross Swimming Pool also has a defibrillator which is close to the Wool Centre.

It has been suggested the Ross Local District Committee to consider relocating the defibrillator during the swimming pool off-season.

The Ambulance Tasmania AED Locator smart phone app shows community-held AED locations across Tasmania. Available on iOS, Android and Windows Mobile platforms, the app will use the phone's location to determine the closest AED and display directions to that device.

The app also includes an instructional video on how to use an AED, directions on how to perform CPR and manage an unconscious patient, and links to other useful sites and apps. For questions or suggestions relating to the app, please call 1300 979 057 or email AED@ambulance.tas.gov.au

The Ross Local District Committee agreed to request the defibrillator located at the swimming pool be relocated to the Wool Centre in the off-season.

Action

Mrs Robinson to contact Sports Club and discuss.

6.6 Stormwater and streets

Mr McCullagh advised the committee sealing of Church Street will begin in early March 2017. Resealing will be carried out along Church Street, from the Boulevard to the Church Street turn around, including parking areas.

Enquiry made regarding resealing the gravel road on Church Street at the same time as the village centre sealing works. Mr McCullagh advised the gravel road requires different material and process to reseal, therefore will remain separate. The Esplanade is also listed for sealing, however requires relocation of power poles.

6.7 Parking on verges and nature strips

It was reported on various occasions, vehicles are parking on the verge near the Ross Bridge and damaging the bollards. It was also noted vehicles are parking on the grassed areas on Church Street. Suggestions to deter drivers from parking on these areas were discussed.

Requesting a yellow line to be painted to indicate a no-parking area was supported by the committee. It was also noted littering has been observed.

Action:

Request to Works Department to be submitted for consideration of yellow line.

Mrs Bond to notify Constable Littlejohn of issues.

6.8 Badajos Street

Concern was raised regarding the lack of visibility to vehicles when crossing the railway line on Badajos Street. It was noted the traffic use of this area is low.

6.9 Disabled car spaces

An enquiry was made in regard to marking two disabled car spaces near the Ross Town Hall to ensure toilet facilities are easily accessible. Mr McCullagh advised disabled car spaces will be marked upon completion of the new facility.

Mr McCullagh left the meeting at 3:33pm.

6.10 Signage in Village

Mrs Robinson shared the Heritage Street and Directional Sign proposal to committee.

Mrs Helen Davies/Mrs Debra Cadogan-Cowper

The Ross Local District Committee request the Northern Midlands Council accept the Heritage Street and Direction Signs for Ross as proposed.

Carried unanimously

6.11 Promotion of the Ross Local District Committee

Article published in January edition of the Country Courier.

Mrs Robinson thanked Mrs Bond and Miss Brown for including an article in Country Courier promoting the local district committees within the municipality.

6.12 Northern Midlands Council Australia Day Event

Mrs Bond shared the event had received positive feedback from councillors and the public. Mrs Robinson noted the Australia Day event held in Poatina was enjoyable.

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:

Cannon has been approved for the heritage register.

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.

Northern Midlands Film Society have declined suggestion from the Ross Local District Committee to reallocate Council funds towards painting of the Ross Town Hall.

Works Supervisor requested to inspect the Ross Hall to assess whether Ross Town Hall requires repainting.

Council's Project Officer investigating funding streams available from Tasmanian Community Grants.

7.2 Road safety

Further advice on broken white line on Roseneath Road, Chiswick Road and Tooms Lake Road into Ross to be sought when Council's engineer returns in February 2017.

Traffic count will be reviewed and consideration given to performing another traffic count in February/March 2017.

Concern was raised regarding the manner in which tourists drive and do not understand our road rules. It was requested this be considered in the report.

8 NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Draft shipping container by-law

Council has requested feedback from all Local District Committees on a draft shipping container by-law which proposes to regulate the placement of shipping containers across the municipality.

The Ross Local District Committee generally supported the draft shipping container by-law. Concern was raised regarding the process to manage existing placement of shipping containers and power of Council to remove non-compliant containers.

Mr Keith Draper/Mr Allan Cameron

That Council consider including provisions to remove non-compliant containers.

Carried unanimously

8.2 Application to purchase Crown land

The Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water & Environment is investigating an application to purchase Crown land between 41 and 45 Bridge Street, Ross, and adhere it to 41 Bridge Street.

Council is seeking comment from the Ross Local District Committee on the sale of this land.

Mr Allan Cameron/Mr Keith Draper

The Ross Local District Committee does not support the proposed sale of land between 41 and 45 Bridge Street, Ross.

Carried unanimously

Observation made the subject property is unclear as map provided indicates two blocks are both numbered 41 Bridge Street, Ross.

It was noted the Committee suggested alternative options, such as lease or licence of area.

8.3 Classic Car event in Ross

To be held 12 March 2017, committee expressed support for the event.

Action

Miss Brown to advise event organiser of road works scheduled for early March 2017.

8.4 Progress group

It was reported the Progress Group have expressed interest to donate funds or services toward volunteer activity in township.

8.5 Weir

Concern was raised with respect to weeds and polluted water in the Macquarie River.

Mrs Margaret Langridge/Mr Allan Cameron

The Ross Local District Committee request the Northern Midlands Council investigate installation of a weir at Badojos Street to assist with draining river.

Carried unanimously

8.6 Weeds

Mr Allan Cameron/Mrs Helen Davis

The Ross Local District Committee ask that the Northern Midlands Council take immediate action to stop the spread of noxious weeds, e.g. Paterson's curse, African dox, and other weeds such as cotton thistle and variegated thistle. Also that the State Government be urged to put on enough staff so that the above can be put into practice.

Note, all year round action is essential to make sure that control is actually undertaken.

The present system in the municipality is basically useless.

Other municipalities are realising that action is long overdue.

Carried unanimously

Mrs Bond advised the committee the following in respect to the weed issue:

- A letter has been sent to Minister Rockcliffe from Mayor Downie regarding weed concerns across the municipality;
- A report regarding weed management is scheduled to be presented at Council's February meeting;
- The Tasmanian Farmers and Graziers Association has requested a dedicated weed management funding stream in its 2017/2018 budget submission.

8.7 Committee workshop

The Ross Local District Committee agreed to hold a workshop at 2:30pm 1 March 2017 to discuss agenda items prior to committee meeting.

8.8 Reticulation

Mr Draper has offered to manage watering of trees on Church Street.

Action:

Miss Brown to provide details to Mr Draper regarding watering arrangements.

8.9 Thank you to Sports Centre

The Committee noted excellent condition of the Ross swimming pool and that it was reported takings were up.

Action:

Miss Brown to write a letter of thank you to the Ross Community Sports Club.

8.10 Wool Centre grant applications

It was reported the Wool Centre are preparing two submissions to obtain funding under the Tasmanian Community Fund and the State Government's Infrastructure grant regarding the Ross quarry site and telephone audio display in Ross.

8.11 Green waste bins

The Committee expressed support for green waste management.

Mrs Debra Cadogan-Cowper/Mr Keith Draper

The Ross Local District Committee request the Northern Midlands Council to consider fortnightly collection of green waste bins in 2017/2018 budget.

Carried unanimously

8.12 Rabbits

In 2017, a new strain of the calicivirus is scheduled to be released. There will be nationwide trials in March and community release is scheduled to occur in May 2017. As per previous years, Council can notify the Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment (DPIPWE) of areas of concern for additional release points. Council has raised Ross as an area of concern with the department.

8.13 Strategic Plan and Annual report

Mrs Bond reported the 2017-2027 Strategic Plan and 2015/2016 Annual report were adopted by Council at its 12 December 2016 meeting.

9 NEXT MEETING/CLOSURE

Next meeting to be held **1 March 2017 at 3:00pm**.

The Chair closed the meeting at 4:35pm.