

## PERTH LOCAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting of the Perth Local District Committee held at the Community Centre on Tuesday, 3 March 2015, commencing at 5.35pm

### MINUTES

#### 1 IN ATTENDANCE

Mr Michael Geeves (Chair), Mrs Christine Beswick, Mr John Stagg, Mr Phillip Dell, Cr Janet Lambert, Cr Mary Knowles, Mr Wayne Chellis, Mrs Gail Eacher (Secretary)

Guest: Mr Will Egan

#### 2 APOLOGIES

Mr Graham Eberhardt, Mr Des Jennings

#### 3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

##### *J Stagg/C Beswick*

That the minutes of the meeting of the Perth Local District Committee held on Tuesday, 3 February 2015, be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings.

Carried

#### 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.*

*No declarations received.*

#### 5 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

##### i) William Street Reserve

The Committee noted that Council had corresponded with TasWater re the water leakage/seepage from the ground below the Pump Station at the William Street Reserve and water testing related thereto.

In response to query sent to TasWater the Committee noted the following information provided by TasWater:

*Our coordinator and an external leak specialist consultant have undertaken an inspection of the site. They also tested the water for fluoride. The committee member is correct that we have not tested for chlorine. There is a very good reason for this. Chlorine is a volatile chemical which dissipates when it comes into contact with bacteria. Hence its use as a disinfecting agent ... it kills microbiological germs in the water supply. So, as you can appreciate, when water comes into contact with dirt in the ground, any chlorine will be eaten up. So ... given that the supply in Perth is a fluoridated supply and fluoride does not react in the same way to dirt, its absence in the water means it is not a TasWater supplied water source.*

Mr Chellis agreed to review and collate data collected previously and meet with Messrs Geeves, Stagg and Dell on-site.

The Committee queried the placing of signage at William Street Reserve following the recent detection of the presence of E.Coli bacteria in the South Esk River after the rain in late February.

#### **Action**

*Signage issue to be referred to the EHO.*

#### **ii) Website**

Noted that in the interim, the website address reflects that the site is under construction.

Website production to commence: Colour palette received from ThinkBig. Awaiting provision of the artwork of the town map.

Previously agreed to proceed with the website design with minor amendments, the following to be included on the website:

Tabs to include:

1. History walk – extracted from “*the path of History: a walk through Perth*” brochure – with map and all historical info.
2. Places of Interest – William Street Reserve, Punt, Cairn, train park, etc. – also with map
3. Monuments, Memorials and Artworks
4. Recreation & Sporting Activities – sporting venues, etc.
5. Public facilities
6. School & Child Care facilities
7. Business & Community directory
8. Perth Local District Committee

The Committee to provide any additional information required. Committee to visit the websites of other towns in Northern Midlands, with a view to providing input re Perth’s website to the next meeting.

#### **Action**

*Committee to review town websites for consideration at 31 March meeting.*

#### **iii) Perth Bypass**

Michael Geeves and Philip Dell nominated as the Perth Local District Committee representatives to the Perth Road Community Reference Group (PRCRG).

Noted that it was expected that the representatives would:

- need to be committed to the project;
- advocate for the continued growth of Perth;
- promote the best entry and exit vantage points to Perth;
- be mindful of the significance of Gibbet Hill and John McKay whom (in 1837) is believed to be the last person in the British Empire to be gibbeted after being hanged in Hobart be recognised, dependant on the alignment of the bypass.

Noted that:

- the first meeting of the PRCRG had been held on 17 February;
- preliminary plans had been presented, with the alignment yet to be finalised;
- an information day was planned to be held at Devon Hills and Perth during April.
- An invitation had been extended to the Perth Local District Committee members to attend the Devon Hills meeting.

Perth Bypass (NMBA) - consideration be given to the implications, prepare and plan for the bypass of the township of Perth; that a working group be formed to prepare and have input into the process. Importance of pre-planning was noted.

#### **iv) ANZAC Day – Feedback on Traffic Management**

At the 2 September meeting, Cr Lambert reiterated the information previously provided re the

meeting of the ANZAC Day Traffic Management Sub-Committee: that following the meeting DIER (State Growth) were considering the possibility of diverting the ANZAC traffic via Arthur and Clarence Streets.

Noted that the contract for Traffic Management had been awarded, Council and contractors met on site and plans made available at the Anzac Day Traffic Committee meeting on 19 February. Changes were requested and presentation of the final plans is awaited. Noted that illuminated signs would be displayed at Perth and Campbell Town.

#### **v) Country Courier Article**

Previously, the Committee noted that Council is preparing news items re the membership and achievements of each Committee.

The Committee noted their input into the following projects:

- Bypass
- William Street Reserve improvements
- Footpaths, kerb and gutter
- Beautification of Perth project, including street trees;
- Relocation of the school bus stop;
- The Town Tourism Map; and
- Agreed to the inclusion of membership in the article.

To be progressed – pending further information on the Perth Bypass project, most likely June.

#### **vi) Fairtlough Street Footpath**

At the February meeting, the Committee discussed the merits of the relocation of the Medical Centre to Fairtlough Street, concerns were raised as to the mobility of some patients and that they may have issues with accessing the facility as there is no footpath on the northern side of Fairtlough Street between the Midland Highway (on the northern corner of Fairtlough Street) and the frontage of the proposed Medical Centre. The Committee viewed the provision of a footpath to be essential and requested that if the Development Application is approved, that the footpath be considered to be a high priority.

The following recommendation was considered at the 16 February council meeting, at which time Council officer's were directed to investigate the decision of the PLDC:

*That the Committee recommend to Council that in view of the Planning Application to change the use of 180 Fairtlough Street, Perth to a Medical Centre, that the footpath from the Midland Highway (on the northern corner of Fairtlough Street) be extended to the east to the frontage of the proposed Medical Centre, prior to the opening of the facility.*

The Committee were advised that Council's policy is to provide a footpath on one side of the street only. However, the inclusion of an additional footpath may be able to be justified due to the proximity to the school, and noted that provision had been made in the plans of the proposed Doctor's surgery for a car park. Matter to be considered in 2015/16 budget and only once Doctor's Surgery relocated to the new premises.

The Committee noted that the relocation of the Doctor's Surgery to Fairtlough Street and the installation of the additional footpath in Fairtlough Street would expand Perth's commercial precinct.

#### **Action**

*Construction of footpath on Fairtlough Street to be considered in the 2015/16 budget.*

#### **vii) 10 Year Plan**

The Committee to consider projects for inclusion in the 10 year plan for Perth. The Committee raised concerns relating to the difficulty of preparing a 10 year plan as future land use would be

impacted by the location of the Perth Bypass. Matter to be discussed further following meeting of Perth Road Community Reference Group and once additional information is made available.

#### **viii) Budget 2015/16**

Preliminary budget items for Councils 2015/16 budget:

- Fairtlough Street footpath
- Arthur Street footpath

#### **Action**

*Preliminary list to be provided for consideration in 2015/16 budget.*

#### **ix) Talisker Street**

The Committee were advised that Black Spot Funding for the reconstruction of the Talisker / Main Street junction had been granted and that a report would be tabled at the Council Meeting of 16 March in regard to this project.

The committee were advised of the following details in relation to the project:

- the realignment would improve the site distance by realigning the junction to 90 degrees. To allow for the alignment, the road is to be widened on the corner near the supermarket and narrowed on the opposite side of the road.
- an outstand is to be constructed from the southern corner of Talisker Street to the frontage of the main entrance door to the supermarket. This will prevent cars from parking to close to the corner which would again restrict site distance to the south.
- concerns raised by business owners in the precinct relate to the loss of two prime parking spaces on the Talisker Street corner outside of the Supermarket.
- proposed to construct a car park on Talisker Street, the construction of which has been consideration for a number years.

Noted that not all members were in agreement with the use of the vacant land for the provision of a car park and requested that Council further consider a previous proposal to landscape the area and create a park.

### **6 CUSTOMER REQUESTS**

Date	Item	Description	Comment/ Action Taken
3/2/15	William Street Reserve	That the broken and damaged bollards be repaired/replaced.	C/R issued – bollards & reflectors replaced. Complete.
3/2/15	William Street Reserve	replace the rubbish bin at the corner of the reserve, near Elizabeth Street, in the vicinity of 'Beulah'.	Bin not to be installed in short term. Issue to be monitored.
3/2/15	Train Park Hand Dryers	hand dryers in the amenities at the Train Park be repaired/replaced	C/R issued. Matter resolved. Complete.

### **7 MATTERS PENDING**

#### **i) Roadworks, Intersection Upgrades and associated projects**

The Committee agreed to list the following items as pending, to be considered in conjunction with information/planning for the Perth Bypass.

- Connectivity of Streets – North Perth/Devon Hills
- Elizabeth Street Intersection with the Midland Highway
- Significance of Gibbet Hill and John McKay whom (in 1837) is believed to be the last person in the British Empire to be gibbeted after being hanged in Hobart.

Noted that:

- Black Spot funding application submitted to address the issues related to parking and vehicle movements in Fore Street, Perth - unsuccessful.
- Midland Highway/Drummond Street Intersection – part of Midland Highway upgrade.

- Eskleigh Intersection substantially complete.

## **ii) Beautification of Perth**

Entrances to Perth require upgrading, in particular, the improvement of the northern entrance to Perth (any improvements may be limited by land ownership, however, may be possible to plant low lying shrubs and gardens at the entrance to Youl Main Road)

Programmed to plant more trees in the main street, with plans to continue tree plantings to the north of the Honey Company.

Noted that, as required, additional trees would be planted in the Main Street in June/July 2015.

***Matter pending – awaiting provision of concept design details for the Perth Bypass.***

## **iii) Australia Day 2017**

2017 Australia Day event to be held at Perth. Agreed that the committee would participate in the facilitation and assist with communications with the various service groups in the community.

Interested parties to contact Ms Mason.

## **8 NEW BUSINESS**

### **i) Weir in South Esk River (Perth River dam)**

The committee noted the Examiner newspaper article relating to the deterioration of the weir in the South Esk River, and that the weir was understood to have been constructed to create a ford to cross the river.

#### **J Stagg/P Dell**

The Committee recommend that Council, as a matter of urgency, repair the weir (including the removal of the willows) in the South Esk River at Perth in accordance with the representation by Mr Stagg at the 16 February Council Meeting; and that Council continue to maintain the weir on a regular basis.

Carried

#### **Action**

*Recommendation to be considered by Council.*

## **9 CLOSURE**

The meeting closed at 6.55pm.

The next meeting is scheduled to be held at the **Community Centre Perth** on **Tuesday, 31 March 2015.**

# Operating deficit at council

## Federal grants indexation freeze, cost increases take toll

By JAMES BRADY

NORTHERN Midlands Council last month reported an expected operating deficit of nearly \$25,000 at its Longford general meeting.

The projected \$24,828 deficit is almost \$40,000 less than its monthly budgeted surplus of \$14,804 — a figure earmarked on January 31.

Northern Midlands Mayor Dav-

id Downie said a range of expenditure increases was to blame for the operations shortfall.

"We're talking about a budget that is probably \$15 million," Cr Downie said.

"There was a projected surplus of \$14,000 and, with a review, that became an operating deficit of \$24,000, that's \$38,000.

"At the end of the year that could change again on how the require-

ments for council spending is coming through."

He said new potential income streams and cost-saving activities could rebalance the figures in coming months.

Cr Downie said a major issue weighing on the council's finances was the federal government's indexation freeze on Financial Assistance Grants.

"Our council is very disciplined

in having rate rises at CPI or less and we're always keeping our expenditure to budget," he said.

"By removing indexation of those grants, it's putting pressure on our finances unnecessarily.

"It's not our problem that they've got budgetary issues in Canberra."

Cr Downie said the freeze of indexation meant the council would now have to explore "efficiencies" throughout its budget.

## Online this week

www.examiner.com.au /community



## Federal funding to help lift old Cressy bridge

Kolodjashnij twins could be in for a face-off

Chance to have a brush with artists

Hay, hay, it's Longford harvest day

## NORTHERN MIDLANDS



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## Deer hunt prizes

A FREE range deer head competition will be drawn on April 11 at Ringwood Hotel, Cressy. The competition is run by Hunting Tasmania and features a range of prizes. Prizes include a deer head mount, fallow doe hunt and a custom-made hunting knife. For more information go to [tinyurl.com/HuntingTasmania](http://tinyurl.com/HuntingTasmania)

## Anzac Day breakfast

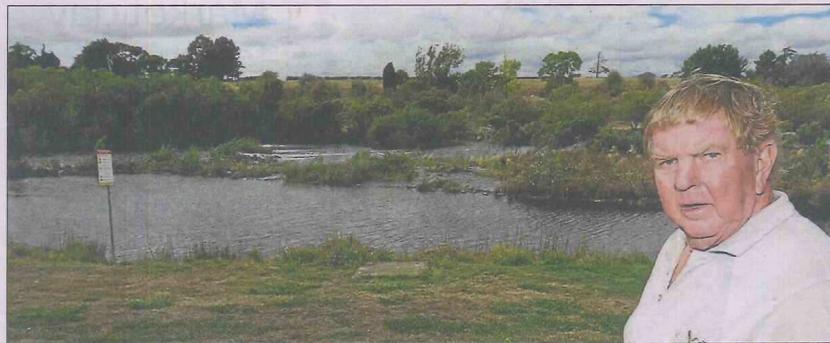
CAMPBELL Town Anzac Centenary Group will hold an annual dawn service breakfast on Saturday, April 25. The breakfast will be held at Campbell Town's Clarke Hall. For more information call Tamara Baker on 0438 453 333, or Odile Foster on 0409 771 530.

## Vandalism costs \$1100

VANDALISM in the Northern Midlands cost the council \$1100 last month. A door at Evandale's Pioneer Park was kicked in, costing \$800 to repair, and graffiti in Campbell Town's Valentine's Park toilets took \$300 to clean up. The vandalism expense is \$710 less than the same month last year.

## Council acts on weeds

WEED issues at Norwich Drive, near Pateena Road, Ross and Campbell Town have drawn the attention of Northern Midlands Council. The council said problems involved Paterson's curse, horehound and cotton thistle.



Perth resident John Stagg is concerned that the town may lose its oldest feature — a South Esk River dam by the Midland Highway bridge.

## Call to preserve historic Perth river dam

PERTH'S oldest standing structure could be at risk of becoming history, according to a concerned town resident.

The foundations of the almost 200-year-old instalment do not lie on a wealthy estate, or even on town land, but in the South Esk River.

Perth resident John Stagg said the historic river dam by the Midland Highway bridge, constructed in 1820, was rapidly deteriorating.

Mr Stagg shared his concerns

with the Northern Midlands Council during its general meeting last month.

"I feel that it would be lucky to last another winter with the way it's deteriorating," he said.

"There are willows growing up through it, pushing the dam apart.

"Last flood we had took the middle part out completely ... it's the worst I've ever seen it."

Northern Midlands corporate services manager Maree Bricknell told Mr Stagg that the council had

done minor repair work on the dam.

Northern Midlands Mayor David Downie also said the council had sprayed willows in the area during that month.

Mr Stagg said there were only another seven or eight weeks left this year to restore the dam, if it was to remain.

"I feel that it's part of an icon of Perth, it's definitely something worth preserving," he said.

## GRANTS AND EVENT FUNDING

Applications are now open for Northern Midlands Council grant funding for:

- Major festivals, events and promotions; and
- Community minor capital works.

Application forms and criteria are available from the Council offices at 13 Smith Street, Longford, or on our website: [www.northernmidlands.tas.gov.au](http://www.northernmidlands.tas.gov.au).

## NO ONE WANTS TO BE A NOISY NEIGHBOUR!

The management of noise from domestic premises relates to a large number of potential noise sources. This includes routine house maintenance, lawn mowing and other potentially noisy activities such as car and building alarms, and off-road vehicles. There are restrictions as to when certain noise producing equipment can be used:

### Lawnmowers and other power garden maintenance equipment —

Monday to Friday: 7am to 8pm  
Saturday: 9am to 8pm  
Sunday and Public Holidays: 10am to 8pm

### Chainsaws (Note: May be used for domestic garden maintenance on only one day in any 7 consecutive days)

Monday to Friday: 7am to 6pm  
Saturday: 9am to 6pm  
Sunday and Public Holidays: 10am to 6pm

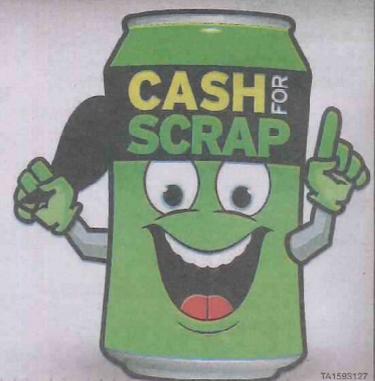


To contact Council:  
Office Hours:  
8.30am to 5.00pm  
Phone 6397 7303  
Email  
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