

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ROSS LOCAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE HELD AT THE READING ROOM, ROSS ON TUESDAY, 5 MAY 2015 COMMENCING AT 1.00PM

1 PRESENT

Mr Keith Draper (Chair), Mr Allan Cameron, Mrs Debra Cadogan-Cowper, Mrs Fiona Doe (until 2:05pm), Mrs Jill Bennett, Mr Herbert Johnson

2 IN ATTENDANCE

Mrs Christine Robinson, Constable Paul Littlejohn (Tasmania Police) (until 1:30pm), Miss Amanda Mason (secretary), Mr Wayne Chellis (Works & Infrastructure Manager) (from 1:44pm).

3 APOLOGIES

Mr Terence Jacobson, Mr Arthur Thorpe, Cr Leisa Gordon, Cr Andrew Calvert
It was noted Mrs Doe is an apology for the next meeting.

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

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Mr Allan Cameron/Mrs Debra Cadogan-Cowper

That the minutes of the meeting of the Ross Local District Committee held on Tuesday, 21 April 2015 be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings.

Carried unanimously

6 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

6.1 Signage review

The committee requested that the signage review be kept as a rolling item on the agenda for update as available.

The Committee also requested a copy of the procedure involved in sign compliance be provided for information.

Action:

Miss Mason to locate procedure and provide.

6.2 Roads & other works issues

The Committee noted an invitation has been extended to Mr Chellis (Works & Infrastructure Manager) to attend Ross to discuss concerns with roads in the area, along with other works issues. Mr Chellis will be attending today's meeting (slightly late), Committee to raise issues with him at that time.

6.3 Antisocial behaviour

Guest – Constable Paul Littlejohn

The Chairman raised concern regarding hooning in the Ross area and other antisocial behaviour. Constable Littlejohn advised that unless incidents are reported to the Police then the Police can't take any action.

The Committee noted that it is the importance of the community reporting incidents. Phone 131 444 to notify the Police of an incident. 000 for critical, life threatening emergencies only.

The Chairman thanked Constable Littlejohn for attending.

6.4 Planning matters

Entrances to Ross being included as part of the heritage precinct.

Mrs Cadogan-Cowper has contacted Southern Midlands Council in respect to the approach they took and has been provided with a substantial amount of information.

Action:

[Mrs Cadogan-Cowper to forward information to Miss Mason for Mr Duncan Payton to review and discuss at next meeting.](#)

6.5 Ross Community Sports Club (RCSC)

RCSC advised a member will endeavour to attend meetings of the Ross Local District Committee if available, and have invited members of the Ross Local District Committee to attend their meetings, next meeting being 12 May 2015 at 7:00pm at the Club Rooms.

7 MATTERS IN PROGRESS

7.1 Ross Strategic Plan

Committee to note the items which have been listed in the Strategic Plan and referred to Council for 2015/16 budget consideration.

Action:

No further action until outcome of budget deliberations announced.

7.2 Motions to Council

Motion (17/03/2015): *that Council request DPIPWE to release the calicivirus in Ross*, was noted for investigation by Council at its meeting of 20 April 2015.

The Committee noted Council approved the motion for investigation at the last Council meeting.

Action:

[Miss Mason following up.](#)

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.

Information being compiled to report to Council. The Committee noted that in respect to cost it is also the cost to farmers and environment with loss of wildlife and carrying of disease.

The Committee noted the provisions in the *Cat Management Act 2009* that provide that a cat must not be sold without being desexed and microchipped (subject to certain exceptions).

Action:

Update to be provided when available.

7.3 Old Ross Bridge

Works to be completed by State Growth by June 2015.

Action:

No action required.

7.4 Sale of former Ross Primary School

The Committee noted a sold sticker has been placed on the school.

Action:

Update on sale to be provided as available.

7.5 Canon

Advice has been received that the Ross canon is the responsibility of the Northern Midlands Council. Council officers are currently compiling information regarding the restoration and maintenance of the canon.

Miss Mason advised that Council will need a motion to consider the inclusion of the canon in the heritage register of the Northern Midlands Council planning scheme.

Mrs Debra Cadogan-Cowper/Mrs Jill Bennett

That the Ross Canon be included on the heritage listing in the Northern Midlands Council Planning Scheme.

Carried unanimously

It was queried whether the covering of the Ross Canon had been included in this year's budget considerations.

Action:

Miss Mason to follow up on status of covering the canon in the budget considerations.

8 NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Walkway in Ross

The Committee proposes a walkway be created from the top of Church Street, along Portugal Street to the Ross Bridge. Discussion was had with Mr Chellis regarding clearing of bushes to clear the walkway. It was noted the proposed walkway is in a flood zone.

Action:

Mr Chellis to inspect at the conclusion of the meeting with the Committee.

8.2 Promotion of Ross

Discussion was had in respect to promoting and attracting events to Ross, for example for weddings and private events. It was noted that Council facilities are available (eg Hall) for hire at reasonable cost. Promotion of all businesses/churches/facilities as venue attractions is large scale and potentially outside of Council's scope/resources.

8.3 Legislative Council Inquiry into Built Heritage Tourism Tasmania

The Committee noted that there was a Legislative Inquiry into Built Heritage in Tasmania which sought submissions closing on 27 February 2015. It was noted Northern Midlands Council made a submission however, there was no consultation with the Ross Local District Committee and it was asked whether other local district committees were aware. It was noted there is a meeting coming up in respect to the Inquiry.

Action:

Miss Mason to investigate and report back on Council's involvement and process followed and whether or not there is an opportunity for a Ross Local District Committee representative to attend upcoming meetings.

8.4 Planning issues

The Committee noted that Mr Duncan Payton (Planning & Development Manager) has made himself available to attend the next meeting of the Ross Local District Committee. A number of items were then raised by the committee regarding planning, all of which should be raised directly with Mr Payton when he attends the meeting:

- Shipping containers in Ross – what is the process and the compliance procedures.
- What is the power of the Heritage Council?
- Disabled access to existing buildings.

8.5 Works & Infrastructure issues

The following items were raised and discussed regarding Works & Infrastructure:

8.5.1 Paving vs asphalt

The Committee requested that when Council look at footpaths it consider sandstone paving as opposed to asphalt.

8.5.2 Gravel shoulders

It was noted that there is a lip between the gravel shoulder and the roadway on the streets on the eastern side of Ross.

Action:

Mr Chellis to inspect at the conclusion of the meeting and take remedial action if deemed appropriate.

8.5.3 Installation of skip bin in Ross

An enquiry was made as to whether a skip bin could be installed in Ross for campers to dump rubbish when returning from Tooms Lake. Mr Chellis advised that this would not be considered as there are public rubbish bins available and experience shows that installation of skip bins invites increased rubbish dumping and creates more mess. It was noted that campers should be disposing of their rubbish personally, not dumping in public waste bins.

8.5.4 Rubbish on roadsides

The increase in rubbish on the roadside (outside of the township of Ross) was noted by the Committee. Discussion was had on how this could be tackled and whether or not Ross has a Clean Up Australia Day group.

Mr Allan Cameron/Mrs Jill Bennett

That Council investigate the possibility of offering a subsidy for returning bottles/cans/drink bottles.

Carried unanimously

8.5.5 Badajos Street

Mr Chellis advised that trees will be planted behind the existing chevron barrier, once established and the risk of cars driving over embankment removed then the sign can be removed.

Action:

Mr Chellis to investigate the softening of the bank to assist with maintenance.

8.5.6 Picnic tables in Ross

Mr Chellis advised that new picnic tables have been ordered for the southern end of Church Street.

Mrs Jill Bennett/Mrs Debra Cadogan-Cowper

That the new picnic table on the northern end of Church Street be moved to southern end of Church Street, and be replaced with the existing sandstone style.

Carried unanimously

8.5.7 Thank you to Clinton Morosini

The Committee thanked Clinton Morosini for doing such a thorough job in and around the Ross Village. His attention and care is very much noticed and appreciated.

8.5.8 Caravan Park

Wayne to inspect the pin oak which has died and look at replacement.

8.5.9 Drainage in Ross

It was noted part of Church Street was flooded in the heavy rain today, most probably due to blocked drain.

8.5.10 Road widening

Discussion was had in respect to the possibility of building footpaths or widening the roads to allow people with prams, scooters and wheel chairs to travel along safely.

8.5.11 Major capital works

The Committee raised the fact that the Boulevard was resealed without the knowledge of the Committee and that there is a need for Bond Street to be repaired.

Mr Chellis advised that Council engages an expert to review all of its roads and score them against a need for repair. Those results are then reviewed by Council and works are scheduled against the prioritised needs. Mr Chellis engages a contractor to conduct the works and provides them with a list. The contractor does the works as able. At times, Mr Chellis is unsure of exact dates that works on certain roads are being progressed. As such, it is difficult to advise when works are being conducted.

Mr Chellis noted Bond Street requires an inspection.

8.5.12 Tooms Lake Road

It was noted that the camber is shallow on one corner on Tooms Lake Road.

8.6 Railway

Mr Cameron reported that he had spoken with an officer at TasRail and reported the weeds and mess along the railway line in Ross. Advised TasRail will investigate.

8.7 Meetings

Miss Mason noted the length of the meeting and advised that Council Officers should not be attending local district committee meetings for longer than 1.5 hours.

Miss Mason requested members notify her of issues they intend to raise 10 days prior to the meeting so they can be placed on the Agenda and to ensure no items are missed.

It was noted the Committee is more than welcome to continue meetings without Miss Mason present however, a member will need to report back to her for actioning items.

9 NEXT MEETING/CLOSURE

Next meeting to be held on Tuesday, **2 June 2015** commencing at 1.00pm.

The Chair closed the meeting at 3:00 pm.