

MINUTES

MEETING OF THE ROSS LOCAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE HELD AT THE READING ROOM, ROSS ON WEDNESDAY, 5 OCTOBER 2016 COMMENCING AT 3:00PM

1 PRESENT

Mrs Christine Robinson, Mr Arthur Thorpe, Mrs Margaret Langridge, Mr Tony Thorogood, Mrs Jill Bennett, Mr Tim Johnson, Mrs Debra Cadogan-Cowper (3:03pm)

2 IN ATTENDANCE

Cr Andrew Calvert, Mrs Amanda Bond (Governance & Community Development Officer), Mr Herbert Johnson (Guest)

3 APOLOGIES

Mr Keith Draper, Mr Allan Cameron, Mrs Helen Davies, Cr Leisa Gordon

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 Jill Bennett

That the minutes of the meeting of the Ross Local District Committee held on **Wednesday, 7 September 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

Draft concepts presented to Council workshop, Monday, 3 October 2016. Concepts will go on public exhibition in two weeks, which will include a display at the Ross Market. It was confirmed the concepts are not the final plans.

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. The Northern Midlands Film Society have committed \$1,000 to the works. Letters have been sent to the Ross Progress Association (meeting in November to discuss) and the Ross Community Sports Club, seeking contribution.

Investigation of the Tasmanian Community Fund grants will be made and suggestion was made to contact Ross Rodeo.

Action

[Mrs Bond to investigate grant funding and send request to Ross Rodeo Assoc.](#)

7.2 Ross Cannon

Awaiting quotes for restoration. Liaising with Ross RSL and Tasmanian Wool Centre re progress.

7.3 Ross Entrance Statement

On works program to be constructed.

7.4 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.

Update to be provided when available.

7.5 TasWater

A summary of the response received from TasWater in respect to the enquiry from the September meeting as to whether or not the booster pump has back up power is provided below:

There is capacity to operate the booster pump with a generator, therefore if there was a scenario where the booster pump was without power for an extended period of time, this could occur.

TasWater does not size its system with bushfire fighting capacity, nor are they required to do so. Firefighters may need to access hydrants outside the boosted pressure zone in order to fill trucks in the event the hydrants within the boosted pressure zone did not have heavy enough flow.

The Committee noted their concern with this response. It was advised that the hydrant at the Fire Station has pressure, even during a power outage and the truck should always be full when put away. It was suggested discussion be had with the local fire brigade regarding the concern.

Action

[Mrs Bond to raise concern with local fire brigade.](#)

7.6 Geophysical investigation

Mrs Cadogan-Cowper reported the Green Army recently visited Ross and cleared some gorse. There is a geophysical team in the Green Army group, if there is interest in doing a geophysical investigation this can be investigated.

Action

[Mrs Cadogan-Cowper to investigate further.](#)

7.7 Paddle Safe Program

Council officers have booked a paddle safe program to run two sessions on 12 January 2017, one session at the river in Ross, the other session at the pool in Campbell Town. Times are yet to be finalised and publicity will occur once details confirmed.

7.8 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.

8 NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Animal Management By-Law

Committee provided the following feedback on the **draft** Animal Management By-Law:

- Concern re the cost of implementation and enforcement, will it be reactive rather than proactive in enforcement?
- Keeping of farm animal - has to be fenced, can't be within 2m of street boundary or neighbouring property. This will be difficult to control in a place like Ross.
- Provision for sheep, particularly in Ross, where it's been traditional for them to be kept within the town.
- Need to be substantial community consultation.
- Concern re the provisions for chooks and bees, this is very limiting.

Action

[Mrs Bond to refer comments to Council's Animal Control Officer.](#)

8.2 End of Year Function

Committee to note the end of year function will be held on 29 November 2016. It has been suggested for the event to be held in Ross.

Action

[Council officers to discuss with Avoca, Royal George & Rossarden Local District Committee and make determination.](#)

8.3 Concern with Ross River

The Committee noted concern with the amount of logs and trees washing down the river at present, and particularly the damage to the bridge.

Action

[Mrs Bond to write letter to DPIPWE expressing concern and requesting that when flood waters recede and inspection and clearing of the river occur to prevent future events.](#)

8.4 Resident concerns

It was reported from a resident concern with the maintenance of the car park near the Ross Bridge, however, specific examples of particular concern were not available. Mrs Bond confirmed that Council does maintain the area. Any specific concerns can be raised directly with Council for attention.

8.5 Spraying program

Enquiry was made as to whether or not Council has a spraying program for broadleaf weeds, in addition to the verge spraying that occurs.

Action

Mrs Bond to enquire with Works Department and discuss with NRM Officer.

8.6 Library

Concern was raised regarding the Ross Library and the need for wall cracks to be repaired, wallpaper removed and a coat of paint. It was noted the Ross Community Sports Club have indicated they would be willing to contribute.

Action

Mrs Bond to arrange Building & Maintenance Officer to inspect and liaise with Ross Community Sports Club.

8.7 Planning & Development

The Committee discussed recent development applications in Ross.

8.8 Volunteer handbook

The Volunteer Handbook will be distributed with the Minutes. The handbook outlines the roles and responsibilities of the Council and its volunteers.

8.9 Stormwater assessment

Enquiry was made in respect to the progress of the Northern Midlands Stormwater assessment and when the inspection in Ross will occur.

Action

Mrs Bond to seek timeline from Works & Infrastructure Department.

8.10 Boundary between Ross Oval and School

Enquiry was made in respect to whether or not the boundary between the Ross School and the Oval will be fenced.

It was advised this is a matter between the Council and the property owner to discuss.

8.11 Customer request opportunities

It was reported the Launceston City Council have an App which enables a person to take a photograph of an issue and submit it electronically to the Launceston City Council. Reports are that the App works well and responses are given in a very timely manner.

Action

Mrs Bond to discuss with IT Officer and report back.

8.12 Tacky Bridge

It was noted funds were not allocated in the 2016/17 Budget for improvements to Tacky Bridge.

Action

Mrs Bond to refer back to minutes and advise of last update.

Mr Johnson left the meeting at 3:57pm.

8.13 Customer requests

It was noted several customer request items were raised by Mr Johnson, it was suggested the Committee compile a list of customer requests for consideration and then the Committee meet with the Works Manager and/or Supervisor to prioritise and action.

9 NEXT MEETING/CLOSURE

Next meeting to be held **2 November 2016 at 3:00pm.**

The Chair closed the meeting at 4:04 pm.