

MINUTES

THE MEETING OF THE ROSS LOCAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE HELD AT THE READING ROOM, ROSS ON WEDNESDAY, 5 JULY 2017 COMMENCING AT 2:59PM

1 PRESENT

Mrs Christine Robinson (Chairperson), Mrs Debra Cadogan-Cowper, Mrs Helen Davis, Mr Arthur Thorpe, Mr Tony Thorogood, Mr Keith Draper, Mrs Jill Bennett (3:00)

2 IN ATTENDANCE

Councillor Mary Knowles, Miss Georgina Brown (Executive & Communications Officer), Mrs Helen McQuade (Guest), Mr Keith Jolly (Guest), Mrs Jenny Jolly (Guest)

3 APOLOGIES

Mr Tim Johnson, Mr Allan Cameron, Mrs Candyce Hurren, Councillor Leisa Gordon, Councillor Andrew Calvert

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, 7 June 2017** be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings with the inclusion of:*

7.4 Installation of White Lines

The Ross Local District Committee listed installing a broken white line on Roseneath Road, Chiswick Road and Tooms Lake Road as part of its 2017/2018 budget requests to Council.

Mr Cameron suggested not to install the white line along Chiswick Road and Roseneath Road into Ross, as it will adversely impact the 'village' look of Ross.

The Committee members present did not support Mr Cameron's suggestion.

6 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

6.1 Ross Village Green

Lange Design to review heritage requirements of the planning scheme.

Development application to be submitted to Council.

An enquiry was made with regard to Council's Building Better Regions funding application. It was reported the Council is still awaiting the outcome of its application.

6.2 Sergeant Lewis McGee Commemoration

Content provided by the Working Group has been provided to Councillor Mary Knowles and the Avoca Museum and Information Centre to review.

Once feedback has been received, Council Officers to engage graphic designer to create brochure.

Councillor Knowles reported the Avoca Museum and Information Centre (AMIC) has reviewed the content and photos provided by the working group. It was noted AMIC are appreciative of the inclusion of Sergeant Lewis McGee's Avoca connection and the project may progress to the design stage.

Councillor Knowles mentioned Avoca has an existing plaque honouring Sergeant Lewis McGee which was installed in 2013. The Avoca community has been actively involved in recognising the contribution of community members who fought for their country.

6.3 Motions to Council

6.3.1 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:

The State Government allocated a total of \$1.44 million (over four years) from its 2017/2018 budget to support the implementation of the Cat Management Plan, in partnership with local government.

Miss Brown reported the state government released its Tasmanian Cat Management Plan 2017-22 on Wednesday, 28 June 2017. Key recommendations to manage the health and impact of cats include: compulsory desexing and microchipping of cats; permits

required for more than four cats on a property; separate arrangements for cat breeders; and improved property protection rights to control roaming cats.

An enquiry was made in relation to residents contacting Council for assistance with stray cats. It was noted Council is to discuss implementation of the Cat Management Plan at an upcoming Council workshop.

6.3.2 Motion (02/12/2015): *That Council pay for an acoustics engineer to assess the Ross Town Hall.*

Update:

Council Officers have sought updated quote from Sound Engineer.

An updated quote has been received. Council Officers to confirm financial contributions with the relevant groups. Project to be progressed.

6.3.3 Motion (01/03/2017): *The Ross Local District Committee request the Northern Midlands Council to consider fortnightly collection of green waste bins in 2017/2018 budget.*

Update:

Council Officers to investigate introducing a green waste service to the municipality, and that Ross to be considered as a possible trial site.

Once investigations are finalised, a report is to be presented to Council to consider the matter.

A suggestion was made to allow residents to dump green waste at Council's waste management site to be mulched. Council can then sell the mulch back to the community.

6.4 Heritage Street and Directional Signs

An updated design of the Heritage Directional signs has been received.

Committee to provide comment on the amended design.

The Committee discussed the design of the frames and the destinations and directions for each of the four signs. The feedback was noted by Miss Brown.

Action:

Miss Brown to provide the Committee's feedback to Council's Engineering Officer.

6.5 Vacancy on Committee

Council decided at its 26 June 2017 meeting to:

accept the below listed member of the Ross Local District Committee:

- *Candyce Hurren*

Membership is effective from 27 June 2017 to 30 June 2018.

6.6 Ross Swimming Pool Defibrillator

The defibrillator located between the Ross Swimming Pool and the Wool Centre has been registered with Ambulance Tasmania.

6.7 Council Signage along Midland Highway

Council Officers investigated relocating a Council owned sign, located at the northern entrance into Ross. The approximate cost to remove and reinstall is \$800. If progressed, the amount is to be deducted from the 2017/2018 budget allocation for signage for Ross.

Committee to consider signage priorities.

The Committee agreed for the sign to remain at its current location.

6.8 Department of State Growth Signage along Midland Highway

A request to remove a directional sign owned by the Department of State Growth was submitted. Response from the Department to be shared with the Committee.

Mrs Bennett would like to follow up individually with Council's Works Manager.

6.9 Support to Change the Date of Recognition of Australia

The Northern Midlands Council has received a letter dated 12 May 2017 from Alderman Sue Hickey, Lord Mayor of Hobart seeking Council's support of the following motion to be presented to the Local Government Association of Tasmanian General meeting on 26 July 2017:

That LGAT be requested to lobby Tasmania's 29 councils to consider efforts they could take to lobby the federal government to change the date of recognition of Australia Day.

Council decided at its June meeting to obtain feedback from its Local District Committees.

The Committee to provide its position on changing the date of recognition of Australia.

The Committee recognise Australia Day as an important and significant event. The Committee does not have a defined view and is conflicted on the proposal to change the date of recognition of Australia Day.

The Committee is reluctant to speak on behalf of the community regarding this issue.

6.10 Council Budget

The Northern Midlands Council adopted a \$20.4 million operating budget for 2017/2018 at its Council meeting held on Monday, 26 June 2017, and a stimulating \$16 million capital works program.

Details of the budget allocation relevant to Ross will be provided by the Corporate Services Manager in due course.

7 NEW BUSINESS

7.1 Matter of Concern

The Committee requested a member of the Tasmanian Police Department to attend its next meeting to discuss local matters of concern.

Action:

Miss Brown to extend an invitation to Tasmania Police to attend the Ross Local District Committee meeting on 1 August 2017 at 3pm.

7.2 Guest discussion

Mrs McQuade addressed the Committee regarding matters relating to a Council leased property.

Mrs McQuade left the meeting at 3:58pm

7.3 Council Mowing Schedule

A concern was raised regarding a Council worker who was observed mowing grass with heavy frost. The Committee were distressed as mowing grass in this condition may damage the grass and surrounding area.

A suggestion was made for the Council to employ a local worker, located in Ross to maintain the town's mowing and use their discretion to best manage the mowing schedule.

Action:

Miss Brown to provide this feedback and suggestion to Council's Works Manager.

7.4 Entrance to old cemetery

It was reported the entrance sign to the cemetery is not visible. The Committee discussed ways to enhance the entrance to the cemetery which included installing pillars and relocating the gate to front of the laneway.

The suggestion to be considered as a future project for Ross.

7.5 Ross Bus Shelter

It was reported the Committee and Council had previously discussed establishing a bus shelter in Ross. An enquiry was made into progress of this initiative.

Action:

An update to be provided to the Committee at its next meeting.

7.6 Ross District Committee August Meeting

The next Committee meeting is to be held Wednesday, 2 August 2017. A member of the Committee is required to take the minutes for this meeting.

7.7 Council Officer

Miss Brown advised the Committee of her recent resignation from Council. The Committee thanked Miss Brown for her contribution and wish her well.

8 NEXT MEETING/CLOSURE

The Chair closed the meeting at 4:12pm.

Next meeting to be held **2 August 2017 at 3:00pm.**