

MINUTES

MEETING OF THE ROSS LOCAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE HELD AT THE READING ROOM, ROSS ON WEDNESDAY, 7 JUNE 2017 COMMENCING AT 2:56PM

1 PRESENT

Mrs Christine Robinson (Chairperson), Mr Allan Cameron, Mrs Debra Cadogan-Cowper, Mrs Jill Bennett, Mr Arthur Thorpe

2 IN ATTENDANCE

Councillor Mary Knowles, Mr Leigh McCullagh (Works Manager), Miss Georgina Brown (Executive & Communications Officer)

3 APOLOGIES

Mrs Helen Davis, Mr Tim Johnson, Mr Tony Thorogood, Mr Keith Draper, 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 Christine Robinson

That the minutes of the meeting of the Ross Local District Committee held on Wednesday, 3 May 2017 be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings.

6 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

6.1 Ross Village Green

Development application is being prepared.

The Committee will be provided notice of the development application once Council has received, as per current process.

6.2 Sergeant Lewis McGee Commemoration

Working group to provide an update.

Mrs Robinson advised the written content for the project is complete. The working group will meet to select photos, of high resolution to use for the project.

The grant agreement states the Sergeant Lewis McGee VC Brochure is to be professionally designed and printed. Members of the Working group were pleased the funding includes the design aspect.

Councillor Knowles confirmed the Avoca Museum and Information Centre would like to review the content and photos prior to the design phase.

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:

Still awaiting outcome of Final Cat Management Plan.

In May, the State Government announced its 2017/2018 budget. A total of \$1.44 million (over four years) has been allocated to support the implementation of the Cat Management Plan, in partnership with local government.

It was noted the draft Cat Management Plan is yet to be finalised, however the allocation of funds indicates the State Government's intention to progress this issue.

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

Update:

Sound engineers confirm the panels will not damage the ceiling as they are very light and are installed using a silicon based glue which can be removed.

Awaiting finalisation of Council 2017/2018 budget.

Council is to review its 2017/2018 budget at its June meeting. Once Council's financial contribution is confirmed, additional donations may be sought from the Wool Centre and the Film Society.

The Committee were pleased the panels will not damage the ceiling.

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 decided at its meeting held 15 May 2017 to investigate the recommendation made by the Ross Local District Committee and that Council's investigations include introduction of the service to the whole community and that Ross be considered as a possible trial site.

Councillor Knowles encouraged the Committee members to promote the advantages of a green waste service to the residents of Ross.

A concern was raised in respect to a potential increase to the cost of waste collection.

Action:

Miss Brown to confirm how to proceed.

6.3.4 Motion (05/04/2017): *The Ross Local District Committee request the Northern Midlands Council to have surveyed the location of the esplanade from the Boulevard to Bridge Street.*

Update:

Council decided at its meeting held 15 May 2017 not to progress the recommendation of the Ross Local District Committee.

It was reported the request to survey the location of the esplanade was not included in the Committee's 2017/2018 budget requests. It was mentioned the survey would be a considerable cost to Council.

The Committee will have an opportunity to list the item as part of its 2018/2019 budget requests.

6.3.5 Motion (01/02/2017): *The Ross Local District Committee request the Northern Midlands Council investigate installation of a sluice weir at Badojos Street to assist with draining the river.*

Update:

Matter to be investigated.

Council Officers recommend not to proceed with the installation of a weir as the waterway is not managed by Council. The Committee discussed alternative ways to drain the river.

The Committee agreed installing a sluice weir is not necessary.

6.4 Heritage Street and Directional Signs

Update to be provided.

Miss Brown presented the design concept for four directional signs to the Committee.

The Committee's feedback on this design included:

- An 'arrow' to be placed on each blade to indicate the direction of each attraction;
- The distance (in metres) to be noted on each blade to indicate how far to each attraction;
- The height of the directional sign located at the top of Church Street to be lower than the level of the fence.

The Committee were advised the cost to fabricate and install four directional signs is approximately \$8,000. Due to underground cables and infrastructure, Council will hire non-destructive digging equipment, which is the safest method to install the signs.

Action:

Council's Engineering Officer to be provided with the above-mentioned feedback. Miss Brown to distribute the amended design to the Ross Local District Committee and list for discussion at its July meeting.

6.5 Vacancy on Committee

Membership to join the Ross Local District Committee has been advertised in the Country Courier and Examiner. Nominations to be considered by the Council Executive and endorsed at Council's June meeting.

Nominations close Friday, 9 June 2017. Membership of the Ross Local District Committee to be confirmed at Council's June meeting and in place for the Committee's July 2017 meeting.

7 NEW BUSINESS

7.1 Rezone

6-8 Bridge Street, Ross is now vacant and requires rezoning to enable use as a retail facility. Council is progressing to allow the premise to be leased.

Committee to provide comment.

The Committee generally support rezoning 6-8 Bridge Street, Ross. The Committee look forward to the building being occupied again.

7.2 Ross Swimming Pool Defibrillator

The Pool Committee have agreed to the Committee's request for the defibrillator, located at the pool be relocated to the Wool Centre during the off-season.

An enquiry was made regarding whether the defibrillator, now located at the Wool Centre, is

registered.

Mrs Cadogan-Cowper to confirm the defibrillator is registered on Ambulance Tasmania's website. It was also noted instructions on how to use are provided on the side of the defibrillator.

The Committee discussed types of emergency training available. St. John Ambulance Service and the Red Cross were organisations suggested for those Committee members interested in completing training.

7.3 Customer Requests

Several customer requests were raised at the meeting. Miss Brown collected completed forms.

Action

Miss Brown to submit requests to Council's Works Department.

7.4 Installation of White Line

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 through the main street of Ross, as it will adversely impact the 'village' look of Ross.

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

7.5 Stone work

It was reported the stone fence at the Church is being repaired.

7.6 Compliance issue

The Committee discussed a dangerous traffic incident. It is noted the Police are aware and managing.

7.7 Heaters in Town Hall

A concern was raised with regard to the existing heater at the Town Hall using higher amounts of power than alternative heating units.

Mr McCullagh offered to arrange an electrician to review the circuit of the heater.

It was noted hirers of the Town Hall are not permitted to bring their own heaters for safety reasons as all electrical equipment needs to be tested and tagged.

7.8 Signage

The Committee discussed various signage along the Midland Highway and northern entrance into Ross. Concerns were raised in respect to signs obstructing the view of the new entrance statement.

Mrs Bennett agreed to complete a Customer Request and submit to Council.

7.9 Toilet Block at Ross

Mr McCullagh advised the Committee the existing toilet block is to be demolished in two weeks. Temporary toilets will be installed at the Old School Oval, off Bridge Street.

The project includes building a retaining wall and fence. It expected the project will be completed in three months.

7.10 Emirates Melbourne Cup

Miss Brown advised the Committee that Council was successful in its application for the 2017 Emirates Melbourne Cup to visit Longford as part of its annual tour. The Cup is scheduled to visit Longford on Wednesday, 27 September 2017.

This is a great opportunity for Longford and the wider community to celebrate Longford's horse racing history and local links to the Melbourne Cup.

7.11 Council Website

The initial design concept of the Ross subsite was shared with the Committee. The Committee were very pleased with the new design of the site.

7.12 Ross marathon

Organisers of the Ross marathon have met with members of the community. The Committee are looking forward to supporting this annual event, to be held in September 2017.

7.13 Female Factory

Mr Cameron mentioned the Female Factory looks better than it ever has and commended Mrs Cadogan-Cowper on her efforts to neaten the site. The Committee agreed.

7.14 Dark MOFO

The Ross Church is closed from 7 – 19 June due to the Dark MOFO exhibition, Crossing.

8 NEXT MEETING/CLOSURE

Next meeting to be held **5 July 2017 at 3:00pm.**

The Chair closed the meeting at 3:49pm.