

MINUTES

EVANDALE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT THE EVANDALE COMMUNITY CENTRE ON TUESDAY, 7 FEBRUARY 2023,
AT 4.00PM

1 ATTENDANCE

John Lewis	Chairman
Henrietta Houghton	
Barry Lawson	
Bruce Argent-Smith	
Michael Weir	
Louis Sauer	

In Attendance:

Paul Terrett	Councillor
Leon Lange	Lange Designs
Tony Purse	Loop Architecture
Lorraine Wyatt	Executive & Communications Officer (Minutes)

2 APOLOGIES

Stephanie Ann Kensitt	
Janet Lambert	Deputy Mayor

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

DECISION

Moved Henrietta Houghton, second Barry Lawson

That the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Evandale Advisory Committee held on Tuesday, 6 December 2022 be confirmed as true and correct record of proceedings subject to a spelling correction at item 6.1 being "Sauer" instead of "Sayer"

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:

- has an interest; or
- 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 were received.

5 PRESENTATION

Leon Lange from Lange Designs and Tony Purse from Loop Architecture sought feedback from members about a draft plan for the enhancement of Pioneer Park.

Members have been asked to provide any additional feedback to Lorraine Wyatt Executive and Communications Officer, over the next couple of weeks which will be incorporated into the feedback provided at this meeting.

Leon Lange, Tony Purse and Councillor Paul Terrett left the meeting at 4.49pm

6.1 information Board for the Village

Lou Sauer raised the need for an information board in the village. It was pointed out that there was already one at the Information Centre and that when the Time Traveller Park had a notice board, it was rarely used. Facebook was raised as an alternative and if a board was to be provided, it would have to be user friendly – not under lock and key. The matter could be one for a future wish list.

Lou Sauer provided an update to the committee including the following locations.

- Entrance to the Park on Russell Street
- Grocery Store (used to be IGA)
- Existing kiosk, Time Traveller (west side)

There is also no indicator that “You are here” on the map.

6.2 Short Stay Accommodation Policy

At the ordinary meeting of the Evandale Advisory Committee held on 6 December 2022 the following motion was recorded for Council’s consideration:

SHORT STAY ACCOMMODATION

DECISION

Cr Andrews/Deputy Mayor Lambert

That the request by Evandale Advisory Committee, that Council develop a Short Stay Accommodation policy, be investigated and a report provided to Council.

Carried Unanimously

Officer Recommendation:

That the request by Evandale Advisory Committee, that Council develop a Short Stay Accommodation policy, be investigated and a report provided to Council.

Committee Recommendation:

That Council Develop a Short Stay Accommodation policy.

Officer Comment:

The Evandale Advisory Committee is concerned that too many houses are moving towards short-stay accommodation. This is a sentiment which has been echoed by other communities particularly considering housing affordability however, it must also be balanced against the need for accommodation to promote events/festivals, and tourism which have a range of social and economic benefits, as it injects money into the local economy.

The Tasmanian Government imposes the planning requirements for visitor accommodation. According to the Planning in Tasmania website (<https://planningreform.tas.gov.au/planning/short-stay-accommodation-act-2019>), “Short stay accommodation refers to houses, apartments and other types of dwellings that are let out to paying guests for overnight accommodation, generally on a temporary basis and usually to people who are on holiday or vacation.

You do not require a planning permit if you meet the ‘home-sharing’ exemption, which applies if the dwelling is used by the host (as owner or occupier) as their main place of residence and:

- *the dwelling is only let to visitors while they are on vacation or are temporarily absent, or*
- *visitors are accommodated in not more than four bedrooms while the host is living there.*

For all other instances, a planning permit subject to specific planning requirements is required from the relevant local council.

Planning requirements may currently vary from council to council while the staged implementation of the single Tasmanian Planning Scheme is rolled out across councils.”

According to the “Report on data collection Quarter 1 2022, Short Stay Accommodation Act 2019” compiled by the state government, there is approximately 61 short term accommodation options in the Northern Midlands municipality (extract from report attached).

Council does not have a Short Stay Accommodation Policy and must decide if one is required balanced against the statutory planning requirements, community benefits and consequences.

6.3 Significant Tree Register

Barry Lawson advised that he had commenced work on developing a significant tree register for public lands within Evandale. While the initial emphasis was on trees with historic significance, he has plagiarised from the significant tree register of Hobart to include other reasons for significance. He also advised the committee of an idea for homeowners to provide photos, stories and data on significant trees on their land for the purposes of a book (e.g. "Significant Trees of Evandale"). Without a formal motion, the committee resolved to recommend Council develop a significant tree policy to link with the National Trust Significant Tree Register.

The Committee was subsequently advised that at the 28 November 2022 Council meeting, the following recommendation was made by the Longford Local District Committee to Council:

"NMC to consider a register of significant trees in our local government zone with community support".

The officer report and Council decision is repeated below for Evandale Advisory Committee consideration.

Committee Recommendation:

Our Town Motto "1814 history and Gardens Entwined": NMC to consider a register of significant trees in our local government zone with community support.

Officer Comment:

A tree register is currently maintained by Council however the register is used for maintenance purposes rather than registering trees of significance such as those of heritage or historic value.

A list of 110 significant trees is included in the Northern Midlands Local Provisions Schedule to the Tasmanian Planning Scheme. The trees in this list are identified from the National Trust's Register of Significant Trees and supported by a report commissioned by the Council, 'Establishing Location of Heritage Trees within Northern Midlands Council, March 2019, Bushways Environmental Services – Tasmania'.

To further develop the list of significant trees, and include them in the planning scheme for protection, would require engaging a consultant to identify and record additional trees, and to apply to the Tasmanian Planning Commission to amend the list of significant trees in the planning scheme.

Officer Recommendation:

That

- 1 - Officers seek quotes for identifying and recording additional significant trees for inclusion in the planning scheme;*
- 2 - Provision is listed in 2023/2024 draft budget for Council consideration.*

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DECISION

Cr Adams/Cr Andrews

That

- 1 - Officers seek quotes for identifying and recording additional significant trees for inclusion in the planning scheme;*
- 2 - Provision is listed in 2023/2024 draft budget for Council consideration.*

Carried Unanimously

Voting for the Motion:

Mayor Knowles, Deputy Mayor Lambert, Cr Adams, Cr Andrews, Cr Archer, Cr Brooks, Cr Goss, Cr McCullagh and Cr Terrett

Voting Against the Motion:

Nil

7 MATTERS FOR NOTING

7.1 Meeting dates 2023

In accordance with the MOU meetings of the Committee will be held at 4pm on the first Tuesday of the month, schedule of dates follows:

Meeting Dates for 2023

7 March

4 April

2 May

6 June

4 July

1 August

5 September

3 October

7 November

5 December

8 MATTERS PENDING

Nil

9 COMMUNITY GROUP REPORTS

9.1 Community Centre

The Community Centre is progressing well with visitation and attendance as expected,

9.2 Memorial Hall

Issue with the location of the air conditioner. Members advised there was concern that it will be hit by a vehicle, causing damage to the hall.

9.3 Neighbourhood Watch

Nil reports available

10 NEW BUSINESS

Budget wish list for works and improvements. Committee members are reminded that they need to start thinking about this soon as this information will be requested in the coming months.

11 CLOSURE & NEXT MEETING

Chairperson closed meeting at 5.36pm.

The next meeting to be held at the Evandale Community Centre on Tuesday, **7 March 2023 at 4pm.**