

AVOCA, ROYAL GEORGE & ROSSARDEN LOCAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE HELD AT THE AVOCA COMMUNITY CENTRE (ASH CENTRE), ARTHUR STREET, AVOCA ON TUESDAY, 28 MAY 2024 AT 12.30PM

1 ATTENDANCE

Shirley Freeman, Jane Mitchell, Leesa Rundell, Vicki Burn, Carol Wearing

In Attendance: Gail Eacher (Secretary)

APOLOGIES

Mayor Mary Knowles OAM, Helen Reynolds, Helen Richardson

2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

C Wearing / J Mitchell

That the minutes of the meeting of the Avoca, Royal George and Rossarden Local District Committee held on Thursday, 22 February 2024 be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings.

Carried

3 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*, 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.

4 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

4.1 Tasmania Police

Tasmania Police have provided following information for the area for 2024 financial year:

- two crime incidents
- detected/responded to minor traffic crashes, minor traffic offences and traffic hazards on the Esk Highway between the Midlands Highway and west of Fingal.
- area is heavily patrolled by Road Policing Services who conduct a significant number of traffic operations in the area.

The Committee advised that it has been noted that vehicles travelling through tend to speed through the village, especially around 4.30pm, early morning and late evenings.

4.2 Budget

Information provided for inclusion in 2024/25 budget deliberations:

- Additional outdoor exercise equipment at Boucher Park.
- Funding toward the Avoca Angels Project.
- Assistance for murals/artworks on bus shelters.

Committee noted that the budget will be considered by Council at the 24 June 2024 Council Meeting.

4.3 Recognition of Local Legends – Avoca Angels

Submission made for Special Project Funding in 2024/2025 budget.

Council officer to provide advice.

4.4 Recycling vs Garbage

The August meeting requested that regular flyers/information be provided to householders about what is and isn't recyclable.

Local Recycling Committee in recess, enquiries being made re progressing a flyer.

4.5 Memorial Hall/Ash Centre

Committee request for cleaning and grass mowing (when staff are mowing verges) to be undertaken by Council, with only cleaning following functions to be the responsibility of the Committee.

Cleaner to provide a service once per month. Further enquiry to be made regarding mowing of the grass.

4.6 Pathway to Rail Line

Committee enquired regarding the possibility for the area between the termination of Arthur Street and the rail reserve be tidied up.

Noted that council staff and others are not permitted to enter the rail reserve.

Matter be included in next Council Budget 2025/26 request, however, must be noted that any works would require agreement of TasRail.

4.7 Overnight Camping

H Reynolds / L Rundell

That Council identify/investigate an alternate suitable location for overnight camping in Avoca.

Carried unanimously

The following is an extract from 22 April 2024 Council meeting minutes re this motion to Council.

MINUTE NO. 24/0125

DECISION

Cr Adams/Cr Andrews

That Council officers investigate suitable sites which could be declared free overnight rest areas in accordance with Council's policy in Avoca.

Carried Unanimously

Officer Comment:

The Committee has advised that there is no designated overnight camping area for self-contained vehicles within the township of Avoca. However, casual visitors to the town are known to utilise the river precinct for this purpose, the location is not ideal as it is prone to flooding.

Council's Development and Management of Facilities Policy, provides clarity to the requirements of a recreational vehicle, the definition being a vehicle that is fully self-contained with respect to shower, toilet, washing, cooking and sleeping facilities and must have holding tanks for all toilet waste and sullage/grey water sufficient for at least 48 hours use by the occupants.

It is suggested that Council officers investigate and identify sites that may be suitable within the township and which could be declared free overnight rest areas in accordance with Council's policy.

Committee were advised that locations had been considered and most suitable location identified.

Overnight Camping Policy is to be updated and Council officers will request an amendment to provide for camping at the river when conditions allow. Appropriate signage would need to be installed and Campers would need to move on when adverse conditions expected and/or wet season.

Committee agreed that the location identified was best suited for overnight camping.

4.8 Maintenance of the Old School Grounds

The Committee noted that concerns had been raised in relation to the health of the poplar trees in the old school grounds and requested that Council write to the Department of Education advising of the concerns.

Works department have advised that the DOE have provided permission and where possible trees have been made safe by Council's contractors, however, contractors have encountered issues with bees and once resolved will undertake further maintenance, if required.

5 ASSOCIATION REPORTS

5.1 AMIC

Fund raising events held in conjunction with Memorial Hall Committee.

5.2 Rossarden Landcare Group

Working bee to be held on Saturday 8th June 10am – 2pm. Landcare are celebrating 30 years in Tasmania and will attend. Birthday cake and BBQ in the park after the working bee.

5.3 Memorial Hall/Other

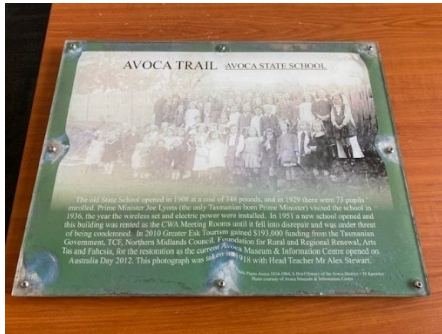
Fund raising events held in conjunction with AMIC.

6 NEW BUSINESS

6.1 History Plaques

Council staff have removed a plaque from Avoca to upgrade. Council's Tourism Officer has provided all the details for replacement plaques. Council is sourcing alternate product to improve longevity.

Plaques have been delivered to Council's depot and are awaiting installation when staffing permits.



6.2 2024-2026 Membership Term

Committee members reminded that memberships expire at 30 June and applications for new term must be received by 10 June. Flyer provided for display at the Avoca shop.

7 CLOSURE & NEXT MEETING

The Chairperson closed the meeting at 1.16pm.

Date of the next meeting to be advised - subject to membership appointments and volunteer registration.