

EVANDALE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Committee held at the Community Centre on Tuesday, 1 November 2016 commencing at 7.00pm.

1 ATTENDANCE

Mr J Lewis, Mr A Jobson, Mr R von Bibra, Mr C Plaisted, Mrs H Houghton, Mrs C Brown, Mrs A Harvey, Mr B Lawson

In Attendance:

Cr M Knowles, Mrs G Eacher (Secretary)

2 APOLOGIES

Mrs K Heathcote, Mr S Baldock, Cr L Gordon

4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

B Lawson/ R von Bibra

That the minutes of the meeting of the Evandale Advisory Committee held on Tuesday, 4 October 2016, be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings.

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:

- 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.*

5 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

i) Strategic Plan

Council's draft Strategic Plan was circulated to Committee members for their consideration and comment.

Discussion ensue re the Strategic Plan, with the following comments provided:

- Says a lot but does not have enough detail.
- Not direct enough, too much jargon (Council speak) not easy for the general public to relate to – e.g. meaning of *Local Government Reform*.
- Too many plans – focus of project management is “under promise and over deliver”.
- Number of reports done – problem is consultant leaves and staff changes, reports re-done.

The Committee agreed to provide additional formal feedback on an individual basis.

R von Bibra/A Harvey

That the committee support, in-principle, the Draft Northern Midlands Strategic Plan 2017-2027.

Carried

ii) Trees / Arborists

The Committee previously queried

- whether Council holds a tree register/plan, information to be provided.
- what permissions are required by Aurora to lop trees, advised that Council works with Aurora to ensure the best outcomes.
- the expected date of the next visit of the Arborist
- why Council does not employ local Arborists to undertake inoculations/treatments.

The following advice was provided:

- Council holds a tree register/plan of all trees on Northern Midlands streets, parks and reserves in all towns.
- In excess of 5,600 trees are inspected every 2 years, with a comprehensive report provided on each tree. Isolated trees of concern within that period are inspected on request by Council.
- Aurora, Telstra, etc. operate under legislation relative to the sector in which they operate and are not required to consult with Council when lopping trees; however, generally there is cooperation between the parties, but it is not a requirement.
- Council, engages highly qualified mainland contractors to undertake inspections (the same firm being engaged by a number of councils across the state and in Victoria) and elm leaf beetle treatments (in conjunction with Meander Valley Council).
- Council employs the arboricultural and environmental consultants based in Victoria to undertake the inspections and inoculations as the qualifications, experience and quality of the work undertaken is exemplary. Elm leaf beetle treatments undertaken by local contractors previously were unsuccessful, however, the last treatment was undertaken by the mainland contractors and was 100% successful.

iii) Footpaths

At the October meeting, the Committee queried when the ironstone gravel footpaths in High Street had last been topped-up and when it was programmed to be undertaken again. Suggested that consideration may be given to an alternate more permanent treatment which looked the same, such as was proposed to be used in other heritage precincts.

The committee noted that replacement of the ironstone gravel footpath with an exposed aggregate concrete footpath from West Cambock Lane to Russel Street was programmed in 2015/2016, as:

- Red iron stone gravel is no longer available to undertake maintenance of existing ironstone gravel footpaths.
- Council's footpaths are generally constructed with a cross fall gradient of 2% in accordance with the standard specifications, a fall of 2% is flat and small depression in the gravel causes water to pond.
- Topping up of ironstone footpaths with less than an even minimum depth of about 60 mm in depth overall is not generally carried out as the top layer delaminates and does not bind to the bottom layer unless it is raked loose evenly with the backhoe bucket prior to topping.
- Gravel only sets satisfactorily when water is distributed evenly through the gravel.

The replacement of the footpath was rejected by the Committee at that time.

The committee requested that Council consider the change to standardised footpaths across Evandale and supported the change to exposed aggregate. To be included in the 2017/18 priority projects list.

The committee further queried the reason for the gap between the concrete footpaths and property boundaries on High Street (and other locations). The committee noted that the in-fill of these gaps alongside footpaths is included as No. 6 Section A in the priority list submitted to Council for the 2016/17 budget.

iv) Road Signs

- a) At the October meeting, suggested that Council, the community and Department of State

Growth work together to improve and modernise signage that, from a tourism perspective, would attract more visitors to Evandale. Also to ensure that signage that is erected is good signage.

Agreed to request signage upgrade for Evandale on completion of the roadworks (Perth to Breadalbane / Perth to Symmons Plains), however, could commence with planning in the interim.

- b) At the October meeting the Committee requested that officers investigate the installation of 'No Air Brakes' signage at the entrances to Evandale. Noted verbal response from State Growth was that they did not expect this to be an issue. The Chair to ascertain what signage was in place following which Committee would make suggestions in relation to possible locations for signage.
- c) Noted that the brown tourism signs are the responsibility of the entity to which they refer – includes all the related infrastructure, however, the business needs to consult with Council in this regard.

6 PENDING ITEMS

i) Honeysuckle Banks

The Committee noted that the community consultation information had been collated; discussed at a recent Council workshop and that a report would be prepared for Council's decision to be tabled at a future meeting of Council.

The Committee made comment that in view of the area being flood prone it should be easy to maintain, and that appropriate furniture be installed.

Suggested that Council may wish to consider furniture that is able to be removed when the area is likely to flood.

Currently establishing

- base guidelines to go with the Plan - needs to be flood resistant, i.e. carpark, furniture, paths; and
- costings.

Council hopes to finalise before year end.

ii) MAST's Paddle Safe Program

Educational program for recreational paddlers – information circulated.

Two sessions of the Paddle Safe Program have been booked to be held in the Northern Midlands, on Thursday, 12 January 2017 at (Ross/Campbell Town) and Friday, 13 January 2017 (Longford/Cressy).

Once the promotional material has been received, the sessions will be promoted through the weekly adverts in the Community News section of the Examiner, the Country Courier, and also on our webpage and Facebook sites.

Information sought on the duration of the sessions and approximate numbers of persons which can be accommodated. Information to be provided when available.

7 COMMUNITY GROUP REPORTS

i) Rotary Club

- 15/10 Trivia night held - \$4,000 raised.

ii) Community Centre/ Memorial Hall

- Awaiting return of volunteers from overseas.
- 15/12 combined BBQ with History Centre.

iii) Neighbourhood Watch

- No report made available.
- Committee noted that meeting information on signage required updating.

R von Bibra/H Houghton

That the reports from community group representatives be received.

Carried

8 NEW BUSINESS

i) Planning Matters

The following applications for a development relevant to Evandale submitted to Council were noted, with no comment provided:

P16-238 27-29 Collins Street, Evandale - **Closing date:** 10-Nov-2016
P16-255 18 High Street, Evandale - **Closing date:** 03-Nov-2016

ii) Policy: Public Liability Insurance Requirement for Council Owned Facilities

Minute (and attachment) extract from 17 October 2016 Council meeting minutes was circulated. The committee noted the content thereof.

iii) Volunteer Recognition & Australia Day

Noted that nominations for the 2017 Volunteer Recognition program and Australia Day Awards. Completed forms must be returned by Friday, 9 December 2016 – post to General Manager, P O Box 156, Longford TAS 7301 or emailed to council@nmc.tas.gov.au Nomination forms are available on-line at http://www.northernmidlands.tas.gov.au/Page/Page.aspx?Page_Id=500#BM6472

iv) Other Matters:

- Noted that following the replanting of plants at the entrance to Evandale, more plants had been removed.

9 CLOSURE & NEXT MEETING

Chairperson closed meeting at 8.20pm.

The next meeting to be held Tuesday, **6 December 2016**, commencing at **6.00pm**, to be followed by the Christmas Function to be held at 7pm at the Prince of Wales Hotel.