

**BEECHMONT AREA PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC.
MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING**

Held: 13 February 2017 - 7.00 pm

At: BEECHMONT COMMUNITY CENTRE
Activity Room (demountable) 1835 Beechmont Road, Beechmont, Qld 4211

ATTENDEES: Tom Blake (President), Beryl Blake, Angela Brooks, John Brooks, Penny Bydlinski, Annette Clark, Peter Clark, Diane Edwards, Glyn Edwards, Jonathon Fisher, Ian Gilbert, Fran Gilbert (Treasurer), Maurie Hansell, Fay Hansell, Diane Kuhl, Doreen Sproul (Vice President), Wendi Trulson, Ger Vloothius (Secretary), Cr. Virginia West (SRRC).

APOLOGIES: Geoff Bruce, Janet Moore, Andrew Sproul, Paula Sproul, Cr Glenn Tozer (GCCC).

MEETING OPENED 7.00 pm

Tom welcomed all 19 attendees and thanked attendees for making the effort to attend. Introductions were made.

MINUTES FROM LAST GENERAL MEETING 12 December 2016

Tom asked the meeting if all were in agreement that the minutes from the previous meeting are true and accurate.

Motion 1

Minutes from Meeting held 12 December 2016 are true and accurate.

Moved by: Tom Blake

Seconded by: Wendi Trulson

All in agreement.

CORRESPONDENCE

Ger explained that the gambling fund grant acquittal paperwork was due on 31 January 2017, Tom will do this plus change the contact details from Maurie to Tom.

Tom & Cr. Virginia explained that BAPA's MCU application fee has been given a discount by SRRC of around \$2700 off the lodgment fees.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Tom discussed issues with parking at Denham Reserve this summer and how this has developed into a critical situation, as there have been many visitors to Denham falls, resulting in many cars parking on the edge of the already narrow road of Doncaster Drive plus leaving rubbish etc.

Cr. Virginia shared with the meeting that the SRRC have been holding meetings with the Department of Defence Australian Government, regarding Killarney Glen which is now closed to the public, pending investigation into the fatal accident that occurred there in late December 2016. Cr. Virginia understands that now the problems have moved to Denham Reserve as the public are accessing Denham Falls and Lip Falls, SRRC have looked at Denham reserve and will be putting up a sign noting the closest public toilets located at Graceleigh Park and to be considerate to the local residents, take rubbish with you and to park correctly etc.

Tom has been told that some people are camping in Denham Reserve, Cr. Virginia said that the long term plan was for QLD National Parks to take over management of the falls along Back Creek, it's just a matter of when and how this will happen. (Not definite)

Maurie said that at Killarney Glen, Pat Fitzgerald had put out rubbish bags for visitors to take their rubbish away in, and this had worked and maybe it will work at Denham Reserve.

Discussion held in regard to the very many visitors to the mountain recently looking for the falls.

Annette noted that the Public Toilets at Graceleigh Park require attention and need to be cleaned. "Currently they are old, dark and dirty".

Cr. VIRGINIA WEST'S REPORT

Cr. Virginia suggests that BAPA writes a letter to SRRC regarding concerns of excessive visitor numbers to Denham Falls and Killarney Glen, Cr. Virginia explained that the Department of Defence have an area near Killarney Glen that could be used as a car park. Wendi suggested everyone from Beechmont writes to the local Federal Member for Parliament, as the decision about the Department of Defence land comes from Canberra, discussion held in regard to the options of walking tracks up to Denham falls from Killarney Glen.

Ger discussed a previous land swap for walking tracks / horse trails at Lower Beechmont (Hell Fire Pass and Mount Nathan area), the Gold Coast city Council swapped land to make this happen, Ger asked Cr. Virginia if that could be done in Beechmont for tracks from Graceleigh park along Back creek to the falls.

Maurie suggested turning the grassed area at Denham Reserve into a car park to get the cars off the road, Cr. Virginia said this all depends on what happens with Killarney Glen, the Premier plus some other state MP's are aware of the situation, however Qld National Parks have little funding.

Tom explained that for the last 10 years Beechmont residents have been wishing for walking tracks and footpath to the school.

Discussion held in regard to the Tourism opportunities in the Scenic Rim, Tom remarked that Beechmont needs some infrastructure to the natural attractions as they are currently under utilized. Doreen noted that some Beechmont properties now offer Air BNB accommodation.

Discussion held in regard to the lack of lawn mowing of roadsides, Cr. Virginia took notes and will inform State Government Roads.

Cr. Virginia explained the current "Be Healthy & Get Savvy" Council incentives and handed around details regarding the Savvy Scenic Rim free events. (Copy attached)

Cr. Virginia explained the freight trains that are now operating in the area and how they are owned by a private company called SCT and because of this Beaudesert is experiencing many spin offs and employment opportunities.

Clean up Australia Day, Cr. Virginia is organizing road side clean ups around the Canungra area, Maurie said that Clean up Australia Day told him they cannot help out as Beechmont road is a State Government owned road.

Tom explained that Philippa Storey (taken over the SRRC role formerly held by Michael Wallace) came and visited the Community Centre on Tuesday 7 February, Tom gave her a tour of the Centre and discussed the maintenance schedule, plus the Headmaster Café and the MCU to be lodged with Council, to bring the café up to category 6, Philippa confirmed that the MCU is required before funding will be looked into.

Tom is close to finishing the first draft of the MCU and it will be ready soon, issues are car parking need to have 18 on site, current car park does not comply as is and Tom & Glyn are planning to get a bob cat and gravel to slightly expand the car park by moving some posts etc.

Council have a budget of \$62,000 to upgrade café which includes 2 new toilets to be added etc., the structural reports results show NO negatives regarding the deck build. Tom also explained that the Op shop would not be mentioned in the master plan. Glyn explained we have to lodge the MCU first before Council will do anything, and Tom, Glyn, Di and Ger were very impressed with Philippa, she seemed very organized and gives the impression she can assist and guide BAPA. Tom asked Philippa for better communications between SRRC and BAPA. **SRRC to inform BAPA when they are coming on-site to do maintenance, advice of maintenance budget for the next year and the beechmont website has events which gives who is using the community and when**

Tom will change the Grant Acquittal contact details from Maurie to Glyn Edwards

TREASURER'S REPORT

Fran explained the Treasurers report (copy attached), detailing the income and expenses resulting in currently running with profit of \$6066, discussion held in regard to bank balance and grant balance. Diane Edwards will give Fran a list of the Headmaster Café assets. Memberships yearly renewals were due 1 Feb 2017.

Market stalls in December were 11 and in January only 7.

Motion 2

Move that the Treasurers report be accepted.

Moved to: Fran Gilbert

Seconded by: Maurie Hansell

All in agreement

Peter Clake informed meeting that the Beechmont Tennis Club has received a grant from SRRC for the Be Healthy initiative, so come along and join in.

Cr. Virginia left the meeting at 8pm

Ger and Glyn discussed an email to be sent to BAPA members reminding them yearly fees are now due, Glyn will use the website database and distribute this week.

NEW MEMBERS – no new members since last meeting.

Diane Edwards (Membership Secretary)

Market report

Discussion held in regard to BAPA still requiring a Market Coordinator Volunteer.

Ger explained that he has been working on the market phone number to get it redirected.

Jonathan Fisher explained he has a relationship with Markets Down Under at the Currumbin markets and they could be interested in looking at the Beechmont site only if the stallholders

could be sustained and suggested getting the Markets Down Under people involved in the marketing of the Beechmont market.

Tom further explained the previous idea of having a few big weekends throughout the year, such as a walking weekend. Jonathan explained that weekend walking events of approximately 150 people were held each year in the Sunshine Coast, these events are designed to utilise public land and community groups. Jonathan also noted that the Great Noosa Walking Trail goes over public and private land he also explained that users from outside pay for these walking trails. Jonathan can approach Markets Down Under (they previously did the markets at Canungra school) on behalf of BAPA. Jonathan will discuss Council's tourism strategy and Eco Tourism ideas with Cr. Virginia and Jonathan will promote the Beechmont market at the Currumbin Friday night markets. Jonathan also noted "be careful what you wish for".

Discussion held in regard to Eat Local Week and Zest Fest and the support from Gold Coast Council, Maurie explained the Kokoda walk held each year around Beechmont. Further discussions held in regard to holding 3 or 4 a year big weekends for campers, car clubs, markets etc. Tom suggests the Executive Committee have a market meeting / discussion with BRASA and Markets Down Under.

GARDEN GROUP

No Garden group members attending tonight's meeting

OP SHOP report

Doreen Sproul's report (Verbatim)

There has been a recent surge in donations to the Op Shop, mostly whilst I am here but not all as goods are still being dumped out of hours. Many thanks to those who do the right thing. There will be plenty of variety for the market on 19 February 2017.

The raffle of the Christmas cake was won and enjoyed by Di Kuhl, drawn at the Christmas market. I am still trying to find out what has happened to another raffle prize donated by Bullet the leather worker who donated a leather bag to BAPA. Does anyone know the whereabouts? Due to a larger than usual number of cars coming to the Community Centre on Saturdays and Sundays, I would recommend that parking signage be developed for the area, namely "Park at Rear of roundabout", "angle parking only" etc.

A good crowd recently attended an Anzac Poppy Badges day followed by a card-marking afternoon. Another badges workshop will be held in the "demountable" at the Community Centre on Saturday 11 March 2017 followed by an Anzac stall at the market on 19 March 2017. Enquiries or RSVP to Kim Crow by text 0407 115 483 (copy attached).

Tom has the donated leather bag and will bring it to the market on Sunday, Doreen will then arrange the Easter raffle of this prize, as Easter Sunday falls on market day (16 April).

Tom explained car-parking concerns would be looked at in conjunction with planned work to car park area.

THE HEADMASTERS CAFÉ SUB COMMITTEE

Glyn explained they are moving the coffee machine from the kitchen to the kitchen dining room area this will cost about \$1,000 for cabinetry plus plumbing and electrics. Also recent problems experienced with the faulty grease trap, Glyn has asked Graham (SRRC) to add the grease trap to the maintenance list and hopefully Graham will get the plumber to look at it

when here fixing the overflow issues that occur during heavy rain, Glyn explained down the track a new septic tank and grey water would be required.

Glyn & Di Edwards explained that they opened Australia Day and had a very busy time, however over the heat wave weekend they were not that busy.

Tom explained the cottage and deck is 150 sq metres if we include the shelter bay we will need 35 car spaces so on MCU we will only state café is 15 sqm which reduces car spaces required to 18.

Discussion held in regard to work on shelter shed and car parking reconfiguration will result in 19 spaces, relocate bollards not touching any gardens and plants, move the gate further down, Tom passed a drawing around the meeting, and Tom explained that we may need to employ a town planner for half a day to complete the MCU. Tom suggests we have a working bee and spend about \$2,000 on these improvements.

Motion 3

Move to **spend up to** \$2,000 on car park reconfiguration and shelter shed improvements.

Moved by: Tom Blake

Seconded by: Glyn Edwards

All in agreement

GENERAL MATTERS

Graceleigh Park addition call for fresh ideas regarding the area north of Graceleigh Park, Tom has created a 'white paper' regarding this for BRASA it has not been published but he can email it around, discussion was then held in regard to campers at Back Creek and Rosin's lookout and the hang gliders and para gliders. Peter & Annette Clark's ideas for this north of Graceleigh park area are: walking trails, dog exercise enclosure, exercise circuit, skate board facility and horse riding trails.

Wendi Trulson explained that the Open Studios this year is being held over the weekend of 3 and 4 June 2017 with Artists open studios in the Headmaster's Café and this is advertised in the SRRC Open Studios booklet (out soon).

Zest Fest will not be held this year due to lack of committee volunteers, discussions were then held once again in regards to planning 3 to 4 weekend events / festival / markets each year.

Glyn explained he is planning to apply for a Bendigo Bank Community grant of \$1500 to cover the cost of installation of CCTV cameras etc to the Headmaster's Café, and the Bank likes to take into consideration that the Association also makes a contribution.

Motion 4

To allocate \$500 of BAPA's funds towards gaining a grant (approx. \$1500) from Bendigo Bank Community Grants for CCTV to be installed at the Community Centre.

Moved by: Glyn Edwards

Seconded by: Fran Gilbert

All in agreement.

However, Peter Clark suggested Glyn talks to the grants committee of Bendigo bank first before offering the \$500.

Meeting closed at 9.10 pm.

Next BAPA Annual General Meeting 10 April 2017 at 7 pm