



## **Wilson Residents and Ratepayers Association**

### **Annual General Meeting - Wednesday, 23 July 2008 - Wilson Community Hall**

#### **1. Welcome**

**Geoff. Rees** as outgoing Vice-President, substituting for **Max Zeller** took the chair and opened the meeting at 7.35pm. and welcomed all present. Geoff. thanked all WRRRA members for their support throughout the year, all visitors to the AGM and invited guests for attending.

**Geoff.** briefly outlined the meeting agenda and meeting procedures, copies of which were available on the floor.

13 visitors and members exclusive of the committee and special guests attended as recorded on the attendance sheets attached.

**Total Attendance was recorded as 25** - 6 more than last year.

#### **2. AGM Notice**

Notification of this AGM was published in the Canning Times, Canning Advertiser, newsletter drop, Eureka notice board, a mailout to all existing and recent past members, email to Mason Ward Councillors. Personal letters were sent to Dominic Carbone, Silvio Trinca - City of Canning Officers, Dr. Lekias, Mayor of the City of Canning, Ben Wyatt MLA, Steve Irons MP, Russell Gorton, WWAG & local police.

#### **3. Introduction of WRRRA Members and Special Guests**

The chairman introduced current committee members and special guests.

##### **Current WRRRA Committee:**

Max Zeller - President  
Geoff. Rees - Vice President  
Kelly Faulkner - Treasurer  
Les Durbin - Secretary  
Maurice Winter - Committee  
Gwili Crock - Committee  
Rob Marshall - Committee

##### **Special Guests:**

Steve Irons - MP. Swan  
Ben Wyatt - MLA Victoria Park  
Bill Johnston - Labor candidate for new seat of Cannington  
Steve Atwell - Act. City Engineer - representing City of Canning  
Cllrs. Graham Barry & Lindsay Elliott  
Russell Gorton - WWAG

#### 4. Apologies

Max Zeller - President WRRRA  
Dr. Lekias (Mayor - City of Canning)  
Cllr. Joe Delle Donne - Mason Ward  
Troy Anglesey - Resident  
Local police

It was minuted that attendance was up on previous years as too are membership numbers.

#### 5. Minutes from previous AGM 2007

Copies were available on the floor and posted on the WRRRA website. Motion to accept as a true record: **Maurice Winter**, seconded **Geoff. Rees** - Accepted.

#### 6. Meeting Procedures

**Geoff.** read out the procedures & protocols within which the meeting would be conducted.

#### 7. President's Report

The Report Card was compiled by the outgoing President, **Max Zeller** and summarised by **Geoff. Rees**. copies having been mailed out to all members and there being copies available to all at the desk.

**Geoff.** outlined what had been an active year with again a high level of constructive consultation with local and state government. WRRRA has a stable membership and all committee posts have been filled over the past year. Highlights have been our successful lobbying for improved public transport since the opening of the Mandurah Rail Line and our ongoing input to the Canning River Regional Park land ownership and dual use footpaths. A copy of this report is posted on the WRRRA homepage.

**Geoff.** added special thanks for the efforts of **Max Zeller** as retiring President who will not re-nominate this year and to **Kelly Faulkner** our retiring Treasurer who will not continue in the position due to re-locating.

#### 8. Financial Report

**Kelly Faulkner** as Treasurer presented the Annual Report indicating a healthy financial position. Current membership is 94, 3 more than at this time last year, with a balance of \$3393.61, again a small increase. A copy of the balance sheet is attached. Accepted on a motion of **Russell Gorton** and seconded by **Geoff. Rees**.

#### 9. Matters arising from last AGM & Related Issues

At this stage, **Ben Wyatt** MLA who had a prior engagement and had to leave early, addressed the meeting inviting questions from the floor that were specific to his position. He made the point that **WRRRA** is in his experience one of the most active, well supported and enthusiastic of the community groups with which he has dealings. The following questions were addressed:

- **Castledare Land Acquisition - Geoff. Rees**

**Ben** referred to the meeting at Parliament House, 7 May 2008 of interested parties as minuted at WRRRA's committee meeting of 2 June. Since then, Catholic Homes, the developers have been invited to submit a development proposal in which no wetlands would be included. He undertook, as he has in the past, to keep WRRRA informed of the ongoing discussions and where possible invite us to such meetings where practical.

- **Contamination in Eco-Centre environs - Rob Marshall**

**Rob** stated that whilst the philosophy of the Eco-Centre was commendable and the feature of the Indigenous Heritage of the Centre was excellent the building was poorly positioned and significant improvement in the precinct was required to serve residents and the public.

**Rob** sought a commitment from **Mr Wyatt** that he and the WA Government would give support, financial and otherwise, to the City of Canning to remove the contaminated soil from Kent Street Works Depot located near the Wilson environmental lake and that emphasis be placed on making a feature of the lake. **Mr Wyatt** stated that environmental considerations were paramount and promised the support of the State Government and Bill Johnston, if he was elected on this issue. He also advised that the Local Government Minister has been fully informed and the Minister would work closely with the City.

There being no more questions, **Ben** excused himself and left the meeting having been thanked for his contribution by **Geoff**.

At this stage, **Geoff**. invited **Steve Irons**, Federal MP. for Swan to introduce himself. As the new MP for the seat this was his first attendance at a WRRRA AGM and an opportunity to acquaint himself with local affairs. In an informal chat with the Secretary after the meeting, he offered to provide printing paper and limited photocopying through his Mint St. office should we require them.

At this stage **Geoff**. introduced **Steve Atwell**, Acting City Engineer, City of Canning inviting him to outline some current City projects and assisted by the councillors to take questions from the floor. **Steve** had only recently taken this acting post until a permanent replacement for **Silvio Trinca** is found.

- **Leach Highway Trucks update.**

To restrict all Port trucks was a promise made by Tony McRae and the then Premier back in 2005. Later this was changed by State Government to trucks over 12.5m in length which was opposed by the trucking industry and a length of 19m. was substituted. **Steve Atwell** assured us that it was the intention as he understood it, to bring in the 12.5m restriction in time but had no knowledge of when. It was admitted that there was some last minute confusion in the signage when it was established.

WRRRA are committed to continue to lobby for an early introduction of the 12.5m. limit.

- **Underground power.**

Work on installing U/G power in an area known as Wilson West is to start in July 2009 based on existing funding allocations. The area Wilson East was short-listed but is of lower priority and will start later perhaps in 2-3 years. There will be full public consultation prior to work and costs and schedules of interest free loans etc. will be canvassed.

Maps of Wilson West are available at the council offices and WRRRA will post it on our website in due course.

- **Chris Page & Russell Gorton** asked for detail on the subject and questioned the procedures and costs involved to justify a possible expense of up to \$5000/household.

**Steve** and **Cllr. Elliott** thought the cost would be nearer \$2500 and suggested that long term, interest free loans would be offered. Normally a 50% agreement with the affected households would be deemed sufficient to proceed but following a survey, a decision would be made. There would be full consultation prior to any work starting.

- **Garry Stirling** also raised the topic of U/G power but it was felt that his question related more to Bentley than Wilson.
- **Susan Rogers** pointed out potential administrative difficulties in Bridge Street re. costs but **Steve Atwell** felt that this had more to do with the work done by private developers than with future distribution works. This would be sorted out nearer the time.

- **Infill sewer programme**

**Steve Atwell** stated that work on the last part of Wilson to be deep seweraged, would start in August on the pumping station adjacent to Centenary Ave./Manning Rd. which will take a year to complete after which the area can be seweraged.

In answer to a question from **Chris Page**, this would then facilitate the development of the Clontarf land.

- **Kent Street Area**

The area was under continual review and currently, after the opening of the Eco-Centre, the 87 car bays were seen to be adequate. The canoe facilities had met with the satisfaction of the local Canoe Club of some 40 members and feedback had been favourable.

- **John Smales** expressed some concerns about the distance of the Kent St. canoe launch from the carpark and the lack of a launch area on the upstream side of the weir. He also requested water taps for canoe wash down at both Kent Street and Riverton Jetty Park. **Steve Atwell** undertook to look into it.
- **Rob Marshall** asked what was being done by the City to improve the visual appeal of the Kent St. entrance which **Rob** considered unattractive and unwelcoming. With 10,000 students stated by **Tony McRae** MLA to use the Eco-Education Centre each year and the City of Canning advertising the Kent Street Weir Precinct as a tourist attraction, **Rob** asked **Mr. Atwell** and the City of Canning Counsellors to support the removal of the fence from the Recreation Park. **Geoff. Rees** pointed out that a WRRRA submission of 5 June on the very subject had not been replied to. **Mr Atwell** said that he was aware of the letter from WRRRA and would follow up.
- **Steve Atwell** said that he considered the entrance satisfactory. He said that the City of Canning had no strategy plans drawn up for improvements of the Kent Street environmental area. He stated the soccer club had another two-three years of the lease to run and it was the intention of the City of Canning to re-locate the club.
- **Joan Loudon** asked if something could be done to improve signage to the new Eco-Centre. **Steve** was aware that this had been a deficiency for a while but it was already in the process of being improved with a sign to be located on Albany Highway shortly.

- **Riverton Bridge Kiosk Area**

**Geoff. Rees** presented a proposal to close off the Bridge Street access from Fern Road thus making Bridge Street a cul-de-sac and extending the grassed area over the present Bridge Street with a provision for additional parking and an enhanced and safer children's play area further away from the Fern Road bridge. Also proposed was the relocation of the existing kiosk car-park entrance from Fern Road into Bridge Street to enhance safety and traffic flow along Fern Road.

**Geoff.** presented a map but added that this proposal had not yet been considered by WRRRA committee nor a firm proposal yet put to the City.

- **Susan Rogers** felt that any scheme to bring more visitors to the Jetty Park than we have already would be unwise.

- **Les Durbin** brought to the attention of the meeting that there had been 3 crashes in 4 days on Fern Road close to the kiosk all involving police and /or ambulance attendance over the previous week-end. He felt that there were issues to be addressed where recreational areas, increased use of the park and the ever increasing through traffic flow along Fern Road were concerned.
- **Other Issues.**
- **Russell Gorton** asked **Steve Atwell** of the status of Canning River Regional Park on the inner side of the Bridge St. bend (CRRP map areas 6& 8). **Cllr. Elliott** stated that the areas were both Public Open Space.
- **Geoff. Rees** displayed maps of the CRRP and outlined future plans for the Dual Use Path which reflected the completed Stage 1 and future Stages 2 and 3 connecting the Riverton Bridge area with the new Eco-Centre at Kent Street..
- **Chris Page** considered that the area around the Sea Scouts, Centenary Ave. looked neglected and rubbish strewn. Could something be done? **Steve** was aware that there had been a 'working bee' within the last 6 weeks in an effort to improve the situation.
- **Russell Gorton** wished to thank the City for their continuing support of the WWAG volunteers without which they could not have made the progress that they have in recent times over Regional Park restoration projects.

## 10. Election of Officers.

There being no other questions from the floor, **Geoff. Rees** vacated the chair and invited **Cllr.Lindsay Elliott** to chair the election of officers and committee. **Lindsay** thanked the current committee for their work over the past year. He stressed the importance of community input into local affairs and asked of the floor if anyone would be prepared to nominate for any vacant position or serve as a committee member.

**Cllr. Elliott** declared all positions vacant.

- a. Nominations were called for the position of President. **Geoff Rees** was nominated by **Les Durbin** seconded by **Maurice Winter**. There being no other nominations, **Geoff.** was elected unopposed.
- b. Nominations were called for the position of Vice President. No nominations were received so was left temporarily vacant.
- c. Nominations were called for the position of Secretary. **Les Durbin** was nominated by **Maurice Winter** seconded by **Geoff. Rees**. There being no other nominations, **Les** was elected unopposed.
- d. Nominations were called for the position of Treasurer. **Rob Marshall** was nominated by **Les Durbin** seconded by **Geoff. Rees**. There being no other nominations **Rob** was elected unopposed.
- e. Nominations for committee members were requested. Noted that **Max Zeller** retiring President nominated to committee and will continue as webmaster. **Maurice Winter** and **Gwili (Jeeli) Crock**, existing committee members re-nominated. It is hoped to recruit more committee members shortly.

## 11. Membership Subscription 2008\9

Proposed by **Geoff. Rees** seconded by **Les Durbin** that in view of our healthy balance sheet, the Membership Subscription of \$5/household should continue. **Les** pointed out that many

people paid in cash and a banknote in an envelope was more convenient than a coinage amount. Accepted unanimously.

## 12. General Business

At this stage, **Geoff.** invited **Bill Johnston** to introduce himself as Labor Party candidate for the new State seat of Cannington in which Wilson will fall.

**Bill** gave a short personal background and explained that Cannington is one of 8 new parliamentary seats as a result of recent boundary changes. Wilson constitutes approximately one third of the seat's area. **Bill** pledged, if elected, to continue the close working relationship that WRRRA has enjoyed with his predecessor, **Ben Wyatt**.

- **Neville Loudon** asked about the proposed Queens Park swimming pool/library complex which **Steve Atwell** explained was some 5-8 years away and it was envisaged that the Bentley Library would remain open until that time.
- **Russell Gorton** asked that any information re. progress on Castledare Land Acquisition be communicated to him. To discuss next WRRRA committee meeting

## 13. Next Meeting.

The next Committee Meeting will be held on Monday 4<sup>th</sup>. August 2008 at 7.30pm. at the Wilson Community Hall.

There being no further business, the incoming President, **Geoff. Rees** thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed at 9.25pm.

Noted that informal discussions continued after the meeting in a very congenial atmosphere and enjoying the catering provided by **Kelly** to whom special thanks.