



Wilson Residents and Ratepayers Association

Annual General Meeting - Wednesday, 15 July 2009 - Wilson Community Hall

1. Welcome

Geoff. Rees as outgoing President, 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. 16 visitors and members exclusive of the committee and special guests attended as recorded on the attendance sheets attached.

Total Attendance was recorded as 28 - 3 more than last year.

2. AGM Notice

Notification of this AGM was published in the Canning Examiner, newsletter drop, Eureka notice board, a mailout to all existing and recent past members, email to Mason Ward Councillors. Personal letters were sent to **Mark Dacombe**, - City of Canning CEO, **Joe Delle Donne**, - Mayor of the City of Canning, **Bill Johnston** MLA, **Steve Irons** MP, **Russell Gorton**, WWAG. Noted that the Canning Times have not published a Local Diary in recent weeks.

3. Introduction of WRRRA Members and Special Guests

The chairman introduced current committee members and special guests.

Current WRRRA Committee:

Geoff Rees - President
Rob Marshall - Treasurer
Les Durbin - Secretary
Max Zeller - Webmaster
Maurice Winter - Committee
Susan Rogers - Committee
Brian Cornell - Committee
Chris Bailie – Committee

Special Guests:

Steve Irons - MP. Swan
Mark Dacombe - CEO City of Canning
Troy Bozich - Mgr. Eng. Services, City of Canning
Charles Sullivan – Exc. Strategic and Regulatory Services, City of Canning
Joe Delle Donne - Mayor City of Canning
Cllrs. Graham Barry & Lindsay Elliott - Mason Ward

Russell Gorton - WWAG

4. Apologies

Bill Johnston MLA - Cannington
Mark Kelly - Councillor - Mason Ward
Terry Gorton - Resident
Rob Marshall - Treasurer

5. Minutes from previous AGM 2008

Copies were available on the floor and posted on the **WRRRA** website. Motion to accept as a true record: proposed **Brian Cornell**, seconded **Maurice Winter**

6. Meeting Procedures

Geoff Rees 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, **Geoff Rees** .
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 of close to 100 and all committee posts have been filled over the past year. Highlights have been our lobbying for improved broadband availability and continuing involvement and lobbying for a path within the Canning River Regional Park joining Watts Road to the Kent Street Weir Precinct. **WRRRA** also has a continuing role in the development of the Canning River Regional Park and land ownership within the park. **WRRRA** received a Lotterywest grant during the year to purchase a laptop computer which is great assistance in conducting our business. A copy of this report is to be posted on the **WRRRA** homepage.
Following comments from a two members prior to the AGM, **Geoff** clarified **WRRRA's** support for the Canning City on installation of underground power in West Wilson, a position that had been taken some 4\5 years ago. This subject had been discussed in meetings including the 2008 AGM and there had been no discussion or motion by members to amend this decision. **Geoff** added special thanks for the efforts of **Les Durbin** as retiring Secretary who will not re-nominate this year and to **Gwili Crock** a retiring Committee member who will not continue in the position due to re-locating.

8. Financial Report

Max Zeller presented the Annual Report for **Rob Marshall** - Treasurer, who could not attend. The report indicated a healthy financial position. Current membership is 97, 3 more than at this time last year, with a balance of \$2,740.84, a small but manageable decrease on last year. This was caused by increased printing costs, a timing issue as 3 newsletter accounts were settled within the year as opposed to one in the previous year.

9. Matters arising from last AGM & Related Issues

For the benefit of those who may not have had access to last year's minutes, **Les Durbin** outlined the topics covered at that meeting. There were no questions arising from the floor other than some ongoing issues better dealt with later by City officials and councillors in item 10.

10. City Reports and questions from the floor.

This was the opportunity to discuss current projects and direct questions to our elected representatives and City officials. The following topics were raised:

- **Wilson West U/G Power**

Joe Delle Donne declared his interest as an employee of Western Power, Mayor of the City of Canning and a local property owner. He declared that the Council agreed unanimously to proceed with the project. Costings were still subject to Western Power estimates and the works will take approximately 2 years. The City will discuss with individuals, ways to reduce any financial hardship. **Russell Gorton** asked if the City had plans to target any other areas in Wilson for U/G power and was informed that this would depend upon demand. To this end, **Geoff Rees** suggested that **WRRRA** include a questionnaire in our Summer Edition newsletter to determine this demand. The general feeling from the floor was that there was no real opposition to the Wilson West project and certainly none was voiced, indeed many voiced the view that they would like the areas south of Leach Highway to be given U/G power at the earliest possible date.

- **Riverton Jetty Kiosk**

- **Joe Delle Donne** repeated what is commonly known following a recent public meeting that the existing kiosk was past its use by date and a budget of \$500,000 has been allocated to replace it. The boat ramp suggestion has been rejected. The project is to be fast-tracked and whilst the kiosk is being demolished and rebuilt, a temporary demountable will be placed on site to act as a temporary kiosk/café. The car parking is presently being assessed.
- **Susan Rogers** asked if the structure would be rated as a café or a kiosk. It will be a kiosk.
- **Geoff Rees** raised the question on whether **WRRRA's** previous suggestion to relocate the car park entrance onto Bridge St was still under consideration as its current location on Fern Road was a road safety issue. Safety will be part of the assessment and there is space available for extra car parking.
- **Chris Bailie** raised the question of insufficient rubbish bins in the area and at some local bus stops. **Joe Delle Donne** noted the point raised.
- **Russell Gorton** asked about a starting date which is not yet decided.
- **Max Zeller** complimented the City on their foreshore reinstatement works at the Jetty Park.

- **Broadband**

Steve Irons said that it was well known that Wilson was poorly served but was not the only area with the Welshpool business area being without an internet connection for 5 days now. **WRRRA's** recent submission has been presented to the appropriate bodies but as yet with no action. **Steve** is to have a meeting with the Shadow Communications spokesman the next day in which it will be raised. **Joe Delle Donne** who has also lobbied on our behalf, was of the opinion that the problem in Wilson was one of poor cabling rather than a shortage of slots at the Cannington Exchange as we have been led to believe.

- **Retaining Walls**

Joe Delle Donne thanked **Geoff Rees** for his recent work and input into the question of retaining wall viability both in Wilson and in the metro. area generally. **Geoff's** correspondence is to be presented to the next South East Metropolitan area zone meeting of the Local Govt. Association.

- **Bus Shelters**

Max Zeller raised the issue of bus shelters on Fern Road. The eastbound side is well served but westbound serving the Bullcreek rail station not so well. **Max** thanked the City for installing

a shelter opposite the Jetty Park and asked if one could be installed at the bus stop near the Upnor Street roundabout. **Joe Delle Donne** noted the request.

- **Centenary Park Scout Hut**

Chris Bailie asked if the hut and general area could receive an upgrade. **Joe Delle Donne** said that an application had been made for Federal funding which had been denied. In the same area, the footpath to join up with the South Perth path would be completed when the building development is complete.

- **Council Depot**

Neville Loudon asked if the Council Depot is to be moved as has been mooted. **Joe Delle Donne** said that it is to be one of the priorities of the new CEO **Mark Dacombe** to check on the contamination of the site and its asset value before deciding upon a move to another site or otherwise.

- **Kent Street Precinct**

Max Zeller inquired as to future improvements in the precinct. **Joe Delle Donne** appreciated that there was still much to be done in the area notably what to do about the bridge. **WRRRA** will formulate some options at future committee meetings for a submission to the City. **Les Durbin** reminded **Mark Dacombe** that two letters had been sent to the City over the past year from **Rob Marshall** for **WRRRA** re. removal of the fence around the soccer pitch, neither of which had been replied to. **Mark** agreed to investigate. **Max** made a presentation prepared with **Rob Marshall** with photos to illustrate some of the less attractive features of the area such as the fences and the inadequate parking for last Foundation Day.

- **Verge Storage**

Les Durbin thanked the City for attending to our recent requests for the removal of vehicles and equipment permanently stored on verges. All our concerns have been addressed.

- **Paths within Canning River Regional Park**

Geoff Rees made a presentation, to gauge public opinion, as part of his work for **WRRRA** over recent years lobbying to have a path completed from Watts Road to the Kent Street Precinct to be constructed in stages, the first stage being from Watts Road to Canning River Gardens. **WRRRA** committee is in favour in principle however funding is a problem. **Russell Gorton** who sits on the **CRRP** Committee said that there is some disagreement over the route that **Geoff** has suggested with regard to seasonal flooding and some environmental issues. **Brian Cornell** had reservations about opening up a dual use path without good management and supervision as it could open up the area to anti-social behaviour - trail bikes etc. **Geoff's** presentation with his photographs gave us views of the park and river that a path would make available. He requested feedback.

At this stage, visiting guests were given the opportunity to leave and refreshments were taken by those remaining.

11. Election of Officers.

There being no other questions from the floor, **Geoff. Rees** vacated the chair and invited **Steve Irons MP** to chair for the election of officers and committee. **Steve** 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.

All positions declared 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, **Maurice Winter** was nominated by **Les Durbin** seconded by **Cllr.Elliott**. There being no other nominations, **Maurice** was elected unopposed.
- c. Nominations were called for the position of Secretary. **Les Durbin** did not nominate. There were no nominations so the position remained vacant. **Max Zeller** suggested that some of the duties could be re-allocated. To be discussed at next committee meeting.
- d. Nominations were called for the position of Treasurer. **Rob Marshall** was nominated by **Max Zeller**. There being no other nominations **Rob** was elected unopposed.
- e. **Max Zeller** agreed to continue as Webmaster
- f. Nominations for committee were requested in particular one or more new members for the year. Current committee members **Brian Cornell**, **Chris Bailie**, **Susan Rogers** and retiring Secretary, **Les Durbin** nominated as too did **Kerry Malone** who nominated from the floor and was welcomed as a new committee member.

11. Membership Subscription 2009/10

Proposed by **Brian Cornell** seconded by **Maurice Winter**, that in view of our healthy balance sheet, the Membership Subscription of \$5/household should continue. **Max Zeller** suggested that consideration be given for next year to make the subscription \$10 for 2 years as many members were doing this anyway. Agreed.

12. General Business

- **Maurice Winter** inquired of **Joe Delle Donne** as to the schedule for the Centenary Park changerooms. The project is ready to go out to tender and funding is available for the lighting and sewerage. The fencing in the area is awaiting the completion of the nearby building development.
- On behalf of **WRRRA**, **Les Durbin** thanked both **Steve Irons** MP and **Bill Johnston** MLA for their assistance over the past year with photocopying and printing paper.

13. Next Meeting.

The next Committee Meeting will be held on Monday 3rd. August 2009 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 9.55 pm.

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