



## **Wilson Residents and Ratepayers Association**

### **Annual General Meeting - Wednesday, 7 July 2010 - Wilson Community Hall**

#### **1. Welcome**

**Geoff. Rees** as outgoing President, opened the meeting at 7.40 pm. 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. 18 visitors and members exclusive of the special guests attended as recorded on the attendance sheets attached.

**Total Attendance was recorded as 27 - 1 fewer than last year.**

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

Notification of this AGM was published in the Canning Examiner, Canning Times, newsletter drop, Eureka notice board, a mailout to all existing and recent past members. Emails to Mason Ward Councillors, **Mark Dacombe**, - City of Canning CEO, **Joe Delle Donne**, - Mayor of the City of Canning, **Bill Johnston** MLA, **Steve Irons** MP , **Russell Gorton** WWAG, **Tim Hammond**. Noted that the Canning Times now publishes a City of Canning page where it was also printed.

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

The chairman introduced current committee members and special guests.

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

**Geoff Rees** – President  
**Maurice Winter** – Vice President  
**Rob Marshall** - Treasurer  
**Les Durbin** – Acting Secretary  
**Max Zeller** - Webmaster  
**Susan Rogers** - Committee

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

**Bill Johnson** - MLA Cannington  
**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  
**Graham Barry & Lindsay Elliott** – Mason Ward Councillors  
**Russell Gorton** – Wilson Wetlands Action Group WWAG  
**Tim Hammond** – Labor candidate for Federal seat of Swan

#### 4. Apologies

**Steve Irons** – MP seat of Swan. **Jonathan Martin** attended on his behalf.

**Paul Duncan** - Resident

**Brian Cornell** - Committee

#### 5. Minutes from previous AGM 2009

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

#### 6. Meeting Procedures

**Geoff Rees** read out the procedures & protocols within which the meeting would be conducted. Copies available at front desk.

#### 7. President's Report

The Report Card was compiled by the outgoing President, **Geoff Rees** .

**Geoff** outlined what had again been an active year with again a high level of constructive consultation with local and state government. **WRRRA** has a much increased membership of 128 and all committee posts were filled over most of the past year but with two resignations in recent months we are in need of committee members. **Geoff** thanked all committee members for their efforts over the past year.

The committee continued an active role in lobbying and follow up with Local and Government bodies/institutions on a number of issues raised by individual members on matters that have a direct impact on our members and residents of Wilson. These have included:

- Riverton Bridge Kiosk and Jetty Park redevelopment
- Fern Road Traffic concerns
- Canning City Budgetary Planning for the future
- Improvements around the Kent Street Weir area
- Broadwalk construction and private land resumption in CRRP
- Aircraft noise submissions
- U/G power in Wilson East (south of Leach Highway)
- Improved broadband access for Wilson
- Roe Highway 8/heavy haul vehicles on Leach Highway/Shelley Bridge widening.

**Geoff** added special thanks for the efforts of **Kerry Malone** who was forced to resign as Secretary due to work and health pressures and **Les Durbin** for taking on the position until this AGM. Special thanks also to committee member **Chris Bailie** who recently resigned to start his own business. We wish them well.

Special thanks too to our City Mayor, **Joe Delle Donne** and Mason Ward councillors **Lindsay Elliott** and **Graham Barry** for their support and attendance at our meetings. Thanks too to our parliamentary representatives **Steve Irons** MP, Federal member for Swan and **Bill Johnson** MLA, State member for Cannington for their assistance with printing and their attendance at meetings and support.

A full transcript of the Report is available on the **WRRRA** website <http://wrra.org.au>

#### 8. Financial Report

**Rob Marshall** - Treasurer, presented the annual financial report. The report indicated a healthy financial position. Current membership is 128 almost 30 more than last year and with a balance of \$3363.08, an operating profit of \$290.18 over the year. This healthy financial position is due to in the main to the valuable and continuing support of the City of Canning, an increase in our advertising sponsors from 6 to 8 and the assistance of **Bill Johnson** MLA and **Steve Irons** MP with printing our newsletters and flyers. **WRRRA** volunteers deliver our own circulars to minimise postage costs.

**Rob** also confirmed that committee had approved Ted Foreman Citizenship Award grants of \$150 to each of Wilson Primary School and Rehoboth Christian School for the coming 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, copies were available at front desk.

- **Bus Shelters – Max Zeller** asked the City if some action could be taken to provide bus shelters on the south side of Fern Road as promised last year. **Troy Bozich** said that plans were made to install used concrete shelters as they became available. However after several were found to be sub standard, one has now become available and would be sited shortly at the stop close to the Upnor Street roundabout.
- **Council Depot contamination – Russell Gorton** asked about the investigations of the chemical contamination at the Council Depot site. **Mayor Delle Donne** reported that a committee had been formed to investigate and was due to report in the near future.

## 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 East U/G Power**

**Geoff Rees** asked the City as to where Wilson East was currently placed with regard to U/G power. **Mayor Delle Donne** was pleased to inform us that the area of Wilson south of Leach Highway known as Wilson East was now on a short list and residents would receive a letter from the Office of Energy in about 4 weeks. A survey will be conducted to determine support for U/G power and he urged **WRRRA** to actively lobby local residents to gain a Yes vote. A 'Yes' vote of 60% is required although despite a question from **Max Zeller**, it remained unclear as to 60% of what. The more support **WRRRA** can encourage, then the sooner it will happen. A public meeting will be called prior to work commencing when questions/concerns will be answered as happened for Bentley earlier this year.

**Bill Johnson** stated that State Opposition had identified certain problems with the payment guidelines and had approached State Govt. to look at a fairer method of allocating costs.

- **Riverton Jetty Kiosk/Bridge Street**

**Geoff Rees** asked for a progress report on the project and Bridge Street closure. **Charles Sullivan** for the City stated that the Kiosk was close to completion but the surrounding works will be delayed for a short time while details such as stormwater drainage, car park areas are approved by the planning group of the Swan River Trust. This approval has been sought but not yet attained. **Neville Loudon** from the floor was assured that these surrounding works would in no way affect the completion of the Kiosk. **Mayor Delle Donne** stated that as of today a tenant for the kiosk had not been contracted but one is being actively sought.

- **Roe Highway/Shelley Bridge**

**Geoff Rees** who had attended several planning workshops for **WRRRA** on Roe 8 asked about the current standing. **Mayor Delle Donne** stated that both were at an early stage. He accompanied the Minister of Transport in tour of the district only last week with particular emphasis on the eventual widening of the Shelley Bridge. **Bill Johnson** was emphatic that in his opinion Roe 8 would make no difference to the traffic on Leach Highway as it would always be the easiest access to Fremantle Port and anyway the State Govt. had withdrawn all construction funding for Roe 8 although design funding continues. **Bill Johnson** felt that more effort should be put in to monitoring and removing the oversize trucks presently using Leach Highway illegally at present, something of which he is very much aware.

- **Canning Regional Park Private Land**

**Geoff Rees** asked if more lobbying could be done to resume the private land within the Canning River Regional Park (CRRP). **Mayor Delle Donne** said that it was a State Government responsibility but if **WRRRA** were to ask the City in writing to lobby on our behalf then they would be happy to assist. We should write to CEO **Mark Dacombe**.

**Russell Gorton** asked the City to facilitate the construction of the Dual Use path from Surrey Road east to Bow Street. **Charles Sullivan** said that the planning was already in progress and when the 14 hectares of Castledare land was resumed, funding would become available. **Max Zeller** emphasised how environmentally sensitive the area was and asked that the first part constructed could be that from Surrey Road east to Canning River Gardens.

- **Verges**

**Gwili Crock** asked what could be done about bins being left semi-permanently on verges being both an eyesore and visibility problem for vehicles exiting driveways. **Mayor Delle Donne** said the City was well aware of the problem and other abuses of the use of Council verges and a Compliance Officer had been employed in an effort to tidy them up. Also some Council vehicles were being fitted with GPS to more easily locate and report verge problems. See Student accommodation below.

- **Recycling**

In reply to a question from **Max Zeller**, we were assured by the **Mayor** that despite the problems with the recycling plant, recycling was continuing normally and the City is very much in favour of it.

- **Cat Laws**

**Russell Gorton** reminded that submissions re. the proposed new cat laws, close in 3 weeks and asked what the Council's stance is. **Mayor Delle Donne** said the City was fully supportive of the proposed new laws the main features being registration and sterilization of cats. **WRRRA** is also supportive and our submission was made to **Joe Francis MLA** in November last year and can be found in our minutes.

**There being no more questions, at this stage, visiting guests were given the opportunity to leave.**

## **11. Election of Officers**

At this stage, **Geoff. Rees** vacated the chair and invited **Bill Johnson** MLA to chair for the election of officers. **Bill** thanked the current committee for their work over the past year and commented that there was an energy and sense of purpose in our locality that did not exist in other parts of his constituency. 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. No nominations were received so the position will remain temporarily unfilled.
- c. Nominations were called for the position of Secretary. **Les Durbin** was nominated by **Geoff Rees** seconded by **Rob Marshall**. There being no other nominations **Les** was elected unopposed.

- d. Nominations were called for the position of Treasurer. **Rob Marshall** was nominated by **Max Zeller** seconded by **Les Durbin**. There being no other nominations **Rob** was elected unopposed.
- e. **Max Zeller** agreed to continue as Webmaster

**Bill** then returned the chair to incoming President **Geoff Rees** who asked for nominations from the floor for committee members with an appeal for new faces as we have high membership numbers and need 2 or 3 new committee members to assist with decision making and the increased workload.

**Susan Rogers** and **Brian Cornell** nominated to continue as committee members, **Russell Gorton** nominated from the floor as too did **Peter Morcombe**. All were elected as committee members.

**Maurice Winter** will likely continue and will decide at our next committee meeting.

**Gwili Crock**, a previous committee member kindly offered to deliver newsletters/flyers should we need her in the future.

**Geoff** thanked the above for coming forward which will bring us up to a good operating number for the coming year.

## 12. Membership Subscription 2009/10

Proposed by **Rob Marshall** seconded by **Les Durbin**, that in view of our healthy balance sheet, the Annual Membership Subscription of \$5/household should continue. The proposal from last year's AGM that a payment of \$10 for two years would suit some members better is working well.

## 13. General Business

- **Litter - Susan Rogers** suggested that perhaps **WRRRA** could assist the Council by forming a 'clean-up' committee of volunteers to occasionally pick up litter. This is to be an agenda item at our next meeting.
- **Aircraft noise - Geoff Rees** said that there was no progress on aircraft noise although it is an ongoing project. **Mayor Delle Donne** added that the whole subject is one of economics and to gain evidence. The City is doing its own noise monitoring and has a contact telephone line. This topic was covered in detail in **WRRRA's** last committee meeting in June (see **WRRRA** webpage) and on the City of Canning information page in the Canning Times in recent weeks. **Bill Johnson** MLA added that the noise was part of the balancing act of being a remote city with a great need for unrestricted contact with the outside world and the increased traffic that this entailed.
- **Student Accommodation – Gwili Crock** asked about accommodation and parking regulations. **Mayor Delle Donne** said that currently 6 unrelated persons were allowed/dwelling but this was impossible to monitor. Currently it is being investigated where cases of a large number of students are using a dwelling as a dormitory then the rental income being generated could make a case for higher rates being charged by the City. The whole matter is a cause for concern hence the recent public meeting called by the City. Temporary parking is allowed on verges for such as commuting providing that visibility is not impeded. Concerns should be directed to City Security for investigation. More permanent storage type parking of old vehicles, caravans, boats, trailers etc. is not permitted and the City is to put more emphasis on inspections and fines for offenders in the future. **WRRRA** also takes this seriously.
- **Brothels – Mayor Delle Donne** is fully supportive of the proposed State legislation to move brothels from residential to light industrial areas. They are seen as anti-social

establishments that generate much after hours traffic and anti-social behaviour incompatible with residential areas.

- **Local Affairs – Bill Johnson** referred to a number of local topics including:
  - Aircraft noise referred to above. A letter was sent to **Brad Geaches**, CEO, Westralia Airports Corp. dated 11 May 2010.
  - Aircraft fuel/exhaust pollution: Apparently no testing is currently being done so he has written to the Minister for Environment, Hon. **Donna Faragher** on the topic dated 31 May 2010.
  - Student Accommodation: He attended a meeting 17 May on the subject and has written to the Minister of Commerce, Hon. **Bill Marmion** MLA and Minister of Planning, Hon. **John Day** on the subject dated 20 May 2010.

Copies of these letters are now on **WRRRA** file and will be circulated and discussed at our next committee meeting in August.

### **13. Next Meeting.**

The next Committee Meeting will be held on Monday 2nd. August 2010 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 9.15 pm.

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