



Wilson Residents and Ratepayers Association

Minutes from Annual General Meeting Wednesday 10 July 2013

Wilson Community Hall

1. Welcome

Geoff Rees as chairperson (President), opened the meeting at 7.35 pm, and welcomed all those present. **Geoff** thanked the **WRRRA** members and invited guests for their attendance; and their ongoing support.

27 members and special guests were at the meeting, which was a better attendance [by 4] than last years' AGM.

2. AGM Notice

The AGM Notice was published in the Canning Times and the Canning Examiner. All existing (and recent past) WRRRA members were notified, in writing, with their renewal notice.

The AGM Notice was featured predominately in WRRRA's [Special Edition] Winter Newsletter, which was hand delivered to all Wilson residents. The notice was also posted on the Notice Board at the Eureka shop.

Special guests were also notified.

3. Introduction of WRRRA Members and Special Guests

The chairman introduced current committee members and special guests.

Current WRRRA Committee:

Geoff Rees	President
Norman Drake	Vice President
Rob Marshall	Treasurer (Not present)
Max Zeller	Webmaster, AGM Minute Taker
Maurice Winter, Sandra Probert, Kaye Barr, Bernard Hug (not present) – Committee	

Special Guests:

Bill Johnson	MLA for Cannington
Lyn Russell	CEO, City of Canning
Steve Atwell	Executive, Engineering & Technical Services, City of Canning
Graham Barry	Mason Ward Councillor (Suspended)

4. Apologies

Rob Marshall	WRRRA Treasurer
Bernard Hug	WRRRA Committee Member
Steve Irons	Federal Member (MP) for Swan
Joe Delle Donne	Mayor, City of Canning (Suspended)
Lindsay Elliott	Wilson Resident, Councillor Mason Ward (Suspended)
Arnold Wong	WRRRA Committee Nominee
Terry Gorton	WRRRA Member
Paul Duncan	WRRRA Member
Michael Cook	WRRRA Member
Lyn Hartley	WRRRA Member

5. Minutes from previous AGM 2012

Published on the **WRRRA** website (following last years' AGM).

Discussion re: Actions arising from Last Years' AGM deferred to Agenda Item 9.

Motion to accept as a true record:

Proposed by **Maurice Winter**, seconded: **Michael Hurrelbrink**.

6. Meeting Procedures

Norman briefly outlined the meeting agenda and meeting procedures.

7. President's Report

The highlights from the President's AGM Report (which was distributed to all those present) were read out by the WRRRA President, **Geoff Rees**.

It was also noted that the editorial section of the WRRRA Winter Newsletter included a summary of WRRRA's major achievements over the last 12 months (or so) for the benefit of those members, and other interested residents, who weren't able to attend the AGM.

Refer to the appendix [of these minutes] for the full transcript of the President's AGM Report. The report will also be published on the WRRRA website ([http:// wrra.org.au](http://wrra.org.au)), along with these minutes.

8. Financial Report

Norman Drake presented the financial report on behalf of **Rob Marshall - Treasurer**, who was unable to attend the AGM.

The financial report indicated WRRRA was in a healthy financial position, with 100 active members and 4 [advertising] sponsors.

Total income for 2012/2013 was \$1,509.35, whereas the total expenditure was \$891.22. The bank balance (as 30 June 2013) was \$4,823.51.

The major expense (\$400) was the Foreman Citizenship Award grants of \$200 each, which was presented to both the Wilson Primary School and Rehoboth Christian School, as has been the case in previous years.

Provision has also been made for another park bench to be donated to the City over the next 12 months. The committee will be consulted beforehand, regarding the bench's location and the wording on the plaque.

Copies of the financial statement were circulated to interested members.

9. Matters arising from last AGM

The following items raised at last years' AGM are being actively perused; and will be followed up by the new committee:

- Continued lobbying of Government authorities, and seeking support of other like-minded organisations and individuals to finalise the [promised] resumption of privately owned lands within the designated boundaries of the Canning River Regional Park.
- Completion of the Dual Use Path from ByWater Way to Kent St (via Castledare).
- Completion of the Dual Use Path / Trail Extension from the existing Dual Use Path (at the bottom of Surrey Road) through to the Canning River Gardens Estate / Bywater Park, through the Canning River Regional Park.
- Better controls to stem issues, including over-crowding and dumping of furniture, relating to unregulated student accommodation in existing residential areas.
- Confirm [final] costs for East Wilson Underground Power project.
- Continue to lobby for extension of Underground Power project to the residential areas near Kent St Weir.
- Aircraft Noise

Geoff commented that Wednesday 10 July 13 (the day of the AGM) was possibly the worst day of aircraft noise over Wilson in the past year. i.e. In the 2 hour period between 5.00 to 7.00 am this morning there was in excess of 18 aircraft rumbles caused by aircraft flying overhead. He noted this count could have included planes that circled to the south east after takeoff over Cannington, before heading North again passing, more or less, directly over North Wilson.

10. Bill Johnston's Address.

Bill Johnston MLA Cannington gave a short address outlining some current issues in the constituency, or being discussed in State Parliament, that relate to Wilson.

Some items mentioned by **Bill Johnston** were:

- The importance of (and the need for more) Resident Ratepayer Associations. He is encouraging other areas, such as Ferndale, to set up Ratepayer Associations.
- He agrees unregulated student accommodation is an issue and has commended the City for taking its' proactive stance; He believes Curtin University can (and should) be doing more to address this issue to provide additional "on campus" accommodation, as outlined in their 10 year plan. He recently met the Curtin Vice Chancellor to discuss this issue.
- Congestion issues on Fern Road and the urgent need to start the planning process for the expansion of Shelley Bridge on Leach Highway, which is estimated to cost approx. \$77 million.
- He agrees with the City that the proposed light rail network should expand through to Cannington Station from Canning Bridge, via Curtin University.
- The Brownlie Towers project in Bentley is progressing well, actively involving residents from many different backgrounds, and will have a substantial influence on the surrounding suburbs.

Geoff thanked **Bill** for his address.

11. City Report & Questions

There was Power Point presentation by **Lyn Russell** and **Steve Atwell** from the City.

Lyn's presentation covered:

- Canning Demographics
- The challenges facing the City
- The City priorities (Opportunities)

Steve's presentation covered:

- Underground Power Project – East Wilson
- Update re: Dual Use Path Extension & Surrey Wetlands Walk Trail
- Kent St Weir Precinct Local Area Management Plan
- Fern Park Master Plan
- Questions

The slides from both presentations will be published on the WRRRA Website [together with the AGM minutes].

Questions from the Floor were:

Q1: Are there plans to provide (or improve) the Canoe Launching Site upfront from Kent St Weir [to improve safety and minimise environmental impact]?

[Question asked by John Ismail]

Steve confirmed this issue is currently being investigated by the City.

Q2: Are there plans to provide a crossover on Centenary Drive to provide safe access to the Dual Use Path alongside the river from Centenary Park and the western side of Wilson?

[Question asked by John Ismail]

Question taken on notice; This issue will be followed up by the new WRRRA Committee.

Q3: Can you confirm the Canning River Canoe Club (CRCC) has been offered a building lease at Kent St to store canoe? I've heard there are plans to store 300 canoes.

[Question asked by Graham Barry]

Steve confirmed CRCC has been offered a short-term for 3 years for storage only, not as a club house. The city will also continue to work with CRCC to find a suitable permanent location, such as Centenary Park.

Post-meeting update: CRCC have since confirmed they only plan to store approx. 100 canoes.

Q4: What is the likely timing of the proposed elongated pedestrian crossing (speed hump) adjacent to the Bus stop at the Fern Road Park?

[Question asked by Geoff Rees]

Steve confirmed this has been incorporated into the proposed design. Refer to presentation slides for further details.

Q5: Has consideration been given to reclaiming the eroded river foreshore to the north / east of Fern Park, as per the original alignment (as per the tabled 1950-60 photos), to increase the size of the parklands?

[Question asked by Geoff Rees]

Steve was asked [by Geoff] to raise this issue when discussing the development proposal with the Swan River Trust and other stakeholders.

Q6: Where will the main [work] yard for the East Wilson Underground Power project be located?

[Question asked by Norman Drake]

Steve wasn't sure; This question will be followed up by the new WRRRA Committee.

Coffee Break

Following the Coffee break **Bill Johnston** and **Lyn Russell** left the meeting.

12. Election of Officials & Committee Members.

Geoff Rees vacated the chair and invited **Graham Barry** to chair for the election of officers.

Graham thanked the current committee for their work over the past year and commented that **WRRRA** is one of the most active & best run ratepayers' associations in the City. He asked all attendees to seriously consider nominating for the committee.

At this stage of the proceedings, all positions were declared vacant.

- a. Nominations were called for the position of President.
Geoff Rees renominated for a final year (to ensure the orderly transition to one of the committee members). Supported by **Max Zeller** and **Maurice Winter**.

There being no further nominations of this position, **Geoff** was elected unopposed.
- b. Nominations were called for the position of Vice President. **Blair Campbell** nominated from the floor. Supported by **Sandra Probert** and **Geoff Rees**.

There being no further nominations of this position, **Blair** was elected unopposed and welcomed aboard.
- c. Nominations were called for the position of Secretary. **Deanne Dymock** nominated from the floor. Supported by **Max Zeller** and **Geoff Rees**.

There being no further nominations of this position, **Deanne** was elected unopposed and welcomed aboard.
- d. Nominations were called for the position of Treasurer. **Rob Marshall** (who was absent) renominated for this position. Supported by **Geoff Rees** and **Norman Drake**.

There being no further nominations of this position, **Rob** was elected unopposed.
- e. **Max Zeller** agreed to continue as Webmaster, although he's keen for someone else to help share these duties.
- f. **Maurice Winter, Kaye Barr, Bernard Hug and Sandra Probert** agreed to continue on committee. These nominations were supported by **Geoff Rees** and **Norman Drake**.
- g. **Michael Hurrelbrink, Greg Mawer and Arnold Wong** also nominated to join the committee. These nominations were supported by **Geoff Rees** and **Max Zeller**.

Graham then returned the chair to the [re-elected] President **Geoff Rees**.

13. Membership Subscription 20011/12

Proposed by **Geoff Rees** seconded by **Max Zeller**, that in view of our healthy balance sheet, the Annual Membership Subscription of \$5/household should continue.

Motion carried (by show of hands).

14. General Business

Topics for next year:

Refer to Agenda Item #9.

Additional items include:

- Restrictions on multi-occupancy dwellings.
- Strict controls to ensure [timely] verge cleanup by builders at construction sites.
- Lobby to “fast-track” NBN Rollout in the Wilson Area (in lieu of poor Wireless / ADSL Coverage).

15. Next Meeting.

The next Committee Meeting will be held on Monday 5th August 2013 at 7:30pm at the Wilson Community Hall. All members are welcome to attend.

There being no further business, the WRRRA President **Geoff Rees** thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed at 9:35pm.

[Minutes recorded by Max Zeller]



President's AGM Report

10 July 2013

As indicated under the short version of my report published in the 2013 Winter edition of our newsletter, WRRRA has demonstrated that, whilst we have been operating throughout the 2012/13 year without a full complement of office bearers, we can with the support of our members and committee, still play an active role in bringing about civic improvements throughout Wilson.

This to a large extent has been due to the dedication of our Committee members, who in addition of reporting of the unscheduled dumping of domestic and builders rubbish, broken footpaths, unsightly / neglected residential properties and like, are also actively engaging with the relevant authorities on future development plans for our area or to lobby our City / State authorities and elected representatives on behalf of members or residents of Wilson on issues that may have a direct impact on our community.

It is pleasing to note that installation of underground power scheme, which WRRRA was instrumental in securing for Wilson north of Leach Highway (and completed 18 months ago), has been extended to the East Wilson area, with a forecasted completion date of June 2014.

It is however disappointing that despite the recent efforts of our members, and those of Mr Joe Delle Donne, that we were not successful in achieving the extension of the East Wilson UGP Scheme to include approx. 250 residents in the Kent St area.

Other activities undertaken during the year included:

- Review and comment on the City's proposed Plan for the staged development of the Fern Road (Riverton Bridge) Parklands. WRRRA have, for years, been lobbying for shade sails over the children's playground area and, in more recent times, to expand the area for car parking, and for increased parklands to the north / east by reclamation of the eroded river foreshore;
- Involvement in community engagement workshops to review the City's draft options for the development of the Kent St Weir parklands and adjacent area;
- Lobbying for improvements in the drainage of the Kent St / Fleming Road intersection to prevent flooding of adjacent properties;
- Reviewing DEC / City plan options for extension of the dual use path along the river side of Bywater Way to Castledare's western boundary;
- Reviewing options and land acquisition needs with City's executive for future extension of the dual use path / walk trail through Castledare lands to connect with the existing dual use path system at the Kent St Eco Centre.

- Successful lobbying for the installation of shade sails for the Bywater Way playground;
- Monitoring Fern Rd traffic and lobbying for a pedestrian crossing adjacent to the Café Bus stop;
- Pressuring DEC for a detailed assessment of Canning River Park / Wetlands Bushfire Hazard;
- Continued lobbying for a walk trail connecting to the Dual use path at the bottom of Surrey Road Walk to Canning River Gardens, via the Canning River Regional Park (CRRP).

WRRRA also prepared the following submissions on the proposed Metropolitan Local Government Reform:

1. The City of Canning on the Cost considerations and amalgamation options considered under their Local Government Reform "The Future of the City of Canning" Report of February 2013
2. The Minister for Local Government on the options presented within the Executive Summary of the Metropolitan Local Government Review's Final Report of October 2012.

The WRRRA Committee endorsed the donation of a Park Bench to the City, which will be installed as part of the future Kent St Weir parkland development. This bench seat is in addition to the one donated, last year, for Fern Rd Park.

On behalf of the Committee, I again invite all members and Wilson residents to give serious consideration this evening, or over the coming weeks, to joining your Committee.

It's worth noting we already have 2 new nominations for election to our committee, in addition to the existing Committee members, including myself and Norman Drake, who have expressed an interest in remaining on, but currently no nominations of the vacant executive positions.

Before stepping down for the elections, I would like to pass on the Committee's thanks to the current City officials and the City's previous Mayor and Ward Councillors for their support and attendance at our meetings throughout the past year.

Thanks also to our parliamentary representatives **Steve Irons** MP, Federal member for Swan and **Bill Johnson** MLA, State member for Cannington for their assistance with printing, their continued support and their attendance at meetings.

Special thanks to all the Committee members; and to Brian Cornell who stayed down from the Committee, after 3 years services, but has offered to continue as a volunteer for our Newsletter deliveries.

Geoffrey Rees

Hon. President

Wilson Residents & Ratepayers' Association