

WRRA Committee Meeting MONDAY 4 April 2011 Wilson Community Hall

Minutes

1 Welcome and Apologies

Meeting opened: 7:30 pm.

Geoff Rees (President) declared the meeting open and welcomed all attending.

Present: Geoff Rees (President), Les Durbin (Secretary), Rob Marshall (Treasurer), Brian Cornell, Maurice Winter, Max Zeller, Russell Gorton (Committee), Sandra Probert, Graham Barry & Stephen Boylen (Councillors).

Apologies: Mayor Delle Donne & Cllr. Lindsay Elliott.

Absent: Peter Morcombe (Committee)

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Monday, 7 February 2010 were received as a true record on the motion of Maurice Winter seconded by Geoff Rees.

3 Actions arising from last meeting.

- CRRP Dual Use Path/Walk Trail Geoff advised that he met with Steve Atwell for the City following WRRA's request for an extension of the dual use path system westward from the Castledare boundary at Bow Street and had suggested that the dual use path not be extended into Surrey Road via the firebreak at the rear of the Canning River Gardens area. Geoff's concern was that a dual use path entering into the southern end of Surrey Road would direct future cyclists onto the walk trail that is being considered for construction around to the end of Surrey Rd. to Watts Rd. Max claimed that a dual use path through this area and up Surrey Rd. was WRRA's preferred route which Geoff disputed something Max is to check on WRRA's web page.
- **CRRP Land Acquisition** Geoff would like to see the topic gain some momentum but at the moment could not see how this could be realized due to the complexity of negotiations involved.
- **DEC status** Surrey Road Walk Trail To be discussed at the next CRRP meeting to be held shortly.
- Canning River Pipeline Walkway Brian circulated a draft letter outlining his thoughts on a cycleway/walkway atop the existing pipe over the Canning River. Despite reservations about its practicality, it was agreed that a letter should be sent to Dept. Water, City of Canning, Swan River Trust and the Water Corporation. Les to mail.

- Fire Hazards Kent Street area Rob drafted a letter to City which was circulated. He felt strongly that the trees represented a fire hazard being too close to houses. Agreed it should proceed with some amendments to wording. Les to mail.
- **Kent Street approaches** Rob drafted a letter asking for more watering of the approaches to give more visitor appeal. Agreed to mail as is 1) Geoff & 2) Max. Les to mail.
- Ted Foreman Awards- Following some doubts last meeting, that the full award should not go to a single student Maurice and Les were to canvas opinion at each of Wilson Primary and Rehoboth Christian School. Maurice is still trying to speak to Wilson Primary and will report back at earliest. Les spoke to Rehoboth who due to a recent reorganisation at the school (it now teaches up to year 6 rather than 7) were in favour of spreading the award across more students. Lynn Nixon the principal agreed that the award should retain the emphasis on citizenship and it would suit the school to distribute the award 'at their discretion'. She was most appreciative of WRRA's support over the years and asked that the cheque be sent early November rather than at the very end of the school year.

Les proposed that the award be increased to \$200 for each school up from \$150. Agreed unanimously. Also agreed that the award monies be distributed to two or more students at the school's discretion.

- **PEET Sponsorship** Agreed that the environmental nature of the award was out of our field so we would not proceed.
- Newsletter advertising Bendigo Bank and Aussie Home Loans are still outstanding for year 2010 with 2011 fees now due. Agreed that Rob should give each two weeks to come up to date financially or remove their advertising for the next newsletter. Lee De Luis Real Estate is actively seeking advertising space should it become available.

4 Councillors' Reports

• Student accommodation – The City is fully aware of the local difficulties and Cllr. Barry is particularly active in this area looking into current practices and the City is treating it as a serious ongoing issue.

Cllr. Barry said that the City had few powers over landlords who chose to ignore the regulations until sufficient proof was supplied to give them the basis for an investigation and subsequent prosecution. This proof could best be provided by local people if they became aware of abuses.

The City could take more immediate action over traffic and parking infringements caused by multi-occupancy. Reports to the Ranger would be acted upon swiftly. Geoff to use the topic as a newsletter article.

- **Jetty Park/Bridge Street** Geoff asked Cllr. Barry to convey his congratulations to the City planning staff over the car park size and layout. The café is proving to be an outstanding local amenity and we hope a commercial success.
- **Graffiti** Thanks to Cllr. Boylen for providing WRRA with telephone numbers for the reporting hotline which we now have on file.
- **Bus Shelter** Cllr. Barry reported that the bus shelter on the south side of Fern Road near the Upnor Street roundabout is to be installed very shortly. Imminent was the word he used.
- **R Code Issue** Geoff has been in contact with Bill Johnston MP. and has been assured that he will be informed of any meetings or legislation on the topic at the earliest. Geoff will direct his questions on the subject to Bill in future. Bill Johnston has also advised that the legislation requiring retaining walls on the boundaries of adjoining properties to be load bearing is due to be passed by Parliament in the immediate future.

- Bywater Way Landing Clean up Cllr. Barry had no knowledge of this and Max will check if the outfall grating has been replaced and report back next meeting.
- **Builder's Rubbish, 9 Surrey Road** Geoff commended the City for insisting on the clean-up at this site which is now vastly improved. Geoff requested constant vigilance over the many building sites in Wilson.
- Mosquitoes Cllr. Barry was aware that it is a particularly bad year for mosquitoes. Russell gave the major reason was high tides of salt water which aided breeding. The City was taking action when and where possible.
- Manning Road Trees A spirited discussion took place regarding the trees along Manning Road and the Council's decision to remove them. Option 2 which involved keeping some of the trees was the City's original recommendation whereas the Councillors successfully moved an amendment to adopt Option 3, which involved removing all the trees. It was a difficult decision on a contentious issue but Cllrs. Barry & Boylen said they had to come down on the side of the householders due to the damage that the trees were causing to properties and the road surface. Russell was angry that so many mature trees are soon to be removed and Max echoed the general feeling of regret that it had become necessary. Brian was of the understanding that road modifications with some replanting would take place.
- **Expert public speaking** Cllr. Boylen brought our attention to a recent public meeting sponsored by the City where planning specialist Jim Dyer spoke on his specialist field. Further meetings are to take place in the future with a view to including the public in planning decisions.
- U/G Power Max asked about the latest on timing and costings. Cllr. Barry said that some figures should be available shortly and held out some hope of improved terms for those who already had U/G power such as the Bywater Estate. Watch this space.
- Knox Cove Blocks 911 & 912 There is some dispute over the turning circle at the far end of Knox Cove. The landowner Mr. John Taylor refuses to allow the land required for turning to be filled in, so as it stands, the 2 blocks in question 911 &912 will have to retain the defined temporary turning easement in the front of these lots until such time as the cul-de-sac has been extended into Lot \$ and an appropriate turning circle provided at the end of this street. This brings into question as to whether the blocks would be viable as housing blocks. Geoff has purchased some legal documents with WRRA funds and is satisfied that the 2 blocks are not designated public open space. He is to contact Mayor Delle Donne in an effort to seek clarification.
- **Tea Break** With a full agenda, a brief break was taken.

6 Secretary's Report

A copy of the report attached to minutes and all incoming mail was outlined and/or circulated at the meeting.

7 Treasurer's Report

- Rob submitted the report indicating a bank account as of 1 April standing at \$2056.69 with a membership of 120.
- It was noted that 2 advertising invoices were still outstanding as discussed earlier. Noted too that Dee De Luis Real Estate contacted recently awaiting space.
- Les noted that the annual City grant is normally requested in April. Les to apply for the 2011 grant of \$350 with a brief noted included that the grant paid in December 2010 was in fact a delayed payment for year 2010
- Noted that receipt filed for the \$200 donation to the bushfire appeal.

8 Portfolio Reports

None other than items covered previously.

9 General Business

- Winter Edition Newsletter
 - Deadline for articles last week April to Les
 - 3 Articles agreed: Student Accommodation Geoff

U/G Power latest – Max in liason with Cllr. Barry Surrey Rd. paths – Geoff & Max

- One additional short article as a filler if required on Energy Monitoring Max
- Membership form to be included, placed at bottom page 3.
- Advertising to be finalised within 2 weeks Rob
- Advertising artwork if needed Max
- Printing of 2,400 to be organised with Steve Irons Les
- Editorial Les
- Les will be away from 26 May for about 3 weeks so some effort is requested to meet deadlines so the newsletter can be compiled, printed and delivered before that date.
- Canning River pollution Garry Stirling deposited with us a chronology and associated documentation concerning his health problems arising from pollution in the Canning River in the vicinity of Centenary Park. Geoff agreed to review and report on the issues raised at the next committee meeting.
- Report back on Community Forums WRRA had been invited to attend two Forums in recent weeks. The first on Monday 14 March hosted by Steve Irons MP for Swan for the Liberal Party, principle speaker Opposition Leader Tony Abbott assisted by Sen. David Johnston, was attended by Brian & Les. The main note of local importance was a pledge by Steve Irons to continue fighting for funds to provide household noise reduction measures to homes near the Perth Airport. Such schemes/grants apply around several airports in the Eastern States.

The second was hosted by Bill Johnston MLA – member for Cannington for the Labor Party with guest speakers Eric Ripper, Opposition Leader and Sen. Kate Doust. Les & Jean Durbin attended and the meeting was primarily concerned with the Labor fight to restrict the rising utilities costs of electricity, gas & water and several innovative ideas were raised.

- Web Site Service Request Form Max is working on installing a Service request form on the WRRA homepage to expedite members' concerns.
- **Energy Monitoring** Max is developing ideas re. domestic energy monitoring to be included as an agenda item for the June meeting.

- **Early Morning traffic noise** Sandra voiced concern about a commercial bus starting up outside her home at 5.30 am. each morning. She will monitor the situation and raise it at our next meeting if still constitutes a nuisance.
- Little Aussie Directory Geoff has been approached by them to produce our newsletter for us. It was agreed that we are presently managing well at minimal cost so we would not avail ourselves of the offer at the moment. Les however has had the AGM notice posted with them at no cost to ourselves.
- Secretary for June Meeting Max as agreed to act as secretary at the June meeting. Les will leave the laptop and all files with Geoff and will attend to all AGM organization including posting advertisements and invitations Everything else can wait until he gets back.

10 Next Meeting

The next committee Meeting will be held on Monday, 6 June 2011 at 7.30pm at Wilson Community Hall.

There being no other business the meeting was closed at 9.45 pm.