



**WRRA Committee Meeting
MONDAY 2 February 2009
Wilson Community Hall**

Minutes

1	<p>Welcome and Apologies</p> <p>Meeting opened: 7:35 pm.</p> <p>Geoff Rees welcomed all attending and declared the meeting open.</p> <p>Present: Geoff Rees (President), Les Durbin (Secretary/Minutes), Gwili Crock, Maurice Winter, Brian Cornell (Committee), Rob Marshall (Treasurer), Joe Delle Donne, Mayor, Cllrs. Graham Barry & Lindsay Elliott, Russell Gorton (WWAG), Garry Stirling, Tony Morton, Susan Rogers (Members) & Mark Kelly (Prospective candidate for Mason Ward).</p> <p>Apologies: Bill Johnson MLA, Max Zeller.</p> <p>Procedure: Susan Rogers was nominated to committee by Maurice Winter seconded by Gwili Crock.</p>
2	<p>Minutes of Previous Meeting</p> <p>The minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Monday, 1 December 2008 were received as a true record on the motion of Maurice Winter seconded, Gwili Crock.</p>
3	<p>Actions arising from last meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Castledare Land Update - No further progress and Geoff is endeavouring to meet with Bill Johnston MLA now the holidays are over to further the progress that Ben Wyatt made last year.• Dual Use Path Update - No further progress since the newsletter. Geoff has prepared a presentation paper, copies of which were given to the councillors. Geoff will be seeking an opportunity to make a Powerpoint presentation later this year.• Kent St. Eco-Centre and surrounds - No progress but Rob to contact the City to gain a reply to his previous letters.• Broadband Report-back - In an effort to obtain data re.broadband availability in Wilson as previously minuted in December last, an article in the Canning Examiner 17 Sept.2008 prompted 2 replies. The Summer edition newsletter delivered to 2,500+ homes and the editorial requesting feedback only added another 6 replies. A miserable return on effort. As a last resort, Geoff & Les drew up a simple form which was delivered to 94 homes in Watts Road, Surrey Road and the cul-de-sacs. Thanks to Bill Johnson's office for copying the form.

Continued.

From this drop, 19 replies were received with some valuable feedback, a very encouraging response. Briefly, there are problems with poor cabling and shortage of slots for cable broadband.

Committee requested that copies of all replies with a covering letter and the summary spreadsheets be mailed to: Bill Johnston MLA, Steve Irons MP and the City who will hopefully present the results to the appropriate bodies - Les to mail & monitor.

- New Year report back - Maurice presented cheque value \$450 from the sale of ice creams at the City New Year event. The sales picked up after a slow start and the takings were down on previous years although a satisfactory return for WRRRA. Thanks to Maurice for arranging the supplier.
- Annual Dinner - Provisional dates 20 Feb. or early March. TBA - Maurice
- River Guardians - Les supported by Russell confirmed the good work that is being done and the amount of literature being received. The Christmas function attended by Les & Jean Durbin was most instructive and enjoyable and we should support them in the coming year. Agreed.
- Ted Foreman Awards - The \$150 award in the form of a Citizenship Award was delivered to both Wilson Primary and Rehobeth Christian School - Les
- Recruiting - Geoff noted that the attendance this evening speaks for itself with membership now 100 and several new committee members who have joined us in recent months.
- Newsletter delivery - Geoff thanked all deliverers of our Summer edition.

4 Councillors' Reports

- U/G Power North Wilson - Cllr. Elliott reported that the project was still in the planning stage and a net cost of \$4250/household was only an estimate. The total cost is divided 3 ways between Western Power/Office of Energy/City of Canning. Cllr. Elliott has received a number of approaches to grant a Seniors Rebate as too support from Tony Morton who attended this meeting. Cllrs. Barry, Delle Donne and Elliott are supportive in principle and will propose this to the Council. Les to add a letter from WRRRA supporting this move. - Les
- Maurice requested information on the new sports change rooms at Centenary Ave. Cllr. Delle Donne confirmed that the plans for 2 new change rooms had been approved with a budget of \$100K.
- Cllr. Delle Donne confirmed that there had been no further progress on the Riverton Jetty Park Kiosk.

At this stage Geoff stood down having an interest in the following. Les took the chair only for the following topics addressed to the councillors:

- Alan Hodgekinson of 7 Surrey Rd. outlined his and Geoff's concerns re. the development of 9, Surrey Rd. situated between his and Geoff's home. Council approval was granted in 2004 and works began Oct.2008. Many problems have resulted, primarily due to the 2.6m. excavation adjacent to No.7 and the form of retaining wall used, in this case sheet piling. Alan maintains that permission was granted by council with inadequate regard to the proximity of his dwelling resulting in structural cracks, noise, dust and loss of privacy as currently he has no boundary fence.

Geoff has similar concerns but on his boundary, the retaining walls are thought to be structurally inadequate due to the proximity to his home with some encroachment whilst being constructed and some land slippage resulting on his block. They both expressed concerns about the type of development approved or even if the approved design was being adhered to.

	<p>Continued.</p> <p>As a general point, it was felt by committee that when a developer is granted permission to build, it did not give them license to encroach upon adjoining property, verges, nature strips and roads as is too frequently occurring lately. Also in the case of No. 7, no notice was given to remove the fence and inadequate support/propping provided to support his limestone retaining wall.</p> <p>Following a site meeting of Alan, Geoff and Cllrs. Barry & Elliott who have taken a particular interest, the works have been stopped by the City pending a structural engineer's report after which further meetings with interested parties will be convened.</p> <p>Geoff maintained that other inadequate retaining walls may exist in the suburb and the City should back check.</p> <p>It was felt by the chairman that our committee was not qualified to make judgements on complex structural and legal matters and that as the interested parties and Council were aware of the concerns, the issue should be allowed to be resolved through well established procedures.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geoff raised concerns re. developers storing building materials etc. on verges and nature strips for extended periods without permits - photos produced. It was requested that City security keep a close watch on the offending sites. • Les noted that WRRRA had received 4 complaints about the use for parking/storage on the verge and nature strip at 205, Watts Rd. The occupant was seen to dig up the verge alongside the side boundary wall to create a hard standing of crushed sandstone to store a truck and several other items. The front nature strip is also permanently occupied by a boat. It was requested that the site be visited and moves were made to have these items removed which contravene by-laws and constitute a visibility and safety hazard. This case is not an isolated one and there are several cases of larger items such a caravans, boats & cars being permanently stored on verges/nature strips in the suburb.
5	<p>Coffee Break</p> <p>At this stage the councillors were invited to leave if they wished as all following matters would be internal to WRRRA.</p>
6	<p>Secretary's Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Little to report due to the holiday period other than Christmas cards. See attached to minutes.
7	<p>Treasurer's Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rob submitted a report indicating an account standing at \$2183.92 with membership at 92. Both figures will be increased shortly due to the handover of the ice-cream cheque and new memberships at this meeting. • The Bendigo account is now fully operational with a new chequebook. The location is much more convenient but we are now subject to a monthly fee of \$10. See general business.
8	<p>Portfolio Reports</p> <p>There were no portfolio reports other than those reported earlier.</p>

<p>9</p>	<p>General Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Having followed the evening's proceedings, new member Chris Bailie nominated to committee. Accepted on proposal of Les, seconded by Maurice. • Geoff suggested a re-allocation of portfolios in view of our increased committee. The following were allocated: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Susan Rogers: Leach Highway & Riverton Jetty Park Development. Suggested that local press should be monitored for developments. - Chris Bailie: River Guardians. Les to forward all current literature to Chris. - Brian Cornell: Fern Road traffic. Les to make all past paperwork, which is extensive, to Brian when requested. Also powered boats use of local river. Max has previously dealt with this and could bring him up to date. • Brian asked about City sponsored concerts and suggested there should be more of them. Committee pointed out that there were already several through the summer season at Shelley Park plus special concerts such as that to celebrate the opening of the new Council offices fronted by James Morrison. • An invitation had been received to attend the opening of the newly renovated Canning Town Hall later this month. Geoff to attend, to nominate Maurice if unable. • Membership drive: As a result of this meeting membership is now 100, extremely healthy. In an effort to build on this figure proposed that we discuss further measures at our next meeting. • Newsletter advertising: We shall be losing Peta Charles Hair Studio in future. Rob suggested that he negotiate with the Bendigo Bank as a replacement and a way of offsetting the \$10/month bank fees. Agreed. • Les noted a phone call from Bill Johnston MLA this evening indicating that re. Leach Hwy. trucks - there is no current plan to change the length restriction from the present 19.5m. either up or down but it is well known that the 19.5 limit is not being observed. Bill is to take this up with the Minister.
<p>10</p>	<p>Next Meeting</p> <p>The next committee Meeting will be held on Monday 6 April 2009 at 7.30pm at Wilson Community Hall</p>
<p>There being no other business the meeting was closed at 9.50 pm.</p>	