

Strathewen Community Renewal Association

Committee Meeting No. 2 Tuesday 7 July 2009 White House, 965 Strathewen Road Strathewen

MINUTES

ITEM 1 ATTENDANCE – 7:35 pm

Present:

Committee Members: Karl Apted, Mary Avola, Darren Bradshaw, David Brown, Matthew Gravette, Malcolm Hackett, Peter Jenkinson, Peter McLennan, Georgina Robertson Stecher, Bronwyn South, Dennis Spooner

Ex-officio Members: Ben Pollard (Community Planning Coordinator -Nillumbik Shire Council)

Apologies: Steve Pascoe

ITEM 2 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

It was resolved that the minutes of the previous meeting be approved as a correct record of the meeting.

Moved Darren Bradshaw Seconded Denis Spooner

ITEM 3 CORRESPONDENCE

- VBRR – Re Community Winter Events Payment

Action:

- Ben Pollard will check whether the Community Winter Events Payment relates to a grant that has been pre-approved to Council.

- DHS – Report on the meeting held with community on 9/6/09.

Action:

- The Community Centre will be opened on Friday at 10 AM by Lisa Neville Minister for Human Services. Bronwyn will send SMS to community.

- Marilyn Langmead – Receipts for donations to the Community Enterprise Foundation and tagged for Strathewen. A total of \$102,200.

Action:

- Malcolm will work with the Bendigo Bank to make sure the deposits are actually tagged for Strathewen.

ITEM 4 CONFLICT OF INTEREST & CONFIDENTIALITY DECLARATIONS

Draft guidelines were presented and will be circulated for consideration. It was stressed that while transparency is needed peoples' sensitivities must be taken into account.

ITEM 5 SCRC CALENDAR

The need for a calendar was noted.

ITEM 6 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

6.1 CODE OF CONDUCT

It was resolved that the AICD Code of Conduct be accepted once the language has been changed:

- to reflect the fact that this is a Committee of an Association with Members, and
- to replace the word 'should' with 'shall'.

6.2 TERMS OF REFERENCE

The terms of reference were accepted with the following dot point added to the scope and objectives:

'Communicate/report to the community the status of issues/projects before the committee.'

6.3 PUBLICATION OF POLL RESULTS

Ben Pollard reported that he has only been asked by one nominee for the results and he has given them to that nominee.

It was resolved that the poll results should be published in accordance with the democratic process.

Actions:

- Malcolm will contact Andrew Port (Director of Governance, Nillumbik Shire) to organise the release of the poll results.

6.4 NEWSLETTER ARTICLE, LETTERHEAD, BANK ACCOUNT, PO BOX

6.4.1 Newsletter

The following article was forwarded to the Community Newsletter.

Strathewen Community Renewal Association

The new committee has now been finalised.

<i>Karl Apted</i>	<i>0418350345</i>
<i>Mary Avola</i>	<i>0418315810</i>
<i>Darren Bradshaw</i>	<i>0431728165</i>
<i>David Brown</i>	<i>0408251183</i>
<i>Matthew Gravette</i>	<i>0419386343</i>
<i>Malcolm Hackett (Chair)</i>	<i>0427356803</i>
<i>Peter Jenkinson</i>	<i>0438132486</i>
<i>Peter McLennan</i>	<i>0414308557</i>
<i>Steve Pascoe (Deputy-Chair)</i>	<i>0432384970</i>
<i>Georgina Robertson Stecher</i>	<i>0413395555</i>
<i>Bronwyn South (Treasurer)</i>	<i>0414882946</i>
<i>Dennis Spooner (Secretary)</i>	<i>0419311603</i>

You can talk to any member of the committee about problems, issues and your hopes for Strathewen.

We are currently determining the objectives of the Committee. Suggested focus areas so far:

- *Community Vision : an infrastructure plan developed with and supported by our community*
- *Communications and Engagement : improving information flow and community participation*
- *Fund raising and Grants : channeling financial goodwill toward our community*
- *Disbursement of Funds : developing principles and processes for allocation of funds*
- *Building Facilitation : practical and advocacy support for the rebuilding process*
- *Representation and Co-ordination: Liaison with government and other agencies*

If you have a special interest in any of these areas and can offer help or just want to share your experiences please let us know.

Actions:

- Ben Pollard will publish the same article in Bushfire Recovery Bulletin.

6.4.2 Letterhead

The draft letterhead (see below) was tabled. It was decided we should give the basic design to a graphic artist to review (if no cost is involved). The following changes will need to be made:

- the colours may need to be contrasted so that it prints/photocopies in black and white
- the text may need to be moved into the graphic further so that it will always print
- the Association details need to be updated once they are available.

6.4.3 Bank account

Bronwyn reported that Malcolm, Denis and her signatures and personal details are almost finalised ready to open the bank account when the Association is incorporated. Steve Pascoe can be included as a signatory after the account is opened.

6.4.4 PO Box

Denis has the application form ready for when we are incorporated.

6.5 Incorporation

The documents were filed with Victorian Consumer Affairs on Monday 6th July. They may take a week or so to process because the rules and purposes were not standard. David Brown is the Public Officer. The registered address is Malcolm's home address – 1140 Cottlesbridge-Strathewen Road, Strathewen.

6.6 Funds held by the Community Enterprise Foundation

Malcolm stressed that the Community Enterprise Foundation is a separate entity to the Bendigo Bank and the Bank of Adelaide.

The fund holds approximately \$7.45 million for bushfire recovery. A large portion of the funds will be distributed to other philanthropic institutions including the Bendigo Bank Community Fund. The Hurstbridge and Diamond Creek branch of the bank will distribute funds to its affected communities of Kinglake, Strathewen and St Andrews.

There is approximately \$223,000 tagged for Strathewen in the Community Enterprise Foundation. We will be able to get details of the donations made to Strathewen.

The Community Enterprise Foundation is constrained on how it can distribute funds.

Other funds that have come into the community and are yet to be spent are:

- \$290,000 hall insurance
- \$100,000 each for the cricket and tennis clubs
- \$10,000 from Nillumbik Shire towards administrative costs for the Association.

6.7 Role statements

The Executive is still following this through. Bronwyn tabled a document that combined the draft statement of purpose, code of conduct and role statements.

Actions:

- The draft document will be circulated for Members' consideration.

6.8 Meeting space – Community Centre

Ben reported that the Community Centre will be opened this Friday at 10 AM by the Minister for Community Services, Lisa Neville. The event will be a short morning tea.

The Community Centre will provide a good (warm) meeting space.

Actions:

- Bronwyn will send a text to invite the community to the opening.

6.9 Australand report

Denis tabled the following report.

Summary of the meeting held at Nillumbik Shire offices on 3rd July 2009 regarding the Australind proposal to build the Strathewen community a facility at the cricket ground. The proposed building would include a community hall, all toilet facilities including disabled, kitchen and bar plus separate change rooms with toilet and shower facilities.

Those present Philip Bentley, Howard Scott from Sport and Recreation, Andy Bevan DHS, Vin Mckay, Ben Pollard Nillumbik shire, David Clark VRRBA, Glen Jenkins cricket club, Malcolm Hackett, Matthew Gravette, Peter Jenkins on, Denis Spooner Strathewen Recovery Committee

Meeting opened with a brief introduction by Ben Pollard outlining that recent the Bushfires destroyed 90% of Strathewen including homes and the entire public infrastructure. The area consisted of low density housing, farming land and bush.

Malcolm Hackett then said that recover process slow as the people try come to grips with what has happened and how to process with what is going around them.

Philip Bentley then went on to describe what Government and VRRBA are committed to do for Strathewen

1. *Replace infrastrure.*
2. *Consider Australind's proposal*
3. *Lighting*
4. *And pointed out it would one of the first permanent buildings to rise from the ashes.*

Trent from Australand then on to say they wanted to help with an in-kind contribution. The proposal would cover all processes from planning; obtaining permits to the stage finished .To involve other companies in the process. The building to be completed in 12 to 14 weeks with construction being a virtual 7 days a week construction zone. The building would be

constructed of a steel frame with steel cladding but solid panels of different materials could be incorporated. The drawing of the proposed building IS NOT set in stone and consultation with the community will be sought and encouraged.

Philip The government have provided a \$100,000 each grant to both the cricket and tennis clubs. Of this money \$18,000 has already been spent top dressing the oval and providing a retaining wall to improve the silt invasion from the road and the hill above the oval.

Trent then formally offered the proposal to the meeting outlining the safety statement, type of building, stating the building would offer 450 sq meters of space. A gravelled car park with line marking if required and brief design of the building makeup.

Philip then stated that the Victorian Cricket Assn along with Tennis Australia would offer support as well.

David Clarke VBBRA would be supportive.

Vin McKay from Nillumbik outlined a proposal to seal all of Chadds Creek RD to Beale Avenue.

Malcolm Thanked Australand for their proposal and stated the committee have a list of things to work through. He stated that people are yet to come to grips with replacing all the old with new. The

Hall Trust are yet to hold a meeting but committee are keen to try and help them achieve this. He said the school indicated some concern over the placing of the new hall. We need to consult with the residents about increased traffic concerns but recognize the urgency of a decision that has to be made.

Peter Jenkinson then stated that some residents are not ready to make large decisions such as this.

Philip then stated that Australand contacted Nillumbik Shire within 3 days of the 7th with their offer.

Trent construction would take 12 to 14 weeks to construct once all the paperwork is completed.

Andy from DHS then commented that the decisions that residents are finding hard to make are normal for type of disaster.

The meeting then closed.

The meeting acknowledged that this was an extremely generous donation on the part of Australand. Australand did not close off the offer to Strathewen when we indicated it was too early to ask the community to make a decision.

Australand will offer community consultation as part of the project.

Actions:

- Community facilities will form part of our Community Vision. We will also work towards developing a timeline for community engagement.

6.10 Liaising with the St Andrews Recovery Group

St Andrews does have some different issues because they have not lost their community infrastructure.

It is to everyone's advantage if we work closely on the rebuilding facilitation. It was noted that Strathewen is much slower than all other communities in the rebuilding process.

6.11 Nillumbik Council report

Ben will put committee details in next Community Recovery Bulletin.

Mulched material and firewood is available. People within fire line have priority Contact Recovery Co-ordination Centre.

Actions:

- Bronwyn to send SMS.

Community agency forum to explain what everyone is doing and what the process. Tuesday July 14. 9 to 1. Lunch provided. Eltham Community Centre. The Chairperson is invited to speak for 5 minutes. Malcolm will speak. Mary, Denis, Georgina, Peter, Malcolm

Actions:

- Malcolm will speak at the forum. Mary, Denis, Georgina, Peter M will also attend.

\$22,500 is available for a community winter events. In addition communities are able to access \$500,000 for extra infrastructure to run events. The funds are directed to the bushfire communities who can then work with other groups – for example, the Hurstbridge Relief Centre.

ITEM 7 SUB-COMMITTEES

The groups that were decided on at the last meeting were:

- Community Vision : an infrastructure plan developed with and supported by our community
- Communications and Engagement : improving information flow and community participation
- Fund raising and Grants : channeling financial goodwill toward our community
- Building Facilitation : practical and advocacy support for the rebuilding process
- Representation and Co-ordination: Liaison with government and other agencies.
- Disbursement of Funds : developing principles and processes for allocation of funds

It was resolved that we add the following groups:

- Natural resource management - Co-ordination of projects and support for landholders
- Operations and community maintenance – practical contributions to running our community facilities
- Resident support – wellbeing and building community morale.

It was decided that the first step was to decide on which of the above should be managed by sub-groups, which Members would sit on the Sub-groups and what type of meeting schedule should be set.

Executive

The Executive will meet before each meeting to establish the agenda.

Operations and community maintenance

Ben was unable to provide a firm response on how the new Community Centre will be managed. Mary and Denis will meet with Ben and Susan Forbes from Nillumbik to work out how the Centre will be managed.

Fund raising and Grants Group

David and Georgina will talk on the phone on Thursday night. Suggested Sub-committee members were Natasha Schickerling and Barb Gregory.

Building facilitation

Karl, Peter J. and Callum Donoghue. Malcolm will call Ian Flack to organise liaison with St Andrews. Because Callum does shift work they will need to talk to him before setting a meeting schedule.

The building group is keen to start a series of information sessions on specific aspects of rebuilding. Ben indicated that Nillumbik would like to keep sessions on planning and permits separate from the community run sessions.

Representation and co-ordination

It was decided we would run this from the Committee.

Communications and engagement

Georgina, Denis and Steve (TBC) will form this group.

It was noted that we need to run a community event to introduce the working groups.

Resident support

Mary, Georgina, Peter M and Steve (TBC)

Mary will organise a meeting of this group for next Monday. Turid Foyne-Johanson was suggested as another member.

Environment

Malcolm and Bronwyn

The Nillumbik NRM Recovery Committee has already been formed and is working closely with Strathewen Landcare and the other landcare groups.

Community Vision

We will run a whole-of-Committee meeting to focus on this next Wednesday.

Calendar

We need to establish a calendar of meetings and events.

ITEM 8 GENERAL BUSINESS

8.1 Temporary housing

Peter J. reported that Warren Rees is pursuing this via Bill Shorten (Federal Member responsible for bushfire recovery).

8.2 Memorial tree

Georgina reported that one suggestion for the location of the tree is the CFA tank area at the Chadds Creek Road bridge because the poetry tree is there.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for 7:30 PM on Tuesday 14th July 2009.

The meeting was closed at **10:20 pm**