

# Strathewen Community Renewal Association Inc.

## Committee Meeting No. 7

Tuesday 11 August 2009

Community Centre, Bowden Spur Road Strathewen

### MINUTES

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#### ITEM 1 ATTENDANCE – 7:40 pm

Present:

Committee Members: Karl Apted, Mary Avola, David Brown, Matthew Gravette, Malcolm Hackett, Peter Jenkinson, Peter McLennan, Steve Pascoe, Georgina Robertson Stecher, Bronwyn South, Denis Spooner

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

Apologies: Darren Bradshaw

Visitors: Amanda Gibson, Paul, Doug and Cliff (blacksmiths). Australian Blacksmiths Association (Vic)

#### 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: Steve Pascoe Seconded: Peter Jenkinson

#### ITEM 3 CORRESPONDENCE

##### Correspondence In:

- Baptist Church – Monday night dinner \$5
- Resident Support Sub-committee minutes.
- NE Division of General Practitioners – support with psychology sessions. Requires referral from GP – referred to the Resident Support Sub-committee.
- School-focussed Youth Service – to Resident Support Sub-committee.

##### Correspondence Out:

None.

#### ITEM 4 OFFERS OF SUPPORT AND LEADS

##### New offers:

- **Centre Com** – Offer of a colour printer and unlimited ink to be accepted. The company would like to establish a relationship with the community. Suggested proposal to put to them include:
  - An electronic white board, data projector and laptop.
  - Publishing software
  - Deals on laptops for community members.
- **Melbourne City Rotary** – Would like to provide some funds to the community.

- **VBRRA Building Advisory Service** – Now running out of Hurstbridge Hub. VBRRA has employed 4 full-time builders to assist any person rebuilding no matter what stage they are at.

#### **Definite offers**

- Diamond Creek Rotary will present us with a cheque for the fencing trailer.

#### **Follow up**

- Eltham Communities Group – Malcolm to follow up
- Typo Group – Malcolm to follow up.
- Alex Momcilovic – Georgina has contacted him. No further developments while we wait for resident support survey.
- Community Enterprise Foundation – David and Malcolm have met with staff and invited them to come and visit on Aug 20<sup>th</sup>. Assisting us to understand mechanisms for grants.
- Telstra accounts are coming through. Residents should not pay their account without contacting Telstra first. Georgina will contact Telstra to see what message to send to community.

### **ITEM 5 GOVERNANCE**

#### **5.1 Conflict of interest and confidentiality declarations**

There are no conflict of interest or confidentiality declarations required by the meeting's business.

### **ITEM 6 CALENDAR**

<b>AUGUST</b>	Saturday 1	Sausage sizzle Diamond Creek Mitre 10
		"Six Months After" Arthurs Creek Hall 6.00pm
	Sunday 2	Vision workshop – Community Centre 3PM
	Monday 3	Vision workshop – Hurstbridge Hall 7.30
	Tuesday 4	Nillumbik Bushfire Social, Community and Health Working Group
		Volunteer BAL Assessment Team
		CFA Early Warning system demonstration
		SCRA Committee Meeting – Community Centre
	Wednesday 5	Vision workshop – Community Centre 7:30PM
	Thursday 6	Letterbox day
		Soup night 6PM
	Friday 7	Footy night 6PM
	Sunday 9	Rebuilding forum "Septics and Heating" St Andrews Hall 2-4 PM
	Monday 10	Building Sub-committee
	Tuesday 11	SCRA Committee Meeting – Community Centre
	Wednesday 12	Rob Gordon - Whittlesea
	Thursday 13	Nillumbik NRM Recovery Workgroup – St Andrews 10:00
		Soup night 6PM
	Friday 14	Footy night 6PM

	Sunday 16	Rebuilding forum "Power" - Arthurs Creek Hall 2-4 PM
	Monday 17	Building Sub-committee
	Tuesday 18	John Faine 8:30 - 12
		Centre Com visit (PM)
		SCRA Committee Meeting – Community Centre
	Thursday 20	Tennis Club AGM 7:30PM
		Soup night 6PM
	Friday 21	Footy night 6PM
	Sunday 23	Rebuilding forum "Materials" including earth wall construction – Arthurs Creek Hall 2 – 4 PM
<b>September</b>		
<b>October:</b>	Saturday 10	Jockleberry Farm astronomy evening
	Sunday 25	Practically Green seminar

## ITEM 7 Finances

<b>Profit &amp; Loss Statement</b>		
<b>1/07/2009 through 11/08/2009</b>		
<b>17/08/2009</b>		
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Income		
Grants		
Grants Nillumbik Shire	\$10,000.00	
Donations	\$3,032.45	
Miscellaneous Income	\$150.00	
Total Income		<u>\$13,182.45</u>
Cost of Sales		
Gross Profit		<u>\$13,182.45</u>
Expenses		
Community Centre Supplies	\$60.41	
Event catering	\$520.98	
Dues & Subscriptions	\$68.18	
Legal Fees	\$116.90	
Postage	\$254.91	
Stationery	\$42.33	
SMS service	\$97.25	
Total Expenses		<u>\$1,160.96</u>
Operating Profit		<u>\$12,021.49</u>
Other Expenses		
Net Profit / (Loss)		<u>\$12,021.49</u>

## Balance Sheet

As of 11/08/2009

17/08/2009  
3:57:59 PM

Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash On Hand			
Cheque Account	\$13,015.13		
Total Cash On Hand	<u>\$13,015.13</u>		
Total Current Assets		<u>\$13,015.13</u>	
Total Assets			<u>\$13,015.13</u>
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Trade Creditors		\$54.54	
GST Liabilities			
GST Collected	\$1,015.00		
GST Paid	<u>-\$75.90</u>		
Total GST Liabilities		<u>\$939.10</u>	
Total Current Liabilities			<u>\$993.64</u>
Total Liabilities			\$993.64
Net Assets			<u>\$12,021.49</u>
Equity			
Current Year Earnings		\$12,021.49	
Total Equity			<u>\$12,021.49</u>

### ITEM 8 Nillumbik report (Ben Pollard)

Winter Warmer Events – Funds should be paid into our account by Friday.

Insurance – Ben confirmed that the Community Centre building and contents are insured. We need to register new acquisitions.

Nillumbik is offering a limited number of SMSs to our community on their new service.

#### Action:

Ben will arrange payment of our Public Liability Insurance when Bronwyn sends him the invoice.

### ITEM 9 Visitors – Memorial tree project

Amanda Gibson, Paul, Doug and Cliff (blacksmiths). Australian Blacksmiths Association (Vic)

The Tree Project started on Feb 10<sup>th</sup> and collects forged gum leaves from all over the world. People are now sponsoring leaves and paying for materials. The tree is a global expression of feeling. Over 1,000 sponsors are involved. All leaves are photographed and recorded.

The blacksmiths have selected Strathewen as the place for the tree. This is well accepted by all bushfire communities. There is no interest in the tree being a tourist attraction.

How large? Estimating 8 metres tall. Trunk with leaves out of peoples' reach. Around 3,000 leaves. 6m diameter.

Construction? Steel and copper. No maintenance. Sandblasted and passivated to ensure stainless steel will not corrode.

Installation? The completed tree will be transported to Strathewen for installation. There will need to be some sort of acknowledgement of the story of the tree.

The ABA is meeting with engineers this week to see how the tree can be constructed. Also need to talk to engineers about the risks of heat and lightning.

**Resolution:**

It was resolved that the SCRA accept the kind offer from the ABA (Vic)

**Action:**

We will link our websites to each other. [www.treeproject.abavic.org.au](http://www.treeproject.abavic.org.au)

**ITEM 10 SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

**10.1 Communications and engagement**

Email group for 'Friends' has started with positive feedback.

Denis has a phone 0409 968 339 that can be used for phone ins.

**Action:**

David will co-ordinate the production of a newsletter.

Bronwyn will notify Nyree about text messages for:

- about John Faine broadcast (TBC)
- soup night to be attended by members of Aust Blacksmiths Association.
- meal at Baptist Church every Monday night 6PM \$5/head.

**10.2 Fund raising and Grants**

Steve and David are working on the costing of items for the infrastructure budget.

VBRRRA Max Ginn (Funding) – David & Malcolm have met with him re issues of giving assistance to private landholders with accommodation. They are prepared to facilitate others if we can come up with some ideas. Main difficult is constructing the leasing mechanism. CFA has contacted Bill Shorten who has indicated that there may not be a way through the taxation law.

David is working through the Philanthropy Australia contacts. All bodies require a professional submission.

**10.3 Resident Support**

Are gathering information on youth requirements. Nillumbik Health Service have appointed a youth worker.

Waiting for resident surveys to come back.

School wants the Chook project to start. It will need a Winter Warmer grant to cover materials.

T-shirts being collected tomorrow.

Support for residents who have lost immediate family is available from the Australian Centre for Grief and Bereavement.

Contacted by Suzie, Holly and Susan from Nillumbik to see how they can assist us.

Tool shed will be placed on the ménage area at Parks.

Vinnies will sponsor a footy night and a soup night.

**10.4 Operations and Community Maintenance**

Telstra has contacted Nillumbik. Telstra require an EPSN line to run the John Faine outdoor broadcast but the technicians can't see any issues with JF broadcast.

## 10.5 Building Facilitation

Plumbing and septic session was attended by 25 people.

Next meeting this Sunday is on Power. Still trying to confirm speakers.

Peter J. – Building Commission still requires registration. It will be free and the application should have a 3-5 day turn around.

## 10.6 Environment

VBRRRA has now put together an Environment Team and they will be working with the bushfire communities to deliver the Environment component of their Bushfire Recovery Plans. Their focus is on natural resource management – broadly this covers vegetation, water, sustainable land use, erosion and public land. The government agencies they are dealing with are Department of Sustainability & Environment (DSE) and Department of Primary Industries, and Local Government. The DSE agencies we will work with are Melbourne Water, Port Philip & Westernport Catchment Management Authority (CMA) and Parks Victoria.

Because we now have to work closely with VBBRA and Nillumbik to develop the environment component of the Recovery Plan we need to formalise membership of the sub-committee. Mathew will join the Sub-committee.

## 10.7 Disbursement of Funds

Nothing to report.

## ITEM 11 GENERAL BUSINESS

### 11.1 Acute weather warning service

A meeting was held at Arthurs Creek CFA to introduce a system that is connected to Bureau of Meteorology and mapping software. Warnings are then issued to all subscribers in a defined area. It can use mobile phone technology to track CFA vehicles.

The State government is considering a larger version of this system (already used in WA). This would limit the usefulness of a local warning system.

The information that the system can provide is only as good as information available, As suggestion is that this be collected from subscribers.

Next step for the suppliers is to talk to full-time CFA staff.

### 11.2 Community Vision

Results have been typed up and will be circulated.

#### Action:

- Malcolm will run one more session next week for community and one for the school.
- Malcolm, Steve P and others from the community will analyse the data.

### 11.3 Winter warmers brainstorm

Held over to next meeting.

### 11.4 John Faine ABC774 Broadcast

John Faine's visit results from a desire to highlight issues relating to how the community and CFA were treated on Black Saturday.

Malcolm is the Committee's spokesperson. Personal responses from Committee will not cause a problem. Opinions will. The most important thing is that people are kind to each other in their comments.

The meeting was closed at **10:50 pm**