

Minutes of Committee Meeting**Rita's House, Banjup****28 January 2014 at 7:30 pm****Present:**

Coco Franklin

Ian Thurston

Neil Raine

Colin Bramwell

Jemma Van Dongen

Rita Zuks

Apologies

Neil Cunliffe-Williams

Dino Elpitelli

Ref.	Minute	Action
1.	Confirmation of minutes of last meeting	
1.1	The minutes of the meeting of 13 December 2013 were confirmed	
2.	Matters Arising	
2.1	Zoning	
	Jemma reported that she has asked the Department of Planning to provide a few sentences on the progress of the Water Mound Review for inclusion in the Newsletter.	
2.2	Airport	
	Ian advised that Dino will contact Air Services Australia to set up a meeting to discuss flight paths over Banjup.	
2.3	Banjup Memorial	
	Ian reported that 2 new trees have been planted at the Memorial Reserve. However, they will soon be replaced by the City of Cockburn with more appropriate trees and planted at the rear of the Reserve.	
3.	Treasurer's Report	
3.1	Neil R reported that the BRG now has funds of \$2,712	
3.2	Neil R has placed all Treasurer related documents on Google Drive.	

Ref.	Minute	Action
3.3	The Committee estimated that the cost of holding each general meeting was about \$300, including signage, printing, and postage. So, with annual costs of around \$1,000, the Committee resolved to request membership dues from the attendees at the AGM and subsequent meetings in 2014.	
4.	Verge Clearing	
4.1	Cockburn's Director of Engineering has advised that it is not council policy to remove all scrub from road verges and so he will not provide a cost estimate for so doing.	
4.2	The Committee resolved to advise members who are concerned about the safety of scrub on the verge outside their properties to contact Cockburn individually to ask them to remove it, citing traffic and fire safety worries.	
5.	Footpaths	
5.1	Given Cockburn's reluctance to clear verges, the Committee resolved to press for the footpaths budget of \$300,000 to be spent as originally envisaged, on footpaths along Beenyup Road from Tapper Road southwards, so as to improve pedestrians' safety. This position will be put again to members at the February AGM.	
6.	Bush Fire Reference Group	
6.1	Colin reported that he had had discussions with Cllr Portelli about the BRG's membership of the Bush Fire Reference Group. Apparently, the Group must vote to invite the BRG to become a member. No meeting has yet been held to discuss such a vote. Colin will continue to press for our membership.	Colin
7.	Goodbye Cockburn	
7.1	The Committee recognised that Cockburn's emotional campaign could divide the Banjup community and so discussion at the forthcoming AGM should be avoided, if possible. However, the Committee also recognised the need to be prepared for questions about the matter to be raised, particularly as Mayor Howlett had written to all ratepayers and to the BRG seeking their support.	
7.2	The Committee agreed to recommend to members that the BRG should strive to take a minimalist line in the debate about the future of Banjup. This could be summarised as: " <i>what is best for Banjup?</i> "	

Ref.	Minute	Action
7.3	The Committee noted that the Banjup community has little connection with urban communities, such as Coolbellup and Hamilton Hill, on the far side of Cockburn and so whether they are in or out of the City has little impact upon Banjup.	
7.4	However, for obvious cost reasons, the Committee supported the proposition that Spearwood and the council offices and Bibra Lake and the council depot should be within future Cockburn boundaries.	
7.5	Similarly, the council depot at Bibra Lake should also be within future Cockburn boundaries, as should the surrounding locality.	
7.6	The Committee expressed its concern about the impact on rates should Cockburn merge fully with Kwinana. The Mayor has written to all ratepayers saying a benefit would be: <i>Gaining rates stability for current City of Cockburn residents and a potential rates decrease of up to \$200 annually for Kwinana residents in the initial few years after amalgamation.</i> However, the Committee noted that in 2013, Cockburn's residential GRV rate in the dollar was \$0.05, while Kwinana's was \$0.08, a difference of 60%. So how would Cockburn's ratepayers finance a \$200 rates decrease for Kwinana without increasing their own rates significantly? And how can this "stabilise" rates? The Committee resolved to write to Mayor Howlett for clarification.	Ian

8. Annual General Meeting

8.1 The Committee adopted this agenda for the AGM:

Item	Who
1. Formalities	
1.1. Welcome	Coco
1.2. Last minutes	Coco
1.3. Treasurer's Report	Neil R
2. Elections	
2.1. Office Bearers x 4	Coco
2.2. Committee x 4 or 5	Coco
3. Zoning and Real Estate	Jemma
4. Fire Safety and Footpaths	Coco and Colin
5. Aircraft Noise	Ian
6. Goodbye Cockburn ??	Neil R
7. Any Other Business	Coco
8. Next Meeting	Coco

Ref.	Minute	Action
8.2	Ian agreed to prepare draft presentation materials for the meeting.	Ian
8.3	Jemma presented a draft Newsletter that will update Banjup residents on recent developments and serve to advertise the AGM. The Committee was content with the draft but awaited some further materials for inclusion. Jemma will circulate a further draft for final approval.	Jemma
8.4	Neil Williams has kindly offered to print 430 copies of the Newsletter at cost. The Committee expressed its thanks to Neil.	Neil W
8.5	When the printing has been completed Jemma will deliver bundles of Newsletters to Committee members for folding. When they have been returned, Jemma will arrange with Australia Post for their delivery to all Banjup addresses.	Jemma
9.	Other Business	
9.1	The Committee expressed its gratitude to retiring members for their contribution to the success of the Banjup Residents Group during 2013.	
10.	Next Meeting	
10.1	Monday 19 March 2014 at 7:30 pm at Neil R's house	