

**Minutes of Committee Meeting****Ian's House, Banjup****25 July 2016 7:30 pm****Present:**

David Beckwith

Coco Franklin

Colin Bramwell

Ian Thurston

Malcolm Wilcox

Dan Franklin

Dino Elpitelli

Liane Lied-Cordruwisch

**Apologies**

Helen Pavitt

**Guests**

Gary Crawford

Mark McLerie

Melville Ratepayers

<b>Ref.</b>	<b>Minute</b>	<b>Action</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>Confirmation of minutes of last meeting</b>	
1.1	The minutes of the Committee meeting of 25 June 2016 were confirmed.	
<b>2.</b>	<b>Treasurer's Report</b>	
2.1	Coco reported that the BRG has \$1949 in its bank account.	
<b>3.</b>	<b>Discussion with Melville Residents &amp; Ratepayers</b>	
3.1	Ian summarised the history of the Banjup Residents Group, especially the difficulties Banjup and Jandakot residents had experienced with the City of Cockburn, rates errors and fire permits being prime examples.	
3.2	Gary and Mark summarised the reasons for the formation of the Melville Residents & Ratepayers Association, focusing on the difficulties that they had experienced with the City of Melville.	
3.3	Mark said that their Association had tried many avenues to solve their problems with the City of Melville, including the Department of Local Government Standards Panel, the Public Service Ombudsman, and state government MPs but limitations inherent with the Local Government Act means that little redress is available to ordinary ratepayers if council or officers' decisions are questionable.	

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3.4	Gary and Mark had opened discussions with Fremantle ratepayers who were similarly concerned about decisions made by their City.	
3.5	Melville Ratepayers are currently organising a petition to the WA Legislative Council seeking a parliamentary inquiry into local government and its accountability to the communities they serve. Early discussions with parliamentarians indicate the petition would be met sympathetically by many of all political persuasions.	
3.6	At least 100 signatures on the petition will be required. Mark agreed to email an early draft of the petition wording to the BRG committee.	
3.7	If an inquiry is initiated by the Legislative Council, then submissions from residents and ratepayers groups across WA will be required.	
3.8	The BRG Committee expressed its empathy with the Melville Ratepayers' initiative and resolved to brief BRG members and ask them to join Melville Ratepayers in pressing for a parliamentary inquiry.	
3.9	David thanked Gary and Mark for their time and looked forward to working with them if BRG members so instructed.	
4.	<b>General Meeting Presentation Materials</b>	
4.1	The Committee reviewed the draft materials to be presented on 31 July.	
4.2	The Committee made several changes to the materials to make the messages better appreciated by members.	Ian 30 July
4.3	Liane requested that the session on increased water abstractions be given more priority because it will become more vital to the environmental health of Banjup and Jandakot over the coming years. The Committee agreed to promote the topic to earlier in the presentation.	Ian 30 July
5.	<b>Other Business</b>	
5.1	<b>Social Events</b>	
a)	The Committee noted that other residents' groups held community building events. David asked if the BRG should do likewise.	

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b)	<p>The Committee thought the question should be put to the membership at the general meeting. Events might be staged at the Banjup Hall and could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Men's shed</li><li>• Gardening</li><li>• Bushland care</li><li>• Cookery</li><li>• Crafts</li></ul>	
5.2	<p>Liane agreed to put the question at the general meeting.</p>	
6.	<p><b>Next Meeting</b></p>	
6.1	<p>By mid August to action the outcomes of the general meeting.</p>	