

Minutes of General Meeting**Banup Hall****7 October 2012 at 11:00am****Committee:**

Present:	Neil Raine	Coco Franklin
	Ian Thurston	Colin Bramwell
	Neil Cunliffe-Williams	Martin Rimmer
Apologies:	Liane Lied-Cordruwisch	Jim Wilson

Members:**Present:** About 100 members**Guests:**

Present:	Joe Francis MLA	Mayor Logan Howlett
	Mike Emery, CoSafe	Chloe Lawrence, CoC Liaison
	Graham Ellis, Jandakot Ratepayers	
Apologies:	Cllr Steve Poletti	Cllr Lee-Anne Smith
	Cllr Yaz Mubarakai	Sgt Gerard O'Meara

Ref. Minute**1. Confirmation of minutes of last meeting**

1.1. Minutes posted on BRG web site - No comments received

1.2. Motion:

The BRG accepts the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 20 May 2012 as a true and accurate record

- Proposer: Heidi Todorovic
- Seconder: Ken Mellor
- Vote: Passed unanimously on show of hands

2. Financial Report

2.1. The Financial Report to 30 September showed income of \$4,130 and expenditure of \$1,720, giving a surplus of \$2,410.

- Ref. Minute**
- 2.2. **Motion:**
The BRG accepts the Financial Position as reported
- Proposer: Tony Robinson
 - Seconder: Richard Caulfield
 - Vote: Passed unanimously on show of hands
3. **Hoons**
- 3.1. Ian Thurston made a presentation about hoons getting more brazen. There are more burn outs on Banjup streets; the hoons are showing more aggression. They stole 20 meeting signs and they are increasing their intimidation of us. Overnight they left tyre marks on the drive outside Banjup Hall where our meeting was held.
- 3.2. Several hoons live in Banjup. Plate numbers are: SLAYER 666, 70G 700, and 1BWR 818. Often plates are removed while hooning.
- 3.3. Banjup hoons are aggressive, violent, anti-social, and repeat offenders. Residents should not approach them as they could turn violent.
- 3.4. Residents seeing hooning should note the time, place, and plate number, then call the police on 131 444 to make a report. Always ask for a Report Number to ensure follow up.

BRG members expressed frustration that police response to reports of hooning is too slow, with patrol cars arriving long after the hoons have moved on.
- 3.5. Michael Emery from CoSafe recommended that Banjup residents first telephone CoSafe on 1300 26 72 33 to report hoon behaviour. He said that CoSafe patrol cars could be in Banjup within 6 minutes and so could track the hoons more effectively.
- 3.6. Joe Francis asked that Banjup residents send copies of photographic evidence to him too, so that he can get more details of the hooning problems in Banjup.
- 3.7. Joe Francis was asked what the State government is doing about hoons in Banjup. Joe reported that Murdoch police patrol cars on duty had been increased from 2 to 3. He expected a further increase in patrols when the Cockburn police station is opened. Joe said increasing financial penalties for hooning beyond the current \$1,000 was impractical in the current parliament.
- 3.8. Mayor Logan Howlett was asked what the City of Cockburn is doing about hoons in Banjup. Logan said that surveillance cameras were being installed in 'hot spots' around the City. However, he acknowledged that Banjup was not one of them.

Ref. Minute

3.9. BRG members expressed their anger and frustration that little could be done to stop known hoons from intimidating residents and despoiling the locality. Some members wanted to confront the hoons at their homes with TV cameras on hand so as to shame them. Others counselled against such action because it would give Banjup's hoons more notoriety and likely attract more hoons to Banjup's streets.

3.10. After discussion, BRG members resolved that both police and Cockburn council should deploy more cameras in Banjup so as to apprehend hoons more effectively than now.

Motion:

The BRG calls on the police and the City of Cockburn to install surveillance cameras in Banjup to apprehend hoons.

- Proposer: George Carey
- Seconder: Adrian Lewis
- Vote: Passed unanimously on show of hands

4. Crime and Prevention

4.1. Michael Emery of CoSafe told members about a doubling in the number burglaries in Banjup over the past 2 years. He said that CoSafe cars patrolled Cockburn's streets, including Banjup, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Known trouble spots are patrolled more frequently.

4.2. Michael suggested that Banjup residents take advantage of CoSafe's holiday watch service, which is free to residents..

4.3. Banjup residents will soon receive a letter from CoSafe outlining steps residents can take to improve the security of their properties. He encouraged residents to act promptly upon it.

4.4. Michael told members that the state's Neighbourhood Watch scheme was being revised and would be re-launched in November. He urged Banjup residents to become members of the revised scheme. BRG members noted his advice and asked the BRG committee to make recommendations to members at their next general meeting.

5. Fire Break Period

5.1. Neil Raine recounted to members Cockburn council's attempts to extend the Fire Break Period by 3 months. He explained the BRG's position that Cockburn's proposal did not stand scrutiny and would lead only to extra costs for both residents and the council.

Ref. Minute

- 5.2. Neil reported that Cockburn council had deferred their decision on extending the Fire Break Period until after further community consultation. Consequently, a meeting between councillors and members of the BRG committee was held on Thursday, 4 September.
- 5.3. At the meeting a compromise was agreed:
- Period starts **30 November** (as now)
 - Period ends **30 April** (1 month longer)
 - Definition of 'mineral earth' to be reviewed
 - **BUT NO WARNINGS**
 - Not compliant on 30 November – penalty of **\$250**
- 5.4. Banjup residents with boggy ground, horse paddocks, permanent grass, and other special circumstances can apply for exemptions from the certain fire break conditions. Members were encouraged to apply for them.
- 5.5. Officers of Cockburn council are now considering if and how the requirement for 'mineral earth' on a fire breaks can be qualified. The BRG has proposed that fire breaks be cleared to mineral earth on the first day of the fire break period but maintained to 50 millimetres of weed growth thereafter. Mayor Logan Howlett noted that this was 'common sense'.
- 5.6. **Motion:**
The BRG accepts that the Fire Break Period be changed to 30 November to 30 April
- Proposer: Martin Rimmer
 - Seconder: Adrian Lewis
 - Vote: Passed by a substantial majority
6. **Emergency Services Levy**
- 6.1. Ian Thurston told members that the BRG had been advised on 3 September that FESA wanted to change Banjup's ESL category from ESL3 to ESL1 in 2013, which would lead to ratepayers paying \$150 more annually than now for the same service.
- 6.2. After a day of intense lobbying by the BRG and the Jandakot Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade, the Emergency Services Minister, Troy Buswell, who happened that evening to be attending a barbecue at the Jandakot Fire Station, announced that the proposed change would be withdrawn. No further proposals would be made within the next 2 years and possibly not until reticulated water is available in Banjup.
- The meeting asked Joe Francis to obtain written confirmation from the Minister.

Ref. Minute

6.3. BRG members noted that FESA seemed continually to put the future of the Jandakot Fire Station in jeopardy. Residents asked how resolute Cockburn council would continue to be in resisting FESA pressure.

Mayor Howlett responded by vigorously supporting the operation of the Jandakot Fire Station and its volunteers and said that council fully supported its location in Banjup well into the future.

6.4. Feral Animal Control

6.5. Ian Thurston reported on a seminar held by Cockburn council in July concerning the control of foxes and rabbits.

6.6. Banjup residents expressed more concern about the effects of rabbits than of foxes in the area. However, the two animals must be controlled in parallel because otherwise foxes will prey on native animals.

6.7. Motion:

The BRG requests the City of Cockburn to allocate sufficient budget for the on-going eradication of foxes and rabbits from Banjup

- Proposer: Ken Mellor
- Secunder: Julie Monaco
- Vote: Passed unanimously on show of hands

7. Jandakot Airport

7.1. Graham Ellis spoke about the Jandakot Airport Community Aviation Consultation Group (CACG) that the Banjup Residents Group has been invited to join. He said that getting the users of the airport, Air Services Australia, and CASA to modify their behaviours was hard work because of their reluctance to change existing practices and their continual resort to jargon, which would confuse lay people.

7.2. Members requested the BRG committee members to ask about low flying helicopters at the next meeting of the CACG.

8. Banjup Urban Precinct

8.1. Neil Raine reported that the WAPC had recently approved rezoning the old sand quarry. The BRG had made two submissions: the one giving qualified support was 'noted' by the WAPC; the other, objecting to the rezoning, was 'dismissed'.

Ref. Minute

8.2. Neil said that the review by the Department of Planning of the Jandakot Groundwater Protection Zone was almost completed and a draft would shortly be issued to the City of Cockburn for comment.

Apparently, the review has found that there are risks to water quality if development of land on the water mound were to occur but they can be managed. The WAPC must strike a balance between water protection and the need for strategically located urban land.

9. Road Safety

9.1. Cockburn council staff were asked to let the BRG know the results of recent traffic surveys in the area.

9.2. Joe Francis said that work on the \$2.6 million improvement to the Liddelow and Armadale junction would begin by the end of 2012.

9.3. Joe also said that the North Lake Road flyover would likely be an election commitment by both major parties.

10. Other Business

10.1. Many members asked the Committee to investigate why noise from heavy aircraft had increased over Banjup.

10.2. Many residents reported nuisance from increased numbers millipedes. Unfortunately, little can be done to exterminate them as they are so widespread. The WA Department of Agriculture regards them as a nuisance rather than a pest and so has no formal programmes to control them.

11. Next Meeting

11.1. Provisionally, Sunday 10 February 2013 at Banjup Hall but watch the web site!

Note The presentation materials used during the meeting are available for downloading on the Banjup Residents Group's web site at <http://banjup.webs.com/meetingsminutes.htm>