

**Minutes of General Meeting****Banjup Hall****18 May 2014 at 3:00 pm****Committee:**

<b>Present:</b>	Jemma Van Dongen	Colin Bramwell
	Ian Thurston	Caroline Rimmer
	Brian Morton	Coco Franklin
	Neil Raine	

<b>Apologies:</b>	Stephen Thornton
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**Members:**

<b>Present:</b>	About 50 members
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**Guests:**

<b>Present:</b>	Deputy Mayor Carol Reeve-Fowkes	Cllr Yaz Mubarakai
	Rob Avard, Cockburn Manger Community Services	
<b>Apologies:</b>	Joe Francis MLA	Mayor Logan Howlett
	Cllr Steve Portelli	

- | <b>Ref.</b> | <b>Minute</b>  |
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| <b>1.</b>   | <b>Confirmation of minutes of last meeting</b>   |
| 1.1.        | Minutes posted on BRG web site - No comments received  |
| <b>2.</b>   | <b>Financial Report</b>  |
| 2.1.        | The Financial Report to 17 May 2014 showed a bank balance of \$3,291.69  |
| 2.2.        | <b>Motion:</b><br>The BRG accepts the Financial Position as reported   |
|             | • <b>Vote:</b> Passed unanimously  |
| <b>3.</b>   | <b>Banjup Development</b>  |
| 3.1.        | Jemma Van Dongen reported that the Department of Planning was still considering the review of the Water Mound and the timeline for a decision was still uncertain. |

**Ref. Minute****4. Footpaths**

4.1. Jemma Van Dongen reported that Cockburn proposed to spend the \$300,000 budget on a 770 metre footpath along Beenyup Road from Tapper to Gibbs. At \$390 per metre, this cost seems very high. Jemma is seeking clarification from Cockburn.

**4.2. Motion:**

The BRG requests the City of Cockburn to spend the \$300,000 budget on at least 3km of footpaths

- Vote: Passed unanimously

**5. DFES Revised Fire Legislation**

5.1. Ian Thurston outlined the proposals by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) for revised fire legislation.

5.2. Members were in broad agreement with the propositions put in Ian's presentation .

**5.3. Motion:**

- BRG gives qualified support to DFES' risk mitigation proposals
- Committee to make submission accordingly
- Vote: Passed unanimously

**6. Change of Emergency Service Levy Zone**

6.1. Ian Thurston reported that DFES was proposing to change Banjup's ESL zoning from 3 to 1 for little benefit but at double the cost.

**6.2. Motion:**

- BRG opposes change to ESL 1 until water is reticulated throughout Banjup
- Committee to write to DFES and Minister accordingly
- Vote: Passed unanimously

**7. Banjup Fire and Cockburn's Response**

7.1. Colin Bramwell reported on Cockburn's response to the requests for help following the 3 February fire made by members at the Annual General Meeting.

7.2. Colin outlined each of the 8 requests and how Cockburn had declined to assist in any of them.

**Ref. Minute**

7.3. Deputy Mayor Carol Reeve-Fowkes spoke passionately about the concern that the council had for Banjup residents and how disappointed she was that the BRG members felt let down. Carol said that she would take up the matter with council and hoped that matters would soon improve.

**7.4. Motion:**

- BRG urges Cockburn to recognise real concerns of Banjup residents
- Committee to meet with City leaders to resolve concerns
- Vote: Passed unanimously

**8. Planting Day**

8.1. Erika Antal spoke enthusiastically about arranging a 'Planting Day' for residents affected by the February fire. Erika is an environmental science graduate from Murdoch and is keen to lend her expertise to residents. Erika suggested planting native species in mid-2015 after we have seen what returns this coming spring.

8.2. Colin Bramwell proposed that Erika's enthusiasm could be best harnessed by having her co-opted onto the BRG Committee.

**8.2.1. Motion:**

- Erika be co-opted onto the BRG Committee
- Vote: Passed unanimously

**9. New Fire Regulations**

9.1. Colin Bramwell and Ian Thurston described Cockburn's proposals for a new Fire Permit and new Fire Control Order.

9.2. Members were very concerned about the practicalities of having 3 persons in attendance constantly at a pile burn.

9.3. Members were further concerned about the practicalities of having a 5 metre clearance around all buildings.

9.4. Rob Avard from the City of Cockburn spoke about the improved safety that would accrue from the new arrangements. He contended that it was a requirement of the Bush Fire Act that 3 persons be in attendance and that in previous years the City had been in contravention of the Act by requiring only 2 persons.

9.5. Mr Avard invited Banjup residents to attend the coming Wednesday's meeting of the City's Bush Fire Reference Group and make a 'presentation' of their concerns.

- Ref. Minute**
- 9.6. Neil Raine said that the BRG had made a presentation to the Reference Group before and it had been ignored. The council had just paid 'lip service' to its vaunted 'consultation' process.
- 9.7. Carol Reeve-Fowkes said she wanted to reassure Banjup residents that they would be listened to and that she would work to ensure that a practical and acceptable outcome was achieved.
- 9.8. BRG member Lindsay Evans proposed that there would be no need for 3 persons at a fire if Cockburn did not require a fire permit at all during the wet months of June, July, August, and September, like neighbouring local governments. Rob Avard indicated that he would look at the proposition.
- 9.9. By acclamation, members instructed the Committee to work on their behalf with the City of Cockburn to achieve a more practical fire management regime.
10. **Bush Fire Prone Area and Cockburn's Town Planning Scheme**
- 10.1. Ian Thurston outlined the implications of the Cockburn's proposed changes to its Town Planning Scheme as a result of Banjup now being classified as being in a 'Bush Fire Prone Area'.
- 10.2. The matter was quite complex and would affect only those few Banjup residents who might wish to make changes to their homes over the coming years.
- 10.3. As it was not clear from Cockburn's proposals, members sought clarification as to whether the existing house would need to be upgraded to the new fire resistant standards if only a small extension were proposed.
- 10.4. By acclamation, members instructed the Committee to prepare a submission on their behalf but to circulate it to all members before formally putting it to the City by the end of May.
11. **Next Meeting**
- 11.1. Provisionally, Sunday 7 September 2014 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>