



Gateway to the Manning!

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Minutes of the JRCPA Management Committee

Meeting on 4th October 2008 1.10pm at 99 Middle Brother Road, Johns River.

Committee Members in Attendance:

President Glenn Ferrero (GF), VP David Shepard (DS), Secretary Chris Bawn (CB), Ordinary Members Rod Heath (RH) and Treasurer Bruce Shaw (BS).

Apologies:

Deena Lane (DL), Michael Williams (MW), Kerri Williams (KW)

GF opened the meeting and thanked everyone for coming. GF also noted that Councillor Richard Wilson did not get re-elected to GTCC and that was a blow for our small community and the other community's in the northern part of the Manning Valley area. GF received a note from Richard who thanked all the JRCPA members who assisted him in his campaign for re-election.

GF then reviewed the minutes of the last meeting held with all committee members present indicated that these were a true account of the meeting held. GF moved a motion that the minutes be accepted – BS proposed and RH seconded. Minutes accepted.

GF also indicated that he would like the committee to consider commencing all our meetings with an acknowledgment of the original landowners - The Birpai people. This practice and acknowledgement is now performed by many organisations and GF feels that it is a respectful thing to do. Committee members present believed that this was indeed a good idea and will adopt the practice.

New Membership Applications

GF then asked whether there were any new applications for membership. 3 new applications were received as a result of the JRCPA booth at the Garden Expo. These were as follows:

1. Keith Allen – Planning consultant
2. Darren Baxter Lane – Environmental consultant.
3. Ingrid Pullen – Retailer.

All applications for membership were proposed by existing members of the JRCPA. GF asked the committee whether there were any objections to the above becoming members. No objections were received. GF proposed that all members be accepted – Carried unanimously. CB to arrange for welcome letters to be sent to the new

members. BS indicated that receipts for membership fees were issue to members – apart from Ingrid Pullen – CB to mail this.

Secretary's Report

CB indicated that there has been no correspondence inwards since the last meeting.

Treasurer's Report

BS indicated that there were still some businesses who advertised in the JRJ who have not yet paid for their adverts. BS to give a list to CB who will send out a reminder note to these businesses.

BS indicated that the balance of the Association's Bank account was \$ as at

Annual Subscriptions – time for renewal of memberships.

As the association is almost 12 months old – it was time to focus attention of renewal of subscriptions. GF asked whether any members had renewed their membership. BS indicated the 5 members had renewed and were financial. BS prepared a spreadsheet to register renewals as they were received. CB indicated that the first round of renewal letters are being sent and that another group of letters were to be sent closer to the end of this month. CB has the template and list of members ready to go.

ITEMS CARRIED FROM THE PREVIOUS COMMITTEE MEETING:

Raised Telstra Box – Lot 1 – No. 2- Thomas Street

CB has been in touch with Telstra to repair this box. Telstra have visited site and will construct a safety barrier around the box pending their repairs to bring the level of natural ground higher.

Newspaper (JRJ) and Web Advertising

DS indicated that the next edition of the JRJ is due and that the deadline for article for this edition was Sunday 19th October. DS asked BS RH to prepare some articles for the edition and both agreed to do so. DS and CB indicated that they could prepare some articles – DS based on Eco/Solar perspective and CB on Garden Expo, Koolyangarra project, Forest regeneration project and FAWNA (a day in the life of a FAWNA member).

DS also indicated that there were some new adverts going into the next edition. These include Johns River Service Centre (awaiting confirmation if artwork), Steve Bulley - new skip bin business and a new nail and beauty business in the village

Next Community Forum Meeting

Due to the GTCC elections – we will await the final draft of the Urban Design plan – which will go on display to the public when adopted by GTCC. This is due for completion by the designer by late October. GTCC will then review and consider adoption and then display in the village. The next meeting could also cover off on the

Crime Prevention issue and the introduction of the JR Neighbourhood Watch program.

Update from the Post-Bypass Committee

CB gave an update on the latest progress from the Post-Bypass Committee.

With the GTCC elections being held in September – they decided to not have a 355 committee meeting in that month. They were also waiting on the final draft and report from the urban designers. Also as Richard Wilson was no longer on GTCC as a Councillor – a new Councillor would need to be appointed to chair this committee. CB did discuss with Graham Gardner from GTCC that Richard remain as the chair given that the committee was considered to be a sunset committee and that it had almost completed its work. We would need to wait until GTCC makes a decision re this. Our next meeting is proposed for early November.

CB indicated that we are still awaiting advice on the status of our funding application for the children's playground.

Update from Community Information Group (CIG)

GF gave a summary of the latest meeting of the CIG.

GF's report contained the following:

- There is a temporary bypass currently on Ocean Road near Kew. This will assist with works on the overpass of Ocean road and the highway.
- There is a new concrete strip drain near the Tavern in Johns River – which will assist with drainage.
- The New bridge over the Stewarts River at Johns River is progressing well
- The Old Camden Haven bridge pylons are being removed and this will include blasting the old pylons right to ground level using an 'air curtain' to protect fish and aquatic life from the effects of the blasting.
- There were only two members present from Johns River present at the last meeting and an apology from one of these.
- GF indicated that he had had meetings with two residents of the JR village with issues pertaining to the current road works. GF has assisted them with a solution to their problems/concerns and has had the support of the Alliance with these changes.
- It is proposed that there only be a high mound on the eastern side of the new highway and not a concrete sound structure. This will be more visually attractive for both residents and visitors as there will be stands of endemic tress and other species planted on top of this mound.
- It was also announced that Tony Galati was to be in the running for the State seat of Port Macquarie – vacated by Rob Oakeshott.
- Meetings of the CIG only had a core group of members now with some of the early members deciding to vacate. GF indicated that it was thinning but making good progress.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Crime Subcommittee

AS MW was not at the meeting there was no update on this committee. GF did indicate that CB had visited GTCC and they have prepared some 'spot and report' forms for the community to use when reporting crime they have witnessed. GF indicated that this was an important initiative for the JRCPA and one that the community members should fully embrace. GF would also like to continue our talks with the local Police and arrange for a community meeting where the Police can talk about Crime Prevention. CB to discuss with MW to arrange this with local Police Community Crime Prevention Officer.

BS did indicate that there had been a robbery at a local residence where a Quad Bike, Trailer, Generator and Go kart was stolen, whilst the owners were at the house. BS and RH also indicated that there have been some break-ins to railway containers, whilst the trains are waiting in the siding. BS indicated that the containers are opened with bolt cutters, items removed and sold by the offenders. State Rail Police are investigating.

Eco/Beautification Committee

With DL being absent – CB gave an update to certain projects that this committee was about to embark on.

Koolyangarra Project – CB recently met with the CEO of the Purfleet Aboriginal Lands Council (PALC) in relation to the Koolyangarra reserve on the corner of Station Street and Pacific Highway. The discussion was around the renovation of this area as it has been overgrown and allowed to deteriorate over the years. DS indicated that he had also been in discussions with the Principal of the Public School in regards to the reserve and that it was originally handed to the school to maintain and utilise. CB indicated that his talks with the PALC were very positive and that they would be pleased to assist us with a review of this reserve. CB is to prepare a 'mud map' of the reserve with the recommendations as to changes required and then to have a further meeting with PALC and elders so they can give approval for the works to commence. CB also indicated that the PALC were willing to assist us with the walkway and pedestrian bridge upgrade program and that we could achieve both at the same time. CB indicated that he prepared a submission for grant monies to support the above projects and will await the decision regarding funding.

Forest and Old Highway reserve – CB and DS are to plan a walk through of the old Forest – on the northern side of white's house to understand the level of work that will be involved. This area is a dry sclerophyll forest and is a great asset to the community if properly managed. CB also discussed this area of forest with the Dept of Lands and PALC as there is a claim over most of this forest. The PALC are interested in assisting us with the maintenance of this valuable asset as is the Dept of Lands. The PALC can also assist with weed control and have a work crew that can attend on site with a schedule.

DS and CB will report further as to the work that will need to be carried out to ensure the area is retained with a minimal amount of weeds.

History Committee

As the chair of the History Committee is unwell at present - we will need to place some of these activities on hold at present. DS indicated that he would continue to work on history items (time willing) and will place the next history instalment on local famous families in the next edition of the JRJ.

DS also indicated that he would like to out the call out for others to assist with this data collection.

OTHER BUSINESS

Tea Tree Soak Area and Catchment Management Authority

Recently, a business owner was seen setting light to the Tea Tree Soak area on the western side of the Pacific Highway. This is an area that is being reserved for the Eco Centre contained in the Urban Design Plan prepared by Andrews Neil UDG. The burn off of this area was not authorised by either the Land Owner (RTA) or approved for burn off by the Rural Fire Service (RFS). Both of these authorities have been advised of this damage to the respective area and have addressed this issue with the business owner.

As a result of this illegal burn off One adult and three infant possums were found by a local resident - introduced into the care of a local FAWNA member with two of the infants dieing from injuries received from the fire.

The Catchment Management Authority (CMA) were advised and will be visiting the area shortly to overview and consult on a plan of management for the entire area. This will include weed control - and also to review the flow of the creek area to ensure that during flood events - there is minimal damage to residences along the path of the creek.

Malcolm Bulley has raised the issue with members of the JRCPA that in time of flood - his house and surrounding houses do feel the effects of the excess water. Malcolm further noted that he raised the issue with the then Vice President of the JRCPA Inc, Tony Galati and nothing had been done.

CB is to ensure that CMA do visit the site and will also ask their advice as to the flow of water under the railway line - as this is where Malcolm Bulley indicates the problem lies. CB and DL are to review this area further to understand the real issues in relation to this creek area.

Bulk Fuel Outlet

GF noted that at the last Community Meeting held in the village, where Andrews Neil UDG presented their draft plan to the community Mr Galati indicated that ' in a matter of weeks, he would be reopening his service station as a Bulk Diesel Fuel Outlet to service all the truck on the highway'. To date, the service station remains closed and according to GTCC there are no plans presently with council to reconsider the reopening of this site. GF further mentioned that given the new laws in relation to

Environmental Protection substantial work would need to be performed by the owner/operator to ensure effective spill containment was in operation. At present - there are no such controls. CB indicated the only drain in that area is a piece of orange 50mm pipe that runs into the drain, which in turn runs in the creek. Clearly not effective.

State Election - seat of Port Macquarie Bi Election

CB indicated that the State Seat of Port Macquarie was subject to a Bi Election of the weekend of the 18th October. This was due to the departure of Rob Oakeshott. Tony Galati was running for the seat as was 10 others from the area including supporter of the JRCPA Inc - Peter Besseling. CB indicated that on a personal perspective - he was supporting and working with Peter Besseling on local booths and would like some help on election day handing our pamphlets for Peter. RH, DS and GF indicated their support with BS indicating that he was not available on that weekend.

Items still open and waiting finalisation.

Speed Limits for the village

Will be determined by GTCC when roadway ownership is handed to them from the RTA. JRCPA will push and promote a 50km/h speed limit.

Renaming of Roads

Submissions have been put to GTCC for the roads and this will be decided on shortly. Item remains open.

Skate Park

Awaiting MW to report on the creation of the Youth sub-committee. Item to remain open. A discussion was also held around the skate park and putting this on hold until the Urban Design of the village has been attended to. **On Hold at present.**

Telstra NOT Supporting the Village with Basic Broadband

This item to remain open as the JRCPA will continue to lobby Telstra and the Government for a better deal for residents of the village and surrounding area.

Coordinating Village Group Activities

This item is still open and will continue to be managed to gain a meeting with all the groups in the village. Expected for completion by End November 2008.

Timberline

Timberline has been mown by Jim's Mowing local franchisee Bob Lange. It is now in need of another 'haircut' and Bob will be in contact with United Petroleum to arrange authority to have this second job completed. CB to engage further with United Petroleum to gain a commitment to their upkeep of the property and future planning of the site. Item ongoing

Income for the Association

CB is continuing to work with the GTCC to arrange for some funds for the association (by way of Grants). Chris Ryan - GTCC has been very supportive of our efforts thus far and is keen to support us. Item Open

ALL- No further items

Next Meeting proposed - 1st November 2008 - venue (TBA)

Meeting closed – 3.10pm– 4th October 2008

Minutes confirmed as an accurate record of the meeting held.



R G Ferrero

President of JRCPA Inc.