

**George Town Community Safety Group Committee Meeting
Tuesday 3rd August 2021**

Confirmed Minutes

Meeting opened: 12.30 pm

Present: Chair Cr Heather Barwick, Cr Chris Barraclough, Karyl Bruinewood, Ray Hibbs, Pat Marron, John Glisson, Jason Orr Stuart Austin, Les Pride, Sergeant Luke Moore, Craig Tyeson

Minute Secretary: Louise Dickenson

Apologies: Simone Lowe

Guest: Carolyn Smith, Hillwood resident

The Chair welcomed the three new members to the meeting.

Motion: To receive the minutes of the previous meeting of the 6th July 2021.

Moved: Les Pride

Seconded: John Glisson

It was questioned why the previous minutes of the meeting were not accepted at the Ordinary Council meeting. The Chair advised that the minutes that were presented were not correct as the report stated "*The Committee at this meeting also resolved the following motions: Strategic Plan This action related to the following components of the Community Strategic Plan 2020-2030*". This was something that was not spoken about at the Committee meeting and believed that Mr Daire had spoken about this at a previous Committee meeting. It was further clarified that it was not the minutes but the agenda report.

CARRIED

Moved: Les Pride

Seconded: Carolyn Smith

Motion: To accept the minutes of the previous meeting of the 6th July 2021 as an accurate record of that meeting

CARRIED

Correspondence:

- Acceptance of George Town Chamber of Commerce member – Mr Pat Marron
- Acceptance of Port Dalrymple School member – Mr Stuart Austin
- Correspondence to Phil Thompson, Parks and Wildlife re Weymouth Beach Access
- Road Safety Grants 2021

Moved: Craig Tyeson
Seconded: Les Pride

That the Committee accepts the correspondence for noting.

CARRIED

Business arising from the minutes:

The Weymouth Progress Association President advised that the Walden Street vegetation is to be cleared. Advice has been received from Tas Fire acknowledging and approving the cricket ground as a designed fire evacuation place.

Notice of Motions

108/21 – George Town Community Safety Group Committee meeting 1st June 2021 minutes were deferred to a workshop.

The Chair reported that for the benefit of new members that the motions that require actioning of the Committee go to the next Ordinary Council meeting for resolution. The Committee does not have a budget therefore if actions require funding it must go to a Council meeting.

Action List Update:

02/17 Access parking – Macquarie Street Streetscape Review

The Acting Manager of Infrastructure and Works reported that the status of the Macquarie Street streetscape is the same as the last meeting and Council requires to securing funding for this project. It was asked by the Low Head Progress Association if charge stations were included in the design. Charge stations have been mentioned to the General Manager, but the cost benefit and the cost of the infrastructure did not warrant the inclusion of charging stations.

There is power at the site if in the future, charging stations are required.

The Hillwood resident advised that Launceston City Council are replacing their charging stations with solar panel. The Acting Manager advised that a power source is still required for these.

12/19 Anne Street footpath

The Anne Street footpath has been included in this financial year capital works for Council. The Acting Manager advised that the design is being undertaken to include stormwater. Designs not completed.

03/21 Industry Road – Removal of trees

The Acting Manager reported that the removal of trees for Industry Road has been included in this financial year. Council is required to adhere to the procurement policy needing three quotes. It is hoping that this can be completed before the summer traffic.

05/21 Regent Square – railing

The Acting Manager reported that the railing is being removed due to the extension of the toilet block. Council is waiting on the roofing for the toilet block extension. Paths will be redesigned away from Anne Street for safety purposes.

06/21 School Road – trimming of trees

The Acting Manager reported that the trimming of trees on School Road have been completed. The trimming was pushed back to the boundary line.

Moved: Chris Barraclough
Seconded: Carolyn Smith

That the School Road – trimming of trees be removed off the action list.

CARRIED

07/21 Walden Street – Vegetation to be cleared

The Acting Manager reported that the clearing of the vegetation will be undertaken this financial year. It has been quoted but it will depend on the contractor's schedule. This will assist the entry to the cricket ground for fire evacuation safety purposes.

08/21 Blamey Street – no dumping of rubbish sign

The Acting Manager reported that the signage has been completed.

Moved: Les Pride
Seconded: Chris Barraclough

That the signage for Blamey Street be removed off the action list.

CARRIED

09/21 Neighbourhood House Issue – Showering facilities for homeless

The Chair advised that at the last Committee meeting Mr Orr made a comment to Ms Lowe that there they were looking at putting showers at the old RSL building. The Chair followed up with Council and that this was not going to occur at the old RSL Building. The Chair suggest that Council could provide a letter of support to Neighbourhood House for their grant submission to extend/resdesign their building to include showering facilities. Neighbourhood House to make contact with Council if they require a letter of support.

The HUB is available for the homeless to use showering facilities. RSL has kindly provided them with showering kits. The showers are not publically advertised.

The Acting Manager has offered assist of the Works Department if Neighbourhood House require it.

10/21 Archers Road – Speed Limit and Road Widening

The Acting Manager advised that Archers Road is ongoing and a report has been provided to elected members. The report findings were: (1) no increase in vehicular usage (2) average speed is 65 km which is well below the speed limit. Council is still working on this issue. The report was completed for 4 weeks in two separate spots during April. The report was finalized in June for presentation to Council.

The General Manager has met with the residents and informed of the findings. Depending on the outcome i.e. changing traffic conditions it would still need to go through State Growth.

Moved: Carolyn Smith
Seconded: John Glisson

That Archers Road – Speed Limit and Road Widening be removed off the action list.

CARRIED

General/Other Safety Business:

Community Road Safety Grants

The Chair advised that Mr Hoey who used to come to the Committee meetings from the Road Safety Committee has left his role. Council has received an email from Kylie Farrell, Project Officer, Community Development and Engage introducing herself. The Chair read out the email, stating: *The Tasmanian Government have released \$200,000 in funding for Community Road Safety Grants. These Grants provide funding to support innovative grass roots solutions to local road safety issues....”.*

The Chair request an invitation to be sent to Ms Farrell to attend the next Safety Committee meeting. Minute secretary to action.

Funding had previously been received for stickers on the bins; no smoking at the pedestrian crossing. Funding was not received for the Variable Message Board submission as the application was not up to standard.

Minute secretary to send out the flyer to members of the meeting on the Community Road Safety Grants. Members to provide initiatives for a grant submission to the next Committee meeting.

Area Reports:

Bellingham Progress Association – Ray Hibbs

Nil.

George Town Neighbourhood Watch – Les Pride

Nil.

Low Head progress Association – John Glisson

A meeting was held with the General Manager after the last Committee meeting to discuss Suicide Prevention seminar for residents. The Chair advised that the task of organisation has been forwarded to Council's Manager Liveable and Connected Communities to follow up.

A full day seminar aimed at aged 15 and up to 25 years old persons in educating how to identify potential persons that are at risk and prevention methods. The facilitator will be CORE with a cost of \$2,000 to run two days. Council would provide the catering.

Dates are yet to be confirmed.

George Town Chamber of Commerce – Pat Marron

Information from various media outlets have been circulating to businesses and residents that the Commonwealth Bank will be closing at 1pm each work day. Mr Marron expressed concern for businesses that then may be holding cash and that this could be a potential safety issues. Cr Barraclough suggested that local businesses will need to adopt and that there is the option of using the Aust. Post Office which is open to 5pm.

Options:

1. to make the Commonwealth Bank more secure would be to put a secure room for the ATM for residents and business to fill confident in depositing and making withdrawals. There is a real risk you could be watched.
2. to upgrade the ATM for depositing of coins.

There was a concern for older residents who prefer face to face contact.

The Chair suggested a petition should be set up from George Town residents.

Tas Police suggested that the Safety Committee provide broad messaging to businesses and residents to do their banking during daylight hours; if concerned bring a friend with you; stagger your hours. Few reports have been received of this nature to the Police. For residents general well being and safety they should manage their own risk.

The Chair advised that correspondence has been sent to the Commonwealth Bank from Council. The Chair requested a copy of the correspondence and reply from the Commonwealth Bank prior to any further action being taken by the Committee.

Pipers River Neighbourhood Watch and Lulworth Community Association - Jason Orr

Pipers River Neighbourhood Watch met last with the Commander attending. No major issues raised.

Weymouth Progress Association – Craig Tyeson

As previously mentioned about Tas Fire approving the cricket ground as a safe place. The Weymouth Sub-Committee will meet to make the necessary changes to the fire management plan.

Association has checked the foreshore and thank you to Acting Manager for the gravel.

The Weymouth Hall now has internet access for communication and the Fire Sub-Committee looking to create a solar hub for any potential safety issue in Weymouth.

Beechford Residents and Property Association – Karyl Bruinewood

Safety concern with the culvert in front of 8 Esplanade where a person fell. Acting Manager suggested that a service request be forwarded to Council and it will be followed up.

Hillwood Resident – Carolyn Smith

Ms Smith provided an update on the issue of the Launceston Running Club's event which went ahead. It was requested that all the Hillwood residents be informed not those just on the affected road. The Acting Manager advised that when this event is held again in the George Town Municipality, alterations will be made to the method of communication and traffic management plan to increase safety.

Tas Police – Sergeant Luke Moore

Crime and safety of residents going well. The George Town Police Station have adequate staffing levels and response to issues is good.

Port Dalrymple School – Stuart Austin

Mr Austin thanked the Committee for having him. Fencing has gone up around the school and scheduled to be completed early next year to reduce the community members walking through the school. Crossings are working well and drop off with the covid rules and parents have been good with this.

The pool and gym are constantly hired and with the lighting etc. has been a contributor to the safety of users.

Also the school will be running a Reset Program with the Police and Hawthorn AFL program designed for raising what a good citizens is. Tas Police have an early intervention team and been able to move on to George Town which is good for the community.

Cr Chris Barraclough

Cr Barraclough advised that there is a broken open drain in Hillwood. The Acting Manager advised that this has been fixed.

Also there is a motorbike going around the town and it is perceived that it is speeding. Details forward to Tas Police.

Chair, Cr Heather Barwick

The Chair reminded the Committee to review the community road safety grants and guidelines and to send initiatives to herself (Chair) or to Minute Secretary.

The meeting closed at 1.47 pm.