

Those items in purple are decisions made

Those items in red are action items

Buchan, Gelantipy and Districts Renewal Association (Incorporated)

Venue: Buchan Recreation Reserve building

Date: 2.03.20

Meeting opened 7.10 pm

Present:

Committee: A Brewer, G Brick, J Coates, D Graham, A Henderson, K Hodge, J McCole, D Mraz, K Pearce, M Wheeler

Council Representative: S Healy

Gallery: P Pearce, J Boydell, R Dooley, S Franks, G Henstridge, Rhonda Coates, C Palmer, L Harrington, Steve Harper, T Fall, M McCole, J Gray, T King, Melva Woodgate, S Waack, J Cameron

Apologies:

Committee: Chris Cooper

S Healy opened the meeting explaining the process of how we got to where we are and a bit about the why we are at this current place. She provided a basic outline to set the scene of what comes next.

K Hodge continued the discussion explaining the need for the committee to be transparent, clear and open to increase the communities' buyin. It will act as a conduit for funding bodies and reduce the loss of finances along the way by reducing the administration fees generally charged by other bodies. This would therefore mean more funds are locally available. There is a need for continued local support and canvassing to ensure we can get further representation across all areas. We need to stay together as a united front for all. Conflicts have proven in other areas to reduce the ability to attract funding and get the money onto the ground. It is to be a community renewal committee. To move forward we need a name, purpose statement and a tight charter of priorities.

Name suggested: Buchan, Gelantipy and Districts Renewal Association Incorporated.
(BGDRAI) Unanimously carried by the committee and the gallery.

The purpose of previous committees was read out by S Healy:

Community Recovery Committees (CRCs) help individuals and communities get back on their feet.

They can coordinate information, resources, and services in support of an affected community, establish priorities and provide information and advice to the affected community and recovery agencies.

What will CRCs do?

Locals know what's best when it comes to rebuilding their community. CRCs will

ensure local voices and local solutions are front and centre in the bushfire recovery effort.

The CRCs are a way for communities to support each other and take ownership of their own recovery journey. They will have a direct voice to government, helping to shape recovery, grant and support programs that meet community needs.

CRCs will also drive the development of community recovery plans, to guide the investment of resources by local, state and Commonwealth governments.

How will CRCs be supported?

We will support the CRCs with a Community Recovery Facilitator, who will help to organise meetings and events on behalf of the CRC.

The Community Recovery Facilitators will also be a key part of the Community Recovery Hubs – ensuring that information on the work of the CRCs is easily available. The establishment of the CRCs is supported by \$6 million funding from the Victorian and Commonwealth Governments under Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements.

Where will CRCs be located?

We're establishing CRCs across the communities of East Gippsland and North East Victoria impacted by this season's bushfires. The number and location of CRCs will be determined with local communities.

S Healy then reminded everyone of the need to remain strategic. Don't do what other services and clubs/committees do or can do.

Purpose suggestions:

- The BGDRAI will champion local needs by

- Assisting individuals and the communities to get back on their feet

- Coordinating information, resources and services

- Establishing priorities and providing information to communities and recovery agencies

- Advocating for local services at all levels inclusive of Government

- Driving the development and outcomes of the renewal plan

- Building capacity within the communities

- Developing local solutions

- Bettering of communities

S Healy will draft up the purpose.

Sunset clause:

Decision was made to be 3 years then subject to review

General discussion:

It was reported that several people never received emails. Those that didn't have emails should have received in the post today. The Secretary will take that on board once sorted.

Communication strategy:

Start this early to find the gaps and plug them as they are discovered. **S Healy to develop template for communication strategy.** Some discussion re getting information to key areas so people can access if not receiving emails. People need to take some responsibility themselves for keeping informed. Emails, noticeboards in different areas, phone, contact with committee members, etc

General Discussion:

Suggested that a list of the general members go out with the minutes of the meeting. (Names only)

Meetings: Weekly at present to keep things moving along. Venue- CFA/SES shed. May attend by skype, phone, etc to enable further consultation, participation particularly for committee members.

General discussion:

There are many people available to help from other places and organisations. Some of these resources may skype in to the meetings when required.

Next meeting: Tues 10th March 7pm at CFA/SES shed

Financial year for association to be a calendar year

Fees for association to be no fee

General discussion:

From the floor-what happens if someone from Committee opts out. After some discussion between committee members and the gallery the decision was **until the first week in March 2021 any vacancy would be filled by the person with the next most votes from the ballot just completed.** At the AGM to be planned for first week March 2021 if there are vacancies there will be a call from all general members to fill any vacancies which may well mean another ballot for those vacancies.

Current term for committee members to be 3 year to coincide with the review process/sunset clause.

Discussion around quorum- should it be 6 or 7, no decision made. The committee can function with less than 11 members as long as a quorum is maintained.

All meetings are open to the community except if there are privacy concerns.

Working with Childrens Checks (WWC)-may be required for all committee members. **S Healy to follow up if WWC are recommended.**

Discussion re potentially having the age for the committee being reduced to 16 to encourage capacity building. No decision made however further discussion about having subcommittees and encouraging juniors to be part of those as well.

G Brick explained about the trust account. Monies are going into it but no money has been withdrawn as waiting for committee approval. (There is an account to pay for fuel). The name can be changed to the association name after the election of office bearers.

It is to enable the monies to be centralised and kept local. Need to cover off all areas. **Everyone to consider the spaces that need covering off, ie geographical and / or like based.** Some further discussion from others about finances being given to communities or areas within the BGDAL areas. It was made clear that there are funds that come with criteria and that criteria needs to be acquitted as per the directive of the donor. This is similar for areas that may receive funding in their own right and this committee has no control or access to that money as it is often specific for that area or need. Acquittal is a big thing to be able to do that effectively we need the skill of someone that has that ability. K Pearce mentioned that that is her area of expertise.

General comment/question from the gallery- could we add mobile phone coverage to the renewal plan. This was highlighted as an area of need during the fires. There are about 60 people at W Tree and only 2 have mobile access. **Mobile access to be added to the renewal plan.**

Question around access to property names/owners list. S Healy stated again to stay strategic and leave the doing for others. **She will work with others to see how this could be facilitated to ensure no one is missed.**

S Healy to call a meeting for all services in the near future.

Team Rubicon are said to be moving out this weekend.

There are gift vouchers that need to be distributed, so that is strategic and needs a decision made. Some difficulties as the vouchers range from \$20 to \$500 and are vouchers rather than cash. **Needs to be added into the decision making.**

Nomination forms for office bearers to come to next meeting
Read model rules and note any changes that may need to be made to fit the purpose of the BGDAL, bring to next meeting
Think about the content for the communication strategy
Think about varying meeting palces into some of the other areas to increase consultation/participation

Next meeting: Tuesday March 10th 7pm at the CFA/SES shed.

Meeting closed 8.30pm.

Minutes written by: A Brewer

Chairperson: Nil

Signed: K Hodge

Date: 10/03/2020