

Buchan, Gelantipy and Districts Renewal Association (Incorporated)

Minutes

Venue: In person and Zoom

Date: 23/3/2021

Meeting time 6pm

Invitees:

Committee: D Graham, K Hodge, D Mraz, C Cooper, J Coates, Anne Brewer,

Council Representative: S Healy, E Aldersea

Guests:

Gallery:

Apologies: Kirstie Pearce, Rocio Levings (resigned), A Henderson, J Sutton, G Brick

Minutes of meeting: Minutes from 9 February - moved by Donna Mraz seconded by Chris Cooper

Business arising from minutes:

- IGEM round up from everyone in committee who attended the sessions
 - o This led to a discussion about the Governor General's lunch tomorrow and who is going

Treasurers Report:

Balance: \$90,818.86 in business account

- **Action: request treasurer to add more detail to report for committee members only**
- **Action: start to add condensed report to website**
- Moved by Donald Graham, seconded by Chris Cooper

General Business:

1. AGM and Community & Family Fun Day on Sunday 14 March wrap up
 - o President and Treasurer's reports and draft minutes attached and on website
 - o Event write up with a few images attached
 - o Anne and Kate had a great day and thanked the organisers, they heard great feedback from lots of people
 - Great to talk to people and socialise
 - o Donna heard great feedback about the massage therapists and chiro being available
 - o **Action: Suzie to bring a program of planned events to next meeting**

2. LER Round 2

Round 2 of the Local Economic Recovery Program has opened with applications closing on 12 April 2021. To date the projects being flagged across this District are:

- The Junction/ Balley Hooley Canoe Launch – Parks Vic/ BGaDRA will be the applicant
 - o Shovel ready project, approx. \$20,000
- The Junction/ Balley Hooley Master Plan – Parks Vic/ BGaDRA – (Potentially Round 3)
- Windarra upgrade – GEGAC
 - o Requesting our support (letter of support) but they are applying themselves
 - o **Action: write letter of support**
- Recreation Reserve
 - o Rec planning consultant met with the Rec Reserve on 22 March
 - o Proposed two upgrades to existing site and a third option outside of the flood zone

- Current structures are no longer fit for purpose so this will be a clean slate development no matter where it goes
- Unanimous support to move to the new site outside of the flood zone
- Rec planner and Suzie given tasks to look at new site and what the process might be
- No specific project at this stage that would fit into this round of LER
 - Suzie looking into this further
- Looking into the guidelines to see if we can get concept plan funding

Is there an additional application to be made? Further discussion and a decision will need to be made at this meeting regarding any Committee submitted applications.

- Kate suggesting we may put together a quick application for the Balley Hooley masterplan with Parks
 - Parks can do the costing work to help put together application in next two weeks
 - Chris suggests we push to use local contractors for all work to be done
 - **Action: Suzie to follow up with Parks to move forward with this plan and application**
 - The playground has been promised money from another source which be come up later
3. C4 – East Gippsland Community Leadership Resilience Project
 - a. See attached letter of introduction
 - b. They want to support committee to identify what's needed in the local tourism industry, want to run a workshop
 - c. Kate feels like it might interfere with other tourism plans coming up in next few months
 - d. They might be more useful for a committee is newly formed, our committee is too far advanced for their help
 - e. **Action: all agreed to decline their support**
 4. From Suzie: See Place Manager Update attached
 - a. Kate has suggested we get a visual storyboard created from the thank you board
 - b. Decision made to keep bringing the thankyou board out for future events
 - c. Suzie requested committee look at snapshot document and get back to her with any edits to be made
 - d. Who from committee would like to sit on the Project Control Group for the Buchan streetscape and Caves walkway project?
 - i. Let Suzie know in the next week
 - e. PV coming to talk about plans for \$2mill investment
 - i. **Action: Suzie to invite to next meeting on 27 April**

Place Manager Update:

Rebuild Support Service – Information Night 17 March 2021

The rebuild support service of Council held an information evening on Wednesday 17 March at the Buchan Recreation Reserve. Around 15 local residents attended the evening.

Community Thanks and Appreciation

It was noted at the recent sessions with the Inspector General for Emergency Management that the community hasn't had the opportunity to say thanks. That is, thanks to their neighbours, friends and community members, but also thanks to emergency service agencies and organisations that were in the community during the fire event or directly afterwards. It was also about recognising those who had generously offered their time, services and donations of money and other goods during this recovery process also.

At both the Wulgulmerang playground re-opening and the Buchan Community Day, we placed some butchers paper up in a visible location so that the community could jot down any specific people or organisations they wished to thank. There was also a box where people could place private messages of thanks.

It is up to the BGDRA Committee how they would like these notes of appreciation to be recognised. To date the suggestion of getting some cards made, transferring these messages and placing them in the mail would be one option. The cards could be made with images of local Buchan District landscapes.

It is suggested that these boards are placed up over the coming months at community events and functions so that it can evolve into a complete list. Long term this list will be kept for any future anniversary or recovery related celebrations.



Wulgulmerang Sports Ground – Playground re-opening

On Friday 5 March, the Wulgulmerang Sports Ground Committee of Management invited the community to attend the re-opening of the playground. The previous playground was destroyed in the fire. This event was well attended with around 50 people attending throughout the afternoon including lots of kids who tested out the new equipment. The afternoon was a casual catch up for the local community with afternoon tea from 3pm and then a BBQ dinner from 6pm. The event was sponsored by Red Cross and supported by BRV, DELWP and EGSC.



Buchan Community Snapshot

Council has been working with Bushfire Recovery Victoria to draft a Community Snapshot for each flame impacted District of East Gippsland. Please see the attached draft snapshot for Buchan District. This document will be used for many purposes including:

- To share among CRCs, as a Community of Practice. This will build a tool kit for CRC's to learn from one another and see what each other is doing;
- To demonstrate progress – to the community, to government, to Ministers
- As content for future digital engagement opportunities

As the Committee, does this snapshot represent you well? Are there any changes? What is missing?

Community Conversations – Next Steps

The community conversations wrapped up before Christmas. The key themes across the all conversations was as follows:

- Having an Integrated utility management plan including water, telecommunications, power and energy including:

- Communication systems within the communities, localities and districts. access to sustained service post emergency event, greater geographic coverage outside of emergency times, greater battery/ generator life
- Access to water; adequate supply, timeliness and safe access to it, strategic locations
Developing a mutual understanding across community and agencies as to how and when water can be accessed.
- A joined-up conversation between landowners and each responsible agency to determine a localised fuel management plan for roadsides, public land interface and the remnant vegetation on freehold land. Town Protection. Cross tenure discussion. A strategic approach.
- Access to resources to build community safety and resilience. More resources (human on Crown Land) and more equipment (water points, fire truck).
- Relief processes – in absence of council run relief centre - how is place of last resort to be better managed
- Response processes – getting better two-way communication between locals and incident management team

Do these themes sound right? Is anything missing?

Council is currently working with Safer Together, DELWP, RRV and other agencies (where applicable) to develop a forward plan for turning these themes into action and change on the ground. Communities will be invited to participate in this process. I will keep you informed as to when these are to commence.

Interim Priorities Update

Post the last committee meeting, I have progressed the three interim priorities. Updates are as follows:

- **Tourism Destination Plan and Play Space** – an initial project plan has been developed for each of these projects. Last week I met with BRV representatives who have agreed to provide funding support. For the Tourism Destination Plan, the funding support will be to engage a consultant to undertake the entire project. For the Play Space the funding support will be for the initial stage of the project which will include community engagement, concepts, cultural heritage and flood mitigation requirements, shovel ready detailed design and preparation of a funding application (if applicable).
- **Buchan Recreation Reserve** – a verbal update will be provided for this priority as a meeting is being held on Monday 22 March.

Fencing Wire Collection

Last week the roadside fencing wire debris points were collected by Council's contractor. This was the one and only district wide collection.

Any additional fire damaged fencing wire should be taken to the Buchan site at the old mill. The final collection of this site will be 30 June 2021.

Buchan Streetscape and Caves Walkway Project

Council is commencing this project now and is inviting one representation from Buchan Gelantipy and Districts Renewal Association Committee to participate in the project Control Group (PCG). The PCG will be made up of representatives from Parks Victoria, Rural Roads Victoria, GLaWAC, Council, Buchan BTA and this committee. The responsibilities will include developing the design, community engagement, and meeting the funding requirements. There will be some face to face meetings held in Buchan as well as online meetings and email communications.

Who would like to nominate to the Project Control Group?

5. CRC Budget – Kirstie
 - See attached spreadsheet
 - Been approved, sent through so everyone can see it
 - **Action: detailed expenditure to be shown for the committee's purposes in the future**

6. Collation of issues into pillars – Anne
 - Anne emailed document to committee members on Tuesday 2 February
 - Anne has received no feedback from the committee members
 - It's purpose is to inform the recovery plans
 - **Action: each committee member to look at it and give feedback, Erin to re-send Anne's document – check with Anne what she needs exactly before sending out**

7. Rocio Levings resignation from committee
 - In accordance to the rules we will call for nominations
 - o If more than one nominee we have to run a ballot process
 - Need to advertise that there's a vacant space on the committee
 - o Ask for nominations
 - o More than one we go to a ballot

Next meeting: 27 April

Meeting closed: 7.30pm

Minutes written by: Erin Aldersea

Chairperson: K Hodge

Signed: K Hodge

Date: 27 April 2021