

**MINUTES OF THE BLAND SHIRE COMMUNITY REFERENCE GROUP MEETING
HELD IN THE BLAND SHIRE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON TUESDAY 12 FEBRUARY
2019 COMMENCING AT 6.30PM**

Present:

Jill Funnell, Sarah Gillett, Julie Sharpe, Amanda Davies, Marie Seckold, Jo Price, Trevor Lanyon, Val Burgess, Leanne Davies, Belinda Heffer, Craig Fawcett, Frances Ross, Pat Cleary, Annabelle Cleary, Marina Uys, Bernadette Pettit, Greg Trethowan, Cr Brian Monaghan (Mayor), Cr Liz McGlynn (Deputy Mayor), Cr Jan Wyse, Cr Murray Thomas, Cr Tony Lord, Cr Rodney Crowe, Cr Kerry Keatley, Adele Casey (Acting General Manager), Craig Sutton (Community Relations Officer), Rebecca McDonell (Community Development Officer).

WELCOME

Mayor Brian Monaghan welcomed everyone to the meeting at 6.31pm.

APOLOGIES

Cr Penny English, Cr Bruce Baker, Ray Smith (General Manager), Charles Kingston.

BUSINESS ARISING

1. Digital Town Clock and Temperature Gauge

Mayor Brian Monaghan advised that Council is seeking costings for consideration in the draft 2019-2020 budget.

2. Weethalle Country Music Muster

Craig Sutton advised that Council has allocated funding of \$60,000 through the Federal Government's Drought Communities Program for a multi-purpose shed at Weethalle Showground. Construction is on track to be completed prior to the inaugural Muster on 2-5 May. The meeting was also advised that Council has assisted the Weethalle Show Society in submitting a successful FRRR Tackling Tough Times together grant of \$15,500 to assist with the costs of holding the inaugural event.

NEW BUSINESS

3. Country Hope Community Public Art Proposal

Jo Price addressed the meeting on behalf of Country Hope West Wyalong regarding a proposal to install a large metal sign spelling out the word "Hope" in the Lions Park-McCann Park precinct.

Ms Price said she hopes the sign will inspire and help people draw strength while also attracting visitors and boosting local business.

She advised that CJM Welding and Fabrication has offered to build the structure for free while Evolution Mining has also pledged support for the concept.

Ms Price told the meeting that the fundamental idea of the project is to raise money for local charities by people purchasing a lock and donating money to their chosen charity. Purchasers write what they hope for on the lock and then lock it onto the structure.

Mayor Monaghan congratulated Ms Price on her presentation and advised her to liaise with Council's community services staff to determine what support is required/requested from Council.

4. 3D Art Murals

Rebecca McDonell advised that Council has received grant funding to paint 3D murals in West Wyalong and Mirrool.

Ms McDonell told the meeting that the Mirrool community has requested a rural scene while an interactive artwork focusing on rain had been chosen for West Wyalong.

An artist has been engaged to create the artworks and the work is expected to take place within three months.

5. 125th Anniversary of Wyalong and West Wyalong

Rebecca McDonell and Craig Sutton provided an overview of plans for the 125th anniversary of Wyalong and West Wyalong celebrations on 22-24 March.

Sarah Gillett provided an update on the Ridding for Disabled West Wyalong Ole Time Bush Dance on Friday 22 March.

Julie Sharpe provided an update on the planning for the Western Wheelers Crooked Mile Show and Shine on Sunday 24 March.

Greg Trethowan provided a progress report on plans for the West Wyalong Rodeo on Saturday 23 March.

The effort and dedication of Council staff member Marina Uys in the organisation of the 125th anniversary celebrations – particularly in regard to the Golden Days Fair at Cooina Park – was also acknowledged.

6. General Business

Councillor Murray Thomas suggested improving public access and amenities to Lake Cowal.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Community Reference Group meeting will be held on Tuesday 9 April 2019 at the Bland Shire Council Chambers at 6.30pm.

CLOSE

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.07 pm.