

**MINUTES OF THE BLAND SHIRE COMMUNITY REFERENCE GROUP MEETING  
HELD IN THE BLAND SHIRE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON TUESDAY 13 AUGUST  
2019 COMMENCING AT 6.30PM**

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**Present:**

**Amanda Stitt, Allan Schirmer, Barry Cooper, Ross Harmer, Marina Uys, Cr Brian Monaghan (Mayor), Cr Liz McGlynn (Deputy Mayor), Cr Jan Wyse, Cr Murray Thomas, Cr Rodney Crowe, Cr Kerry Keatley, Cr Penny English, Cr Bruce Baker, Ray Smith (General Manager), Craig Sutton (Community Relations Officer), Rebecca McDonell (Community Development Officer).**

**WELCOME**

Mayor Brian Monaghan welcomed everyone to the meeting at 6.32pm.

**APOLOGIES**

Cr Tony Lord.

**BUSINESS ARISING**

**1. Country Hope Public Art proposal**

Rebecca McDonell advised that a preferred location for the Hope sign has been identified in McCann Park and a grant application from Country Hope had been submitted to Council's September meeting for consideration.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**2. The Green Corridor**

Amanda Stitt presented a PowerPoint presentation suggesting some proposed works/improvements at Cooina Park including – a plaque explaining the meaning of Cooina as "Happy Place", more sculptures, the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the "walking and cycling track", signage along the corridor, the removal/replacement of totem poles, more tree plantings, resurfacing of walkways, an all-weather footpath, bird nest boxes, additional garbage bins and tables and chairs and lighting of the poppet head.

Allan Schirmer endorsed Mrs Stitt's comments and presentation.

Craig Sutton updated the meeting about works currently being undertaken by Council at Cooina Park – which forms part of a natural heritage reserve.

The list of suggestions will be considered by Council where appropriate as part of future planning for Cooina Park and the Natural Heritage Reserve.

**3. West Wyalong Knockout 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

Barry Cooper informed the meeting that the West Wyalong rugby league knockout will celebrate its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2020 and to mark the occasion suggested Council construct a media box as proposed in the original plans for the redevelopment of Ron Crowe Oval.

Mr Cooper said the construction of a media box would allow West Wyalong Community Radio to possibly conduct outside broadcasts of local rugby league matches to residents of the Bland Shire.

General Manager Ray Smith told the meeting that the proposed former location for the media box was deemed too far from the ground for media and officials while the suggested alternate location would block the view of spectators.

He advised that the Director of Engineering and Assets Services, Will Marsh, has met with a representative from the West Wyalong Rugby League Club and is investigating options and plans for consideration.

There are no allocated funds in Council's 2019-2020 budget for construction of a media box at Ron Crowe Oval.

#### **4. John Wayne Festival**

Ross Harmer put forward a proposal for Council and or a community group to consider holding a John Wayne Festival.

Mr Harmer said his recent efforts to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the release of the movie "True Grit" had uncovered a widespread fan base for John Wayne and suggested a themed festival has the potential to attract similar interest to the Elvis festival in Parkes.

Mayor Monaghan suggested a Wild Fest Festival incorporating John Wayne and other Wild West themed activities and entertainment.

### **GENERAL BUSINESS**

#### **5. Street Furniture**

Barry Cooper said that some of the street furniture in West Wyalong's Main Street has recently been damaged and needs repair/replacement.

#### **6. Town Clock**

Barry Cooper made a follow up enquiry regarding his proposal to install a town clock in West Wyalong's Main Street which digitally displays the time and temperature.

#### **7. Pedestrian Crossing**

On behalf of a local resident, Cr Thomas suggested a pedestrian crossing be installed adjacent to the IGA supermarket in Main Street.

Ray Smith explained that the Main Street is currently classed as a state highway and the RMS has previously advised it will not approve any additional pedestrian crossings in Main Street. Mr Smith said Council can consider the request again when control of the street is transferred from the State Government to Council as planned,

### **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Community Reference Group meeting will be held on Tuesday 8 October 2019 at the Bland Shire Council Chambers at 6.30pm.

### **CLOSE**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.14 pm.