



BRAIDWOOD COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

GENERAL MEETING

17th October 2023 - Braidwood Servicemen's Club

MINUTES

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we are meeting and pay our respects to Elders past, present and future.

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES:

Apologies: Chris Leddy, Don Jones, Felicity Sturgiss,

Welcome to our guest Lorrae Stokes, QPRC Local Emergency Management Officer

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING held 19th September 2023

Moved: Martin Glover

Seconded: Cathie Owen

3. BUSINESS ARISING AND NOT INCLUDED IN GENERAL BUSINESS

a) Skate Park Update: 18 trees have been planted at the Skate Park. The trees were funded by donations from the Braidwood Garden Club and QPRC. Community members gathered to plant the trees on 7th October. Grateful thanks to the Braidwood Garden Club, to Michael Lawrence, the QPRC Tree Assessment Officer for his help and advice, and to all those who came to help plant the trees. Shade sails are due to be erected before summer.

b) Community Transport: Trish Sargeson reported the MPS is looking for people to volunteer as drivers for medical appointments. Valmar do it once a week but often don't align with appointments. Training and police checks are required (funded by the MPS). MPS provides the vehicle.

There is now always access to a doctor at MPS A&E. Remote doctors are available via a zoom call. There is a nurse assisting and performing the tests. A doctor interprets test results and provides advice remotely.

c) European Wasp Offensive Update: Sarah reported that 83 lure traps had been set in and around Braidwood and (at the last count) 130 queens had been trapped. Residents were encouraged to participate in this program to reduce the total number of wasps in Braidwood.

d) Community use of the Glasshouse: A computer and printer will be added to the facility for community groups to use.

4. GENERAL BUSINESS:

a) Emergency procedures in the event of fires and other natural disasters.

Lorrae Stokes described the emergency procedures for natural disasters and how her role in Council supports that. Areas of transport, welfare, personal care, food, counsellors, etc have functional plans to assist and must be involved in the procedures. NSW Police also respond and provide support. She was unable to advertise locations of evacuation centres prior to events to avoid people turning up before the emergency and before they are set up. However she would be speaking with venues prior to ensure readiness. She said that in the past they have not been good with communicating with the community.

Margaret Tuckwell requested a card with relevant numbers and information. Lorrae directed people to the Council Dashboard for that information. Matthew Talbott advised the SES building (next to Men's Shed) is now equipped as a Wi-Fi hotspot with power supply and can be used in emergencies.

John asked which station is the emergency radio station. ABC radio (666AM) is the official station but Braidwood FM will also be supplying information.

David Anthony asked about the capacity to provide accommodation to people overnight. There is capacity for that only if the evacuation centres are open. Welfare providers have prearranged agreements with accommodation providers, although these could be in Queanbeyan.

Council would like to set up Community Action Teams to pull together coordination of volunteers, food, transport, etc. This idea was well received by the audience.

Lorrae undertook to set up a community meeting to discuss all these issues related to preparing for an emergency and informing the community.

b) Braidwood Water Supply

This issue will be discussed at the community meeting with Council on 31 October. Sue has already put questions to Council. Sue asked for input from others if they had more questions to ask.

c) Braidwood Community Plan

The group discussed the issues and inconsistencies with the Plan. Issues with population, boundaries of the region, etc. It was agreed the plan needed more detail in Action areas and needs prioritising. Sue advised the draft plan was the starting point for us to work from.

Volunteers (specialists and generalists) were invited to talk through the SWOT analysis and prioritise and add items.

It was agreed that a Kitchen Table discussion was required to provide feedback and discuss.

5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS: nil

6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 21 Nov 23