

BRAIDWOOD COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION INC

GENERAL MEETING 18th MAY 2021

Braidwood Servicemen's Club

MINUTES

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES:

Attendees: Sue Murray, David Anthony, Sarah Leheny, Martin Glover, John Tuckwell, Sheelagh Noonan, Kerrin Glover, Phillip Owen, Cathie Owen

Apologies: Janene Collins, Sue Lyons, Anne Woods, Catherine Bell, Trish Sargeson, Olivia Bernadoff, Eryn Wood, Gilly Burke, Cecile Galiazzo, Felicity Sturgiss, David Gray, Margaret Tuckwell

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD APRIL 20th 2021

Moved: John Tuckwell

Seconded: Kerrin Glover

3. BUSINESS ARISING AND NOT INCLUDED IN GENERAL BUSINESS

Water supply and usage - QPRC have conducted a review of Palerang's Water and Sewerage Schemes. The proposed new tariff structure is open for consultation on the QPRC Your Voice website until June 3rd. BCA will prepare a submission. Council have advised they are looking into possible options for future water supply.

4. CORRESPONDENCE: Sue provided a copy of the report of correspondence since the AGM.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT: Martin stated we were in good financial shape. We have received \$315 in membership fees and \$1045 from BYPAA for the skate park, since the last meeting.

6. GENERAL BUSINESS

a) Feedback from the QPRC Community Meeting held 11th May 2021.

- Water supply issue on Braidwood Ridge has been corrected. Fire and Rescue have tested the water pressure in the fire hydrants and they are now sufficient to extinguish house fires.
- Transport for medical appointments. Sue has enquired with the MPS as to the status of the medical transport service but has not received a reply yet. Kerrin Glover will contact MPS and Valmar Transport (Goulburn) to enquire. When the service is running again it should be added to the BCA calendar.

b) Proposed changes to Waste Management Charges

- There is a current QPRC consultation on a proposed new Waste Management Strategy. Some residents feels there is an inequity as rural people believe they are charged a General Waste Charge for no service. The charge is actually for the provision of the waste transfer station and other costs associated with waste removal, recycling etc. There is an extra charge for Domestic Waste Collection. The new fee structure is intended to be more standardised and equitable.
- New bulky kerbside pick-up is proposed but no details have been announced yet.

c) Proposed changes to Water Supply fees and charges

- In the QPRC Draft Revenue Policy, some rates charges have decreased (eg waste charges) but water charges have increased. John queried the maths of the changes. He believed if we don't speak up they will take our silence as agreement and raise future rates more easily. Sheelagh questioned whether council could phase the increases in. Martin asked if we can ask them to guarantee the increased expense is used on water supply. David said council spent more on our water than we pay in rates. The general feeling was that we needed to keep following up on council's plans for Braidwood's water supply to ensure the issue was

progressing. John will prepare a submission on the proposed Water and Sewerage Tariff increases.

d) BCA response to the public consultation on the QPRC Draft Operational Plan

- John stated that only our request for footpaths made it into the Plan, and that more of our projects are out of the plan than in. John maintained it was a very confusing plan, and lacking transparency. John asserted there must be a project database and access to that database would provide visibility and transparency. Because of a \$6.5m deficit, there are proposed cuts from the General Fund relating to community grants, arts programs and community hall maintenance, while \$700k has been cut from the Rural Roads resheeting budget.
- The Council has said that issues with Heritage NSW have been delaying the approval of Development Applications. It was agreed we needed to reiterate our support for heritage compliance as heritage issues are seen as important to Braidwood's preservation and development.
- John and David mentioned the amount of money spent on Braidwood by council as a percentage of their budget, given that we are only 3% of the QPRC region's population. They suggested we need to pick our fights when it comes to funding and grants.
- John and Sue invited input into our response to Council. Submissions are due on 7th June.

e) Bushfire Recovery – Community Resilience Plan – Feedback requested

- The Disaster Recovery/Renewal Team are seeking feedback in preparation for developing a Community Resilience Plan. Sue noted that a grant application from several Braidwood organisations to develop a combined evacuation plan and facilities is competing for a BLERF grant with Council road projects. Sue asked the question as to how we will provide and fund evacuation facilities if we don't get the grant, as we have to have an evacuation system planned for any future emergencies or natural disasters. The emphasis in the resilience plan should be on what we want to happen and how it will be facilitated. All were encouraged to provide feedback.

f) Survey update – next steps

- It was agreed we needed to know what is in the final Operational Plan in order to tailor our list of possible projects for candidates for the new Council. councillors. We discussed options for shortlisting the issues. A potential further survey needs to be tied to the upcoming council elections.
- John has asked all BCA Committee members to look through the listing of Question 8 survey ideas he provided and add any which we believe should be included in the lists.
- There was a discussion on the frequency of surveys, with a suggestion to possibly limit them to 3 per year. David suggested we ask people to 'opt in' for future surveys so we have an email list.

g) Affordable Housing.

- Sue has met with David Carswell (QPRC Service Manager – Land Use Planning) about current zoning which would impact future housing development. David said there was a minimum limit of 5000 sqm or 5 acres outside town, but there are no services there. This limits us to land in town, and there is almost no suitable land available. Further investigation is being undertaken by the Community Housing Sub-committee. Council have marked some of the D&S Motors site as 'senior's housing', but there is no detail of any plans for this in the near future.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Nil

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Tuesday June 15th at 5.30pm at the Club

ACTION ITEMS

- Kerrin to contact the MPS re: Patient Transport Service
- All BCA Committee members to look through the listing of Question 8 ideas John has provided and add any which we believe should be included in the lists.
- John to complete submissions on the Draft Operational Plan and revenue Policy, with input from Sue and any other Committee members.

