

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BALRANALD TRAFFIC COMMITTEE HELD AT THE BALRANALD SHIRE COUNCIL, ON 14<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2017 COMMENCING AT 12.30PM.**

1. **PRESENT:**, Cr Steve O'Halloran, Greg Menehan (RMS), Director Infrastructure and Development (DID) Andre Pretorius and Engineering Manager (EM) Gavin Helgeland, Cr Leigh Byron (Mayor), Margie Vanzanten (Local Members representative), Snr Sgt Peter Kirk (Traffic Police).

2. **APOLOGIES:** Snr Sgt Narelle Tucker (Local Police).

3. **BUSINESS ARISING**

**a. No Stopping Signs – Euston Motel**

Signs have been installed and were inspected by the committee during the bus tour. It was observed that new signage allows the police to order truck drivers to move on immediately and potentially fine offenders.

**Issue resolved.**

**b. Request for Bus Stop Signage and sealed/unsealed lay-bys**

Previously N & D Finch of Sunnyside Station had requested bus signs to be installed in front of their property. Other sites on SH14 have been raised by Bill Moore of Moores Bus Lines (see letter in attachments). These sites were visited by the Committee on the bus tour. RMS will liaise with EM to assess sign and lay-by requirements at each location.

**RMS to liaise with EM on requirements at the locations.**

**c. Extra 80 speed limit signs – SH14 at Euston Entrances.**

RMS works instruction has been received by EM and signs have been ordered.

**EM to action.**

**d. Euston Intersection Hazards/Incidents:**

- **Sturt Hwy-Murray Valley Hwy:** Ties into 3c. Committee met onsite to consider potential hazards. Main issue is westbound vehicles ignoring double-barrier lines, crossing into the oncoming lane towards vehicles that are either waiting to turn down Murray Valley Highway or travelling eastward. Discussed fatality of vehicle entering SH14 from Scalora Grape Shed. Traffic Police and RMS both noted that such an incident is due to gross negligence and that little can be done to eliminate such occurrences.

**Resolved by Committee that no further action be taken in relation to improving intersection safety.**

- **Murray Valley Highway-Bridge Rd:** Committee visited the intersection on the bus tour and discussed the line-of-sight for vehicles looking to enter Murray Valley Highway from Bridge Rd – no issue observed. Committee also discussed School bus turn-around on Bridge Rd.

**Resolved by Committee that there is no issue relating to traffic safety at this intersection.**

**e. Balranald: Intersection Hazard Sturt Hwy-Endeavour Dr**

As per letters from Mr B. Moore and Ms W. Gerken (see letters in attachments). Committee met onsite and discussed the potential to adjust the speed zones to assist with safety of eastbound school buses turning right onto Endeavour Drive from SH14. Also discussed the option of constructing a dedicated turning lane with a slip lane (road widened at

intersection). RMS indicated that mightn't be the preferred option given the frequency of turning traffic.

**RMS to investigate options.**

**f. Five Rivers Country Festival – debrief.**

Committee discussed the traffic management during the festival. Specifically the town approach notifications (variable message signs) and the Mayall St event road closure was well managed. There were no traffic incidents to discuss. All those involved with the event are commended by the Committee for their efforts – well done.

**g. Proposed Children's Crossing: We Street.**

Committee met onsite during the bus tour. Proposed crossing location on We St joins the public pool double gates to the front entrance of the Balranald Central School. Committee discussed:

- What kind of crossing might be required – that is: zebra crossing or children's crossing (RMS indicated that an assessment of the location and the frequency/type of traffic there needs to be done).  
**RMS to investigate.**
- The morning and afternoon parent/guardian traffic swells and the opportunity to blister We St to the North of the school to aid in vehicle turnarounds.

#### **4. NEW BUSINESS**

**a. Bertram Rd & Taylor Rd, Working Group Meeting**

Committee visited the roads on the bus tour and witnessed the frequency of traffic turning onto Bertram Rd. EM committed to provide RMS and Traffic Police the Classifier data (placed midway along Bertram Rd) particularly the data relating to traffic behaviour.

**EM to action.**

Council resolved at the October Council Meeting to form a "Working Group" to discuss traffic issues for Bertram and Taylor roads.

The Working Group consisting of a Councillor, the DID and 5 local members who use this road daily met on 26 October 2017 in Euston.

During the Working Group meeting, the following suggestions were made:

- To reduce the speed limits from 80km/h to 60km/h on the two roads. This should be trialled for a couple of months to determine the effectiveness.

**Committee Resolved to commit to a two month trial.**

- To install traffic calming devices if the speed reduction trial was not successful.
- To install some rubber kerbing (Splitters) at the intersections if possible.

**DID to investigate**

- To investigate the possibility to change the GPS route via service provider.

**EM to investigate**

- To install a Euston Town Sign with straight arrow before Morris Street.

**RMS to investigate**

- To install speed cameras whether it is temporary/ mobile or permanent.

**EM to investigate**

Further Items:

- It was suggested to investigate the possibility to increase the speed from 50km/h to 60km/h at the town entries.

**b. Line marking – lack of line marking on rural sealed roads**

Briefly discussed – raised during the Euston Working Group meeting. DID to clarify the situation for line marking on local (rural) sealed roads – it has historically been a matter of cost that led to the omission of no lines.

**c. Mungo Special Event – debrief.**

Committee discussed supply of traffic signs for intersection traffic management. Rain aided dust suppression. No incidents noted. All those involved are commended by the Committee for their efforts.

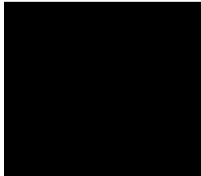
No further general business.

Next Meeting – At a date to be advised.

CLOSED – The meeting closed at 5:00pm.

**Recommendation** That these minutes be accepted and recommendations herein be adopted.

Attachment 1:



25 August 2017

Dear Traffic Committee,

I have been driving a school bus from Balranald to Euston & return, twice a day for the past 17 years. My main concern is the Endeavour Drive turn off.

I have had issues for years at certain times, but they are getting worse.

	Info	Reply	Report	Discuss
GM				GM
DID				
Received 14 SEP 2017				
DCCD				
File No.				
LETTER No.				

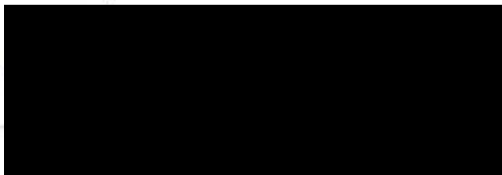
1. Coming out of Balranald, I am turning left in a 110 zone.
2. Coming from Euston, I am going across traffic to turn right in a 110 zone.

I have Trucks & Cars picking up speed (as they are in a 110 zone) and then me turning left.

I have vehicles over taking me when my blinker is on (to turn right) in to Endeavour Drive.

I have one suggestion, whether it was possible to move the speed sign in both directions to the Euston side (east) of Endeavour Drive, and/or a turning lane at the intersection.

Thank you



Attachment 2:

Dear Traffic Committee,

I am writing to you to request that school bus signs be placed appropriately on the Balranald/Euston service for the safety of our school children and drivers.

Please consider the below;

“ENDEAVOUR DRIVE”

- Identify that a school bus is turning into endeavour drive and entering highway at Endeavour drive on highway section of road, as this is a 110km speed zone.
- Identify that Endeavour drive has school bus stops/children using this area.

“THE ROCKS ROAD”

- Stops be made either side of the road so the bus can pull off the road safely to pick up children both in the morning and afternoon.
- School warning stop signs also at this new stop.

PRUNGLE MAIL ROAD

- Stops be made either side of the road so the bus can pull off the road safely to pick up children both in the morning and afternoon.
- School warning stop signs also at this new stop.

“SUNNYSIDE STATION”

- School Stop sign to be erected to identify this stop near the truck turning road of Sunnyside station

Please take into consideration these requests although it is law for motorists especially Trucks and cars to slow down to 40Km's when school lights on the bus flash. BUT 98% of motorists do not comply with this law and it is VERY DANGEROUS as it is a 110km speed limit. By adding more warning signs to motorists, it will help our drivers get these students home safer.

If you have questions or concerns please come back to us.

Kind Regards,

