

**BALRANALD SHIRE COUNCIL
EUSTON BEAUTIFICATION & TOURISM COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD AT THE EUSTON COURTHOUSE
ON TUESDAY, 7TH MAY, 2019, AT 9.00 A.M.**

Present: Gavin Helgeland (Manager – Strategic Development, BSC - Chair), Michael Kitzelmann (General Manager, BSC), Vivienne McEvoy (Manager Community & Tourism Services, BSC), Edna Price, Ian Bolt, Barry Watts, Peter Smith, Bev Harbinson, Ben Pupillo, Geoffrey Windmill (9.33 a.m.).

Apologies: Ken Barnes, Vicki Barnes.

Minutes: Minutes of the Meeting held on 2nd April, were accepted as a correct record of proceedings.
Moved: Barry Watts Seconded: Peter Smith.

Correspondence: *In: NSW Government* “My Community Project”; information on applying for grant funding for community projects. Committee needs to decide on community project/s; Council needs to support application; all applications go into a pool. Voting will be on-line for projects; most popular projects (highest number of votes) will be successful. Suggestions – Parks, Buildings, Boat Ramp, etc...
Western Local Land Services- Would like to make a presentation at our next meeting, re: Regent Parrot. Could we consider adopting the Regent Parrot as the symbol for Euston; there have funding available through WLLS.

Action: Vivienne will arrange for WLLS to attend our June Meeting. Suggest 9.00 a.m.; they give their presentation first, before we start our Meeting.

BUSINESS:

Cemetery Toilet:

This has been put into the 2019/20 Draft Council Budget.

Council Draft Budget:

The Draft Budget is still being finalised.

Street Design:

The Street Design is still being worked on; it will take a while as costings also need to be done. Gavin has a (draft) copy of “Urban Street Design for NSW”. The Architects of this Plan are happy to visit towns; they could visit Euston to discuss plans and give advice.

Koorakee / Benanee Storyboard:

The board is still at the Sign writers. As soon as it is finished, it will be installed at Lake Benanee. There needs to be an “official opening/launch” of the board. Invitees - Ian Dodd, author of “The Railway That Never Opened”, has indicated he would attend (at his own cost); Mayor, Councillors, Historical Society, etc. General Manager indicated there should be a community barbeque.

Euston Boat Ramp:

This is in the Draft Budget. There is a possibility it might be approved on a co-funded arrangement. NSW Parks need to “be on board”. There is no design as yet.

Fire Pit:

Ken is speaking with Eyles Engineering; we don’t have a current update.

Action: Ken to follow up with Eyles Engineering.

Statue of ‘Sister’:

This has progressed; Ken and Bev have quite a bit of information on Bush Nurses and Sister Goldsbro. A photo of Sister, suitable to replicate a statue, is still to be found. Is there someone (a group?) trying to poach our idea?

Action: Bev to find a suitable photo of Sister Goldsbro; information to be fine-tuned.

Cobb & Co Cut Out:

Vivienne has not heard back from Bathurst Council; a follow-up email has been sent.

Action: Vivienne to follow-up further.

Dirt Mounds & Town Entrance Signs:

Plants have been ordered; arrival date unknown but they will be delivered to Euston. We need to prioritise plantings: (1) Courthouse; (2) Mounds; (3) Entrance signs. Some in attendance expressed their dislike of the mounds; they were originally installed to stop trucks parking in that area and drivers using the place as a toilet. What alternative is there to stop trucks parking?

Ben will do the planting at the Courthouse. EB&TC Members could have a working bee for the mounds and entrance signs but all would need to be "inducted" before they can work on Road Reserves.

Courthouse Yard:

The hole that opened in the yard has been filled but will most likely open again after any rain. The underneath is very soft and will require continuous packing until it settles.

Tree – between Hotel and Cafe:

Can a new tree be planted to replace the one cut down, outside the Cafe, opposite the Hotel, to stop a truck parking half on the road, half on the road/nature strip. The guttering is breaking up more, each time the truck drives up and over the gutter. Gavin suggested that this and other complaints could be directed through Council feedback processes and then directed to Council's Traffic Committee.

Drain – bottom of Murray Terrace:

Michael advised that this matter is included in the Draft Budget; to find out what the problem is.

Trees for Cemetery Boundary:

We need to look at the tree species previously researched by Vicki. Gavin advised that, if there are already native trees in the area, then it's better to plant more natives as they survive better. The draft Budget includes an upgrade to the irrigation system at the Cemetery, to increase pressure for watering the lawn section and make sure there is sufficient pressure for the water to go around the boundary.

Action: Ken/Vicki to bring tree types to next Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

There has been a car parked, on the nature strip in Maher Street, for more than six months; it's unsightly. Michael advised that this has been addressed.

Michael: Wandering Dogs are a problem in Euston. Swan Hill Rural City Council has been contracted and the new Authorised Officer in Robinvale (Emma Wright) will be shared between Robinvale and Euston.

The Euston Oval is a critical piece of Community infrastructure. Cr. Jo Roberts needs to work with the community to have this area used more. There have been some success but Council needs to be able to justify spending \$100,000 per annum, for maintenance.

The toilet block upgrade will be completed prior to June 30. The Netball Court will be re-surfaced; Council is paying half, the Grounds Committee is paying half. Upgrading of the back fence, to keep kangaroos out, will still happen with the toilet block upgrade.

Barry advised that a Motor-home group is coming to Euston in October/November. He has suggested they stay at the Football Oval and make use of the Club Courtesy bus (to go to the Club). This will be okay.

Public Inquiry: Michael is trying to have an Inquiry meeting in Euston OR arrange a bus to go to Balranald (if they don't want to meet in Euston). There is no commitment as yet.

Ian: Asked if Council could provide more rubbish bins at the barbeque area at the riverfront? Michael advised that a meeting was taking place with Euston Club following this meeting as the Club have requested to be responsible for the barbeque area.

Footpath near Medley Park: the Caravan Park people are driving up and over the kerbing to access the back of the Caravan Park; there is no 'driveway'. Could something be done to prevent this?

There are two dead trees (Western Australian Red flowering Gums) on the Mildura side of town. They need to be replaced. Could the Committee carry out the actual planting?

Action: Gavin to provide a 'Tree Planting Specs' guide.

Skip Bins: Could there be big skip bins in prime spots in Euston during busy periods, when there are a lot of tourists around?

Action: Robinvale Waste to be asked if they could provide skips.

There is a safety issue at the corner of Murray Terrace and Nixon Street where car drivers cut the corner. Could there be a line down the centre of the road so drivers know exactly what side of the road they should be on.

Action: Matter to be referred to the Traffic Committee. No reason why lines can't be put here while other areas in town are being marked.

Barry: Could seats be placed (approximately) every 300m., along the Walking trail from the Weir to the Bridge? We need to apply for a grant to upgrade the complete track, with an 'all access' surface (suitable for mobility scooters, bicycles, etc., not motor vehicles).

Action: This could form the basis of an application for "My Community Project": Walking Track upgrade, signage along the Track, Boat Ramp.

Ken: Can all unspent money from this year's Committee Budget be carried over to next year? The Committee needs to formally request that Council carry over any money left and also needs to identify specific projects, e.g. Main Street project, toilet upgrade.

In relation to the Fire Pit and the Cobb & Co cut out projects, Vivienne can prepare Purchase Orders, prior to June 30, so that money from this year's is allowed for.

Gavin: Tourism Events: Euston should have some sort of 'Harvest Festival' to celebrate all types of harvest and have it included in the Events calendar. Harvest is worth celebrating; could be at, or just before, Easter. Almond Blossom Festival is held in Robinvale, around mid-August but we should be looking at March-April. We need to try and tap into the travelling market.

Bev: What has happened with the '80 kph' signs? The recommendation from this Committee was taken to RMS who rejected the first recommendation. A second recommendation was lodged, nothing further has been heard.

Gavin: Could 'Sturt Desert Peas' planted along the sides of the Sturt Highway? They are very hardy plants and would make a terrific display.

NEXT MEETING: of the Euston Beautification & Tourism Committee will be held at the Euston Courthouse on **Tuesday, 4th June, 2019**, commencing at 9.00 a.m.

CLOSE: There was no further business and the Meeting closed at 10.15 a.m.