

**DISCUSSION NOTES OF THE BALRANALD BEAUTIFIDATION COMMITTEE,
HELD ON 4TH SEPTEMBER 2019 IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS COMMENCING AT
5PM.**

PRESENT: Cr Steve O'Halloran, Mary Grisdale, Jill Bath, Ray Davy Director
Infrastructure & Development and Carol Holmes Senior Executive
Assistant.

APOLOGIES: Karen Norfolk, Clint Jolliffe and Michael Kitzelmann General
Manager.

As there was no quorum a discussion took place.

TREES AT PRESBYTERIAN CEMETERY

Ray Davy advised that he had inspected the 2 trees at Presbyterian Cemetery and said they were not causing too much damage to the graves and this alone is not a reason to remove the trees. Although one tree seems to be slightly unhealthy on one side and Ray will seek advice on the health of the trees and advise the committee. Jill said if the tree was unhealthy it should come out.

TOILETS

Ray Davy advised that a masterplan needs to be done prior to any building taking place. Decisions of where and the appropriate installation of the toilet will need to be considered prior to decisions being made.

Mary Grisdale advised that she had requested a deputation to the Council Meeting in July, which was denied, she then sent a copy of her deputation to all councillors. She received a verbal response from the Mayor that he had been speaking with the General Manager and discussions for the toilet to be built in Lawn Cemetery would be put forward at the third round of discussions for the 2019-2020 budget. If money is available a toilet would be built in the coming year. If no money is available, it will be put in the 2020/2021 budget submissions. (Copies attached).

MARKET STREET REVITALISATION

Ray Davy advised the committee that the contractors, Civil Engineering, were in Balranald with works to commence next week on the Market Street Revitalisation.

All works will need to be completed by 29th February 2020.

MURAL

Ray Davy suggested that some funding may be available through Arts & Culture for a Mural to be placed on the side of Theatre Royal. Ray advised that Gavin was searching the availability of funding.

Ray Davy advised the committee that a working plan should be in place, therefore when funding becomes available, we can apply with our plan.

MARBLE FIREPLACES

The committee were advised that there were some fireplaces at the Depot, these are in storage, they are broken and there would not be 8 there. The exact number is not known as they are packed away.

SENIOR CITIZENS ROSES

Mary asked when the committee could get the roses from Senior Citizens for placement at the Cemetery. Ray will speak with the contactors and advise Jill Bath or Mary Grisdale when they can remove them.

Mary asked if the committee could purchase the following;

- 2 X 1.8 weeping roses to be placed either side of the memorial wall. Peter Bath has made a frame for these to climb on.
- 3X blue moon roses to be placed in the baby garden at the Lawn Cemetery.

If Council could seek a quote for a matching fence to be placed along the front of the Presbyterian Cemetery.

Ray advised the committee that the following proposals would be put to the Traffic Committee Meeting.

2 X "Funeral in Progress" signs to be put in place. One sign being along Ivanhoe Road to alert travellers, trucks etc when turning right to come along Moa Street of a funeral happening. The other sign to be placed at the Church/Moa Street intersection.

50km/h sign on Moa Street be moved to be between the Cemetery and Ivanhoe Road.

A request was also made whether a vase/holder could be placed on the wall to enable people to place flowers alongside their loved ones.

CLOSURE: There being no further business the discussion closed at 6pm

168 Market Street

Balranald NSW 2715

24th August 2019

After being denied the deputation to council on the toilets at the cemetery, I decided to send a copy to each of the Councillors they were posted on 23rd July 2019.

On the 26th July the Mayor Alan Purtill caught up with me after receiving my letter. He said and I quote on reading your letter I got on the phone to the General Manager and asked why you were denied the deputation and the GM's reply was that it was unnecessary for the deputation as we do not have enough money to build the toilet/shower at the Catholic Section of the cemetery in the truck wash budget.

The General Manager then said that the submission for a toilet towards the back of the Lawn Section will be put forward in the third round of discussions for 2019-2020 budget and if there is enough money available they will be built in the coming year, but if there is no money available it will be put into the 2020-2021 budget submissions and built next year, unquote.

On Friday 23rd August Alan caught up with me again and by what he said my letter must have come up at the Council Meeting because he asked if I required a letter of reply or if his word was enough. My reply was I will take you at your word as long as I can let the committee know what is going on and a copy of my deputation and a copy of your verbal reply to me can be tabled and kept on record in case we need to revisit the affair, in reply he said that was no problem.

Mary Grisdale

168 Market Street

Balranald NSW 2715

23rd July, 2019

Dear Councillor,

I am writing to enclose a copy of a deputation that I have been denied in delivering to your Council meeting on Monday 29th July 2019.

I am representing the Balranald Beautification Committee and myself in this deputation. I have gone about this in the correct manner, that is informing Council that I would like to make this deputation and on Monday 22nd I received a phone call from Carol Holmes informing me that the General Manager said no to my deputation.

I am sending each Councillor a copy of the deputation just so I can get our proposal out there and hopefully start a discussion between you all.

I thank you for hopefully taking the time to read my deputation.

Kind regards

Mary Grisdale

Good evening everyone

For those of you who do not know me I am Mary Grisdale I am Balranald born and bred and love my town.

I am here tonight representing the Beautification Committee and myself to try and persuade council to build a toilet in the grounds of the lawn section of the cemetery.

I know for a fact that three submissions were submitted for the 2019-2020 budget but I am unaware if these submissions were discussed or just swept under the carpet.

I have been advised that a toilet will be built on the vicinity of the Catholic Section of the cemetery to accommodate the new truck wash and this toilet will service the needs of the whole cemetery.

To me this is well and good for a funeral at the Catholic Section but from the other sections of the cemetery this would be a route march.

I do not know who had the idea that the toilet at the Catholic Section could service the whole cemetery, it is clear to me that they did not go and see how far people would have to walk.

I have been up and done the measurements from the other sections of the cemetery to the new proposed toilet and these measurements are the shortest route.

Presbyterian Section 300 metres round trip equals 600 metres that is over half a kilometre

Lawn Section 250 metres round trip equals 500 metres which is half a kilometre

Anglican Section 200 metres round trip equals 400 metres that is just under half a kilometre

I was not quite sure where the new toilet was going to be built so I measured from each section to the new bitumen road outside the Catholic Section. These measurements are fairly accurate as I measured them with a proper wheel measure that clocks up the metres as you walk behind it.

I am concerned about the distance for the elderly the disabled and parents with children as they will not be able to cope with the distance let alone the rough terrain, not only that but for people like me who are quite fit would find it a very time consuming walk.

I believe a pathway will be put in place this is an added cost, so the new block can be accessed more easily but have they taken into consideration that the cemetery is full of three cornered jacks and khaki bunnies. I have brought this fact to your attention because people on walking frames, in wheelchairs, golfers, parents with prams etc would be

unable to access the area as they may get flat tyres and would not get back and just another thing to add into the mix, in the hot weather the grounds are frequented by snakes, goannas and other creepy crawlies, they could pop out from anywhere along the track and cause someone to fall and maybe injure themselves or heaven forbid get bitten.

I think a toilet situated in the back area of the Lawn Section would accommodate funeral attendees at a Presbyterian, Lawn and Anglican Sections with very few obstacles in the way no new pathway would have to be constructed and the one at the truck wash could accommodate the Catholic funeral attendees.

The toilet does not require electricity to be connected and does not need to be connected to the sewerage system as a septic tank would cater adequately. The toilet just needs to be a basic unisex disabled toilet.

People come up to me in the street and congratulate me on how nice the roses are and what a pleasure it is to go up there and visit their loved ones resting place. My reply to them is thank you, then I mention that the Beautification Committee is endeavouring to have a toilet built towards the back of the lawn section and their reply back to me is quote "what a great idea and it's not before time" unquote I have heard this comment over and over again.

In closing I am asking Council to rethink the submissions that were submitted for the 2019-2020 budget concerning the above and while I have your ear I would like congratulate Mick Bax on the job that he does at the lawn cemetery it is a real credit to him.

If this is being live streamed to the community please let council know your thoughts on a toilet in the grounds of the lawn cemetery.

Thanks for having me tonight and giving me the opportunity to present this deputation on behalf of the Beautification Committee and myself and I hope you all give the above your earnest consideration.

Thank you and Goodnight.