



**MOUNT HELENA RESIDENTS & RATEPAYERS PROGRESS ASSOC (INC)**  
MINUTES of the GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 30th May 2011 on completion of AGM

Meeting commenced 8.30pm with cups of tea in hand.

Present: Members – Gwyn Dean, Valerie Jenner, Hazel Williams, Jenny & Mike Mackintosh, Eileen Elton, Tony Simpson MLA, Bob Henfrey, Irene Clarke, Myles Harmer, Alison Bunker, Hannah Dyer.

Apologies: Sharon Davies, Bob Page, Malcolm Miller, Anne & Danny, Lynch, Nick Elton, Mary Bennett, Megan Evans and Mark Hauswirth.

Minutes: Minutes of the Meeting of 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2011 and distributed via email were confirmed on the motion of Alison Bunker and seconded by Myles Harmer. CARRIED

Business Arising

1. Progress of BMX Bike jumps – as correspondence indicates things are progressing.
2. Mundaring Weir Village – Myles Harmer updated members and drew attention to his letter in local paper. Still need the basic question “Why not build the Water Treatment Plant and the Electricity Substation at the Firewood Road Site?” answered. Supporting documentation and information is available at <http://savemundaringweirvillage.wordpress.com/>
3. Town Planning Scheme No 4 submission lodged – copy attached
4. WA State Trail Bike Strategy – relevant correspondence was discussed and Tony Simpson advised that the committee is being reformed so the obvious problems can be sorted before implementation which is expected to be next year. One location near Brookton Hwy has been chosen. Another in the north of metro area still being researched. Eileen informed members about her success when she confronted nuisance riders outside her house. No further incidents near her!
5. Exercise equipment for PP – Valerie now has a contact
6. Contact information added to Notice Board at IGA – many thanks to Malcolm

Correspondence

Inward

David Palmer – Chidlow Chatter now distributed via email. Hard copies at Tavern

Healthway – Funding application received

WA Sled Dogs Sports Assoc – championships at Chidlow in July – further info.will be emailed

Shire - Liam Noonan – Mdg townsite pedestrians

- Kirk Kitchin – Dirt Bike Proposal received. Construction costs estimated at approximately \$30,000 and ongoing maintenance \$3,000 to \$5,000pa. Work listed on Shire’s long term financial plan. May need to seek another site if deemed too close to residents

- S Purdy - Traffic signs near McVicar Place – passed on to Design Service

- Liam Noonan – Traffic signs – will pass on request and required drawings to Main Roads

- Megan Griffiths – funding by Community Grant for Whim Festival approved

- Remittance advice – Community Event grant

Hon C Barnett, Premier – State trail bike Strategy – still resolving issues

G Dunstan – Auditor’s report

Emails

Shire - Lee Roberts – volunteering and grant info session invitation Thurs 21 July, 7.00 to 8.00pm

To book - Paula Heath 9290 6682 or [scss@mundaring.wa.gov.au](mailto:scss@mundaring.wa.gov.au) (see new youth centre!)

Sgt Eastman – response  
Cr Bertola – invitation to meet with Shire Pres. To discuss anti-social behaviour  
Cr Daw – requesting our inclusion on MH Aquatic Centre Committee  
Hon Alison Xamon – public meeting about Perth Hills Bill  
Jared Kealley – members’ suggestions re equipment  
Volunteering WA – membership  
Sally Block – fuel card (not applicable to Mt Helena)  
Malcolm – abuse over PP  
    - registering for GST (discussion revealed the unsuitability for our Assoc to apply)  
    - arrangements during vacation  
Karina Congdon, Water Corp – response declining any further consideration  
Rod Torrens Western Power – changed circumstances  
Michelle Beavan -Hills Gazette correspondent  
Tom Burbidge Sec Mdg R & R – R & R contact  
    - water bombing in fires (& Max Williams comments) + Fesa’s response

### Outward

Sgt Eastman – anti-social behaviour  
Hon C Barnett – State Trail Bike Strategy  
Volunteering WA – membership  
Various re WTP  
Shire - Dirt bike jumps  
    - warning signs adjacent PP  
    - comments on Local Planning Scheme Number 4  
    - Aquatic Centre opening hours  
    - Cape Tulip and Cotton Bush weeds

### Emails

Shire – Lee Roberts – thanks for help with successful grant application  
Hon Alison Xamon & Rusty Geller – public meeting about Perth Hills Bill  
Jared Kealley – members’ suggestions re equipment

### Business arising – further to discussions the following actions to be taken:

Letter of support to Bob Smith & re the upgrade at Mt Helena oval  
Request for continuing information on Dirt Bike Project from Kirk Kitchin  
Letter of thanks and support to Liam Noonan re pedestrian plans in Mdg  
Request expanded agenda for meeting with Cr Dullard  
Follow up re Aquatic Centre committee

### Reports

Treasurer’s Report presented by Pres Gwyn due to Malcolm’s absence.

Proceeds from sausage sizzle exceeded \$1200.00!

Financial position at 27th May – with Shire’s grant in the bank current funds on hand total \$6546.06

- Cheque Account \$4,673. 20, Cash Mgmt Account \$1,848.76, and Petty Cash \$24.10. Accepted on a motion by Alison Bunker seconded by Valerie Jenner **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Payments of \$445.50 to Kapow IT and for \$627.90 to Mt Helena Tavern which have been made since March meeting were ratified on a motion by Jenny Mackintosh, seconded by Alison Bunker and **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Whim Festival Report – moving along fine. Next meeting 7.30pm Monday 20<sup>th</sup> June at the Tavern.

Report of Councillors & Executives discussion – 13<sup>th</sup> April at the Tavern. **Reiterated the importance of logging incidents of anti-social behaviour** – rocks on Sawyers Rd/Keane St and at

bridge near Skate Park will be requested from council. – declared weeds (Cape Tulip and Cotton Bush) which are not declared in Mundaring Shire are putting stock at risk. Request that these weeds are declared in Mundaring.

**General Business**

Brad Thompson – appointed new bushcare co-ordinator

Bushfire ready groups – Alison is meeting with Chief and will report next meeting

Myles advised he is a member of the Community Committee about the EMRC plans for Red Hill Waste Management Site and will keep us informed.

There will be a planting Day in Pioneer Park Saturday and Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> June 9 till 2. Help needed so contact gwyn on 9572 1447 for more details.

Tony advised there is yet another re-distribution of electoral boundaries and urges us to check the details in the West Australian Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> June. We have 60 days to make a submission.

6. Next Meeting date - 7.30pm Monday 18<sup>th</sup> July

**Next Meeting date - 7.30pm Monday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2011** at CWA Rooms, Keane St Mt Helena

**Whim Festival Committee meeting 7.30pm Mon 20<sup>th</sup> June** at the Tavern

**Meeting closed** – 10.00pm

## **Local Planning Scheme 4**

### **Mt Helena Residents and Ratepayers Progress Association**

(This is a group submission from the Mount Helena Ratepayers Association but much of the comment is from the president)

Generally there is much to applaud in the scheme but there are several areas where good intentions and guidelines meant to protect the environment will come under pressure. Compliance is a major issue in any set of rules, so the Shire should have very clear (and punitive) sanctions as well as the resources to prosecute any transgressors. This is not clearly stated.

Protection of water courses in all areas, not just designated catchment areas is an investment in our future.

A large population is not compatible with preservation of habitat which should be for all the state so there should be no more developments such as Parkerville and Stoneville in the Hills area.

## **State Planning Policies and Mundaring LPS**

2.2.2.1 iv) – vii) ‘Protect significant natural, indigenous and cultural features...’ ,  
if these areas are not identified then there is no means of protecting them, particularly with the indigenous sites. More resources should be devoted to this.

The guiding principles of *Bush Forever* are cited and it is stated that our Biodiversity Strategy satisfies these requirements. This is not necessarily the case as there are far too many ways for pressure to be brought on Council to vary conditions.

2.2.2.3 Protecting agricultural land resources means that suitable properties should be totally protected from the possibility of sub-division. Arable land is valuable for food production and becoming more so as the population expands and shouldn’t be considered as potential real estate for ‘development’. Land speculation should not be considered legitimate business practice. If you buy 40 hectares of rural land, that is how it should be sold on, not as potential subdivisions.

The dangers of doing this is reflected in the recommendation that land use on Bunning and Kingston roads in Mt Helena be reviewed if the poultry farm closed. This and the buffer could be productive land but there is always some developer who can demonstrate a ‘need’ for more residential land. (Strategies by locality, Mt Helena 7.13)

4.5.3 Don’t allow any more food franchises into Mundaring. Local businesses are suffering and the town’s character has been cheapened.

4.6.4 The Shire should lobby vigorously for improved public transport. The situation is deteriorating, rather than improving.

4.2.3 The Jane, Susannah and Wooroloo Brook catchments may no longer be considered for drinking water but these are prime areas of biodiversity that must be protected and enhanced. Just as importantly, the water quality in these waterways directly affects the health of the Swan River and housing or industry close to the riparian zone will cause pollution.

4.6.2 Don’t allow any relaxation of effluent disposal requirements. Consider the danger posed by the dispersion of antibiotic resistant bacteria and viruses as in South East Asia and India. Infection control should be foremost in our minds when treating human waste.

## **Development requirements**

### **Watercourse Protection**

5.7.5.1 A set back of 20 metres for any watercourse is totally inadequate and should be 40 metres except where the topography or existence of a wetland makes a greater set back of 50 metres necessary.

5.7.5.5 Just setting conditions for approval is not sufficient to protect the water courses or land. The Shire should also ensure compliance by regular supervision of the work and hefty mandatory penalties if the conditions are breached.

5.7.6.1 A regular (and frequent) regime of testing for pollutants and flow of water discharged into the major watercourses from major drainage outflows should be implemented and action taken for non-compliance.

5.7.8.3 This provision needs to be closely policed judging from the totally inappropriate developments which we have observed where vegetation has been razed and dams built, surely without permission.

### **Effluent Disposal**

5.7.7.2 (a) A setback of 50 metres is safer, 30 metres is not sufficient.

### **Vegetation Protection**

5.7.12.6 Corridors are essential and there are many other roads that should be identified now before someone decides that clearing could take place. Just around Mt Helena there are Elliot Road, Thomas Road, Riley Road (What happened to the ditch, let alone the trees along the road in the new Riley Road development? Water and soil can now run straight across the road into Jane Brook). However, as far as fauna is concerned, corridors should really be established around water courses for the safety of the animals and their access to water. Any subdivisions should take this into account.

### **Local Natural Areas**

5.7.13.2 A native Flora and Fauna Report Management Plan should be a mandatory requirement.

### **Local natural Areas**

5.9.3.2 Set back should be 40 metres, not 20

5.9.3.8 The local biodiversity strategy should always prevail

### **Dams**

5.9.4.1 (a) there should be NO dams constructed within watercourses

# **Local Planning Strategy - Strategic Document**

## **Housing options report**

### Housing for aged

Gated communities for over 55s are not aged housing and should not be considered as such in any planning application.

The Shire should facilitate the establishment of small scale units scattered around the Shire close to all amenities with a guarantee that hostel or nursing home accommodation will be available as needed. There is no guarantee even at Yallambee of hostel or nursing home care for residents of that village.

There is a growing demand for all types of aged accommodation and the establishment of these places will allow people to stay in their own community and also provide a range of local employment.

An area of Mt Helena was once identified as suitable, but has now been zoned commercial in the draft. This should be revisited with the new precinct plan.

### **Mt Helena**

Consolidation of reserves is welcome,

The document states that more residential land will be demanded, but taking into account the stated aim of the strategy to protect biodiversity and water courses, it is not sustainable to allow further subdivision of the Lion Rd, Johnson St as Charlotte Creek is an important tributary of Jane Brook.

Revisit the precinct plan before any changes are made to the town centre.

### **Maps of Zones and Reserves**

Map 21 Land to the west of Sawyers Road near Johnston St is designated local road but should be part of the reserve.

Part of Pioneer Park is still divided into lots on other maps but the zoning on this map is unclear.