

NAME OF MEETING:	Heathcote Ward District Engagement Meeting
WARD:	Eppalock
DATE:	Monday July 11, 2016
TIME:	7pm
LOCATION:	RSL Hall Heathcote
ATTENDEES	
COUNCILLORS:	Cr. Helen Leach (Chair)
APOLOGIES	Cr Mark Weragoda, Cr. Rod Campbell
CITY of GREATER BENDIGO EMPLOYEES:	Andrew Cockerall - Coordinator Strategic Planning, Sue Moses – Municipal Fire Prevention Officer, Tristen Wearne - Customer Support Officer (notes).
COMMUNITY ATTENDEES:	14 residents signed the attendance sheet

PURPOSE OF NOTES:	Please note the purpose of these notes is to record the information presented, the topics discussed and the details of any works or action requests raised at the meeting. They are not formal minutes.
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AGENDA ITEMS	
1.	Welcome & Introductions
2.	Acknowledgment of Country
3.	Housing Strategy Issues and Opportunities Paper – Andrew Cockerall (Co-Ordinator Strategic Planning)
4.	Open Air Burning/Fire Prevention – Sue Moses (Municipal Fire Prevention Officer)
5.	Information Items
6.	General Business
TOPICS DISCUSSED	
3.	<p>Housing Strategy Issues and Opportunities Paper – Andrew Cockerall.</p> <p>Andrew explained that the CoGB has been looking at what type of housing we need into the future and what is being built. Bendigo needs around 900 new houses a year and the CoGB is keen to get feedback from the community to plan for the future. The COGB Strategy Unit is asking for submissions within the next week. The Housing Strategy Issues and Opportunities paper is available on line:</p> <p>https://www.bendigo.vic.gov.au/Services/Planning/Strategic_Planning/Current_Projects/Greater_Bendigo_Housing_Strategy#.V5qZn8tf270</p> <p>Written submissions can be forwarded to Strategy Unit – Housing Strategy, City of Greater Bendigo, PO Box 733 Bendigo VIC 3552.</p> <p>An online survey is also available to allow the community to comment on some of the big picture questions.</p>
4.	<p>Open Air Burning/Fire Prevention – Sue Moses.</p> <p>Sue introduced herself and explained the process of open air burning in the winter months. COGB receives a number of calls in relation to smoke nuisance each year. The rules around burning off are in place to reduce smoke and the things you can and can't burn are included in a fact sheet – see link below.</p> <p>If your property is less than 1Ha in size you require a permit from Local Laws to conduct a burn. The permits are free of charge and can be obtained by contacting Customer Support on 5434 6000 or through the CoGB website</p> <p>https://www.bendigo.vic.gov.au/Services/Environmental_Health_and_Local_Laws/Local_Laws#.V5qfUctf270 You also need to register your burn with Vic Fire on 1800 668 511</p> <p>http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/contact/register-your-burn-off/</p>

	<p>If your property is more 1Ha in size you need to register your burn with VicFire and inform your neighbours.</p> <p>The CFA determine when the Declared Fire Danger Period begins and ends, and will also offer their Fire Ready meetings at the start of the fire season.</p> <p>CFA have brochures on their website about neighbourhood safer places and developing emergency management plans, as does COGB</p> <p>https://www.bendigo.vic.gov.au/Services/Emergency_Management/In_case_of_an_emergency_what_is_your_plan#.V7JrZMtf270</p>
5.	<p>Information Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RSL Hall works update: works at the RSL Hall are planned to commence once the 2016/17 budget has been approved. These works include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Heating and cooling installation to the hall ➤ Upgrade of kitchen facilities i.e. oven and dishwasher ➤ Internal lighting upgrade <p>These works are supported through an allocation from Council and a grant from the Federal Government.</p> • Barrack Reserve Pavilion Redevelopment Stage 1 & 2: The redevelopment of Barrack Reserve Pavilion for stages 1 & 2 will deliver the construction of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ a new outdoor plexi-pave netball court floodlit to netball training standards ➤ new change-rooms for umpires ➤ upgrading 2 existing AFL football change rooms ➤ new male, female and accessible toilets for use by the general public ➤ office space, meeting room and storage for club administration purposes ➤ upgraded kiosk servery ➤ improved social function facilities including a multi-purpose room, kitchen, bar and dry store ➤ landscaping to improve links between the netball court and adjacent play-space and parkland <p>Evaluation of tenders, which closed 30 June, is currently taking place.</p> • Public Toilets: A review of all public toilets is planned to be undertaken in 16/17. From that review a prioritised list of upgrades to existing toilets or possible construction of new facilities will be planned, and ongoing funding sought for future years. Heathcote's public toilets will fit into this process. • Township Signs: While Council strongly supports the need to update township signs in various locations around the municipality, it was unable to include a provision in the 16/17 budget. Council has however supported the development of sign designs for Heathcote and Axedale in the coming months to enable consideration of a mid-year budget bid to manufacture and install them in the second half on 2016/17. • Chauncey Street pedestrian bridge: A planning permit was issued for the development of an 89 lot subdivision and associated developments in the vicinity of the Chauncey Street bridge in April 2015. A condition of the permit is for the developer to construct a foot bridge as part of the development. The developer or any subsequent purchaser of the land would need to comply with the permit condition, or apply for an extension before April 2017, in order for the bridge to be built part of the development. <p>In addition, the bridge remains listed in the City's Capital Works Program for which ratings of projects are prepared based on many factors, including but not limited to: traffic volume and pedestrian volume. Although this project is not currently amongst the highest priority projects when compared with other road safety projects, it will continue to be reconsidered each year as part of the project list for future Council budgets.</p> • Rural Community Strategy: After extensive consultation with community members from rural towns and areas and interested groups, the CoGB is pleased to announce that the Draft Rural Communities Strategy has been released for community comment. <p>The Draft Rural Communities Strategy, together with the summary paper and other related</p>

documents are available on the City's website :
https://www.bendigo.vic.gov.au/Services/Planning/Strategic_Planning/Current_Projects/Rural_Communities_Strategy.

Comments and feedback are welcomed, and residents are encouraged to complete an online survey, which closes on 29 July 2016. The link to the survey can be found on the City's website or in the Summary Paper.

There will also be three meetings held in Axedale, Bendigo and Elmore in July to discuss the Draft Strategy further. The details of these meetings are on the City's website or in the Summary Paper.

If community groups or organisations would like to arrange a meeting to discuss the Draft Rural Communities Strategy, or to provide additional comments or feedback, this can be arranged by emailing j.pendlebury@bendigo.vic.gov.au.

Submissions will be received until close of business on Friday 29 July 2016.

Thank you to everyone that has been involved so far.

- Next Round of Community Grants: The next round of community grants open on the 4 July 2016 and close on the 1 August 2016 (for projects commencing from 1 December 2016). Community Grants provide an opportunity for not-for-profit incorporated groups to develop projects that complement areas identified as priorities for the City of Greater Bendigo. Grants of up to \$5,000 can be applied for under the following categories:
 - Community Development
 - Environmental Sustainability
 - Arts and Culture
 - Community Events
 - Active and Healthy Communities
 - Print and Digital Publications

6. GENERAL BUSINESS / DISCUSSION

- A petition which is circulating in Heathcote calling for a kangaroo cull was discussed. It was suggested that Council may be able to lend their weight towards the petition.
- A resident asked about the process taken to remove dead kangaroos, and dealing with injured kangaroos. He expressed his concern about the waste of 000 resources to have police destroy kangaroos.
*Update: COGB Animal Management Staff do not have the permission to euthanise animals, however groups such as WRIN <http://wrin.asn.au/> and WRES <http://wres.org.au/> and the Police have the permits required to euthanise injured animals.
 Dead kangaroo collection is the responsibility of COGB on local roads, so please report to the Customer Support Unit 5434 6000. On highways and main arterial roads, the responsibility is with VicRoads and they can be contacted on 13 11 70.*
- Resident advised there is an issue at the Heathcote Recreation Reserve at the Golf Course. There is a very large gum tree that has died and is leaning over the machinery shed. Now that Council is paying for the Insurance on the buildings he requests that the Council come and cut the dead tree down. It is an OH &S problem for the Club.
Update: The Heathcote Golf Club operates as a Committee of Management reporting directly to DELWP who own the land. The COGB has no obligation to remove the tree, it is the responsibility of the Committee or DELWP. The Committee will need to engage an arborist to inspect the tree and provide advice.
- Residents discussed the O'Keefe rail trail and how well utilised it is and the benefits of it to Heathcote. Another resident felt it was underutilised.

The following requests for service were received. These have been logged and details are as follows.

WORKS REQUEST REF NUMBER	WORKS REQUEST TYPE
1627947	Cr Leach to investigate Chauncey Street Bridge and advise Advance Heathcote

1627933	Cr Leach to investigate Heathcote public toilets and advise Advance Heathcote
1627974	Cr Leach to investigate kangaroo cull and advise Advance Heathcote
1628005	Request logged for investigation of underground power through town to enable the trees to grow properly
1628010	Request logged to replace trees in Heathcote township with a different species that will not grow into the powerlines
1628015	Request logged regarding incorrect parking sign in Camp Street
1628025	Request logged – thank you to Heathcote Office Staff and Parks Staff

*For updates on the above requests please call CoGB Customer Support Unit on 5434 6000 or email requests@bendigo.vic.gov.au and quote the relevant works request ref number.