

Boroondara BUG Meeting, 7.00pm, Wednesday 11th March 2020

29 Elgin St Hawthorn

MINUTES

Attendance: Peter Campbell (Chair), David Farrow, Julia Blunden, Peter Carter, Gordon Macmillan

Apologies: David Leong, Ric de France, John Parker, Glennys Jones, Mal Faul, Philip Mallis

Minutes of Previous Meeting: Accepted.

Correspondence

In

- Sundry emails from Manningham, Banyule BUGs and Glen Eira BUGs including meeting minutes and notices of rides
- Sundry commercial offers
- Emails from Yahoo Groups re new member application (these were ignored as we stopped using Yahoo groups years ago)

Out

- BUG submission on bike strategy

Matters arising

1. **North East Bicycle Corridor and North East Link:** Peter Carter reported that he has written, as an individual, to the four councils asking for stronger advocacy for cycling infrastructure. So far he has had a response only from Boroondara's Mayor, Jane Addis.
2. **Chandler Hwy Bridge:** Nil to report.
3. **Missing link in the Anniversary Trail at Camberwell High:** At the Council catch up on 18/2 Bushan Jani informed BUG members present that the design for this is in the final stages, including landscaping and lighting. Bushan offered to show the design to BUG members if desired. Work continues to finalise the land exchange. A BUG letter to John Kennedy urging that this be expedited was suggested. Julia Blunden agreed to write this.
4. **Walmer St Bridge:** A long form business case for this is in preparation and this will be submitted for inclusion in the state budget.
5. **Jacka Trail:** Julia Blunden suggested that a pedestrian refuge could be constructed in Balwyn Rd as a temporary measure while we wait for VicRoads to approve a pedestrian crossing. Peter Carter expressed concern that this would interfere with the bike lanes on Balwyn Rd which is part of the old PBN. A petition was presented to the roads minister years ago requesting a pedestrian crossing.
6. **Hawthorn to Box Hill Trail:** John Parker has talked with a contact at VicRoads and local MP Paul Hamer is still on the case. The \$370,000 allocated for scoping is being spent on a cost-benefit analysis. Peter Campbell reported that he has obtained 680 signatures on his petition. (John Parker has supplied a later figure - as of 18/3 848.)
He has prepared a single-sided A4 flyer but has not had any printed as yet. Some have been printed by other organisations and handed out at street stalls. According to the Premier skyrail is still an option for the Mont Albert and Surry Hills level crossing removals. David Hall is pushing for Copenhagen style bike

lanes on Mont Albert Rd.

7. **Stonnington matters:** John Parker reported by email that: they are putting up bike counters and have just built a new path in Peverill Park, which is great news. Plus the bike parking in Stonnington is much improved.
8. **Toorak Rd Crossing on Anniversary Trail:** This was discussed at the Council catch up. Council is still planning a survey. BUG members present pointed out again that it's difficult to survey the people who would use this crossing if it were safer and easier and suggested that the survey needed to include those crossing at the intersection of Camberwell and Toorak Rds as well as at the crossing nearest the rail line. A letter to MPs Will Fowles and John Kennedy requesting their help was suggested.
9. **Toorak Rd LXR:** Nil to report.
10. **Shared Path / Local intersection priorities:** David Farrow reported that he had been marking these on the map provided for input to the bike strategy. He expressed the view that there needs to be a line item in the council budget to do 3 or 4 of these each year. Glennys Jones has been pushing for these in safety audits.
11. **Boroondara Bluestone Renewal Policy:** Nil to report. It was agreed that this item should be removed from the agenda.
12. **BUG-Council catch-up:** There were four BUG members present at this: Glennys Jones, Peter Campbell, David Farrow and Julia Blunden. Clare Davey attended for the first part of the meeting. Other Council staff present were Bushan Jani, Gael Reid and Oliver Mihaila. See other agenda items for details of discussion.
13. **Communication with BBUG members:** Nil to report.
14. **Web Site and Twitter account:** Nil to report.
15. **Facebook Page:** Peter Campbell reported that he has moved to make both Philip Mallis and John Parker administrators. John Parker has not yet accepted his invitation. (John has reported via email that he has now accepted.)
16. **Gardiners Creek Underpass at Toorak Rd:** John Parker has followed up once again with VicRoads after the most recent flooding episode. It was cleaned up in a pretty timely manner and done well. However what is really needed is for Melbourne water to clean the sand/silt out from under the bridge; so that may be John's next port of call.
17. **Council Elections October 2020:** Nil to report.
18. **Kew Recreation Centre Renovation:** Nil to report
19. **Treasurer's report:** Mal Faul was not present and had sent no report. The issue of membership renewals is still to be resolved.
20. **Boroondara Bicycle Strategy:** We learned at the Council catch up that community consultation was to be extended to 15/3 and that this would be the new deadline for submissions. There had been 300 responses up to 18/2. The next step will be a council briefing in April by which time there will be a report. The draft strategy should be ready by mid-year. Peter Carter once again urged those present to read the Whitehorse Bicycle Strategy, especially the section on low stress cycle routes.

21. Boroondara Sustainable Living Festival: Plans for this included valet bike parking, bike smoothies, and an e-bike to try out. BUG members were invited to attend and talk to people. (The festival has now been cancelled due to coronavirus.)

New Business

1. **Bike share Scheme for Boroondara:** David Farrow reported that on 5/3 400 Jump e-bikes were made available in the City of Melbourne. On 6/3 a picture appeared of one of the bikes in a pond in Princes Park. Uber has a work group to maintain the bikes. If the scheme is successful it will be extended to the cities of Port Phillip and Yarra. David expressed his view that we need the scheme to be extended to Boroondara. Peter Carter suggested that David contact Uber about how it is dealing with problems and that he write a proposal for a Boroondara scheme, and seek approval to send it to Council on behalf of the BUG.

Other Business

Next Meeting: Wednesday, 8th April? Subject to availability of function room and Corona virus restrictions

Notes prepared by Julia Blunden