

Boroondara BUG Meeting, Wednesday 14th September

Function Room, Elgin Inn, Hawthorn

MINUTES

Attendance and Apologies

Present: David Farrow, Julia Blunden, Gordon Macmillan, Ric de France, Mal Faul (Chair), Peter Carter, Mark Haywood

Apologies: David Leong, John Parker, Glennys Jones, David Hall, Ken Parker, Clive Lewis, Gary Oliver, Peter Campbell, John Piesse

Guest: Sujay Capoor, candidate for Glenferrie ward in the October council election

Correspondence:

In

- Sundry emails from Manningham and Banyule BUGs including meeting minutes and notices of rides
- Sundry commercial offers
- Letter from Council re compliance with the Electoral Act at our council-owned venue!
- Letter from Department of Environment, Land, Water & Planning re Walmer St meeting

Out

Matters Arising:

1. **Hawthorn to Box Hill Trail:** BUG members present explained, for Sujay's benefit, options for a bike highway alongside the rail line, elevated in places, and an alternative or interim shimmy style route along back streets, requiring mainly construction of pram ramps, and signage including sharrows. David Farrow has produced a document on the latter option.
2. **Darebin-Yarra Link:** Julia Blunden explained that the last stage of this is underway and expected to be completed in August next year.
3. **North East Bicycle Corridor:** This project was outlined for Sujay's benefit. (John Parker later reported by email that the NEBC is now mentioned in the Northern Regional Trails Strategy 2016 by ARUP - pages 120 & 149.)
4. **Stonnington Matters:** Nil to report
5. **Jacka Trail/North Balwyn Leisure Trail:** Nil to report.
6. **Missing Link in Anniversary Shared Trail at Camberwell High:** At the BAC meeting it was stated that negotiations are underway with the Education Department for the required land swap.
7. **Review of Victorian Cycling Related Road Rules:** Rachel Carlisle from VicRoads spoke on this subject at the Victorian BUGs meeting the previous evening. Some minor changes to the rules on footpath cycling are planned; consideration is being given to improving safety for cyclists and pedestrians at roundabouts, and work is afoot to develop much better statistics for injuries to cyclists.

- 8. Chandler Hwy Bridge:** There have been some improvements to provision for cyclists on and off-road in the plans thanks to work done by Darebin BUG and others. (Glennys Jones has since sent members a draft letter from BBUG to Minister Donnellan requesting improvements to the Anniversary Trail south of the Yarra Bvd to be carried out as part of this project.)
- 9. Level crossing removals:** It was agreed that the outcome from the Burke Rd/Gardiner Station project has had poor outcomes for pedestrians and cyclists.
- 10. Minimum Distance Passing Law:** Nil to report. (An email from Samantha Dunn the next day informed the BUG that a Parliamentary inquiry has recommended the Greens' 'metre matters' bill be supported to implement minimum distances for vehicles while overtaking cyclists.)
- 11. Council Elections:** David Hall sent an email to VicBUGS members on this subject. There is lots of information on the Victorian Electoral Commission web site at <https://www.vec.vic.gov.au/>
- 12. Tacks on Boulevard:** Ed Hore, from the Australian Cycle Alliance and Glennys Jones both had lots to report at the Victorian BUGs meeting the previous evening. According to Ed police are closing in on the culprit. Glennys continues to work towards getting a new offence with which the culprit can be charged into the Crimes Act. John Piesse rang Julia Blunden prior to the meeting to report on his meeting with the police officer responsible for this issue. He had raised the possibility of a reward but this was seen as more likely to create problems than solve them.
- 13. Web Site and Twitter Account:** Ric de France reported that there hasn't been a lot of progress in the last month, The Twitter account is active and has around 40 followers.
- 14. Lennox St East:** Julia Blunden reported that she sent photos of desire lines across the small patch of grass cyclists need to cross to reach their desired destination, the road, to Clare Davey. This was an agenda item at the Bicycle Advisory Committee meeting and Clare undertook to try to rectify this situation.
- 15. Box Hill to Ringwood Trail:** Peter Carter reported that this is proceeding but there is some disagreement as to which side it should go of the rail line between Blackburn Rd and Middleborough Rd. There is a street section that is problematic on the south side of the line.
- 16. Capital City Trail at Rushall:** Yarra Council have decided to proceed with construction of the path around Rushall Reserve. At present it is proposed to construct a 2m bitumen path, however it was reported in the most recent Bicycle Network *In the Loop* that BN will be pressing for a wider path.
- 17. Walmer St:** This was mentioned at the BAC meeting and hope was held out that there may be some improvement to Salter's plans. (A letter from the Department of Environment, Land, Water & Planning has since been circulated with an invitation to a meeting at the Richmond Town Hall, on Saturday 15 October 2016 from 11:00am till 1:30pm.)
- 18. Bicycle Advisory Committee Meeting Friday 9th September:** Several matters covered have already been mentioned. Two new staff were present at this meeting, the new Sustainable Transport Officer, Nelly Montague, and the new Administrative Officer, Lucia Johnson.
- 19. Victorian BUGs Meeting, Tuesday 13th September:** Apart from matters covered under other headings it was noted that a Bicycle Network representative, James Conlan, was present at this meeting.

20. Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Mal Faul reported that there has been little change in the BUG's financial position.

New Business

- 1. Closure of Yahoo Group:** Ric de France said that Julia Blunden or John Parker should be able to close the group. Julia said that she would like to send out a final email to group members notifying them of the closure and listing other options for finding out about forthcoming meetings, the main function of the group.
- 2. Bike Repair Stations:** Julia B said that two new repair stations are already in place, one at Hartwell Station and the other on the Yarra Trail at Willow Gve. They are still to be installed at two other locations suggested by the BUG, viz Ashburton Station and Walmer St north, either at the top of the ramp or at the junction with Yarra Bvd.
- 3. Bike Parking and Parkiteer Bike Cages:** Sujay Capoor has a particular interest in this subject and is keen to see a Parkiteer cage at Hawthorn Station where he believes there is space for one. The possibility of the BUG contributing funds towards such a cage was raised but no decision was made on this.

Other Business

- 1. Developer Open Space Contribution:** David Farrow noted that the California Inn site is once again a live issue as it is on the market again. Julia Blunden noted that BUG representatives had raised this subject again at the BAC meeting. All members present agreed that it would be highly desirable, if the opportunity arises, to make the developer provide space for a shared path along the western boundary as their contribution.
- 2. Glenferrie Primary School – Access from Oxley Rd:** Sujay Capoor explained that while children approaching the school along Manningham Rd have a safe route, those coming from Oxley Rd must cross Glenferrie Rd. To do so safely they need to deviate some distance to use the pedestrian crossing at St Joseph's. Sujay believes that either this crossing should be moved in line with Oxley St or another crossing installed there. Several members present signed Sujay's petition to this effect.

Next Meeting: Wednesday 12th October, subject to availability of the function room.

Notes by Julia Blunden