

Boroondara BUG Meeting, Wednesday 17th December 2014

Function Room, Elgin Inn, Hawthorn

MINUTES

Attendance and Apologies

Present: Alister Huth, David Farrow, Julia Blunden, John Parker, Peter Campbell (Chair), Glennys Jones, David Leong, Hank van Apeldoorn

Apologies: Mal Faul, Gordon Macmillan, David Hall, Peter Carter, John Piesse, Ken Parker, Graham Ellis

Correspondence:

In

- Sundry commercial offers
- Sundry notices re fund-raising events
- *The Squeaky Wheel*
- Links to British and Dutch design guides for cycling infrastructure courtesy of Banyule BUG
- Manningham BUG minutes, newsletter, and details of Christmas party

Out

Matters Arising:

1. **Hawthorn to Box Hill Trail:** Chris Hui is yet to organise a meeting to plan signing part of this route. **Peter Campbell** will follow up with Chris. It was agreed that **Peter** will also contact Hawthorn MLA, John Pesutto, about this
2. **Darebin-Yarra Link:** Julia B and David F attended a Community Coalition on 27/11 where two VicRoads staff provided an update. Work has now begun on the northern section of the link, from Sparks Reserve to the Latrobe Golf Club. No progress has been made with Boroondara Council and compulsory acquisition of the land required to build the trail through Willsmere Park seems likely. It was agreed that it is desirable for the Community Coalition to seek a meeting with the new Labor minister responsible (Planning?) and **Julia B** agreed to contact convenor Graeme Martin about this. **Peter Campbell** offered to contact Roads Minister Luke Donellan.
3. **Belford Rd Underpass:** Nil to report.
4. **North East Bicycle Corridor:** It was agreed that with the change of government and the scrapping of the East-West Link we should revert to our original design and push the Labor government to commit to this. **Peter Carter** is currently costing this and the project will be presented to the new government with this costing.
5. **Stonnington Matters:** John P reported that there have been some more minor works completed to improve cycling infrastructure in Stonnington.
6. **Domestic Animals Management Plan:** **Alister H** will recheck if a periodic review of all Local Law is required. This issue was raised at the December BAC meeting but there was no new information. Boroondara's current DAMP does not expire until 2016, although there is

provision for changes before then. Suggestions from the BUG for changes have so far been ignored.

7. **Outer Circle Trail at Harp Junction:** There is currently a planning permit application before Council from the Harp Hotel to extend their car park, using the VicRoads land that has been vacated and which they are leasing from VR. This plan involves demolition of the historic brick building on the site. The planning permit was slipped past the normal system and objections closed on 18/12. A number of BUG members submitted objections before the deadline and it's understood that a number of Kew residents did so too. **Peter Campbell** agreed to ring Minister Luke Donellan, and Hank van Apeldoorn agreed to draft a letter to him. **Glennys J** agreed to forward the results of her researches into the site to Hank for this purpose. Glennys has sent a letter to the *Progress Leader* which should appear the week prior to Christmas and John P has started a petition asking that the land be converted to public open space.
8. **Jacka Trail/North Balwyn Leisure Trail:** Lou Will and Nicola Harvey presented a petition at the Council meeting on 15/12 and asked questions. The petition was received and they will receive a letter in response. VicRoads has not yet approved a pedestrian crossing in Balwyn Rd. The option of a centre refuge was raised at the BAC meeting.
9. **Proposed ramp from Mont Albert Rd to Anniversary Trail:** When this was raised at the BAC there were blank looks. It is not a Council but a State Government project. **Glennys J** agreed to follow up with the contacts we have.
10. **California Inn site between Barkers Rd and Hawthorn Grove:** Julia B and Glennys J attended a mediation meeting between the developers and the objectors about the current planning permit application. The current plan is for a gated community with no public right of way. Although the Council planning staffer present agreed that the site is mentioned in Council's *Open Spaces Strategy* this has unfortunately not been incorporated into the *Planning Scheme* as yet and there are no legal grounds for Council to insist on a public right of way. A cobbled laneway to the west may be our best hope of a shared path between Hawthorn Gve and Barkers Rd but would need modification to make it cyclable. The need for an acquisition overlay on the VicRoads site was raised at the December BAC meeting. We need to ask planning staff about the process for this.
11. **Burke Rd grade separation:** Peter Carter submitted an email report on this. Essentially his request for a shared path as part of the underpass has been ignored. Julia B pointed out that Labor have plans for 50 grade separations and it's important to get the message through that these need to better accommodate the needs of pedestrians and cyclists, and that this should be part of the government's transport integration strategy. It was agreed that we should try to get BN involved. **Julia B** agreed to draft a letter to Craig Richards and **Peter Campbell** will contact Luke Donellan. An important point to make is that a constantly used pedestrian crossing could interfere with the flow of motor traffic as much as the old boom gates!
12. **Boroondara Sport and Recreation Strategy:** Nil to report
13. **New Edition of Boroondara TravelSmart Map:** Revision work has been completed. Chris Hui has resolved an issue that was making traffic lights almost impossible to see. It's hoped that the new maps will be available before the start of the school year.
14. **Treasurer's Report:** Mal Faul was not present.

New Business

1. **TravelSmart Maps:** With the State Government having dropped the TravelSmart program it is now up to individual councils to produce the maps and update them. Some are looking for cheaper alternatives, mainly electronic, which suit some users but not all. **Julia B** offered to write a letter to Luke Donellan requesting that the government program be revived and also to put this on the agenda for the next VicBUGs meeting.
2. **Lighting on Shared Paths:** At the December BAC meeting we were told that Council has funding to install more lighting on shared paths and we were asked for suggestions as to where this is most needed. **Julia B** agreed to email BUG members and ask them to send her their suggestions, which she will forward to Chris Hui.

Other Business

1. **City of Yarra and Centre Line Marking:** It was agreed that **Julia B** should send the letter she has written, despite one member's concern that this might sour relations with our neighbours.
2. **Pram Ramps and Bike Parking Hoops:** **Julia B** agreed to email BUG members again asking for suggestions as to where these are needed and forward these to Chris Hui.
3. **Parkiteer Bike Cage Needed in Glenferrie:** There was agreement that such a facility is highly desirable and that it could be sited to the south of the new Hawthorn Rec Centre. Julia B raised this at the BAC meeting.
4. **BAC Meeting Dates for 2015:** 13/3, 12/6, 11/9, 11/12. These are all Fridays and the meetings are at Council HQ and run from 9.30am to approximately 12 noon.

Next meeting: Wednesday 11th February

Notes by Julia Blunden