

Boroondara BUG Meeting, 7.00pm, Wednesday 9th July 2014
Function Room, Elgin Inn, cnr Burwood Rd and Elgin St, Hawthorn

MINUTES

Attendance: John Parker, Gordon Macmillan, David Hall, Glennys Jones, Alister Huth, David Farrow

Apologies: Julia Blunden, Peter Campbell, Peter Carter, Malcolm Faul

1. **Hawthorn to Box Hill Trail** – The response of the Minister for Public Transport and Roads to Peter Campbell’s letter requesting action on the Hawthorn to Box Hill Trail following his crash on Burwood Road was discussed with the consensus expressed amongst those present that the response was very disappointing. It was agreed that BBUG should be making greater efforts to advocate for interim short term treatments to provide east west bicycle transport mobility for all including the 8 to 80 year olds. It was a strongly held view amongst those present that Burwood Rd does not offer this facility. It is a crash black length for cyclists, that is unsatisfactory for bicycle transport unless the road authorities are able to offer separated path facilities. It is also a vital trip demand corridor where bicycle transport is critical for transport to activity centres and schools and for liveability of the bulk of residents in the central corridor of the City of Boroondara. It is also an area that is being promoted by many developers and the planning authorities as an area where residents are being encouraged to live without owning a car. The railway reserve is seen to be the location where such a route could and should be located. David Farrow suggested that the group should respond to the letter seeking state government agreement to undertake a feasibility study jointly with Council aimed at addressing how the following objectives might be realised:-

- Agreement in principle to the planning of a bicycle facility located along or immediately adjacent to the Eastern Railway Reserve even if it can only be implemented in the longer term.
- Seeking agreement in principle to the concept of an elevated section of the path at railway level between Albert Street in Camberwell and Power Street in Hawthorn that would form the backbone of an extended proposal and would desirably be built prior to the 4th track implementation. However if the government is unwilling to make this commitment it should commit to implementing it as part of the 4th track implementation with the path located adjacent to the railway at track level.
- Undertaking to incorporate a continuous path in any development involving air rights or major development in or adjacent to the railway reserve with the route to be protected by planning scheme zoning.
- A study to identify a comprehensive suite of interim projects aimed at satisfying the unmet demand for bicycle transport for all population groups in the corridor that can be vigorously pursued by Council.

Boroondara Bicycle Group would be keen to elaborate on its ideas and participate in the study.

It was agreed at the meeting that the response to the letter should be discussed further at the next meeting.

2 **Golfers Choice shared path and Urban bush path** – Nothing new to report.

- 3 Darebin – Yarra link** It is understood that Council has been approached to allow the use of its land for the link in Willsmere Park which is to form stage 2 of the project to complete the link connection and where VicRoads was intending to let a contract towards the end of 2014. Glennys Jones reported that Seuna Byrne from Council has advised that a request by VicRoads for the use of Willsmere Park for the path might be considered by Council at an ordinary meeting scheduled for the 28th July. It was noted that the only avenue for residents to participate at ordinary meetings is by written questions. It was agreed that we should approach Heinz Kreutz for advice on what BBUG can do.
- 4 Belford Rd underpass** – Nothing new to report.
- 5 North Eastern Bicycle Corridor** – The Planning Panels has submitted its recommendations to the government and they fully backed the NEBC. However the government has not directed that it be included in plans for the East West link. It is understood that the plans for the project are to be reworked and requoted by the two consortia left in the bidding with the resubmitted bids due within the next month allowing the government to let a contract for the project by the election. Contact with the LMA and VicRoads has indicated that the provision to be made for pedestrian and bicycle movement in the project corridor won't be disclosed before any government approvals are made. BBUG approach is to publicise the bicycle project concept with the aim of generating political support for it.
- 6 Stonnington matters** – Nothing new to report.
- 7 Domestic Animals Management Plan Review** – Nothing new to report.
- 8 Outer circle Trail at Harp Junction** – Glennys Jones received a negative response from the Minister of Roads and Public Transport that did not answer the question asked. No details were provided of the lease given in favour of the Hotel where BBUG had proposed deviating the Anniversary Trail to provide a safer signalised crossing of High Street.
- 9 Jacka Trail, North Balwyn – Balwyn Leisure Centre / Gordon Barnard Reserve Master plan** – nothing new to report.
- 10 Invitations to councillors to attend BUG meetings** – nothing new to report.
- 11 Proposed ramp from Mont Albert Rd to Anniversary Trail** – nothing new to report.
- 12 Incorporation** – as Malcolm Faul was an apology there was no further discussion of this item.
- 13 Treasurer's report** – Malcolm was absent but John Parker advised of the latest balance which was quite healthy.

New Business

- 1. Burke Road grade separation project** – nomination of cycling representative - David Hall suggested that we should be aiming to get representation with VicRoads to protect bicycle interests in the area. No one undertook to take up the suggestion.
- 2. Donation to Yarra BUG Radio.** It was agreed that the donation should be made with the implementation to be confirmed at the next meeting.
- 3. Outcome of BAC meeting held on Friday 13/6/14** – John Parker's advice was to view the minutes of the meeting to find out what went on.

4. **City of Boroondara Sport and Recreation Strategy Development.** David Farrow advised that he had submitted the BUG submission late and had a received an acknowledgement that it would be passed on to the consultants undertaking the study. David also believes that we should be investigating proposals in sport and recreation areas that might be considered during the next phase of consultation intended for the 4th quarter of the 2014 calendar year and feels that proposals could be developed for up to 20 sites where bicycle facilities should be improved in parks and recreation areas. He mentioned his investigations of Fritsch Holzer Park and Glenferrie Oval as examples.

Other business

None

Next meeting: Wednesday 13th August

Minutes by David Farrow