

Boroondara BUG Meeting, Thursday 10th November

Function Room, Elgin Inn, Hawthorn

MINUTES

Attendance and Apologies

Present: David Farrow, Julia Blunden, Gordon Macmillan, Ric de France, Glennys Jones (Chair), Philip Mallis, Ken Parker, John Parker, Mal Faul, Graham Ellis

Apologies: David Leong, Peter Carter, Clive Lewis, Mark Haywood,

Correspondence:

In

- Sundry emails from Manningham and Banyule BUGs including meeting minutes and notices of rides
- Sundry commercial offers
- Letter from Philip Mallis thanking the BBUG representatives on the BAC and the BUG generally for our work
- Amy Gillet Foundation news
- Email from Erin Farley, BN, re free passes for BUGs to the Bike Futures Conference, Friday 10 February, 2017 (Hedley Finger and Ken Parker are two BBUG members who want to attend.)
- Australian Bicycle Council e-news, October 2016
- Sundry emails about the announcement at Sparks Reserve Monday 17th October on the start of construction of the last stage of the Darebin-Yarra link. (It was agreed that the opening should ideally be scheduled for a weekend and that Minister Luke Donellan be invited. Community Coalition convenor Graeme Martin to be informed about these preferences.)
- Email acknowledgement from Active Transport Victoria of being copied into the letter re Parkiteer cage for Glenferrie

Out

- Letter to the Minister for Public Transport re the need for a Parkiteer style bike cage in Glenferrie
- Submission to Infrastructure Victoria re 30-year strategy
- Letter to Minister Donellan re stronger legislation to protect cyclists, drivers and public transport users. (Shadow Attorney General John Pesutto is working with Minister Donnellan on this. Glennys is also keeping Greg Barber in the loop.)

ITE Seminar on Cyclist Safety: Ken Parker attended this seminar, about which the BUG received notice. Ken provided quite a detailed report of the various speakers and their presentations. These included

- a personal account by a cyclist of a serious accident they suffered
- Astrid Linder, a Swedish visitor, making comparisons between rates of cyclist deaths in Sweden and Australia, and raising issues related to roundabouts and hook turns
- Phoebe Dunn from the Amy Gillet foundation outlining their various activities, notably the 'metre matters' campaign.
- Anthony Eisenberg, speaking about Bikespot, the top 10 accident blackspots and perception vs actual risk

- Ken Beer and Karly ? from VicRoads who have been tasked with spending \$70M to improve cyclist safety on the various cycling networks, including the PBN.

Matters Arising:

- 1. Hawthorn to Box Hill Trail:** No new developments. Lennox St east still needs to be fixed.
- 2. Darebin-Yarra Link:** See correspondence
- 3. North East Bicycle Corridor:** David Farrow raised this with Minister Donnellan at the Sparks Reserve event. It is unclear who is the key person to convince. Suggestions include John Merritt the VicRoads CEO, Sam ? the VR officer in charge of the Chandler Hwy Project, and Active Transport Victoria, which is supposed to be up and running but for which we still have no contact name.
- 4. Stonnington Matters:** John Parker has received an email from Stonnington Bicycle Advisory Committee member Cameron Munro about the High St Underpass. **John agreed to respond to this**, and also to recommend a joint safety audit of the Gardiners Creek Trail. John also indicated that he intends asking a question at a council meeting about the fact that only 40% of Stonnington residents are eligible to sit on the BAC as there is a requirement to own property. **Philip Mallis** offered to speak with the new Stonnington Mayor, Jami Klisaris, about these issues.
- 5. Jacka Trail/North Balwyn Leisure Trail:** Alister Huth sent an email to say that he has been in contact with the new ward councilor, Cynthia Watson, and that she is supportive of the proposed pedestrian crossing at Balwyn Rd. **Philip Mallis** said that he would brief Cynthia about this issue as part of the handover.
- 6. Missing Link in Anniversary Shared Trail at Camberwell High:** **Graham Ellis** said that he intends writing to council about the planned arrangements for cars turning from Spencer Rd into the proposed new car park, which he believes can be improved. Construction of the missing link is still waiting on the negotiations with the Education Department for the land swap.
- 7. Review of Victorian Cycling Related Road Rules:** Glennys Jones has had access to the practitioner guidance notes and has provided feedback on these. Her proposal that stencils be used to warn cyclists as they are approaching a tram stop was ruled 'out of scope'.
- 8. Chandler Hwy Bridge:** Glennys Jones has received a response from Minister Donnellan to her letter about the issues with the Anniversary Trail alongside the Chandler Hwy, especially at the slip lane for the Eastern Fwy. The response clearly acknowledges the problems identified without giving a definite undertaking to rectify them. There is also an issue with the transition from the AT to the roadway heading north. Jacky Fristacky, Tom Melican and John Pesutto are all onside over this.
- 9. Level crossing removals:** Some BUG members were taken on a tour of a section of the Box Hill to Ringwood Rail Trail recently. This highlighted the problem with the new arrangements at Springvale Rd where provision was not made for a bike path underneath the road alongside the train lines and a messy road crossing is required.
- 10. Minimum Passing Distance Law:** The Committee has now made its recommendations to Parliament. While supporting the introduction of a law there are some undesirable provisions including no minimum passing distance mandated through intersections, and restrictions placed on cyclists' right to ride two abreast. **Glennys** will email to check progress on this. Monash

University is using special equipment to measure current passing distances for purposes of comparison should the law be passed.

11. **Council Elections:** It was agreed that an email from the BUG should go out to the four new councilors explaining who we are and inviting them to attend one of our meetings so we can brief them on issues relevant to their wards, and to Boroondara generally. As Cr Steve Hurd has not yet attended a meeting it was also suggested that we try to arrange a meeting with him at a time and venue of his choosing. **Julia Blunden** agreed to write these emails.
12. **Tacks on Kew Boulevard:** This has gone very quiet for the present.
13. **Web Site and Twitter Account:** Ric de France reported that John Parker has provided him with various passwords. The Twitter account is very active and growing.
14. **Lennox St East:** Julia Blunden reported that this has still to be rectified.
15. **Box Hill to Ringwood Trail:** No Whitehorse representatives were present to report. It was suggested that this item be dropped from the agenda.
16. **Capital City Trail at Rushall:** It was noted that two Yarra mayors who opposed this have now gone.
17. **Walmer St:** John Parker and Glennys Jones attended a meeting organized by Boroondara council officers and Cr Phillip Healey on Wednesday 9/11. John Lupino, Director of Planning was present, as were Jim Hondrakis and Clare Davey and the owners of the vineyard, the Priors. It was made clear that the plans for the buildings either side of the street are finalized and the only item under discussion was Walmer St itself. It was agreed that both Options A and B were unpopular at the public meeting held earlier at the Richmond Town Hall. The aim was to develop an Option C with some agreed improvements requested.
18. **Bike Repair Stations:** David Farrow reported that two new stations have recently been installed at Swinburne but it is unclear who funded these.
19. **California Inn Site:** There has been no work on the site as yet. Nor has there been any new Planning Permit Application. The current PP is due to expire on 7/3/17. Some of those present still believe that it is worth pursuing the idea of a Public Acquisition Overlay with a view to getting a shared path along the west side of the site should the PP need to be renewed or another applied for. It was agreed to keep this item on the BAC agenda.
20. **What Should We Do with the BUG's Money?** No suggestions were forthcoming.
21. **Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Mal Faul provided an update on the BUG's finances which had not changed significantly since our last meeting.

New Business

1. **Need for More Bike Parking in Glenferrie:** Ric de France and Philip Mallis were in agreement that there is a need for more bike hoops on Glenferrie Rd. **Julia Blunden** will email Sustainable Transport Officer Nelly Montague about this.
2. **Strategic Plan for Term of Newly Elected Council:** Glennys Jones pointed out that within the first six months the newly elected councilors must produce a strategic plan for the four years of the council, and suggested that there would be an opportunity for community input into this. Philip Mallis suggested that as far as bike matters are concerned we would do better to direct

our attention to the more detailed annual plans, and to the bike strategy which is up for renewal in 2018. It was agreed that we need to start work on this, first by going through the existing bike strategy to identify projects still to be completed. A master map on our web site would be a useful aid. Philip also suggested that the forthcoming Health and Wellbeing strategy provides opportunities to push cycling. An invitation for input to this should be advertised in the *Boroondara Bulletin*. **Julia Blunden** agreed to watch for this in the online *Bulletin* and to circulate the relevant issue to members.

- 3. Bike Parking in Apartment Towers:** David Farrow raised this issue, suggesting that significant increases are needed. **David** has a meeting scheduled with Phillip Healey to discuss this.

Other Business

- 1. BBUG Letters/Submissions:** It was noted in the course of business that various members sending off letters and submissions on behalf of the BUG are not always using the BUG pro forma. This includes the BUG logo, and for submissions sets out the various sections that should be included. It is also important to make clear whether a member is writing simply as a member, in which case the BUG logo should not be used, or 'on behalf of the Boroondara Bicycle Users Group' in which case this wording should be included in the signature block. If anyone needs the pro forma **Julia Blunden** can supply it.

Next Meeting: Wednesday 14th December, subject to availability of the function room.

Notes by Julia Blunden