

Boroondara BUG Meeting, 7.00pm, Wednesday 13th October 2021

By Zoom

MINUTES

Attendance: Glennys Jones, Peter Campbell (Chair), Philip Mallis, John Parker, Peter Carter, Julia Blunden, David Farrow, Betty Weeks, Cr Susan Biggar, Alister Huth, Gordon Macmillan

Apologies: Graham Ellis, Ken Parker, Kate Prest

Minutes of September Meeting: Accepted.

Correspondence

In

- Sundry emails from other BUGs including newsletters, and links to surveys
- Sundry commercial offers
- Email from Natalie Hearn, Support Coordinator, The Care Tribe Melbourne, asking for a volunteer to support a young person with special needs on bike rides
- Acknowledgement of receipt of our submission from Whitehorse Council
- Email from Douglas Morris re HTBHT feasibility study

Out

- Submission to Whitehorse Council objecting to Vicinity Planning Permit Applications 21 - 27 Market St Box Hill

Matters arising

1. **North East Bicycle Corridor and North East Link:** Glennys Jones reported that she had sent out a summary of the last Community Liaison Group meeting. She has asked about including charging points for electric buses at the Bulleen Park'n Ride. She has received a response indicating that buses will recharge at the depots and there will be no provision for this at the Park'n Ride. It was agreed that Glennys will draft a letter to the Roads Minister congratulating him on the government's commitment to electric buses, suggesting that they need to be rolled out faster, and asking that they be deployed on this route as this will make it healthier for cyclists.
2. **Walmer St Bridge:** A nearby path (?), which was supposed to reopen last November, is still closed. Glennys has written to Yarra Council about this but is still waiting for a reply.
3. **Jacka Trail/Balwyn Rd Pedestrian Crossing:** Nil to report. Remove from agenda.
4. **Hawthorn to Box Hill Trail:** Douglas Morris from DoT has emailed stakeholders about a summary report of the feasibility study now available to the public at <https://www.vicroads.vic.gov.au/planning-and-projects/melbourne-road-projects/box-hill-to-hawthorn-shared-use-path>
The next stage is a detailed study of the route from Box Hill to Mont Albert. Douglas offered another session for interested parties to provide more detail. Peter Campbell said he understood that David Blom is arranging this, but he agreed to follow this up with him.
The LXR Community Liaison Group met last week, mainly to discuss options for Union Rd. But the group now believes that the consultations are a sham and that their views are being ignored. The contract has been awarded, and the LXR will not show cross section diagrams to the CLG. Peter has communicated with Minister Jacinta Allan about this. Philip Mallis asked whether any car parking was to be removed given that this is a strategic cycling corridor. Peter expressed the view that funding is the main issue.
Peter Carter said that Strategic Cycling Corridors need to be included in Land Use Frameworks. Peter

Campbell agreed to write up a proposal about this, and it was agreed that it should be an agenda item at the next Victorian BUGs meeting. John Parker pointed out that the HTBHT is included in the Climate Action Plan, which has now been adopted by Boroondara Council.

5. **Toorak Rd Crossing on Anniversary Trail:** Higgins MP Katie Allen recently sent out a survey on which cycling infrastructure project her constituents most want undertaken. At Glennys Jones' suggestion some members used the 'Other' option to choose this crossing. Glennys mentioned her husband's recent near miss using the dangerous pedestrian crossing here, and indicated that he would be writing to Council about it.
6. **Gardiners Creek Underpass at Toorak Rd:** We are still waiting to hear from Council about further action on this.
7. **Shared Path / Local intersection priorities:** John Parker agreed to send a short email to Council following up on the Connor St works. Kate Prest reported that she had been in communication with Cr Lisa Hollingsworth about the Anniversary Trail crossing at Culliton Rd. Cr Sinfield's view is that this road is too busy for reverse priority. Those present were not convinced that this is the case. A count is needed.
8. **Ferndale Trail – Need for widening and realignment between Summerhill and Ferndale Rds:** Nil to report
9. **BBUG Strategic Advocacy Planning:** This item is to be removed from the agenda as the work is complete.
10. **Boroondara Bicycle Strategy:** The draft strategy is yet to be released to the public as it hasn't been before Council yet. It should be out for public consultation mid to late November. There is a Target Map of cycling routes to which BUG members can contribute. **(I need the link to this)** Mention was also made of the Open Street Map cycle layer, which can be edited by anyone, bearing in mind that routes marked on this need to be signed in some way.
11. **Frog Hollow to Ferndale Trail:** Nil to report.
12. **Guide dogs- change to access arrangements:** Bushan Jani is following up on this but has not passed on any information as yet.
13. **.Pop-Up Bike Lanes:** Philip Mallis reported that lanes were currently being installed between Darebin and Yarra. In the second stage Maribyrnong is to receive funding for 20kms of bike lanes, but these will be unprotected, painted lanes.
14. **Markham Reserve Dog Fencing Survey:** Nil to report. To be removed from agenda.
15. **Revision of Boroondara TravelSmart Map:** Several members made a significant contribution to this.
16. **Developments at Box Hill Central:** Peter Carter had alerted the BUG to developments planned by Vicinity which will block both east-west and north-south strategic corridors. BBUG sent an objection as per Peter Carter's suggestion, and received an acknowledgement of this from Whitehorse Council.
17. **Web Site and Slack:** Kate Prest wasn't present.
18. **Victorian BUGS Meeting:** The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 24th November by Zoom. John Parker, David Blom and Philip Mallis are presenting on different methods of naming and signing cycle routes. Peter Campbell will write up a proposal on including Strategic Cycling Corridors in Land Use Frameworks for the meeting's consideration.
19. **CAC Meeting, 17/9:** Several BUG members attended this Webex meeting.

20. **Twitter Account and Facebook:** Ric De France has been posting tweets. Peter Campbell and Glennys Jones have been posting on our Facebook page. Both have quite a few followers.
21. **Free Membership Database:** Julia Blunden will follow up on this with Kate Prest. There was general agreement that this is the way to go.
22. **Treasurer's report:** Mal Faul was not present

New Business

1. **DoT Feasibility Study for HTBHT – Do we want another walk through?** Peter Campbell will follow up with David Blom to ensure this is arranged.
2. **Opening of Old Heidelberg Rd to the Public:** Glennys Jones outlined the history behind this. Old Heidelberg Rd used to be a route locals used to get to a bridge over the Darebin Creek, which provided access to Sparks Reserve. The bridge was washed away in a flood some years ago, and the roadway was effectively taken over by the adjacent school, now Alphington Grammar, and more recently closed to the public. Yarra Council have now voted to require that it be reopened to the public. Farm Rd is still the preferred route for Alphington residents to access the Darebin-Yarra link, but Old Heidelberg Rd is a fall back option.

Other Business

1. **Camberwell Junction Placemaking:** This project, is quite extensive, stretching up past Camberwell Station in the north, so including the entire shopping precinct. Kate Prest and Ken Parker were both attending a workshop at the same time as the BUG meeting/. Several members had sent suggestions of cycling issues that need to be raised to them. There is a map where anyone can add markers and comments at <https://engage.boroondara.vic.gov.au/camberwell-placemaking>
2. **Suburban Rail Loop:** A new station is planned for the Deakin Burwood Campus, just south of the Burwood Hwy. An overpass or underpass will be built across the highway here and it is vital that this caters for cyclists. Peter Campbell said that there is a Kooyongkoot Alliance, which includes MeBUG and WATAG, which will be making a submission. He offered to follow up on this.

Next Meeting: 7pm, Wednesday, 10th November 2021

Notes prepared by Julia Blunden