

## **Barwon Heads Association**

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2015**  
**Barwon Heads Community Hall 7:30pm**

### **MINUTES ORDINARY MEETING**

**Chair** Judith Brooks

**Apologies** – Sandy Gatehouse, Graham Wallace Smith

**Attendees** – Jenny Wallace Smith, Richard Hastings, Michael Palmer, Jeremy Gaylard, Peter & Clara Oakley, Virginia Ronaldson, Sheila Strachan, Julie Shaw, Ann Vile, Paul Fox, John Romeril.

#### **1 Rates: review of February meeting discussing rates. Where to next?**

**Correspondence from Michael Palmer.** It was clear at our March meeting that despite the claims made by CoGG, many residents do not believe that we are receiving the services we should be with such high rates. There are some residents who still believe our rates are too high in any case. Unless a community is given proper information such views will persist. BHA plans to ask council to provide us with some budget figures. As ratepayers of what is a small area of the total city of Geelong we are entitled to know the following- how much do we provide for the CoGG via our rates and how much do we get in return?

#### **2 Report of the 11/3/15 First Community Reference Group meeting with VicRoads re Pedestrian Safety.**

Jeremy & Richard reported to the meeting that attendees were Mark Tonkin (Chair) Team Leader Road Safety and Traffic, David Farey Engineer, Janette Sato Communications, representing VicRoads. Jay Withanaarachchi, Team Leader Traffic Planning represented CoGG. Representing the Barwon Heads community were Anita Yttrup from the Senior Citizens, Karen Weaver and Suzanne Brown from BH Sustainability Group, David Littleton and Bernard Naphine from the Trader's Association and Judith Brooks, Richard Hastings and Jeremy Gaylard from the BHA.

The meeting was told the latest information on various statistics including the number of crashes (4) and the number of pedestrians crossing (250 per hour on Bridge Rd near Hitchcock 150 per hour in front of the hotel) in what VicRoads calls the Bridge Rd precinct. Mark provided a large aerial photograph to work from and using sticky labels we were asked to attach comments and or suggestions to various areas in the precinct. VicRoads are to provide a summary of this meeting and to work towards providing the drawings for options for the community to consider.

**The BHA put forward the following** – the preferred “treatment” in the Bridge Rd precinct was to be guided by the need to keep the traffic flowing, to give visual signals to drivers, and to allow safe crossings for pedestrians. We prefer a minimal approach working to get a maximum effect.

**The discussion covered the following points**

- 1 Pedestrian crossings needed at Bridge and Hitchcock Ave
- 2 Roundabout works to keep the traffic flowing
- 3 Pedestrian island/refuge in front of IGA dangerous to cyclists
- 4 Crossing needed in front of hotel and the children's playground
- 5 Flinders Pde among others, in danger of becoming a "rat run."
- 6 Golf Links Rd becoming dangerous to cross in peak times.

**VicRoads conducted this meeting in an open and respectful manner and appeared to have an open mind on solutions.** They did not put forward traffic lights as a preferred solution and seemed aware of the need to listen to the community's suggestions. Last month we asked members and residents to give us feedback if they were "alert and alarmed" at the idea of traffic lights in Barwon Heads. Thank you to those who offered thoughtful, reasoned and sometimes passionate opinion on why the village of Barwon Heads should not have traffic lights. If necessary those responses will be included in further discussions with VicRoads

BHA will continue its constant contact with VicRoads so this matter does not lapse.

3 Digital TV reception in Barwon Heads. Correspondence from Stephen Kay on this subject. Various members had differing experiences of poor reception. As this is a Federal matter members were encouraged to contact their Federal MP Sarah Henderson.

4 Further business. Discussion of ongoing campaign to get council to attend to the dangerous Carr St/Geelong Rd East corner and now poorly marked white lines along Flinders Pde. Judith to contact council.

Next meeting April 20<sup>th</sup> 2015

Meeting ended at 8: 20pm