

**MINUTES - Barwon Heads Association Meeting
Monday APRIL 24TH 7:00PM**

BARWON HEADS BOWLING CLUB

Apologies – Judith Brooks, Stephen Paterson, Janet Paisley, Peter Oakley, Michael Palmer, Yvonne Hern, Sarah Jackson, Bernard Naphine, Victoria Strahan, Faye Connors

Attendees – 30 people attended on a really bad night with thunder and lightening and flooded roads. THANKYOU

1. We welcomed Sarah Henderson as our guest – Sarah is our member for Corangamite and a local Barwon Heads resident.
 - Barwon Heads Rd duplication priority, roads are significant resource requiring funding in Corangamite.
 - Public transport, Warnambool/Geelong/Waurn Ponds train a priority; investment in passenger rail important to housing development and critical for the region. Upgrade single line between South Geelong and Marshall 15k. Feasibility study paid by feds. 21st century modern growing system needs proper systems. Inappropriate connections between buses and trains. No proper comprehensive plan.
 - NBN – 13,000 premises can receive NBN, 4000 phones connected. Problem with NBN and Telstra working together.
 - Gas security – significant challenge. Domestic supply has to come first – priority set by the Prime Minister.
 - Population Growth – concern about level of growth. Inadequate discussions between Cth and State. Especially re housing stock and infrastructure. Concern that Barwon Coast hasn't traditionally embraced some of these issues. Congratulate on recent project for netballers; path from 13th beach to town.
 - Concern about the way Armstrong Creek has been developed with no comprehensive plan. Support retention of current boundaries.
 - \$60,000 Fed funding for CTV cameras in Barwon Heads.
 - Safer roads for cyclists
 - Significant discussion on the pedestrian crossings and the perception they have caused the traffic delays in town. Sarah was referred to the output of the recent meeting with Vic Roads.
 - Discussion on the library; Sarah offered her strong support and will advocate on our behalf over the next few days.

2. UPDATE on CURRENT ITEMS

Closure Of The Library

Trish Clayton moved, Jenny Wallace Smith seconded - **The meeting expressed its total support for the retention of the Barwon Heads library, seek a delay in the decision so that constructive consultation can take place. We will attend the meeting of Council on Wednesday 26th of April. Consult Lisa Neville.**

General discussion, parents from school, play groups, senior citizens attended meeting. Concern about lack of notice. Denial of natural justice, not been properly heard. The recommendation to consult after the closure is disgraceful.

Sarah Henderson very supportive of retention of the library. Why is the Barwon Heads Library being closed? Surely at a time when we are experiencing significant growth in town.

The library has been available to the community at limited times (13 hours per week), which probably goes a long way to explaining its limited use. It is also shared with the school and users say it is difficult to use its facilities when the school children are in the facility.

We are also discussing with the School and plan to ask for further time for appropriate community consultation, and proper discussion of all options.

Only costs \$58,000 for Barwon Heads library. Never met the targets. Not rational to close it, limited use of resources for significant community benefit.

Socially beneficial resource.

Note we don't have a Council. Decentralise services and make communities more sustainable.

Ozone Rd Drain - Council has advised as follows: (and we are still trying to get better information)

The catchment size for the Ozone Street outfall is 605288sqm. There are five catchments within Barwon Heads that have existing outfalls to the river, the remainder are dealt with through infiltration (soakage pits) or reuse. In regard to water quality I have made contact with both the EPA (Environment Protection Authority) and CCMA (Corangamite Catchment Management Authority), both of which to not undertake proactive water quality monitoring within the Barwon River estuary. The EPA informed they would only undertake sampling in response to a complaint. The CCMA had not got back to me at the time of writing this, however their website lists the proactive monitoring sites where monitoring is undertaken by their 'waterwatch' volunteers, unfortunately the Barwon River Estuary is not one of these locations.

CoGG had attempted to include a GPT (Gross Pollutant Trap) on the new outfall line, however this was proven during the design process to not be feasible due to constructability and hydraulic constraints.

The pump station has a trash rack / litter basket which removes all large pollutants such as bottles, bags and cans before flows enter the pump station wells.

Council Elections – end of October 2017

Council elections will be upon us sooner than anyone seems prepared for and very little time has elapsed since the sacking of the Councillors. **Many are concerned that there has not been time enough for real cultural change to occur.** We look forward to seeing some fresh faces and not a return of more of the same. Barwon Heads will be part of the proposed large ward of the Bellarine with three Councillors. There is a growing divide between the communities of interest on the Bellarine and the City of Greater Geelong. Unless our Bellarine Ward representatives understand this, the Bellarine will continue to be an afterthought and receive only passing attention from CoGG. We look forward to Councillors who will have the vision and knowledge necessary to protect and nourish the Bellarine, and we believe that Barwon Heads has a very active role to play in this.

If you are interested, or considering standing there is a session organised by WILD (women in local democracy)

Women Sharing Power - 50:50 in 2017 Council Elections

When: Thursday May 11, 5.30 - 6.30 pm

Where: Geelong Library & Heritage Centre, 51 Little Malop Street

9 Bridge Rd

As we have told you already the Panel has recommended permanent protection of the house and tree. We are worried that the tree is not being well maintained.

Ongoing discussions - former kindergarten site in Clifford Pde. (not really discussed)

The use of the former kindergarten building is still being discussed. One of the options mentioned was the possibility of setting up a Community Hub. This hub would cater for many interest groups within Barwon Heads. One of the options mentioned was the possibility of having the Hub incorporate both the former Kindergarten building as well as the Senior Centre as a mega Hub under one committee of management. While it is early days, this possibility was not opposed by Council.

Meeting closed at 8:50pm