

## SPEARWOOD PROGRESS ASSOCIATION Minutes

Minutes are confidential and should not be circulated beyond the member/contact group.

**Meeting date: 6.40 pm-8.10 pm Tuesday, 12 February 2019**

Meeting location: Quiet Reading Room, Spearwood Library

**Purpose of meeting: Setting up Sub-groups, Discuss Strategic Plan, Rockingham Rd Upgrade.**

**Present:** Antony Svilicich (Chair), Alex Campbell, John Cunai, Michelle Cohen, Liz Davey, Paula McLay, Len Glamuzina, Rosemary Fielder, Aryo Stokes, Ray Knight, Maria Knight

**Apologies:** Dollin Knight, Karen Vann, Neil Smith, Lorraine Sims

1. **Introduction.** Antony Svilicich chairs meeting and welcomes attendees. Apologises for change of venue from normal library room – the usual room was booked normally, there appears to have been a double booking. Attendance is recorded, quorum is present. Minutes from previous meeting (8 January 2019) are accepted without alteration and signed.
2. **Actions from previous meeting (8 January 2019).**
  - Group document depository – Gogledrive. Antony has set up Gogledrive for potentially storing documents (ie Agenda, Minutes). Can set up passwords for group. A guide to how to use it was suggested.
  - Ideas for SPA website content and logo. Paula circulated ideas of possible website content and logo ideas, little feedback. Antony circulated 4 draft logos, logo 2 chosen with alterations. Paula & Antony have constructed website, waiting on final logo to go live.
  - Insurance. Paula submitted public liability insurance forms to City of Cockburn Community Development Group, coverage was confirmed on 1-2-2019. Does not cover events with over 500 people or if there are market type stalls.
  - Membership list. Paula updated membership list.
  - Concealing email addresses for privacy reasons. Paula is circulating Minutes and Agenda using bcc to hide email addresses. Anyone else circulating to all members should do the same.
  - Sub-Groups. Paula circulated list about forming subgroups, no feedback received.
  - Status of Chicken Treat building. Simone reports "There are currently no active plans, an approval for a petrol station was granted in July 2017. The development is yet to begin and the approval is only valid for 2 years. After that period the approval will lapse and be of no further effect."
  - SPA Facebook page. Michelle/Antony have set up Facebook. Currently 147 followers and over 10 000 hits on Rockingham Rd post.
  - Public meeting on Rockingham Rd revitalisation. John & Len had meeting with Andrew Trosic 14-1-19, outcomes below. Email from Cockburn circulated Feb 1, see page 3 – discuss under Main meeting issue.
    - Commencing early February, letters sent to all directly adjoining landowners and tenants and business owners, to officially make them aware of the two concepts and to invite comment together with the invitation to meet one on one with Donna and myself;

- b. Letter sent to the shopping centre, advising them specifically of the road concept adjoining their site, and that the City is hopeful of engaging them on their thoughts to this;
  - c. Simultaneous to this, a newspaper advert, Comment on Cockburn website and social media posts that invite broader participation by landowners, community members, surrounding businesses and the like. Also, an invitation for the Phoenix Working Group, Spearwood Residents Group, Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors to attend an initial launch presentation (end of week 1 in February) that explains both concepts, and the process of engagement taking place;
  - d. Run engagement for 5 weeks, which will include in week 2 and 3, two separate open day events. This would be an evening session here at the City of Cockburn, and a Saturday morning session at the Phoenix Shopping Centre;
  - e. Static display within shopping centre;
  - f. Aim for Council consideration April 2019 OCM.
- Shopping trolleys from Phoenix shopping centre. John/Len/Antony had meeting with Phoenix centre management about 17-1-19. Management get daily complaints but can't do anything. Trolleys controlled by Big W/Woolies. Antony sent letter to Woolworths manager 29-1-19 (no reply yet), registered trolleys on Trolley Locator website. Antony suggests using Snap & Solve phone ap to report issues like this to City of Cockburn.

### 3. Business.

- List communication tools. GoogleDrive set up by Antony. Facebook has Antony as administrator and Liz and Michelle as editors. Need to keep track of access/administration rights as SPA personnel will change over time.
- Power outages. Rosemary reports north Spearwood has been having frequent power outages since Oct 2018, up to 4 in a month. Power company blames poles (fires, termites). There is a security issue because of lack of street lights at night, outage has caused fire alarms to sound for 5 hours continuously and with the NBN now in the area, all non-mobile communications are lost with power outages. Not all promised communications from power company are reaching Rosemary. Antony says there is a list of performance standards on his bill, will send a copy to Rosemary. Paula says there is a service charter on their website, and suggests keeping exact records of future outages so they can be specified in future communication with power company.  
*Action: Antony to send power company performance standards/rules to Rosemary.*

### 4. Main meeting issue: Setting up Sub-groups, Discuss Strategic Plan, Rockingham Rd Upgrade.

At the previous meeting it was decided that setting up sub-groups would be the subject of this current meeting. This has been deferred to a future meeting. Discussing the Strategic Plan was scheduled for this current meeting but there was insufficient time to introduce the subject. The rest of the meeting centred around the Rockingham Rd Upgrade. The City of Cockburn has just announced consultation on this project, centred around two options for the road flow and beautification. There will be public displays, SPA is to have discussions with the City, and the proposals are currently open for public comment. Len displayed large scale maps of the two options being discussed (from City of Cockburn).

John wanted to know how the decision was made to post information about the City of Cockburn's Rockingham Road Upgrade public consultation on the SPA Facebook. He says there should have been consultation, consensus. People could give uninformed comments. People should have more details, background and pictures of other suburbs (ie Mt Lawley, Subiaco) where road beautification has been done, showing potential. He and Len are forcing Cockburn to get to this point, they didn't want to. John says he was offended by the information being circulated, wants it on record he thinks this was mismanaged. Antony says that he posted the information – it was communicating relevant public record information to the community, there was no opinions expressed. Michelle says some people

on Facebook are indicating they were unaware of the plan's existence. Getting group agreement before every post to social media isn't feasible. Pre-meeting communications stated there were some negative comments on the proposals. Aryo queries if this means some committee members feel they shouldn't support the proposal. It was queried how negative comments on social media were being managed; the response was people can make what comments they will. Alex says that there is a lot of silent support for the proposal.

Aryo says she didn't like the main topic of the meeting being changed from forming sub-groups to discussing the Rockingham Road proposals. It is hard for her to get to meetings, and she wanted to discuss the sub-groups. Karen had spent considerable time preparing for discussions on the sub-groups. Aryo says the main topic shouldn't have changed. Antony says the Rockingham Rd proposal had been released after the original meeting plans were made, and the City of Cockburn indicates that they will be consulting with SPA shortly. This is an important issue, and consequently we need to discuss the Rockingham Rd proposals before we meet with the City of Cockburn. The original topic was only deferred because of the urgency and importance of the Rockingham Rd issue.

John says the SPA committee is good at dotting the I's and crossing the t's but dropping the ball on other things. SPA should move meetings out of Spearwood Library to somewhere else, perhaps Spearwood Primary School. Rockingham Rd is John & Len's project, it had a life before. 1000's of hours of professional time gone into plans. In 2008 200+ people had planning meetings. Western side of road is now zoned for higher density housing or businesses, so businesses could line both sides of road. Rockingham Rd upgrade is a small part of a bigger plan, City of Cockburn can't sell a road plan to the public, they need to sell a vision of a community hub.

Traffic flow on plans discussed. Both options 1 & 2 remove 1 set of traffic lights (Lancaster St), option 1 introduces 2 roundabouts, option 2 has 3. Option 1 has few right turning lanes making it difficult for people to turn into businesses, especially if coming from the south. Don't want to discourage business trade. Don't want traffic turning into businesses to spill out of turning lanes and close the road to passing traffic. Issues around large vehicles (buses/trucks) being able to negotiate roundabouts (are roundabouts big enough?). Issues around access for emergency vehicles (Alex says these vehicles will avoid using the road).

Plantings discussed. Trees need to be selected carefully. Need to ensure they won't get so big as to obstruct sight-lines around junctions, or hang over the roads and impede buses or delivery trucks. Don't want deciduous trees – can slip on shed leaves. Low planting on verges and in middle of roundabouts need to be low enough to protect sight-lines. All plants also need to be tough enough to survive.

Question on why people want to change a good 4 lane road into 2 lanes, slowing traffic flow and causing congestion. Cockburn envisages having a 40km/hr speed limit in area.

Paula says one issue that has come up repeatedly is people wanting pedestrian access across Rockingham Road at Kent St, particularly for seniors. Option 1 has a roundabout at this location, but pedestrians are likely to find crossing at the roundabout difficult, especially with heavy traffic. Option 2 does nothing for pedestrian crossing at this point. Suggests consideration of a pelican crossing or alternative.

Michelle says that a significant part of making the area nicer is having the shops and their carparks done up and made to look "prettier". How can that be done? John says the road upgrade shows Cockburn's commitment to area, they've started the process and this should

encourage businesses to join in and upgrade. Cockburn will be meeting the stakeholders individually – definitely trying to influence shops to improve. John says SPA should encourage businesses also. But the shops are private property and they can't be forced to do anything. Paula points out the cost to business' of the planned upgrade – either option will require 12-18 months of construction, with access to many businesses restricted during this time; this will reduce profit and some companies won't be able to survive. Suggestion that we ask City about compensation for impacted small businesses.

John calls for a public meeting on the Rockingham Rd upgrade. SPA to run it, have City of Cockburn Councillors and planning people. Bring up point of trying to "pretty up" shops.

Paula says Option 1 has bike path, Option 2 doesn't. But bike paths disappear at roundabouts – bikes would be directed onto foot/dual use path at roundabouts but if some bike riders opt to go onto the road at the roundabouts this will be dangerous. Query if roundabouts big enough to have bike paths around them.

Examples of similar road upgrades discussed. John says the low speed, two lane, café/shop lined roads in Mount Lawley and Subiaco are examples of what Rockingham Rd would become. Ray points out that in these areas businesses invested in the shops, and this was followed by street beautification, but there are suggestions here that slowing/beautifying Rockingham Rd will drive (rather than follow) this investment, although the economy is not as strong now. Paula points out that a closer example might be Farrington Rd, with a two lanes and roundabouts, but shops set well back from the street, not the same "vib". Liz suggests a road in Armadale which was totally closed to traffic and asks if this is possible. Seems unlikely, Rockingham Rd is rated to move traffic, Main Roads unlikely to want it closed, there are few viable alternative north/south roads, and the Armadale example was at a railway station where high levels of foot traffic were expected.

Aryo says she doesn't like the library venue for our meetings, where we have to leave at 8pm. Wants a venue open until 9, preferably with coffee facilities.

John says the current City of Cockburn plans for the Rockingham Rd upgrade are "concept" plans. If there is enough adverse comment they can be scrapped, or modified and put out for community comment. John says SPA should have an association meeting in about 2 weeks and should put forward to Cockburn to extend their community comment period for 30 days.

## **5. Standing items.**

- Update from Neighbourhood Watch. Rosemary says the formation of the Spearwood Progress Association was brought up at recent Neighbourhood Watch meeting, but no discussion of it. Police are doing their best to be proactive about crime in Cockburn.
- Update on heritage wall on Spearwood Ave. Len says the two 20m walls have been installed along Spearwood Ave. This enterprise has been at least 2 years in the making and there will be about 24 paintings on the walls. They are dealing with the artist daily. Completion date at least 6 weeks away. Starting to talk to residents about unveiling ceremony.

## **6. New business.**

- Alex says the Coogee Beach Progress Society has published a letter on Stock Road and SPA should support it.
- Aryo indicates she will take up the fourth position for a dinner at the Coogee Beach Lifesaving Club on March 6<sup>th</sup>.

7. **Next meeting.** Need a special meeting soon to discuss Rockingham Road upgrade. Meeting at 6.30pm on Tuesday February 26<sup>th</sup>. Venue to be decided and emailed. Alex gives apologies for this date.  
*Action: All to schedule in next meeting for 6.30pm on Tues 26 February at the decided venue.*

PMc 15-2-2019

Minutes Approved

Antony Sirkicid

Name



Signature

19/3/19

Date