

410th General Meeting

Held at Warrimoo Rural Fire Service Hall----Monday, 23rd June 2014

Meeting Opened: 7.07 pm

Acknowledgement of Country and Custodians: Bob Treasure

Apologies: Lachlan Davis, Allan Bewley

Attendance: Steve Barratt, Ron Andrews, Bob Treasure, Ray Piper, Tony Montgomery, Suzanne Brand, Judy Whiley, (Cr) Anton von Schulenburg, Mayor Mark Greenhill (late)

Minutes of Previous Meeting: The previous advertised general meeting for 25th February 2014 did not achieve a quorum so no minutes were taken. Minutes from the AGM of that evening, plus those of the December (2013) meeting were tabled.

Business Arising: Nil

Correspondence: *Out*, vote of thanks to Mayor Mark Greenhill and BMCC for their support over the concrete median strip issue. *Out*, e-mail to Nathan Summers (BMCC Recreation Development Officer) regarding the renaming of the old Arthur Street Park and its possible official opening; additional play equipment; and proposed mural. *In*: replies from Nathan Summers, read to meeting.

Some discussion followed.

Business Arising: Nil

Treasurers Report: Balance as at 31/12/2013 = \$1, 784.73

Income =	\$37.00
Expenditure =	\$113.26

Balance as at 23/6/2014 = \$ 1, 708. 26

Motion: “That the Treasurer’s Report be accepted.”

Moved: Ron Andrews

Seconded: Tony Montgomery

Clearly Carried.

Report: On the steps leading to the construction of concrete median strips on the Great Western Highway from Bewley Bridge to the Torwood Road ‘Bush Median’—Bob Treasure.

Bob tabled a detailed report which will be kept in the Association’s archives for any historical reference. He summarised by saying:

- Once the ‘Black Spot’ funds were allocated from the Federal govt., the RMS and the State govt. were determined to cover the maximum amount of highway for the minimal cost—negotiations were straightjacketed by this.

- The process of negotiation plus other distractions (bushfires, Ball in the Hall, Spring Fair) served to divert WCA from measures that might otherwise have been taken to raise resident awareness and opposition: leaflet drops, surveys, petitions. We had hoped to get a 'fair deal' from our consultations.
- Congratulations go to President Lachlan Davis for his efforts in generating awareness on the issue, Vice-President Allan Bewley for his paid advertisement in the BM Gazette, and Mark Greenhill and BMCC for their statement of support.
- Important to remember the indifference to WCA pleas from elected State and Federal Members Roza Sage and Louise Markus...

Business Arising: Some discussion. Report tabled.

Report: On the possible Impact of a Badgerys Creek Airport and low flying aircraft recently observed in the area---Ron Andrews (with map graphics).

- This time, airport construction announced without an Environmental Impact Statement, and vague commitments to 'infrastructure' like road upgrades and railways.
- No clarity of curfew requirements, or freight vs passenger services, or runway directions.
- Badgerys Creek airport would be 22 kms from Warrimoo
- For MOST of the proposed flight-paths, Warrimoo would be affected.
- 70-80 decibel levels on landing or take-offs. This is on top of already existent highway and railway noise.
- What about the catchment area and dam, and the prevalence of fogs?
- Jackie Kelly, Conservation Society and BMCC all oppose the Airport, and there is a possible demonstration/motorcade happening in September at Penrith.
- Correspondence from Air Services Australia via Louise Markus confirms the number of flights over the mountains earlier this year increased from 2013, citing wind direction as a somewhat spurious reason, however Ron is unable to obtain an answer to the simple question of why are the planes flying considerably lower than they have in the past.

Business Arising: Questions and discussion. Other members confirmed the additional aircraft activity and noise happening already...

Motion: 'The WCA congratulates and supports the Blue Mountains City Council and its Mayor in their opposition to the construction of an airport at Badgerys Creek'

Moved: Bob Treasure

Seconded: Ron Andrews

Carried

Motion: 'That the WCA approach Air Services Australia and ask why, since December 2013 and thereafter, planes have been flying over Warrimoo at a height considerably lower than previously.'

Moved: Ron Andrews

Seconded: Sue Brand

Carried

Report: The 'Local Environment Plan' and its relevance to Warrimoo—Steve Barratt.

Steve reported that the new LEP currently before Council is part of a strategy to bring council policies across the State into a 'one size fits all' situation. There were 595 submissions, 4,636 matters raised, 70% of submissions supported the draft, and basically all the protections in terms of limitations on developments, zonings, building heights and codes, all remain safe as previously practised by BMCC. There will be minimal, if any, impact on Warrimoo.

Business Arising: Steve was thanked for his efforts and the report was received.

Website Update: Bob reported that a new <Warrimoo.org> website would be up and running by the next meeting in September.

Warrimoo History: Some discussion of Warrimoo history and the need for Bob to visit Bruce Cameron at Sun Valley. Sue raised the issue of a storage space for archival material—maybe in the Fire Station somewhere? Steve to investigate.

Notice of Motion: “That WCA endorse a proposed mural for the bare wall at the rear of Possum Park”—

Moved: Bob Treasure

Seconded: Tony Montgomery

In speaking to the motion, Bob read out the requirements for community support for park murals stipulated by BMCC. Sketch of the proposal, the ‘Bush Bazaar’ from *Blinky Bill Grows Up*, was shown to all and Bob undertook to consult with relevant neighbours to Possum Park.

Motion carried unanimously.

General Business: Tony Montgomery was invited to explain his proposal made to Roza Sage. He reported that he sought the construction of a ramp on the northern side of Warrimoo Station, and that this is sorely needed by aged people, mothers with prams, and people with disabilities from this part of the township.

Motion: ‘WCA investigate ways to highlight the need for a ramp for Northern access to Warrimoo Station and the other side.’

Moved: Tony Montgomery

Seconded: Bob Treasure

Motion carried.

Seat repair: Judy Whiley indicated the seats in Ardill Park were in poor repair and needed some Council action. WCA promised to follow this up, as did Mayor Mark Greenhill later in the meeting.

Motor bikes in bush areas: these remain a problem, and riders are becoming more stropky and aggressive. Meeting agreed to keep a close record and to contact police at every invasion.

Mayor Greenhill arrived at around 8.45 and reported on several BMCC matters. He indicated that, due to Federal/State cutbacks, funds for township maintenance and upgrades would not be available for 2014-15, but due to budgetary stringencies, there would be some possibility of improvements for Warrimoo in the 2015-16 Works Program. This includes extra parking at Warrimoo Oval, as well as, possibly, 4 or 5 projects of ‘reasonable cost’ for the betterment of the Warrimoo Community.

As a consequence of the Mayor’s address WCA carried the following motion:

Motion: ‘That a special meeting of WCA executive, plus any other interested Warrimooians, take place to prioritise 4 to 6 projects to present to BMCC for inclusion in their Works Program.’

Moved: Bob Treasure

Seconded: Judy Whiley

Motion carried.

MEETING CLOSED: 9.27pm

Next Meeting: Monday 27th October, 7.30pm RFS Headquarters...