



Minutes Community Meeting 9 September 2023

Meeting Started: 6.15pm

Present: Phillip and Elizabeth Powell, Susie Marshall, Sharon Shearer, Scott Hardy, Andrew Schwager, Robert Schwager and Kate Schwager

Apologies: Lucinda and Sandy Stump, Coral Marshall, John Clements, Mandy Austin, Steve Gardiner, Janine Powell

Minutes of previous Meeting

Business arising from previous meetings:

Meeting with GM –

Megan Dixon, the General Manager of The Walgett Shire, visited the Burren Junction Progress Committee, where various important town-related and committee-related matters were discussed on Monday, the 21st of August.

During the meeting, Ms Dixon strongly advised the Progress Committee against forming a 355 committee.

Instead, she outlined the benefits of becoming an Incorporated body operating as a Progress Association under the NSW Fair Trading model rules.

While this shift would require addressing concerns about insurance and governance, Ms Dixon emphasised that this approach would grant the committee greater influence in advocating with the Council and more autonomy.

By working alongside the Council but not as an integral part, the committee would be better positioned to apply for grants and achieve their envisioned goals.

A significant topic covered by Ms Dixon was the Council's four-year strategic planning cycle.

She expressed her commitment to collaborate closely with the community to devise a tailored Place Plan that aligns with the specific needs of Burren Junction.

This Place Plan, to which the Council and the community would contribute, would involve a designated "champion" from each side, acting as a communication bridge.

The Place Plan would encompass vital aspects such as addressing issues with the bore, town drainage, inadequate water supply, the development of the sports precinct, creating a walking path, the Big Boomerang idea, and any other priorities outlined by the community.

Despite potential funding limitations, this comprehensive plan would ensure a unified direction for the community.

Kazi Mahmoud, the newly appointed director of engineering, would lead the effort to formulate a water plan as a pivotal component of the strategic Place Plan.

Regarding ongoing funding, there is a potential allocation of \$180,000 (in the 2023/24 budget) designated for the purpose of lighting and watering the oval.

This allocation requires confirmation.

Additionally, \$130,000 has been earmarked for the subsequent year to fund a "mobile kitchen," which the committee understands as refurbishing the tennis shed to include a kitchen.

The exact purpose of these two fund allocations will be clarified by Council.
Ms Dixon expressed her desire to attend at least one committee meeting each year, and she plans to extend invitations to Councillors to attend also.
Addressing the Burren Junction Bore, there is a need for restoration and a sustainable solution to ensure its operation between March and October.
Compliance with the Environmental Protection Agency's rulings on the bore would be a priority, along with enhancing the bore's appearance, installing new signs, and improving the fence and surrounding areas.
These endeavors will be integrated into the comprehensive Place Plan for Burren Junction.

The members of the Progress Committee are looking forward to working with the Walgett Shire to address these issues.

Walking Path – Someone might drag scape the path that has been mowed.

Lectern for Hall -Scott got some great ideas from Year 6 and will keep at it.

Hall (septic, toilets) - Phillip will chase up the plumber (since meeting it has been finished)

Boomerang -Amanda Shirvington application on its way and Scott offered the vacant block on the main road to put it if the Tahi land did not come through.

Truck stops – Powell's tabled a letter re reply from the Minister for Transport. No to the change of the Highway. Powell's will write a reply.

Bird problem in Hall – has been fixed.

Gym – VRA have in their plan a gym to be added to their building for community use.

Bikes (history tour) – Ongoing project once incorporated will seek funding.

Blue Tree – Finished looks great (boom lift donated) trimmed then painted white then blue. Looks fantastic and thank you to those who organized this. It has been registered on the blue tree website.

Cancelling of the Night at the Hall ADAMA funding to go to the Touch Competition

New Business:

Crematorium Wall at the Cemetery – Email from Sue Harris asking that this be put in our rejigged Place Plan.

Incorporated BJ Progress Committee – **Kate** to ask WW Chamber insurance they used and ask Cherise the Insurance company that does not for profit organisations.

Kate to find the constitution and paperwork from Department of Fair Trading.

Spikes at the Barbecue: Could shire put spikes up above the barbecue in the park to stop the birds.

Grants: Mentioned there are a lot about, until we are incorporated, we just need to look. Incorporation is a priority.

Daylight Saving change of time: Look at changing the time to 7pm once DS comes into effect.

Meeting Closed: 7.06pm

Next Meeting: 7pm, Wednesday 11th October