

Gidgegannup Progress Association – Report Feb 2018

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Next meetings: 19th March, 16th April, 15th May, 2018 at 7.30pm at the Agricultural Hall

Telecommunications

Following community requests, the GPA has organised for Telstra to attend at the Recreational Club to hold a forum/information session on technical equipment which may help people to get connected and stay connected to our local telecommunications system. Many residents have complained of difficulties, if not seeming impossibilities, to get a reliable internet/mobile phone connection.

We had just over twenty people attending the meeting, which was a good number as Telstra (there was a team of four) were able to deal with individual queries and take notes of residents details who needed a visit from a technician to help them out , particularly with their existing equipment to get the best out of it.

It was decided that we would wait to see the effect the Reen Road tower has on services before recommending people upgrade their equipment. Telstra were extremely helpful and gave advice on the differences to 3G and 4G service that many people might not have realised and how to get the best out of 3G equipment on a 4G tower. There will be a full report on this for the next Gidgegram.

Antenna, booster boxes and modems were discussed and recommendations made to boost mobile and landline/ADSL service. Telstra stressed that they are continuing to maintain the copper network and that reports of faults need to be made before any action can be taken. These can be made on line at <https://service.telstra.com.au/general/home-phone-fault>

NBN coverage of the area hopes to be achieved by August 2018 but as we all know there can be delays due to development applications. When development applications are advertised for NBN towers, we, as a community, need to get behind these applications to get them approved as soon as possible.

Gidgegannup Progress Association – Report Feb 2018

The meeting gave Telstra a great deal of information and better recognition of the community's needs in this area which will help them when they attend the Small Farm Field Day at the end of May.

Thanks to Telstra for attending the meeting, the community and the Recreation Club for hosting it.

Local Government Act 1995 – Review

For the first time in more than 20 years, the Local Government Act 1995 is being reviewed. The link to submit submissions to this review is at <https://dlgc.wa.gov.au/Publications/Pages/Local-Government-Act-Review-Phase-1-Consultation-Paper.aspx>

Deadline for Submissions on this has been extended until **9th March, 2018**. Phase 2 will be available for comment later in 2018. It is important to have your say on the Local Government Act Review as many people have been outraged by the Rates Review documents sent out by the City in October 2017 and now is your chance to have your say.

Toodyay Road – Reen/Stoneville Roads, O'brien/Roland Roads Intersections

Latest news: Reen Road will be closed at Toodyay Road intersection for about four weeks from 7am Monday 12 February to Friday 9 March. A detour will be in place via The Springs Road.

A future closure of Stoneville Road at Toodyay Road is also planned and will be advertised when dates are available. Detours are planned via Lakeview Drive and Country Road.

Speed restrictions and traffic management remain in place on Toodyay Road and side roads. Road users are encouraged to observe all signage.

Mri Services At Midland Hospital

Ken Wyatt has met with lobbyists. There is a reluctance to allocate further MRI licences although as a result of election promises, three have been awarded in Eastern States. Ken supports an MRI licence for Midland and has written to Minister. He hopes one will be obtained even if it has to be an issue at the next election.

Surface Water Licences

Response from DWER:

Gidgegannup Progress Association – Report Feb 2018

Thank you for your enquiry dated 5 February 2018 regarding surface water licenses.

I understand your concerns regarding climate and rainfall and the need to ensure environmental flows are maintained in our rivers and creeks. While on-stream dams can be constructed under current legislation and this has occurred in the past, the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation does not now generally encourage such construction. Where on-stream dams do occur, their operation, including the maintenance of flow to downstream users and the environment, is described in the conditions of the relevant surface water licence.

In response to the questions you have raised in your letter:

- If land is sold and legal access to the land ceases there is a requirement for the licensee to inform the Department within 30 days of settlement of their intention to apply to transfer the licence to the purchaser of the property. If this is not carried out, the Department may recoup the licensed entitlement.
- There is no requirement for licence details to be noted on the title deeds of a property.
- Once the Department is notified of change in ownership, new owners are informed of the conditions of a licence, which may include conditions that ensure low flow bypass associated with dams on surface water resources.
- When a property is sold, the new owner does not automatically gain a right to take water under the previous owner's water licence. An application needs to be made to transfer the licence to the new owner and this is assessed.

The Department's website is a good source of licensing information and may be helpful to you. If you require further information please contact Mr Don Cummins, Regional Manager Swan Avon on 6250 8002.

Noted that water courses can be dammed but management of the flow in summertime is of particular importance with flow in/out balance. Owner has to have responsibility and ensure the flow ratio is maintained.

Emrc Issues

EMRC have notified community re. blasting at the Waste facility. Details at

<http://www.emrc.org.au/waste-services/waste-and-recycling-services/red-hill-waste-management-facility.aspx>

Gidgegannup Progress Association – Report Feb 2018

Proposed Gravel Extraction – 3650 (lot 556) Toodyay Road – Bailup

It is believed that this should come before the Shire of Mundaring Council in March.

Heritage Assessment Convicts

GPA ensured Convict ruins are on the State Heritage Register to protect for the future.

Dust From Hanson Stockpiles

Resident reported dust from Hanson Stockpiles. Hansons following up.

Hansons are applying for an extension to their quarry -

<https://www.swan.wa.gov.au/Services-support/Property-land/Public-consultation-list/Proposed-development-applications-list>

Rubbish Clean Up Toodyay Road

There are no plans in place for the City to arrange another clean up along Toodyay Road. The City is currently focussing on other areas and its own roads to initiate and promote local support for cleaning up the verges. Unfortunately our resources do not enable the City to arrange these clean-ups in all areas on an ongoing basis.

Rather communities are encouraged to register with the Adopt a Spot program to undertake roadside clean-ups, although on Toodyay Road you will need to seek permission from Main Roads (as the City has done in the past). Information about how to do this is available from the following link:

<https://www.kabc.wa.gov.au/get-involved/adoptaspot/adoptaspot-faqs>

As this is a Main Roads issue it was felt that this should be raised at the next TLC meeting. With road works being carried out not a necessity until completion. Member Councils of the EMRC should also be informed as it is felt that we have a greater impact from rubbish with the EMRC facility at Red Hill.

West Gidgegannup Fire Station

It was raised that it was felt that City of Swan were dragging their heels on progressing this Fire Station. Particularly as the OMC of 15th November, 2017 recommended it proceed with no delay. Felt that the City

Gidgegannup Progress Association – Report Feb 2018

were receiving 15% of \$1.8mn for project expenses – amounting to \$270,000 and this could provide payment for a full time project officer plus support.

Narrow Leaf Cottonbush

City had written to Department of Agriculture re. this becoming a declared weed on 29th September, 2017. We also emailed Minister. We have heard nothing further. The weed is spreading fast on road verges. GPA will be following up.

Water Tank Programme

It was reported that a water tank has been installed on the verge in Reserve Road 400m North of Catalanos entrance. Community to be vigilant for any thefts of water from tank.