

Gidgegannup Progress Association Inc. - March 2017

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Next Meetings: 24th April, 15th May, 19th June, 2017 at 7.30pm

Note April meeting has been moved to avoid Easter.

MOBILE PHONE TOWER - BLACK SPOT FUNDED

This refers to the mobile phone tower (not NBN) which will be erected on a Reen Road property. We have now been informed that the tower is under construction by Ken Wyatt's office. We have also been advised that the build would need to proceed outside of winter. Given other priorities on the program it would be a surprise to have this site ready for build prior to winter. It is suspected that this site will be programmed in for a spring build around September/October. The Contract has been signed by all parties, including the Landholder.

TOODYAY ROAD INTERSECTION WORKS

The upgrades are continuing. We need to query with Main Roads as to whether the upgrades planned for 2017/18 will proceed under a Labor Government, as the most dangerous intersections at Stoneville/Reen Rd, Obrien Rd and Roland Road were not scheduled to occur until 2017/18 Financial year.

The next TLC Meeting is to be held at 6.00pm on Thursday May 11, 2017, at the Agricultural Hall.

Ahead of the forthcoming Small Farm Field Day at the end of May, there was also a query as to how access to the Showgrounds will be affected by roadworks at the Old Coach junction with Toodyay Road. It was noted that the TLC did not nominate this intersection as dangerous because of the 60kmh limit, but Main Roads identified it as needing an upgrade following their safety audit.

TOODYAY ROAD LITTER

Ian Robinson has confirmed that the date for the **Toodyay Road Clean up is Saturday, 29th April, 2017**. City will be producing a flyer for distribution.

UV RATING;

This is on the Council Agenda for 15th March, 2017. Recommendation is: It is recommended that the Council continues to follow the current Annual Budget and Rate Methodology processes and approve a review of all Unimproved Valued properties as to their predominant rural use.

Subsequent to the Council Meeting last week, the resolution was deferred until there had been further consultation with the Swan Valley Rate Payers and Residents Association.

WARDS AND REPRESENTATION REVIEW; This is scheduled to be discussed at the OMC of 15th March, 2017. Recommendation is: the present separate ward system should be replaced by one large ward encompassing the whole of the City of Swan.

As a result of the very lengthy Swan Council Meeting last week which confirmed an error in reporting of population numbers in the Vines which would affect the distribution of Councillors, a Ward solution had to be reviewed. It was clear that there was very little support for a single large ward system. Rather, it appears that Guildford will be combined with Gidgegannup and the Swan Valley, but Guildford strongly want to remain with Midland. Cr. Henderson indicated that there would need to be a further meeting to rescind the resolution adopted at the meeting of 15th March, 2017.

Agenda Item for Special OMC 27th March, 2017:
Special meeting of Council regarding the Wards and representation Review will be held on Monday, 27th March, 2017. Details of the agenda can be found on the City website. Part 1 recommendation is to " Revoke the decisions made on Item 6.2 - Wards and Representation as resolved at the Ordinary Meeting of Council on 15 March 2017."

PART 2

That the Council resolve to:

1) Endorse the attached report with an amendment to the map included for Option 2 of the Discussion Paper to reflect the data provided.

2) In accordance with clause 9 of Schedule 2.2 of the *Local Government Act 1995* propose to the Local Government Advisory Board the making of an order under sections 2.2, 2.3 and 2.18 of the *Local Government Act 1995* to implement a change to the wards and representation of the City of Swan as follows:

a) Combine North Ward and Ellenbrook Ward to create a new ward and fix the number of Councillors for the ward at four (4),

b) Transfer the locality of The Vines from the combined North Ward and Ellenbrook Ward to the Swan Valley/Gidgegannup Ward,

c) Include the entire locality of Middle Swan in Swan Valley/Gidgegannup Ward.

d) Transfer those parts of the locality of Henley Brook not located in the Swan Valley Planning Act area from Ellenbrook Ward and Swan Valley/Gidgegannup Ward to Altone Ward,

e) Transfer that remaining part of the locality of Caversham not in the Swan Valley Planning Act area from Swan Valley/Gidgegannup Ward to Altone Ward,

f) Transfer the localities of Whiteman and Bennett Springs from Altone Ward to Ballajura Ward,

g) Transfer the locality of Jane Brook from Swan Valley/Gidgegannup Ward to Midland/Guildford Ward, and

3) Request that these changes be implemented at the 2017 local government elections and to implement the changes:

a) the one continuing councillor of the Ellenbrook Ward be allocated to the new Ellenbrook/North Ward and an election be held for the three vacancies with two four year terms and one two year term to be filled,

4) Name the new combined North Ward and Ellenbrook Ward, Pearce Ward and all other wards to retain their current name.

5) Submit to the Local Government Advisory Board.

Hopefully this will go ahead smoothly after the errors of the previous meeting.

STATE ELECTION 2017:

This election resulted in a landslide victory for the Labor party. We would like to thank Frank Alban who has been our MLA for eight years for his dedication and wish him well. We welcome Jessica Shaw who is now our MLA.

FEDERAL FUNDING FOR BRIDGES;

Cr Henderson asked for resident feedback as to whether there were local bridges in need of works which would be funded under this Federal program. There were two mentioned:

REEN ROAD BRIDGE OVER THE GIDGEGANNUP BROOK

There are no safety rails.

Approach is via a blind bend and visibility is very poor.

OBRIEN ROAD BRIDGE OVER THE WOOROLOO BROOK

Signs fall off the old timbers regularly.

The road surface on approach is rough and subsided.

It is a single lane bridge and hooners and motorbikists do not give way to approaching traffic, resulting in several near misses.

There have been numerous accidents and vehicles have gone off the bridge or on approach and ended up in the river.

OBrien Road traffic volumes say that it is long overdue to be dual lane width. Approach is by blind bend on both sides and very poor visibility particularly on the south side.

STATE ELECTION – FUNDING OF LOCAL PROJECTS

There are several local projects incomplete which are potentially jeopardized by the change in State Government and its different spending priorities:

1. Percy Cullen Oval lighting
2. Toodyay Road intersection upgrades to Stoneville/Reen Roads, OBrien Rd and Roland Road
3. Main Roads land for new West Gidgegannup Fire Station

The GPA will be contacting our new member to enquire as to whether these projects, committed to by the previous Government, will still go ahead under Labor.

ORANGE ROUTE and TOODYAY ROAD

The informal Meeting held at short notice in Gidgegannup last week with Minister Ken Wyatt indicated that talk had commenced about the Orange Route. Cr Rod Henderson believes that it'll be talk only for a long time.

Members commented on the waste of money spent on "upgrading" Toodyay Rd between Farrell Rd and Roe Hwy. The outcome was essentially only cosmetic as the road still remained two lane width. This was contrasted with Kalamunda Road into Maida Vale, which did not seem to experience the heavy truck traffic of Toodyay Rd, yet was 4 lanes width

and the traffic flowed very well, unlike Toodyay Road which daily banked back well past the Jane Brook Bridge.

RESERVE ROAD INTERSECTION

There has been a complaint about Main Roads intention to cut down some of the memorial trees (Spotted Gums) ahead of Reserve Road intersection upgrade. Main Roads were unaware of the trees' significance until contacted by the GPA. A search was made for the Memorial Plaques and only 1 was found. Whilst Main Roads hope to remove less than the number taped, they observed a preference to remove a non-native (to WA) species rather than the bushland on the other side of the road. It was felt that the upgrade to this intersection was a necessity.