

Attending:

Peter	Ashton	Deloraine
Annette	Barrett	Tasmanian Health Service
Gerry	Bartley	Hadspen Neighbourhood Watch
Kim	Brundle-Lawrence	Red Cross (Carrick)
Andrew	Connor	MVC Councillor (Blackstone Heights)
Agnicszka	Connor	Blackstone Heights
Jill	Cunningham	Carrick
Dino	De Paoli	MVC Director Infrastructure Services
Malcolm	Eastley	Deloraine
Patrick	Gambles	MVC
Craig	Hoey	Road Safety Branch (Dept of State Growth)
Vicki	Jordan	MVC Community Officer
Bernie	Stevenson	Carrick
Sheila	Stevenson	Carrick
Bev	Sweetnam	Hadspen
Rodney	Synfield	MVC Councillor

Apologies: Howard Colvin (Red Cross), Judy Husband (Red Cross), Clr Tanya King, Sgt Phil Summers (Tas Police), Issy Ulbrich, Lynette While (MVC), Clr Deb White

1. WELCOME & APOLOGIES

Meeting opened at 7pm. Patrick welcomed everyone. Group members introduced themselves. He then circulated the latest minutes and agenda.

2. POINTS RAISED FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

2e) The Hadspen Lions Club received a \$3000 grant from Council and a heritage-style noticeboard similar to those in Westbury is to be installed. Board to be constructed by end of April 2017.

3a) A Drug & Alcohol Forum is to be held before Christmas in accordance with the VALLEYSAFE Action Plan. Forum scheduled for 12 Dec. Postponed due to low numbers – to be rescheduled.

4a) MVC did apply for funding to run a Traffic Management Course; however, the application was unsuccessful. Council will now look to run and fund its own program in December. The course ran and nine community volunteers attended.

4c) The Meander Valley Gazette carries regular community safety items. It is, in itself, a most effective resource for building community connections. It was agreed that the Group should send a letter to the Gazette to show its appreciation. U3A has already sent the Gazette a letter of support. The support letter from the Safety Group was published in the December 2016 Gazette.

5c) CCTV project for Westbury/Deloraine

A Liberal Federal Election pledge of \$50,000 was made. Council has submitted a project proposal and is awaiting confirmation of the funds.

Clr Connor reiterated Council's interest in value-adding to businesses' existing CCTV infrastructure if appropriate. Carrick community members suggested covering Carrick Hall if funds left over - several break-ins recently and security concerns re parked cars.

5b) Water safety issue at Deloraine river bridge. Council is to construct a handrail before the end of June

5(d) Malcolm Eastley – Hadspen intersection near the caravan park needs a curve in the road to make it an obvious T junction. Tanya has now raised this with Council's Director of Infrastructure who will consult with State Growth on the matter. No up-grade registered for this intersection. Only 2 rear end accidents reported in the last 2 years. Malcolm suggested similar treatment to Penguin Road, Ulverstone (by State Growth).

Minutes Arising from General Business 01 Dec

3b Copper Theft

It was suggested the Community Safety Group write to scrap metal dealers asking them to only deal with people with an ABN and to be vigilant for loads of short lengths of copper wire and report any suspicious sales. Patrick awaiting letter draft from Tas Networks.

4c Michael O'Reilly reported a lot of dead trees along Quamby Brook Road. Can the tops be taken out of these trees on the verges and make them into habitat trees for birds and animals. In their current state they present a danger to motorists and pedestrians- likewise the roads in Bogan Gap and Black Jack Reserve. Need to make the outdoor crew aware of the situation. Council usually responds quickly to dead limbs. Being assessed by Council Works – action to follow.

4f Patrick brought the Community Bushfire Forum on the 21 December to everyone's attention. Small attendance, but worthwhile. Good presentations from Tas Fire and Red Cross. Timing not good so close to Christmas.

4l The exit from the Christmas Hills Raspberry Farm on to the Bass Highway is problematic as motorists turning to the right have to cross four lanes. Consideration should be given to making it a left turn only exit as there is a U turn bay already in place a few metres up the Highway. This U turn bay is far from ideal, but is a step in the right direction. Requires attention of State Growth

3. PRESENTATIONS

Craig Hoey – State Road Safety Manager.

Craig gave a brief outline of the Department and spoke about the Tas Road Safety Strategy 2017-26 initiative, 'Towards Zero'. While the traffic accident numbers have come down over the last 15 years there can be no trade-offs in road safety. People make mistakes – it is part of humanity, therefore, we need to focus on the things we can change. Better roads, safer cars, good drivers who understand the road rules, safe speeds, understanding weather and road conditions and the demands of driving. Drivers need to work with each other. Need to look where accidents happen and their cause. Are there things we can improve?

<http://www.towardszero.tas.gov.au/>

4. GENERAL BUSINESS 23 February 2017.

- a) Clr Connor – Need speed limit dropped through Hadspen
- b) Agnicszka - Need for covered bus stops - for safety and shelter e.g. Blackstone Heights. Should plans for bus stops come in when the roads are in the planning stage?
- c) Sheila – Need for reduction in speed on the Oaks Road as traffic approach the Meander Valley Road intersection. This is an area for concern due to the intersection which you approach over a crest and a bus pull- in zone. This request for slower speeds has been ongoing for 10 years now. A multitude of signs have been provided but no speed limit.
- d) Malcolm – Roundabout into South Hadspen is required as soon as possible - before the sub-division construction.

Patrick – Suggested information be put in writing to Craig at State Growth for consideration and feedback

- c) Discussion around the use of road barriers and safety of touring motorcyclists. Malcolm suggested a convoy system be implemented so the motorcyclists are looking after each other.

Craig responded with need for more education around behaviour and road use.

Patrick suggested information for motor cyclists be available on the Spirit of Tasmania.

- d) Craig – suggestions for better road safety
 - High speed intersections need attention – high priority.
 - Infrastructure – shoulders, corners, line marking
 - More 5 star vehicles

- Motor cycles with ABS
 - Revisit speed limits
 - Speed enforcement technology
- e) Sheila - cyclists are creating some angst in Carrick. Races are continually started and finished in Carrick. Riders park their cars all along the street near the Hall from 7am Tuesdays and Thursdays, making it very difficult for people to get in and out of their driveways. Carrick people are finding the cyclists to be quite arrogant and not responding to requests. They refuse to park in the Hall carpark as they say vehicles have been broken into between 7.30am and 8.00am. How do we get locals & cycle group to work together with State Growth?
- f) Kim – the Street planting by Council is lovely but many are in the wrong place obstructing view from driveways and narrowing the street. This is added reason for concern with all the bikes. Kim had asked that trees be placed in a different position during planting but was told 'no'.
- g) Malcolm- Meander Valley Road has been given Category 5 status by State Growth. Needs to be downgraded to Category 2.

Malcolm – Has approached State Growth a number of times about a meeting regarding suicide through traffic accidents. No meeting to date. There has been a reduction in number of accidents since the high profile case at Carrick showing it does resonate with the mentally ill. Malcolm – need for change of laws around the media. Coroner will not acknowledge suicide without defining evidence or suicide note. Data show 20% of road deaths are suicide. Rural Alive and Well data suggests 30%. Malcolm requested that Craig organise the meeting as a matter of urgency seeing it as an opportunity to improve mental health and road safety.

- h) Sheila – can you cross double white lines to pass a cyclist? Response – Yes if it is safe to do so. Markings are an indicator for passing vehicles which takes considerably longer.
- i) Peter – asked for comparison between solid barriers and rope barriers. Solid is more effective for vehicles and are used on curves. Posts are the biggest danger for motorcyclists.
- j) Malcolm – responding to the Hadspen T Junction request. Craig had said State Growth responded to accident data and there had not been many reports for this intersection. Malcolm explained that not all accidents get reported in rural areas. A similar situation existed at Penguin and the situation has been rectified with a T junction. Craig could only respond according to the data available.

- k) Cr Synfield – enquired if videos shown in the presentation are available on the internet and free for use. Yes, on YouTube. Also questioned the legality of vehicles with big rows of lights across the top of the vehicle which are blinding at night time. Malcolm proposed a ban on overhead lights.
- l) Bev – Hadspen community still looking for ways to get the speed limit lowered between Hadspen and Carrick. 13 entries onto Meander Valley Road including the old age village at Rutherglen and Entally. Kim – Has had to change her address 5 times without moving house due to changes in roads.
- m) Red Cross has been busy with debriefing across the eastern coast of Australia. Fires in NSW, Burke Street tragedy in Victoria, Gold Coast tragedy in QLD.
- n) Sheila – What can we do about hoons leaving the Carrick Speedway
Patrick suggested writing to the Speedway as a first action.

Patrick thanked Craig and everyone present for attending.

Meeting closed at 7.40pm

Next meeting Thurs 25 May 7pm-8.30pm venue TBC