

Attending:

Peter	Ashton	Deloraine
Andrew	Briggs	Golden Valley
Dit	Briggs	Golden Valley
Howard	Colvin	Rosevale & Red Cross
Tony	Deckers	Golden Valley
Malcolm	Eastley	Deloraine
Angela	Enright	Deloraine
Patrick	Gambles	MVC
Nigel	Harris	Golden Valley (Fire Service)
Vicki	Jordan	MVC
Tanya	King	MVC Councillor
Marianne	MacDonald	MVC
Ali	Neilander	Golden Valley (Fire Service)
Peter	Norton	Golden Valley
Michael	O'Reilly	Quamby Brook
Tony	Roughan	Tas Police
Bev	Sweetnam	Hadspen
Rodney	Synfield	MVC Councillor
Dakota	Wolf	Sheffield – Tas Networks

Apologies: Annette Barrett, Gerry Bartley, Issy Ulbrich, Clr Deb White

1. WELCOME & APOLOGIES

Meeting opened at 7pm. Patrick welcomed everyone and gave a brief overview of the functions of the Group. Group members introduced themselves. He then circulated the latest minutes and an attendance register.

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 is being constructed- and text information and images are being compiled by Lions.*

3a) A Drug & Alcohol Forum is to be held before Christmas in accordance with the VALLEYSAFE Action Plan. *Forum scheduled for 12 Dec. Posters were handed out. Attendance numbers are currently low which may result in rescheduling to the New Year.*

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. *This course has been advertised and requires numbers to go ahead. The invitation to attend was extended to those present and their networks who may have need for traffic management skills.*

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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. *A letter of support and appreciation was drafted by Michael O'Reilly and with the approval of the Safety Group forwarded to The Gazette. The letter may be published in a future edition.*

5c) Andrew Connor – CCTV Prospect Vale Park.

Clarification was sought on the use of CCTV cameras at Prospect Vale Park. Currently there is no CCTV coverage and no intention to seek it. Money was pledged by the Liberals as an election promise to support CCTV in Deloraine and Westbury. A grant application (for CCTV) made to the Safer Streets initiative by the MV Business Association was unsuccessful. Tanya King suggested the group contact Brian Mitchell to follow up the Federal pledge. *The pledge of \$50,000 has been confirmed and the project is now with Council's Economic Development Department to progress.*

5j) Malcolm Eastley – Letter to State Growth.

No response from State Growth to letter dated 14 July. A response has now been received from the Manager of Road Safety who has indicated interest in attending a future meeting of the Community Safety Group to discuss the development of the new Road Safety Strategy. *Manager of Road Safety to be invited to attend the Feb Meeting.*

Points arising from General Business at the last meeting in August

5b) Peter Ashton – Peter was walking past the Deloraine Performing Arts Centre when a small girl on a bike zoomed past him and disappeared down over the bank on the path that goes under the bridge. Her Grandfather was still walking down the path behind them. Peter checked to find the little girl had failed to take the corner and had landed well out in the river with her bike. Peter felt sure she would have drowned if he had not been there. The incident was reported to Council by Peter and will be followed up by Patrick. *Council is to construct a fence.*

5c) Issy Ulbrich – reiterated his previous request for drinking fountain in Deloraine. Coming back into summer it becomes more important to stay hydrated. *Drinking fountains for Deloraine and Westbury are in next year's capital works budget. Proposed locations are the Train Park and Westbury Skate Park.*

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 suggests a public meeting as this is an area of public concern.*

3. PRESENTATIONS

a) Tony Deckers presented the 'Golden Valley Phone Tree'

It commenced in 2015 after 15 months work with Suzette Harris from the Tas Fire Service. The group put together an outline and 3 people canvassed the area for interest. There was an 80% 'buy in' by residents. They found out the best option to contact people (text, mobile, landline). No reply – leave a message and move on. Phone tree: The activator → 5 group leaders → 5 group leaders → 4 – 5 people → 16 people → 5-6 people. The whole area is covered in 45 mins. Last year in the fires they covered the area in 35 mins.

- Each Sept they do a trial run and update details
- No fire season – no action required
- Phone calls allowed residents to sleep easier knowing someone would call if imminent danger
- Fire Brigade have database of names, access, water supply etc.
- Website encourages input, use of Red Cross RediPlan and has relevant info from Fire Service.
- Website information is available to other communities
- Website is constantly updated so team leaders get current information
- Privacy is protected and names cannot be downloaded.
- Not everyone chose to be on the tree
- More joined after the fires last summer.
- 105 homes listed.

In case of fire the first port of call is the Tasmanian Fire Service. If this is not a registered burn contact Tony Deckers. Tony will contact TFS and activate the 'Phone Tree'.

Jackey's Marsh is a smaller community and a different geography where phone tree may be valuable. Golden Valley willing to assist other communities where they can.

The Golden Valley Fire Service applied for and received a small grant from Council to support the service. Bushfire Mitigation grants are now open – it may be worth checking it out.

TFS handed out cards – standard procedure. Be prepared, be aware, Website Emergency contacts, Training Programs, Community /Social Events, Practical and efficient tips

The Group hope to roll out the 'Phone Tree' concept across the nation via the Web.

b) Dakota Wolf from Tas Networks gave a presentation on copper theft.

Dakota reported that the copper earth from the Tas Network transformer poles is being stolen and sold for scrap metal. In 2011 records show 347 earths stolen at a cost of around \$15000. This year in Nov 157 reported thefts. Tas Networks has started using a copper wire coated in steel which is worthless as scrap. All transformers have high voltage wiring and people can be electrocuted during theft. The lack of an earth wire can have safety repercussions for local people who can be electrocuted in their homes. Please report flickering lights, low power supplies and cut wires. If you notice any anomalies please report the fault to Tas Networks. There is a 6 digit number on each pole which allows the network to pinpoint the problem immediately. These numbers can be valuable identification markers in the case of an accident or fire etc. Scrap yards are required to ask for an ABN when receiving scrap metal however if none is supplied the seller is given a lower price for their goods.

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 will progress this with Tas Networks.**

4. GENERAL BUSINESS 01 Dec.

- a) Hadspen Neighbourhood Watch is undertaking a petition for reducing road speed limit on B54 at Hadspen from Entally to the Highway at Travellers Rest. The petition has been advertised on Facebook and gained 250 signatures and is available in hard form at IGA. The petition is to be presented to Rene Hidding. This request has been previously turned down with talk of waiting for the ODP. There are currently 13 driveways that turn out onto the Meander Valley Road along this section from the highway at Traveller's Rest to Scott's Road Hadspen. If the speed limit is reduced it may reduce the need for road works.
- b) Bev Sweetnam asked for a request for anyone with information on the history of Hadspen be placed in the Council Community News bulletin.
- c) 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.
- d) Lots of roadkill on the roads. How can we eliminate collateral damage from carnivorous animals feeding on the roads?

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- e) Golden Valley residents reported vandalism of mail boxes. A car has been used to run straight through letter boxes where there are several together. In another case, where a really strong letterbox was in place and angle grinder has been used twice to remove it. Now a cheap version has been installed it has been left untouched.

Tony advised prompt reporting of all incidents to the Police. He said Deloraine had received no reports of vandalism to mail boxes in the area. If they receive this type of report, in down time officers will often take a drive through the area. Tony said Longford Police introduces new officers through the local paper and do a regular crime report as do Circular Head. The Safety Group considered this a good idea for the Gazette.

- f) Patrick brought the Community Bushfire Forum on the 21 December to everyone's attention.
- g) Tanya King is concerned that our marketing for meetings is not reaching the right people. How can we let more people know?
- h) Dit Briggs requested a sign for GOLDEN VALLEY at Deloraine Bridge and the junction of the Highland Lakes Road and the Meander Road. People towing caravans often get lost and it is not so easy to turn around. There is still a Lake Highway sign at the Deloraine Bridge.
- i) Marianne MacDonald reported it was her first meeting and she had found it informative and entertaining.
- j) Cr Rodney Synfield said that there are lots of tourists using Oliver's Road since it re-opened but it is still gravel at the moment.
- k) Malcolm Eastley - State Growth signs eventually erected for Olivers Hill Road did not mean a thing to tourists as they did not mention Cradle mountain, C138 or the Great Western Tiers Touring route.
- l) 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.
- m) Council and the Community Safety Group have missed some opportunities to make use of State Growth initiatives to improve motorcycle safety. Need to work more closely.

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- n) Andrew Briggs is concerned about the lack of respect for school buses. It seems that no-one takes notice of the 40km flashing lights. Also very concerned by parents waiting for small children on the opposite of the road to the bus stop. Can we do something? Patrick offered Andrew safety briefing cards to hand out to parents.
- o) Dakota Wolf is to ride a horse from Sheffield to Dover. How do you get the message out that a horse is on the road? Suggestions- Truckies channel 17, Caravans Channel 18. Petition for uses on the Paradise Road. Sign on road. . Angela Enright suggested Facebook through Pony Club pages and Tas Truck and Drives.

Patrick thanked everyone for their attendance and contribution to the meeting. Meeting closed for refreshments at 8.30 pm.

5. NEXT MEETING

Thurs 23 February Westbury Council Chambers 7pm-8.30pm