



Dinner Plain Advisory Committee

Meeting: 23 June 2016

*** Please note: minutes are not final until confirmed at the following DPAC meeting.*

MINUTES

Minutes of the Dinner Plain Advisory Committee Meeting held at the Dinner Plain Hotel, commencing 10:00am.

1.WELCOME

Chairperson Leona Turra welcomed the committee, council attendees, and community members in attendance.

PRESENT FROM DPAC:

Leona Turra, Colin McDonald, Gary Battershill, Shelley Holah, David Chlebna and Belinda Trembath

IN ATTENDANCE FROM COUNCIL:

Heather Green – Director Sustainable Development

Elaine Burridge – Manager Community and Economic Development

Leanne Williams – Manager Corporate

Will Jeremy – Manager Asset Development

APOLOGIES:

Lee Rourke

2. GENERAL BUSINESS:

Acceptance of previous minutes from the April 28 DPAC meeting, with one request by Colin to correct reference to him as 'acting chair' to 'co-chair'.



3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

Opening weekend event:

There was discussion regarding the opening weekend event – the level of funding provided, the lack of participation and value for money with a private business operating the event. Belinda proposed a Hotham / Dinner Plain Chamber of Commerce so that the two communities would work closer together.

Noted

4. OFFICER REPORTS

4.1 Leanne Williams – Manager Corporate:

Leanne presented the findings of the Dinner Plain audit to DPAC.

- Copies of the report are available to the public on the Alpine Shire Council website and Leanne is happy to take questions.
- Action by Council – Develop a Long Term Financial Plan for Dinner Plain which includes: Sustainable general and special rate projections; Service level requirements; Asset renewal requirements; New asset development and flow on impacts and explore alternative finance systems for quarantining the DP business function.
- This will be developed with the view of implementation for the budget 2017/2018.
- There has been little feedback from ratepayers on the findings of the audit and no issues raised.

Comments on Leanne's presentation:

Various comments from DPAC members were made with the consensus being:

- DPAC needs to draft a response to the audit, accepting the results and publish in the next newsletter.
- The audit has been a good process to go through and confirms that the data DPAC has been receiving has been correct.
- There is concern that in light of the findings of the audit, the “administration charge” could increase to level it should be at;
- There needs to be clarification about where the money in the reserve is spent in the future.
- Any concerns from the community needs to be raised now so that the community can move forward.

Heather: how Dinner Plain is managed is still being determined. The Long Term Financial Plan and strategic pipeline are very important.

DPAC resolution and Action: 1. Advice to be provided to Council that DPAC is satisfied with the outcomes of the audit, 2. DPAC draft a response to the audit for inclusion in the next Dinner Plain newsletter referencing that DPAC are satisfied with the results.



Action: Develop a Long Term Financial Plan (as referred to above)

4.2 Will Jeremy – Manager Asset Development

Will presented projects delivered in Dinner Plain in 2015/16 and those in the pipeline.

Projects delivered:

- Roads renewal
- Scrubbers End Car Park repairs
- CFA road upgrade (CFA funded)
- Castran Corner upgrade
- MTB Trail planning and vegetation report
- Open Space (Village Green) high level study
- Cattle Grid installation in Dinner Plain Track
- Horse Yards fencing at Crisps Hut
- Street signage materials
- Toboggan slope signage

Pipeline:

- Road renewal
- Scrubbers End car park reseal
- Castran Corner handrail and stonework at DP Hut renewal
- Depot fencing and access control
- MTB trail implementation. Trails 1 & 2 builds to start in 2017
- Strategic projects (toboggan slope access)
- Detailed work - Open Space – Village Green (location study, stakeholder alignment, native vegetation and cultural heritage reports and construction/establishment costs)
- Camping (investigate options)
- Water Tower (investigate public use of water tower as lookout)

Will is seeking feedback on what's in the development pipeline.

Comments:

- It is important projects align with the Master Plan.
- Projects that increase visitation and therefore economy into the village should be prioritised and communicated.
- It is important to confirm if the open space – village green will be suitable for Geebung Polo, both in size and is the space ideal for Polo from a tourism/visitor experience perspective.
- Scoping of camping and water tower projects in the pipeline for 2016/2017 is a good thing.

Heather notes that it is important to recognise that there is nowhere in Dinner Plain that a neighbourhood 'safe-place' can be established no matter what size is proposed for a



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“open space”. The Dinner Plain survey will provide guidance on project priorities as well as special rate services, including the bus with car parking spaces being removed at Mount Hotham.

DPAC Resolution and Action: Will to follow up with Geebung Polo organiser re: suitability of size of space and visitor experience re: open space – village green. Further community consultation on the open space is required.

4.3 Heather Green – Director Sustainable Development

Future of DPAC:

DPAC members and council need to start to think about future of DPAC and if the committee should remain as is or change.

DPAC members provided the following feedback:

- Concerns about an election model as it could end up being populist rather than merit based;
- Communications between DPAC and the community needs to be improved. Proposed skills-based members of the community to attend meetings based on relevant topics to that meeting.
- Suggestion to go back to a Management Committee.
- Would like a 50% rollover of members to ensure continuity.
- Current membership is three years. A suggested tenure of four years is too long.
- There should be one group to represent Dinner Plain rather than multiple groups like DPAC and DPRBOS.
- Is the community is too small with so many absent rate payers to support a general election model.

DPAC resolution and Action: The above comments be provided to Council in considering the future of DPAC.

Bushfire management:

- Proposes to call a forum on CFA bushfire management for November.

Action: CFA bushfire management forum to be arranged with ratepayers in November, prior to summer.

4.4 Elaine Burridge – Manager Community and Economic Development

Q3 Finance Report:

- Operational expenditure in the third quarter is favourable across a number of areas due to savings identified and timing of activity. It is expected that at year end some areas will remain under spent compared to budget, however, there will be no



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contribution to the reserve as a result of the additional expenditure (as endorsed by Council at the September and December Council meetings) for additional marketing funds and additional unbudgeted capital works required to be undertaken (replacement of Castran Corner concrete, Scrubbers End car park overlay, village green reports). Employee costs were under budget due to a period of absence in the Dinner Plain Coordinator role after Grant's departure; under budget in office rent as Council has not been invoiced by landlord for rent due for 2014/2015 FY and nil received to date for 2015/2016 FY, despite multiple requests to the landlord.

- Quarterly Finance reports presented to DPAC will be presented consistent with the reports as presented to the Audit Committee and to Council. As such there will be a lapse between the end of quarter and when the report can be presented to DPAC as the reports need to be tabled to the Audit Committee and Council for endorsement before it goes to DPAC.

Belinda is asked for an update on Hotham Airport. She says they have met with Essendon Airport. Services may possibly resume in winter 2017 if operator with Dash 8s found. Dinner Plain community may have an option to underwrite the operation by \$25,000.

Ice Skating:

- Installation of a pop-up ice skating rink was considered for the July school holidays, however, installation of the rink alone was quoted at \$63,000 for 7 operating days. Additional costs required included sound and lighting, power generation for 24hr operation to maintain ice, marquee if needed to protect from weather, security, etc. A shortfall was still envisaged after a conservative estimation of revenue that could be raised from ticket sales. This item requires further investigation and inclusion in the 2017/2018 budget if it is to be booked for 2018 July school holidays.

WiFi:

- DPAC agrees to take it off the agenda as the costs outweigh the benefits and would not provide a benefit to everyone.

It was noted that new tennis nets are needed for the tennis courts.

Action: Responsible Council Officer to order two new tennis nets and assess condition of hire equipment.

4.5 Alia Parker – Marketing and Events Officer

- Dinner Plain had a marketing budget of \$125,000 in 2016/17 and, based on estimates as at the time of the meeting, \$112,733 had been spent with \$12,267 remaining.
- Marketing activity has spanned social media, PR and media famils, outdoor advertising, magazines and newspapers, website, email marketing, Snow Victoria TVC and social media campaign support, Dinner Plain history book.



- Provided an overview of each of these categories.
- Recent events funded include Daniher's Drive and the Great Alpine Road Marathon.
- An event organiser (BASE in Bright) has been found to bring back the Dinner Plain MTB Enduro and Funduro.
- Funding applications for Sled Dog Challenge, Mile High and Easter have been received.

Meeting Closed: 12.30pm

NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting is changed to 8 September 2016. Venue and time to be confirmed.