



## Dinner Plain Advisory Committee



Alpine Shire  
**Meeting: 31 July 2014**

*\*\* Please note: minutes are not final until confirmed at the following Dinner Plain Advisory Committee meeting.*

### DINNER PLAIN ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

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

## 1. WELCOME

Present:

Members: Leona Turra, Colin McDonald, Lee Rourke, Shelley Holah and David Chlebna.

Public: Denise Lawrence and Geoff Hubbard

In Attendance from Council:

Clayton Neil – Manager Economic Development

Elaine Burridge – Dinner Plain Co-ordinator

## 2. APOLOGIES:

Dave Barry and Heather Green

## 3. PREVIOUS MINUTES

Minutes from DPAC meeting 24 April were accepted.

## 4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:

(1) DPAC meeting minutes preparation:

Discussion re:

- Template for an "Action Log" was presented and adopted by membership of which will be used and be attached to the minutes from now on;



## Dinner Plain Advisory Committee



Alpine Shire  
**Meeting: 31 July 2014**

- The minutes will be prepared by the minute taker ASAP after each DPAC meeting and will include the new "Action Log", vetted by the Chair and then distributed to each member and available on Council's website for public to view with notation that the "minutes are subject to DPAC approval at the next scheduled DPAC meeting". Once the minutes are approved, the notation will be removed.
- Action: EB to prepare minutes as soon as possible after each DPAC meeting and update "Activity Log" and seek feedback from Chair. Once Chair has approved minutes for distribution, ensure minutes are distributed to members and updated on Council's website.

### (2) DPAC Membership:

There was discussion re: replacement of member due to the resignation of Gina Woodward. It was moved to fill the vacant position. Suggestion that representative/stakeholder from Hotham should be considered and is important to assist with building relationships between the villages of Hotham and Dinner Plain.

- Action: EB to seek clarity on Council's position to move forward with filling the vacant position and action.

### (3) Hotham and Dinner Plain relationships:

There was discussion re: the September DPAC meeting and extension of invites to Deb Spring of MHRMB and Belinda Trembath of MHSC. It's timely to seek information relative to plans for commercial airline arrangements for 2015 for Mount Hotham Airport. This is an opportunity for representatives from both villages to share information relative to plans (nb: Dinner Plain and Mount Hotham (MHRMB) are both going through Master Plan projects currently) and an opportunity for the relationship between both villages to flourish.

- Action: Invites to be extended to Deb Spring & Belinda Trembath

### (4) Signage – Great Alpine Road Crossing – DP Riders:

Information discussed at the April meeting has been provided to DP Riders for their follow up with Vic Roads.



## Dinner Plain Advisory Committee



Alpine Shire

Meeting: 31 July 2014

### (5) One Way Traffic – Big Muster Drive:

- Clayton: Advised that the decision to continue the one-way traffic flow on Big Muster Drive for the 2014 season was based on the original risk assessment that is still relevant. It was agreed that a review would be completed post the 2014 snow season with input to be obtained from DPAC, Chamber of Commerce and DPRBOS and other town based stakeholders.
- Action: Review of the flow of traffic and any incidents arising to occur at the end of the season. Review to include feedback from operators and others. Big Muster Drive needs to have inclusion in the Master Plan.

### (6) Signage – Advertising:

There was discussion re: advertising signage throughout the village. It was noted that Darryl Farmer had removed various signage inappropriately placed around the village. The amount of Real Estate (For Sale or Sold) signs throughout the village is ridiculously high. A co-ordinated approach to work toward removal of all Real Estate signage was supported by membership. Clayton to seek clarity on DPAC's position to write a letter.

- Action: CN to clarify DPAC and Council's position relative to the writing of letters. EB to encourage other groups – Chamber of Commerce and DPRBOS to write letters from their respective groups. Matter to be carried over to September meeting.

## 5. OFFICER REPORTS

Elaine Burridge:

### (1) Projects:

Update on progress of Gravity Park & Adventure Park projects:

- (1) Stage 2 of snow making will occur at the end of the season, by end of February for 2015 ski season;
- (2) Tender preparation underway for lighting to the ski slope;
- (3) Tender preparation underway for tennis court repairs/surfacing;
- (4) Purchase of fitness station equipment underway. Installation in Spring;
- (5) MTB trail works and plans being discussed with Nick Vlahandreas, Planning;
- (6) Tracks and trails works being planned and underway;



Alpine Shire

**Meeting: 31 July 2014**

**Dinner Plain Advisory Committee**

- (7) Finalising contract arrangements for tubing which is to be installed and operational for this summer season.

(2) Tenders:

- (a) Bus: Hotham to Dinner Plain bus service to go to tender in a timely manner so as the service is secured for 2015 ski season. There was discussion regarding the issues that have been faced this season by the operator relative to Vic Roads clearing of the GAR and the higher than normal requirement to fit chains to the buses which has had a detrimental effect on the timetable and the breakdowns of the service over school holidays;
- (b) DPTV: What does the village need? What does the guest want? What options are there? Tender to ask for options.
- (c) Cleaning of public shelters: Preparation of tender underway for contract commencing October 2014.
- (d) Maintenance to public buildings: Preparation of tender underway for works required this summer.

(3) Marketing:

Explanation of winter marketing activity in the lead up to winter achieved and explanation of the Marketing Action Plan 2014-2015.

(4) Events:

- (1) Sled Dog Challenge: Discussion regarding the storing and moving of snow for the event to provide snow to the trails. Lee suggested the storage of snow, with a cover over it to preserve snow stocks if needed.
- Action: EB to co-ordinate with Gary – snow stocks.
- (2) DP MTB Funduro: Elaine working with DP Riders on this year's Funduro event.
- (3) Mile High Trail Run: Elaine working with Running Wild the new event organisers. This year the event will be held over two days (23 & 24 November) and will involve a road running event on the Saturday and the trail runs on the Sunday.



## Dinner Plain Advisory Committee



Alpine Shire  
**Meeting: 31 July 2014**

### (4) Operations:

Grooming & Cross Country Trails:

There have been various forms of positive feedback relative to grooming of the slope and the cross country trails this year. There has also been feedback and a gap in the provision of a "trail map" for cross country trails. The "tracks and trails" works planned for summer includes better on trail signage.

- Action: EB to provide that feedback to Gary and Mandy. EB currently developing (with Gary and Mandy) a tear off cross country trail map.

### (5) Budget:

Final figures for the EOFY are not yet available. The budget for 2014/2015 was briefly explained.

- Action: EB to provide EOFY figures against budget 2014/2015 at the next meeting and identify and large variances. At each meeting after that "actual" to "budget" need to be provided.

## 6. OTHER BUSINESS:

### (1) DP Coordinator role:

There was discussion within the membership regarding the role of DP Co-ordinator being an ongoing role. Together the group unanimously recommend that the position is secured for Dinner Plain and made full-time. *NB: EB was asked to leave the room by the Chair for this discussion and re-entered at the end of the discussion.*

- Action: Clayton to action with Heather Green and Dave Barry.

### (2) Statistics:

Leona provided some statistical information regarding visitation to snow resorts so far this year and compared to previous (day trip and over night visitors) and there was discussion regarding the downward visitation trend. Dinner Plain currently doesn't capture "good" information. Clayton advised: The counter at the entry is not working and the information captured is not true of visitors (ie staff living in the village, bus passengers not being captured, trades people/locals driving in/out many times a day etc). Occupancy isn't reliable information either with some accommodation providers providing information and other won't, combined with % occupancy not true with beds in properties ranging from 2 – 20 share. Costs associated with a



Alpine Shire

**Meeting: 31 July 2014**

### **Dinner Plain Advisory Committee**

ski trip in Australia are getting higher and snow reliability being low, people are choosing to either explore overseas for their ski trip or are taking other cheaper holiday options (ie Thailand, Bali etc). This is a threat. Dinner Plain needs to take action. Accommodation providers need to explore with their owners the option of lowering rates. Accommodation is the largest cost associated with a ski holiday and rates need to come down to be competitive and attract bookings.

- Action: EB to co-ordinate a meeting with accommodation providers to discuss with the view that summer rates need attention as well as winter.

### **(3) MHRMB Consultative Committee:**

There was discussion regarding Dinner Plain representation on the stakeholder committee that has been formed to roll out the adopted Mount Hotham Strategic Plan. Dave Barry (CEO) is on the committee for Alpine Shire. It was agreed that EB should represent Dinner Plain on the committee, attend meetings and share information with DPAC.

- Action: EB to attend meetings and report back to DPAC after each meeting.

## **7. MASTER PLAN**

Clayton provided membership with an update on Master Plan progress. A draft of the Master Plan was provided to each of the members requesting feedback. Clayton raised the importance of ensuring that the "vision" and "guiding principles" for the document were correct. It was agreed that the "vision" needed to be succinct, brief and able to be understood by all. Membership to provide feedback on the "plan".

- Action: DPAC members to provide feedback on the plan to EB by 7 August. Clayton to provide "vision" feedback (as discussed) to Tract.

Meeting Closed: 1:30pm

Next Meeting: 25 September 2014