

Lake Glenmaggie Community Representative Group

Meeting Agenda

2.00pm 12th April 2009

Coongulla Hall

1. Welcome, attendance & apologies (2 mins)
 - Welcome
 - Confirm minute-taker
 - Collect attendee names & details
 - Apologies
2. Confirmation of Agenda (2 mins)
 - Any late items
 - Confirm order of agenda
 - Confirm targeted finishing time of 4.00pm or extend by agreement
3. Minutes Of Last Meeting (10 mins)
 - Confirm minutes are correct
 - Review action items assigned in last meeting
 - Business arising: any significant updates not covered elsewhere?
4. Youth Survey (2 mins)
 - *See attached agenda item A*
5. Community Planning Process (15 mins)
 - *See attached item B*
6. Community Survey (45 mins)
 - *See attached item C*
7. WSC Business (Helen Montague) (10 mins)
 - *See attached item C*
8. Other Business (45 mins)
 - Fuel reduction program ahead of fire season (tom McCrohan)
 - Speeding on unsealed roads (Tom McCrohan)
 - Hall improvements (Tom McCrohan)
 - Self regulating system for personal water craft (PWC) users (Tom McCrohan)
9. Next Meeting (2 mins)
 - Set date, time and location

File=09-04-12 Agenda, last updated at 6:03 PM on 8 April 2009

Background Material

A Youth Survey

A survey aimed at young residents was circulated with the meeting notice and is available online at www.glenmaggie.vic.au/news.

Completed copies will be collected at the meeting.

B Community Planning Process

Issue: Overview of how the CRG planning process works and how it informs local Government so everyone can understand the process we are going through.

Background:

1. Our charter is defined as: *The CRG process is structured to bring about positive community action by:*
 - *Representing the interests and concerns of our community to those outside the community*
 - *Providing an opportunity for the community to work together on matters relating to our future direction*
 - *Providing a link between the local community and government agencies*
 - *Facilitating the development of a 'Community Plan' that captures the vision and hopes of our community, identifies key community priorities and suggests actions for addressing these priorities*
2. Our role towards the Council is to provide representative views so that Council can make decisions in its purview. Our views are not binding on Council. Thus, we should focus on ensuring they understand the full range of community views; those for, those against and how many did or did not express a view.
3. Council is bound to take into account the Community Plans as part of its planning cycle. This is how our community priorities, expressed in the plan, get considered by Council.
4. So, how does a CRG determine community priorities? The primary mechanism is the community survey because it goes to all residents and provides a standardised way to request views and priorities in a factual way. Last time, around 700 copies were sent out and we received around 200 replies, a fantastic response rate. At this level of response, one could confidently say the view we have of community priorities is well-informed.
5. The CRG, as a group, focuses on progressing the top 3-5 issues. That doesn't mean that other issues are not progressed. Issues further down the community's list can be delegated to willing volunteers to progress and report back to the CRG (that is, if they wish to claim to be acting on behalf of the CRG). Of course, anyone can pursue any issue with the appropriate authorities as a private citizen, outside of the CRG process and mandate.
6. How do we decide what we wish to do on an individual issue? Some, like communications, are crystal clear on what the issue is and so the Committee can pursue that as a mandate.

Others, like sewerage, are much more complex; multiple agencies, differing desires on what solutions people want and external forces such as demand for greater environmental accountability. We can help people become informed and lobby agencies for greater transparency and communication, but the power to decide lies with that agency.

Some issues we can decide for ourselves. For example, walking tracks; if we can get a grant for a project, which project should it be?
7. Where there are decisions of importance that shape CRG policy, we need to implement a mechanism so we can be comfortable any such decision is based on hearing all views and does have a clear mandate. That would imply formal notices of the motion and a chance for all to participate in the discussion and decision.
8. There is also the issue of close decisions. If, for example, 51% of a vote supported an initiative and 49% opposed it, what should the CRG do here? Likewise, if the response rate to voting was only 15% of those eligible to vote.

Recommended Action: for noting and future discussion

C Community Survey

Issue: identifying issues that we need input on from the impending community survey.

Background:

1. The CRG will shortly be issuing a new survey to residents and ratepayers around the lake.
2. The aim of the survey is to:
 - Identify the things people value about our area. These are things that are important to people that we should build and enhance.
 - Identify what are the issues you would like to see addressed. These are generally specific problems that people would like to see something done about. They include community, recreation, environment and infrastructure issues.
 - Capture quantitative (numbers) and qualitative (comments) responses. The numbers are important when trying to rank issues so we need some standardisation of labelling issues. The comments are also very helpful because they often contain ideas, solutions and additional background.
 - Deliver a high response rate from those surveyed.
 - Include non-resident/ratepayer stakeholders such as recreational visitors.
 - Gain a clear picture of the ranking of the issues that the community would rate as their top 5 to act on.

Current Thinking:

3. We are seeking ideas for issues to put into the survey for people to vote on. Whilst people are free to add their own issues in their survey response, we do wish to start with a list of identified issues.
4. At the last survey, we had the following issues for people to rank: Boating issues, Caravan Park, Communications, Facilities for youth, Lake management, Noisy bikes & boats, Roads, Rubbish services, Sewerage, Speeding vehicles, Tourism, Unlicensed motor bikes, Walking track, Water quality.
5. New issues may have arisen that perhaps should go on the list.
6. Note that the survey is not a referendum on any one issue so we're not asking people to vote yes or no for a proposal. We're only asking them to rank that issue in their order of priority.
7. Thus, the issues should not be questions (such "Are you in favour of X or Y?") but simple phrases that let people understand what the issue is (eg "water quality of drinking water").
8. The list will need to be managed into a size that doesn't become huge. Thus, some element of grouping is likely to occur. We should rely on respondents to add more detail if they choose.

Recommended Action:

9. Identify issues for inclusion on the survey. Sufficient information should be given to ensure everyone understands what the issue is. However, this is not a debate on the issues nor are resolutions being sought (see process description in agenda item A above).

D WSC News (Helen)

1. Recommended funding for Coongulla Hall Outside Shelter under the Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program through the Federal Gov't. has officially been approved.
2. Congratulations to the Coongulla Recreation Reserve Committee on their successful SP Ausnet Grant for improvements to tennis courts etc.
3. Permission to supply Ann Andrews, president of the Wellington Regional Tourism board with a contact email address to provide the local community with tourism news and updates. This is being requested of all CRG's. Anne's email details are: ann@foggully.com.au

4. Art's Festival booklet for May 2009, with local Art's events advertised – tabled.
5. Wellington Primary Care Partnership – Promoting Mental Wellbeing through the Arts – Expression of interest from communities and individuals to discuss arts related projects with a focus on social inclusion. – tabled.
6. March copy of Easy Grants – tabled.