



Yorke Peninsula Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Bush Camping Working Party

Held on Wednesday 14 February 2018
In the Council Chambers
57 Main Street Minlaton commencing at 3:30pm
(Subject to confirmation)

ITEM 1

1.1 WELCOME

Deputy Chair Naomi Bittner welcomed everyone to the meeting and declared the meeting open at 3.36pm.

1.2 PRESENT

Councillors, Naomi Bittner, Scott Hoyle and Mayor Ray Agnew

Mick Cartwright	Manager Development Services
Anne Hammond	Manager of Business and Public Relations
Stephen Goldsworthy	Operations Manager
Deborah Furbank	Ranger
Wendy Story	Visitor information Services Coordinator
Shona Emery	Minute Taker

1.3 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

1.4 APOLOGIES

Cr Meyer, Roger Brooks, Phil Herrmann

1.5 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING - for confirmation.

Cr Hoyle moved Cr Bittner seconded

That the minutes of the Bush Camping Working Party meeting held on 11th October 2017 as circulated, be confirmed as a true record.

CARRIED

ITEM 2 ADJOURNED MEETING

The Party acknowledged the transfer of Agenda items from the December 2017 Agenda to the February 2018 meeting Agenda.

ITEM 3 VISITORS TO THE MEETING

Ashley Gordon from Hardwicke Bay Progress Association (HBPA) addressed the Party, proposing that (HBPA) operate the Port Minlacowie Camp Ground. They currently work in partnership with Council to improve the facilities and they believe the benefits would include more volunteers to maintain the area, facility improvement at little to no capital costs to Council, improve tourism and suggested a name change to "Hardwicke Bay Camping Ground at Port Minlacowie".

Michael Cartwright suggested that Development Services staff work with the Progress Association to create a Business Plan that can be presented to an Elected Members Workshop for consideration.

ITEM 4 CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence from Mr John Vanstone dated 29 October 2017 (17/87603) and Mr Mark Tassell dated 13 November 2017 (17/81728) was discussed.

These items of correspondence are to be discussed in Item 5 of the Agenda.

ITEM 5

5.1 Fire Pits

Discussion took place regarding purpose built fire pits at Council's camping grounds to encourage campers not to build fires in random places. Staff reported that fire pits created by campers leave holes in the ground which could potentially cause injury. Ranger Deborah Furbank advised she fills in the holes whilst on her rounds and says most people do the right thing but there are some that don't. The Ranger will continue to monitor fire pits.

5.2 Signage Firewood Collection Not Permitted

There are concerns that campers are collecting unpermitted fire wood and destroying vegetation. More signage is required.

Stephen Goldsworthy will draft up extra signage and present at the next meeting.

5.3 Roadside Signage Installation (permit signage)

Stephen Goldsworthy advised the four signs have been erected on road sides. Stephen Goldsworthy will present photographs at next meeting.

5.4 Bush Camp Location Signage

Stephen Goldsworthy believes the four signs erected in ITEM 5.3 will provide better communication of the requirement for purchasing a camping permit.

5.5 Survey and Marketing Update

Anne Hammond advised of recent bush camping survey results. Wendy Story has developed a new Bush Camping Brochure to distribute.

5.6 Commission Visitor Information Offices

Anne Hammond advised that Council has agreed to pay commission to the Visitor Information Offices for processing bush camping permits.

5.7 Minlaton Dump Point

Mick Cartwright advised work is underway. An issue regarding chemical dumping has been raised. Need to get a specific top cover for the Dump Point to deal with the chemicals. Quotes for engineering and manufacturing is currently underway.

5.8 Update on Parara and Port Minlacowie Bush Camp Toilets

Stephen Goldsworthy advised the Parara toilet has been completed and Port Minlacowie toilet is in progress.

5.9 Flaherty's and Parsons Beach Camping

Discussion took place regarding the suitability of Flaherty's and Parsons Beaches for bush camping. Mick Cartwright raised concerns over camping at Flaherty's Beach due to its environmentally sensitive nature with several migrating species of bird life visiting the area.

It was noted that Parsons Beach is used by campers however due to several unknown boundary issues it was decided that Council will not promote this area as a camp ground.

5.10 Expansion of Bluff Beach Campground

4:05pm Cr Scott Hoyle declared a conflict of interest and left the Chamber.

Discussion took place regarding the suitability of Bluff Beach Camp Ground as a bush camping area. The Deputy Chair acknowledged the community members present in the Gallery who had concerns regarding the agenda item - expansion of bush camping at Bluff Beach.

The Deputy Chair apologised to the Gallery who were concerned about any proposal to expand bush camping activities at the Bluff Beach Camp Ground.

Mayor Ray Agnew moved Cr Naomi Bittner seconded

It is recommended that Council not proceed with any further consideration in regard to the expansion of bush camping on the parcel of land being a Reserve, Allotment 23, CT Volume 5863, Folio 105, Bluff Beach.

CARRIED

Further discussion took place and it was decided that Development Services staff will liaise with Bluff Beach Progress Association to assist with the process of changing the area's name to "Bluff Beach Community Reserve" or similar.

4.21pm Cr Scott Hoyle returned to the Chamber.

5.11 Free Camp Locations

Discussion took place in relation to opportunities to have some free camp locations throughout the district, it is noted that the Council does not support free camping because it is anti-competitive for local business.

5.12 Budget Considerations

Michael Cartwright advised income budget predicted at \$45,000 has been achieved and a budget adjustment is required during the third quarter budget review.

It was agreed to ask Council for a budget of \$80,000 (compared to \$50,000 for the 2016/2017 financial year). This will enable one toilet facility to be completed (aim for one a year) and will leave \$40,000 for other expenses such as new capital projects, renewal/maintenance of existing capital works, fencing, expansion of camping grounds etc.

Anne Hammond recommended all camp sites and details of each facility be listed on a web page called Free Range Camping at a one off cost of \$1,045. Free Range Camping currently offer a free listing of locations, however the fee will ensure details of facilities are listed, promoting each camp site.

The Party agreed for Anne to proceed and arrange the advertising.

Cr Naomi Bittner moved Cr Scott Hoyle seconded

It is recommended that Council consider allocating \$80,000 to the Bush Camping Working Party for the 2018/2019 financial year.

CARRIED

ITEM 6 GENERAL BUSINESS

Bin Bank signs are currently being erected around the Peninsula to notify campers of where they can dump their rubbish.

Ranger Deborah Furbank raised the idea of extending Gravel Bay Camping Ground south to Berry Bay to include the old Quarry. Needs further investigation and a report can be tabled at the next Working Party Meeting.

ITEM 6 NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, 11th April 2018

ITEM 7 CLOSURE

The meeting closed at 4.36pm

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Deputy Chairperson – Naomi Bittner

Wednesday, 11th April 2018