

Minutes of Belyuen Community Government Advisory & Council Meeting held on 22nd July 2009

Present: Neil Murray Manager, Zoe Singh, Craig Woodie, John McLean YMCA, Chrissie Lovett YMCA, Cathy Winsley CEO, Glenn Castillon Government Business Manager (GBM)

Manager opened the meeting at 1.10pm. Manager welcomed everyone to the meeting and acknowledged it was the GBM's first meeting.

Manager thanked the YMCA for their assistance with the Shire Plan.

1. Apologies

None

2. Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting held on 14th May 2009

Manager confirmed the minutes

3. Business Arising from Minutes

None

4. Advisory Committee Business

i. Draft Shire Plan

Manager briefed the meeting on the background establishing a Belyuen Website and getting the Shire Plan on the website. Manager informed the meeting that the NT Government Contractors will be maintaining the website.

Manager informed the meeting that the Shire Plan has to be on the website for 21days. In that period people who want to make comments about the Plan have the opportunity to. Comments are to be directed to the Manager and received by 18th August 2009.

Notice regarding the Shire Plan was in Saturday's paper.

Manager formed the meeting that there are specific requirements that have to go in the Plan. Some of the items that have been identified will cost a lot of money and Council does not have large amounts of money in their budget to buy capital items.

Manager informed the meeting that there would be a meeting in middle of August to adopt the Shire Plan. Manager commented that Belyuen is currently in breach of the Local Government ACT because the Plan has not been adopted yet. Manager has advised the Department of Local Government of the situation.

The GBM asked about the Belyuen Logo.

Manager commented that the current Logo has been used for a long time

GBM advised the meeting that he would be available to assist anyone if they wanted to make comments about the Plan and he would forward it to the Manager.

Manager distributed copies of what is on website.

CEO advised the meeting that there is a copy of the Shire Plan on the front counter of the Council Office.

ii Declaration of Rates and Service Charges

Manager informed meeting about changes to rates and service charges.

Council will be charging rates which have been set at \$620/house per year. Belyuen people will not have to pay these rates because they do not own the houses. Through the Intervention the Australian Government has given control of community houses to the NT Government. Belyuen Council will now invoice Territory Housing for the rates. Manager not sure at this stage about rating NT Government houses and buildings.

Craig Woodie asked who will be doing the garbage collection.

The Manager informed the meeting that the current service for garbage collection will continue this year. Council and the Advisory Committee need to work through issues such as environmental issues when looking at the best practice for garbage collection and removal. Manager commented that one possibility is servicing Wagait, Dundee and Bulgul

Manager informed the meeting that the Service Charge has been set at \$250/lot /year. Belyuen people will not be paying this charge. It will be paid by Territory Housing.

Manager distributed copy of the rate and service charges notice that sets out what fees Belyuen Council will collect. Manager informed the meeting that the notice has to be placed in the NT News.

Manager recommends that the rate charge of \$620 / Lot and the waste management fee of \$250/Lot for 2009/2010 be adopted.

Manager advised the meeting that he will contact Yilli Rreung Housing and advise them to stop collecting garbage and dog fees from Belyuen residents as of 1st July 2009.

iii Draft Budget

Manager distributed copies of the Draft Budget for 2009/2010.

Manager commented that Belyuen Council will receive the same amount of funding from the Department of Local Government as last financial year. However the Manager advised that next year the level of funding may go down.

Manager commented that Council needs to get money to put the power on the shelters on the oval.

Manager informed the meeting that the Council Budgets must balance – the amount of funding Council spends must not be more than the amount it receives.

Manager commented that Council may have to use some of its surpluses to purchase capital items such as HACC and Sport and Recreation vehicles.

Manager asked the meeting if they agreed to adopt the Budget.

Manager resolved to adopt the budget.

Resolution : I (Neil Murray) authorise BCGC expenditure for the personnel and operational purposes for 1 July 2009 up to a quarter of the amount of expected budgetary provisions pending adoption of the budget for 2009-2010 by July 2009

The GBM asked the Manager about parks and gardens work being done by CDEP. The Manager commented that it is a partnership and done as a Project.

The GBM commented that he is looking at funding to create real jobs. He will be looking at Council to contribute to funding to create real jobs.

iv Special Purpose Grant – Local Government Capacity Building Grant –update

CEO advised the meeting that the office was finished and that equipment had been purchased to set up the YMCA/Sport and Recreation office. CEO was still sorting out the internet access for the office.

v Amenities Block update

Manager distributed copies of two options that had been prepared for the amenities block.

Discussion took place about the need to have the female/male toilet access very separate.

Manager to get option 1 costed with changes to design of the access to the toilets.

vi Oval upgrade update

Discussion took place about the work that was still needed to be done on the oval. Oval surface needed to be repaired – uneven surface and patches where there is no lawn. There are also some sprinklers that need to be fixed up.

John McLean had organised someone from Paradise Landscaping to come and give a quote on costs to finish the oval. Paradise Landscaping quote was \$100000. John Mclean commented that he was organising for another company to provide a quote also.

John Mclean commented that it was important that the oval was fixed up properly as it needed to be of a good standard if teams are going to come here to play sports.

The GBM commented that need to look at different options as a training activity through CDEP.

The CEO commented that the Community Services Manager does not see the work needed to be done as a major job and could be done through CDEP with the CDU Trainer who is working with the men doing Horticulture training.

vii Playground equipment update

CEO advised the meeting that the equipment had been ordered and will be delivered in September. The equipment will be erected in October when the Community Services Manager returns from leave.

viii Bush Holiday verbal report

CEO informed the meeting that the bush holidays went well and a special thank you to YMCA, Catholic Care, Money Management and NT Carers for their support and assistance.

ix Community Hall funding application - update

Manager informed the meeting that the application for funding for a new hall was not successful.

Discussion took place about the need to erect fencing around the hall to stop children from playing in there. Currently OHS issues with the hall left like it is.

The GBM commented that they may be able to pay for temporary fencing and signage.

Manager commented that there is the question about what the hall is going to be replaced with.

The GBM commented that he is waiting on a report about buildings that have been condemned.

Discussion took place about the old store building and that there is nothing in writing about the condition of the building.

The GBM commented that he is looking at refurbishing the building so it can be set up as a youth centre. The GBM commented that it would be done under a training plan.

Craig Woodie raised the issue of the need for a cyclone shelter in the community.

x. Special Purpose Grant - Local Government - Front deck mower - update

CEO advised the meeting that the mower had been purchased – mower will be used for areas such as the oval.

xi. Closing the Gap – update

CEO advised the meeting that the power point equipment had been purchased for Council. Equipment can be used for training sessions and presenting activities that are being undertaken in the community.

The CEO advised the meeting that Dane O'Brien from Money Management has offered to teach people how to use the equipment. CEO will organise this with Dane.

xii Application to ICC to Plan, Conserve and Restore the Belyuen cemetery - update

CEO advised the meeting that this application was not successful. Application was assessed in Canberra and they had received 2500 applications.

Manager commented that need to identify what needed to be done and costs involved. CEO advised the Manager that this has already been done in the application.

xiii Community Bus Policy and Procedure guidelines

CEO advised the meeting that a bus policy and procedures guidelines needs to be put into place. John Mclean commented that he would provide a copy of the YMCA bus policy.

CEO commented that there was a report from Bridge Toyota on work that needed to be done on the bus that was not covered in the major service.

xiv NAPCAN proposed Belyuen newsletter

CEO presented a letter that NAPCAN had forwarded re proposal for the community newsletter.

Discussion took place about what the newsletter could look like and the purpose of the newsletter.

It was discussed that the concept of the newsletter started from getting information out to the community.

John Mclean commented that the YMCA will take it on and will look at the NAPCAN proposal.

The GBM commented that it could just be a one page information sheet.

xv Catholic Care NT

Informing Council that Centa Care have now changed their name to Catholic Care NT

xvi Community Benefit Application for vehicle gift/loan

CEO advised the meeting that Council's application was not successful however new applications close on 31st August and Council will put in another application.

xvii Boundaries Consultation meeting 22 July 2009

Manager informed the meeting that there was meeting at Litchfield Council tonight that he, Craig Woodie, Zoe Singh and the CEO would be attending.

xviii YMCA April to June 2009 report on YMCA/Belyuen activities.

The report was noted.

5. Other Matters

i.YMCA

John McLean commented that over the next four weeks they would be looking at employing four Trainees.

The positions would be advertised and a one day workshop would be organised for potential Trainees to see if they feel comfortable about taking up the Traineeships.

John Mclean commented that the program they had been running in the school had been good and there was a good response from the children.

ii GBM

The GBM thanked Craig Woodie, Zoe Singh, Mona Singh, John Mclean, Chrissie Lovett, CEO for making him feel welcome.

The GBM commented that he hoped to be at Belyuen for a number of years. He wanted to get round and talk to everyone in the community including young and old people and he looked forward to supporting the community.

The GBM thanked everyone and commented he was glad to be here.

The Manager thanked the GBM on behalf of everyone.

iii.Manager

The Manager informed the meeting that at the last Service Providers meeting Council offered to be the Secretariat of the Employment sub- committee. People on the sub -committee are Neil Murray – Convenor, Caroline De Busch, Anne Marron, Cathy Winsley, Dane or Heather O'Brien, Marine Paterson or Dean O'Neil, Betty Harris, Glen Castillon.

There being no further Advisory Council business the Manager closed the meeting at 3.05pm

Confirmation of Minutes.....

Date.....

Council Business matters dealt with by the Council Manager

i Nair Watkins proposal to provide accounting services for Belyuen Council for 2009 – 2010
accepted

ii Appointment of Auditors 2009-2010

Merit Partners have been appointed auditors for Council

iii Dept of Local Government – matching funding grant 2009 – 2010

Manager has signed the letter of acceptance for this grant

iv Dept of Health & Community Services variation to Service Plans Imabulk Centre

Manager signed the variation and the Belyuen Council Common Seal was placed on the document

v Dept of Families, Housing, Community Services & Indigenous Affairs Emergency relief Funding for 2009 – 2010

Manager signed the letter of acceptance and the Belyuen Common Seal was placed on the document.

vi Yilli Rreung Housing applications

Lorraine Lane – application first submitted in November 2008

Sharon Lane

Leane Lippo

Bradley Spry

Manager signed the applications as accepted by Council

vii General Correspondence In

The following correspondence in was noted by the Manager

Dept of FHCSIA – re new GBM

Dept of Justice – new Penalty rates

Dept of Justice – re Annual return of the Belyuen Community Association

Wagait Shire re rubbish collection

Minister for Sport & Recreation re NT Govt's Budget

Minister for Health re NT Govt's Budget

NT Grants Commission re FAA and Roads for 2009/2010

Minister for Local Govt re letter to President Coomalie Council re flat rates on properties in unincorporated areas.

Minister for Local Govt. Re distribution of Local Govt funds 2009-2014

