



Bremer Bay Community Development Committee

MINUTES

Bremer Bay Community Resource Centre and Library,
Bremer Bay Regional Trails Committee,
Fitzgerald Biosphere Group

Wednesday 7 August 2024
Bremer Bay Town Hall Meeting Room
Bremer Bay
9:30am

1. OPENING AND WELCOME

Cr Leenhouders declared the meeting open at 9:31 am.

2. ATTENDANCE

Members:

Cr Julie Leenhouders Shire of Jerramungup (Chairperson)
Cr Raegan Zacher Shire of Jerramungup
Leonie McMahon Fitzgerald Biosphere Group/Bremer Bay Trails Committee

Invited Guests:

Jody Scott President, Bremer Bay Progress Association
Gail Hillinen Member, Bremer Bay Progress Association

Support Staff/Observers:

Noel Myers Shire of Jerramungup
Rachel Smith Shire of Jerramungup (Minute Taker)

Apologies:

Cr Joanne Iffla Shire of Jerramungup
Jan Roberts Bremer Bay Trails Committee
Jen Harland Bremer Bay Community Resource Centre
Katrina Wellstead Bremer Bay Progress Association

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Recommendation:

That the Minutes of the Bremer Bay Community Development Committee held 8 May 2024 be confirmed.

Moved: Raegan Zacher Seconded: Leonie McMahon

That the Minutes of the Bremer Bay Community Development Committee held 8 May 2024 be confirmed.

CARRIED

4. BUSINESS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

4.1 Town Entrance Revitalisation Project

Noel explained the benefit of the Bremer Bay Progress Association joining BBCDC is to work collaboratively with the Shire and community groups on projects and development plans. It is an opportunity to put projects on the table and see what groups are aligned, how they may work together and collectively achieve outcomes.

The town entry statement project is nicely timed with budget preparations and review of the Shires strategic plan as the Shire has made a provision in the 2024/25 budget to complete a full Shire rebrand. The current logo is aged and not a representation of the whole shire, it is proposed that a new one will reflect both Jerramungup, Bremer Bay and the wider community. This won't just be a matter of a new logo or image, it's about creating a brand and will include engaging with the community through surveys etc. to add value to the project and to assist with future review of the Shires Strategic Plan. Community feedback will help define the rebranding.

The other project that the rebranding will tie into well is the planning of the new cultural precinct. The rebranding will assist with design and architecture of the building.

BBPA advised they have several ideas to create more of a village feel in Bremer Bay including street/shop signage and the Welcome to Bremer Bay entrance sign. Noel advised that a lot of these projects are shire projects as they inevitably are on land under the management of the Shire and as such they need to go through the formal shire process of being presented to council, planning and procurement etc.

Jody advised she can see a great benefit of the Progress Association joining BBCDC and would like to formally ask members to join.

5. SHIRE OF JERRAMUNGUP BUDGET 2024/2025

Noel Myers provided a brief update of projects in the Shire of Jerramungup 2024/25 Budget of benefit to Bremer Bay:

- Planning and design of cultural precinct
 - Funds allocated to engage an Architectural team to scope out the project and assist with plans and engineering of precinct on Sea Dragon Avenue. Will involve community consultation and workshops further down the track.
- Bird hide investigation and design
 - Council have invested \$15k to assist with the progression of this project to be installed on Wellstead Estuary. Collaborating with FBG on the project.

- FBG contribution
 - \$15k towards administration and running costs
- Cemetery maintenance/reticulation
 - Reticulation being installed at Bremer Bay Cemetery
- Review of Bushfire Risk Management Plan, Mitigation Activity Program, Point Henry Strategic Fire Break mitigation, Point Henry fire assessments, introduction of Fire Mapper Program
 - A review and update of the Shire's Bushfire Risk Mitigation Plan (BRMP) is required to align to new DFES guidelines. Bio Diverse Solutions will be undertaking the review, providing the Shire with an updated BRMP document and conducting a Community Information evening in Bremer Bay to be held on 7 August 2024 at 6:30pm.
 - Gail Hillinen commented on how excellent mitigation works look.
 - Noel advised the Shire engages a Bushfire Consultant to assist with annual inspections to ensure all properties are compliant. Since this has been in effect, non-compliance has dropped dramatically.
- Great Southern Treasures
 - \$13k allocated to Great Southern Treasures to promote tourism assets across the member local governments.
- General Practitioner and business support services for the medical centres
 - The Shire makes a significant financial contribution to ensure there is a doctor in the Shire. The annual cost is \$220k, in addition to the Shire providing a motor vehicle and house.
- Bremer Bay Emergency Services Precinct
 - \$300k has been allocated over the 2023/24 and 2024/25 financial years for the new Emergency Services Precinct. The aim is to locate all emergency services in one location (DFES, St John, Police). There is a shortfall in funding so project has scaled back by the SJA group and they are currently seeking opportunities to make up the funding shortfall.
- Shire of Jerramungup Brand Redevelopment and community consultation
 - Refer to Item 4.1
- Genestreams Songlines Sculpture
 - Australia wide initiative which involves the installation of sculptures representing Indigenous songlines and stories. The Shire is making a financial contribution towards installation of the sculpture.
- Turf Management of sports ovals
 - Maintenance of the three sporting ovals within the Shire has been a huge burden for volunteers over recent years. Council have made a provision in

the budget to engage a professional turf management company to maintain the 3 ovals at Jerramungup, Boxwood Hill and Bremer Bay.

- Revitalisation of parkland opposite shop in Bremer Bay
 - Seating and pathways to be installed in reserve opposite the Bremer Bay General Store.
- Trail signage and program
 - Replacement of signage on Dive Trail and contribution towards the maintenance of some other signage.
 - Funds for the Rock Cairn trail has been reallocated towards the expansion of the Snail Trail. This new focus has been endorsed by the Trails Group.
- Fencing installation at the Bremer Bay Skate Park
 - Shire's Insurers have inspected the park and have noted concerns about child safety as there is no barrier between the active play area and road. Provision has been made in the budget to install fencing.
- New footpath between Roderick Street and Bennett Street
 - Progress association raised issue with footpaths. Each year \$70k spent in Bremer Bay. This year's budget there is a missing section which will be installed.
- Reseal and kerbing of Mary Street, sections of Frantom Way, Gnornbup Terrace, Robert Street
 - 6 new solar lights will be installed over the new footpath on Bremer Bay Road totalling \$25k. 3 poles will have provisions for street banners to be displayed.
 - A permanent Variable Message Display Board will be installed on the corner of John Street at the DFES shed. This has already been purchased in the last financial year, installation will be this financial year.
- Building maintenance:
 - Boardwalk at Fisheries Beach, quotes received as boards are starting to degrade. Whole lot needs to be replaced.
- Maintenance work on coastal toilet facilities.
 - Not new facilities as cost is too high but upgrade works. Interim period is to perform upgrades.
 - Upgrades to disabled toilet – Access is difficult. Shire looking at levelling ground, will not be totally compliant. Installing seniors parking, not disability parking. Hoping Department of Transport will take over this area.

6. MEMBER ITEMS

6.1 Bremer Bay Community Resource Centre and Library

Jen Harland has been appointed as Acting Manager and is also still the Library Officer.

CRC facing staffing issues with Postal Service Officer resigning and manager position still vacant. Applications close 23 August, have received 2 applications for each position so far.

CRC has achieved charity status.

It has been quiet in July but tourism is picking up now with wild flowers and whales attracting visitors.

6.2 Fitzgerald Biosphere Group

New EO has been appointed – Damon Cusack started on 24 June.

Coastwest grant was submitted at the start of the year and it was successful! Objective is to improve the overall condition of vegetation along the edge of the Wellstead Estuary (opposite the Bremer Bay Caravan Park), weed management and erosion control. Volunteers will be required to complete weed and track maintenance.

Annual clean-up day was held on 30 June. There was minimal rubbish collected which was fantastic as it shows how tidy the town is. Thanks to the Shire and community members for continued maintenance.

Shorebirds project – Penny Willcocks and Leonie McMahon attended the BirdLife Australia biennial beach nesting birds conference in Victoria in early June. Great opportunity to hear success stories from around the country.

Gail Hillinen left the meeting at 10:45am.

Annie Leitch from the FBCC and Leonie are running a photography competition to raise awareness of the birdlife on the estuary and the Biosphere Transition Zone. Keen to get local community involved as much as possible. Excellent prize pool available.

Pending funding application for Strategic Weed Management in the Bremer Bay region - State NRM. For extensive weed program over 3 years if successful.

Wellstead Estuary Bird Hide is coming! Getting this across the line will be a major achievement.

6.3 Bremer Bay Regional Trails Committee

Trails Committee haven't had a meeting since the last BBCDC meeting. Will try hold a meeting on the evening of the above photography competition.

Committee used to meet 3-4 times per year but are struggling this year. Looking for fresh members to join.

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

Noel shared an email from Keep Australia Beautiful. People who have a vested interest in areas can form a group and adopt a spot to keep clean. This is a good opportunity for Bremer Bay Progress Members. Noel to forward information to Katrina.

Jody left the meeting at 10:55am

Bremer Bay Progress Association advised the Shire needs to have a place to provide feedback. Raegan has informed there is this opportunity on the Shire's website to lodge customer requests and Noel confirmed the Shire has made improvements to that process where an automated response with a reference number is now issued when a request is lodged.

8. NEXT MEETING

The next Bremer Bay Community Development Committee meeting will be held Wednesday, 6 November 2024 at 9:00am at the Bremer Bay Town Hall.

9. CLOSURE

The Chairperson declared the meeting closed at 11:05am.