

**NOTES OF MEETING
BETWEEN SRRC & BRASA
10 August 2016 at Graceleigh Park**

Attendees: Mayor Greg Christensen, Cr Virginia West, Manager Operations Hugh Dunn, Greg Slater, Tom Sharp, Tom Blake and Janis Rossiter for BRASA

Apology: Shane Mobbs (BRASA)

Meeting commenced 10.30am.

Graceleigh Park

(1) Enhancements to Cricket/Soccer Club Pavilion:

- GregS advised that amended plans for the Beechmont Cricket/Soccer Club Unisex Toilets & Showers will be delivered by JanisR & himself today to SRRC. Under the terms of the agreement with DNPSR, Council agreement is required by 31/8/16.
- BRASA is hiring a shipping container that will be placed on site to hold contents of clubhouse & building equipment while building is progressing.
- BRASA has carried out a soil test in preparation for the Clubhouse works
- ***HughD advised that Council will remove some of the BBQ's near the ANZAC memorial.***

SRRC & BRASA had discussed this at previous meeting of 7/7/15. Clubs have their own BBQ's. Although BBQ's are infrequently used, BRASA has advised there are occasions when BBQ's are used by the visiting public.

(2) Lighting:

- GregS advised that BRASA has quote for lights and has used a lighting engineer to ensure the 4x light towers to be erected meet Australian Lighting Standards. BRASA has also checked with Dial Before You Dig to ensure there is no impediment to the trenches – all part of the Soccer Club grant
- HughD advised that Council has spoken to Matt Luthi Soccer? re the lights and has received advice from BRASA (M.O'Donnell). ***SRRC will advise if request triggers a public notification process due to possible light spill.***

(3) Beechmont Tennis Club:

- TomS indicated that Beechmont Tennis Court #2 is in need of re-surfacing and that Beechmont Tennis is not incorporated, therefore answers to BRASA, but collects monies from court hire, etc.
- TomB advised that Beechmont Netball uses court #2 for training (although not correct size for matches) and until such time as Netball has their own playing surface (the proposed multi-purpose area), no upgrade works can be undertaken.

(4) Ant Problem:

- GregS advised that the problem is still continuing since last discussed on 7/7/15. Commercially available sprays only work for 3 – 4 months (depending on rain). BRASA has own spray unit (obtained thru grant). Pesticide costs \$300 per spray. BRASA has sprayed 3 times over recent months, but ants keep coming back & are real issue with Oval users. BRASA would prefer to use organic sprays but have been told they don't work.

HughD advised Council doesn't have anything more effective.

(5) Smoking Laws :

- GregS requested information on the new State Government Smoking Laws due to come into effect in September 2016. Beechmont State School has advised BRASA that changes to existing legislation have been approved and they may affect our sporting clubs.
- **CrW advised that as information is provided to SRRC, Clubs will be advised of requirements and whether funds will be provided to erect signs.** CrW suggests the Tobacco Industry website may provide further information.

North Graceleigh Park:

(6) Land Survey:

- HughD advised once survey is completed, a Report will go to a Council meeting for approval. The report will identify issues of access, impact on existing facilities on Graceleigh Park, parking, community benefit, etc. Then follows a community consultation period to give community understanding of what is proposed & opportunity for objections.
- TomS commented there may be a few objections from residents who are not necessarily members of BRASA, yet BRASA is doing work for benefit of majority of community.
- Discussion re community meeting proposed by Mayor at today's BAPA meeting. Mayor advised some community members do not know what is happening/proposed. BRASA advised that information is available on BRASA & BAPA websites, by emails to all members, on the Beechmont facebook page & in the "Hinterlander".
- CrW asked if information can be sent to her & Sport & Rec Officers before reading in the "Hinterlander."
- SRRC advised Council time being taken up by queries regarding what is happening on Graceleigh Park. Discussion on the way information is provided to BRASA members and the public. **BRASA requested any queries received by SRRC be requested to contact BRASA to provide information.**
- TomS asked if the developer contributed funds in addition to the land? HughD advised that Kerry Finn only gave land as his developer contribution & would have no objections to any proposals for the land, as community infrastructure would assist land sales.
- TomS asked if there had ever been any financial contributions from development on Beechmont as Council should have a Trust Account for all financial contributions and all funds should be spent on Beechmont? **SRRC to advise.**

(7) Agreement in Principle for Netball Courts:

- GregS advised that members of Beechmont Netball Club have been very successful in competition, but little can be done to support club till land is made available on North Graceleigh Park. Once land is added to BRASA lease, BRASA & Netball can commence fundraising for infrastructure; Netball will become incorporated to assist with grant applications.
- HughD advised that Phil Armytage, an independent surveyor will survey next week for a multi-purpose area north of the tennis courts and road reserve east of the tennis

courts (for access). The survey will be sent to Council for official boundary re-alignment & addition to BRASA lease.

- JanisR asked “Does the land need to have a zone change to same as that for Graceleigh Park?”
- HughD advised this occurs automatically when the land is transferred to BRASA lease.

(8) Pony Arena/Dog Park:

- GregS advised that the Pony Club has asked if a small area (possibly 60 x 40 metres) could be set aside for a small arena and now that dogs are not allowed on Graceleigh Park, dog walkers have asked if a fenced off dog area could be provided, similar to the space at Lower Beechmont.
- The Mayor responded that Council prefers to achieve present projects before moving on to further community requests.

(9) Hang Gliders:

- GregS has been reminded by the Hang Gliders that the small area they are allowed to use is still required as an emergency landing field in case of sudden wind changes.
- JanisR added that the hang gliders are concerned that the proposed tree planting along Back Creek may make landing difficult by causing wind eddies.
- CrW advised that the plantings will be well away from the North Graceleigh area requested by BRASA & used by hanggliders. **CrW will send a copy of the planting area to JanisR for distribution to the community.**

(10) Walking/Bike Trails:

- TomS advised that on behalf of BAPA & BRASA, maps have been obtained showing the Gazetted Roads on Beechmont. These are state owned road reserves for which SRRC is Manager. It is proposed that a number of these roads be cleared & paths maintained by the community to enable use without having to travel along the unsafe main road verges. **Will SRRC give Agreement in Principle to our proposal?**
- **The Mayor requested that specific routes be flagged, so that Council has understanding of what is proposed & funding required.**
- TomB advised that these proposals are still under discussion with the community & BAPA & BRASA members will need to agree to final proposals before seeking SRRC agreement. It is anticipated that much of the work will be carried out by volunteer labour. Some of the roads are fenced off & currently used by adjoining landowners; there may be issues. Privacy issues will also be addressed. A Strategic Plan for Bike Trails is being drawn up. There were 120 respondents to the Beechmont Survey who nominated walking trails as the no1 priority. The Trail will assist local eco-tourism. In the UK, the walking trails network is a \$600 million annual tourism asset.
- **The Mayor responded that if a proposal comes through from the community, it must be considered by Council.**
- **CrW suggested that the proposal could seek funding through “Vibrant Towns” grants.**
- HughD added that SRRC doesn’t maintain footpaths, so the community would need to accept responsibility.
- **The Mayor suggested contact Screw Turner of “Spicers Peak Trail”.** They are part of the Hidden Peaks Trail on the western side of the rim; an eco trail, open to the

public, that traverses national parks & open space & provides a number of camping & glamping spots. Spicers obtained approval, then created a number of the trails themselves; at times using existing gazetted roads.

- TomS advised that the maintenance & upkeep of Graceleigh Park & it's infrastructure is the primary focus of BRASA, but BRASA is willing to assist all proposals that are of benefit to the community, provided a "Champion" is willing to come forward to lead the proposal.
- JanisR added that as the BRASA committee, we all have individual projects that we are willing to pursue, however all proposals must be agreed to by BRASA members before they are commenced. Members also put forward proposals (such as the Lower Beechmont Park Project). BRASA currently has a number of projects "In Hand" & we are seeking to complete them before taking on others.

Other Business:

(11) Movies in the Park:

- GregS advised that BRASA has received approval from Gold Coast City Council to be a part of their "Movies in the Park" program. GCCC will pay BRASA to conduct 3x movies over the next few months. ***Is SRRC interested in doing similar?***
- JanisR advised that BRASA (through grants) has built an entertainment trailer comprising large outdoor movie screen & associated equipment, coffee machine, popcorn machine & pizza oven. The Trailer is available for hire for events (such as Movies in the Park); all proceeds to assist the costs of maintenance of BRASA equipment, insurances, etc.
- ***CrW responded that Kathy Forrest, Community Development Officer would be good contact point.***

(12) Communication with SRRC:

- JanisR advised that there have been difficulties with communication with SRRC. Letters (via email) are sent to SRRC central email point marked "Attention Mayor/ CEO/ Council Officer" & often (apart from the initial automatically generated response) no response is received. BRASA wonders if the email has been received or "got lost in the system". Telephone follow up several weeks later is often the only way to ensure that correspondence has been received – there is no point following up immediately as it takes time to "go thru the system". This causes delay in achieving results. ***Is there a better way to close the loop?***
- The Mayor acknowledged that the Customer Management System needs upgrading & that Council is addressing the system. He added that his Secretary (Dee Crotty) provides a two working days acknowledgement to all correspondence sent to the Mayor.
- HughD advised that it can sometimes be confusing as to whom to respond to when a number of people write on the same subject.
- JanisR acknowledged that this is a problem & BRASA will re-inforce what was agreed to on 7/7/15: **All email correspondence on BRASA related activity is to be sent either to or from the BRASA Secretary on brasacommitee@gmail.com or marked "cc: The Secretary, BRASA."**

The Meeting closed at 12noon