

Brunswick Terminal Station Upgrade

Community Reference Group Meeting

6:30-8:30 10 February 2015

Brunswick Town Hall

MEETING MINUTES

Apologies:

Denis McCrohan, AusNet Services

Attendees:

Bruce Turner, Chair

Anne Voss, resident

Fatima Alisak, resident

Craig Burton, resident

Ray Collodetti, resident, Merri Creek Residents' Group

Ray Radford, resident, Friends of Merri Creek

Chris Black, resident, Merri Creek Residents' Group

David Grant, AusNet Services

Sandra Nielsen, AusNet Services

Neil Gascoigne, CitiPower (guest)

Steve Watson, Office of Jane Garrett MP (guest)

Grant Thorne, Director City Infrastructure, Moreland City Council

Phil Priest, Group Manager City Development, Moreland City Council

Darren Camilleri, Planning Coordinator, Moreland City Council

1. Welcome and introductions

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and each person introduced themselves to the group.

2. Special Guests

The meeting was advised that Steve Watson had attended following an invitation from Chris Black.

The draft Terms of Reference (TOR) state that: *'At certain times, specialist representatives, other residents or consultants may be invited to attend meetings, at the request of the Chairperson in consultation with the Reference Group.'* Bruce noted that this guidance had not been followed in relation to Steve Watson's invitation to attend. Bruce accepted Steve's attendance, given that Steve was observing on behalf of the local Member who is also the Minister for Emergency Services. Bruce also requested that the TOR protocols are followed in future in relation to inviting guests.

Fatima asked about Councillors attending the CRG. Phil advised that the setting up and draft TOR for the CRG (which included its membership) was endorsed by Council. The draft TOR endorsed by Council indicate that Council's representatives on the CRG are officers rather than

Councillors. However, Councillor requests to attend meetings can be considered in line with the above protocol.

3. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were adopted as a reasonable record. Bruce noted that the TOR (section 5.5) include the process whereby, if there are no unresolved comments on the draft minutes from the two week comment period provided to all members, they may be taken as endorsed and made publicly available prior to the next meeting.

4. Follow up on actions from previous meeting

ACTION 2.1: Chris Black to forward Paul Murfitt (MEFL) a nomination form to be returned to Arthur Vatzakis, Principal Urban Planner, Moreland City Council.

Action Completed. Note: A nomination has not been received by Council from Paul.

ACTION 2.2: Chair to edit draft TOR to reflect the agreed timeframes for issuing and finalising minutes.

Discussed at Item 5 below.

ACTION 2.3: Sandra and Chris to collaborate on redrafting the Project Background section of the TOR. TOR to be adopted at next meeting.

Discussed at Item 5 below.

ACTION 2.4: Neil Gascoigne undertook to pass on feedback on additional notification methods to CitiPower Communications.

Action Completed. Neil advised that he had taken the feedback back to CitiPower.

ACTION 2.5: AusNet services to provide two hard copies of the CEMP to Chris Black.

Action Completed.

ACTION 2.6: AusNet Services to examine what can be done to manage noise impacts on the Darebin side of the site, and provide noise modelling data to the CRG at the next meeting.

AusNet Services were prepared for a presentation on this matter at the meeting. Given the absence of all but one resident representative following Item 6, this matter will be listed as an Agenda Item for next meeting.

Action 3.1: Noise impacts/modeling update (Action 2.6 of November Minutes) to be listed as an agenda item for next meeting.

ACTION 2.7: Grant Thorne to be invited to the next meeting (10 February 2015) to discuss the MEMP. Grant to inform the CRG whether the Metropolitan Fire Brigade had been consulted on the MEMP.

Discussed at Item 6 below.

ACTION 2.8: AusNet Services to consult with the Merri Creek Management Committee on the draft plan for the track prior to submission to Council for endorsement.

Discussed at Item 8 below

ACTION 2.9: Council to check if there is a master plan for Sumner Park and what the Merri Creek Plan says about this section of the creek.

Discussed at Item 8 below.

ACTION 2.10: AusNet Services to consider suggestions of other voluntary contributions and then discuss possible options with Council and report to the CRG with regard to what contribution (and associated process) might be possible.

Discussed at Item 7 below.

ACTION 2.11: CRG minutes to be displayed at a suitable place at the site. An appropriate location to be discussed on the site tour.

Discussed at Item 9 below.

ACTION 2.12: Council to lodge a formal Customer Service Request for works (tree stump removal) to be completed. Discussed at Item 10 below.

5. Terms of reference

The changes to the draft TOR discussed at the last meeting had been made to the draft TOR. These were accepted by the CRG.

Ramon said the Labor Government pre-election commitment to undertake an independent review should form part of the background along with some of the history of the site (i.e. Sumner mansion).

Action 3.2: Bruce to collaborate with Ramon on amending the draft TOR in light of Ramon's suggested additions to the Background section. Once amended, the draft TOR is to be circulated for any last comments. The TOR are to be ratified prior to the next meeting.

6. Emergency management plan

Grant explained that emergency management arrangements in Victoria were contained within the Emergency Management Manual Victoria and is managed by the Emergency Management Act 1986. The Manual caters for the State, regional and local levels. Generic risks are identified such as explosion, flood, and flight crash but are, purposefully, not site-specific. It was explained that emergency management arrangements cater for all types of emergencies, relevant if the emergency occurs at any particular location.

Grant explained that there are a multitude of factors that could influence how a particular situation or incident is managed, which is why the management plans are 'process based' as opposed to being 'location specific'. He said, for example, prevailing winds at the time of an incident related to a gas release may dictate how evacuation is undertaken and therefore cannot be predicted in advance.

Emergency management involves plans, structures and arrangements which bring together all organisations which have a role in emergency management including in prevention, response and recovery.

In regard to an emergency at the Brunswick Terminal Station, the agency which controls the emergency response depends on the type of emergency. For example, if there is a fire, it is the MFB, if there is a flood, it is the VICSES or if there was a bomb, it would be the VicPolice. The Municipal Emergency Management Plan (MEMP) for Moreland is municipal wide. Council's involvement depends on the incident. For example, if the emergency at the Brunswick Terminal Station required nearby residents to be evacuated, either the control agency and/or VicPolice would evacuate residents. Council's role could be to provide a relief centre where evacuated residents can go and also, if required, transport for the residents to the relief centre.

Ramon said he had had an 'off the record' conversation with MFB which highlighted concerns about evacuation around the BTS. Ramon said Alister Street is narrow at 7.5 m, which could

cause concerns in the event of an emergency. Grant agreed to follow up with MFB in relation these concerns.

Chris referred to a June 2014 Council resolution which was '*Council ask SP Ausnet to provide an emergency evacuation plan to Council and make it available to the CRG and neighbouring residents.*' Darren advised that Council had asked AusNet Services for its emergency management plan (EMP) and that this had been provided. However this was an 'internal' EMP for the BTS site, employees and contractors, with AusNet Services advising it was not for release to the CRG or public.

Resident members of the CRG expressed strong concern that the Municipal EMP is not site specific and that the intent of the June 2014 Council resolution had not been followed through. They indicated their understanding of the intent of this resolution had been the development of a site-specific Emergency Management Plan that identified and mitigated risks and contained plans to respond to potential specific events to ensure the safety of residents in the local area.

At 7:27 Chris, Fatima, Craig, Anne and Ramon left the meeting citing their concern that the Council and AusNet Services were not being responsive to the residents' concerns relating to emergency management.

At 7:30 Ramon returned to the meeting after a discussion with Bruce. He expressed concerns about the CRG process and reiterated the resident representatives call for a site-specific risk and emergency management plan. He asked if AusNet Services would be happy to contribute to such a plan with Council. David Grant advised that AusNet Services would be happy to continue to work with Council on this matter.

Ramon said that he would return to the CRG once a clear commitment is given to develop a site-specific emergency management plan.

At 7:37 Ramon left the meeting. Neil left the meeting shortly afterwards as the remaining items did not involve CitiPower.

Action 3.3: Council officers and AusNet Services to discuss how best to communicate emergency evacuation/management procedures in relation to an incident at BTS.

Action 3.4: Council officers to inform Cr Ratnam of the concerns raised at the CRG that the Council resolution does not reflect the discussion that led to, or the intent of, the resolution.

Action 3.5: Grant Thorne to follow up with the MFB in relation to Ramon's report that MFB had expressed concern about evacuation around the BTS and report back to the CRG.

7. 'Goats Track' & AusNet Services contribution update

This item was discussed as this was of interest to Ray Radford in his capacity as representative of the Friends of Merri Creek.

David advised that AusNet Services had contacted the Merri Creek Management Committee (MCMC) to discuss the 'goats track design'. He said a site visit with Louise from MCMC and AusNet Services was expected to occur shortly. The draft plan has also been reviewed by Council's Transport Officer who has made some suggestions about the path alignment and materials.

Action 3.6: AusNet Services to report the outcome of meeting with MCMC in relation to the 'goats track' at the next CRG.

In relation to the question as to whether there is a master plan for Sumner Park and what the Merri Creek Plan says about this section of the creek (Action 2.9), Darren advised there was no Sumner Park Master Plan per se. However there were identified infrastructure works for the Sumner Park area in Council's works program. These included improved lighting, seats, and upgrades to the coach box and fencing. Items in Council's work's program had been passed to AusNet Services to consider what the company might contribute to, in addition to the required portion of the 'goats track' upgrade. AusNet Services advised that it would be prudent to obtain the views of the CRG in relation to what work items were considered most important.

Action 3.7: AusNet Services contribution to Infrastructure improvements to be listed as an agenda item for next meeting.

8. Other Items

The following items were not discussed at the meeting due to the absence of all but one resident member. However it was agreed by those remaining at the conclusion of the meeting that a written update would be provided with these minutes.

8.1 Information Display for project updates

Council's Open Space and Property Unit has advised that information displays should be free standing, and not affixed to a building (i.e. the Zebras Soccer Club pavilion). A free standing structure could be placed near the path. Council would need to determine if there are any permit requirements or prohibitions before proceeding further.

Action 3.8: Council to advise AusNet Services of any permit requirements or prohibitions to the erection of information displays and report progress at the next CRG.

8.2 Tree stump removal

The original request related to removal of a tree stump of a tree that had fallen due to weather. This tree stump has been removed. It is noted that as of the previous week some tree stumps of other recently removed trees (and one stump resulting from a storm in Q3 of 2014) remained. AusNet Services had advised that these would be removed shortly.

8.3 Review of need to remove some trees

The outcome of a review that was initiated following the CRG's site visit to the BTS and surrounds in December 2014 was reported by email to Ramon by Phillip prior to the meeting. The report was:

A site inspection was conducted on 23 January 2015 with AusNet Services and Council's Arborists to re-examine the trees in this area and whether any more can be retained. A summary of the findings of the review are below:

TREE No. and species	Endorsed plan status	Following review in January 2015
152 (Cypress)	Remove	Remove (structurally unsound, on verge of splitting)
153 (Cypress)	Retain	Retain
154 (Melaleuca)	Remove	Already removed
155 (Casuarina)	Remove	Whilst pruning will need to ensure it is clear of infrastructure, this can be

		retained.
156 (Ash)	Remove	Dead
157 (Melaleuca)	Remove	Can be retained
158 (Melaleuca)	Retain	Retain

<end quote>

8.4 Review of potentially obsolete road signs in Alister Street

Advice from Council's Traffic Engineers given to AusNet Services in mid-January is that the 'Do not use footpath' signs can be removed following Council officer approval of a revised Traffic Management Plan. AusNet Services will submit a revised plan for approval and subsequently remove the signs in question.

9. Next Meeting:

To be confirmed.

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