

**MARYSVILLE AND TRIANGLE COMMUNITY RECOVERY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING – 27 July 2010
MARYTON PARK, MARYSVILLE**

1. Attendance:

Community Recovery Committee

Tony Thompson (Chair)	Steve Coker (Treasurer)	Dianne Lisle
Graeme Brown	Clive Clayton	Marianne Menz
Keith Ray	Jennifer Wood	Bruce Ackerman

Murrindindi Shire Council

Sandra Slatter	Howard Paix	Mike Wasley
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DHS

Ray Siegersma

Admin.

Robyn Hill

Guests

Ben Hubbard (VBBRA)	David Sterling (Chamber of Commerce)	Pam Williams (DHS)
Jo Mason (FRRR)		

2. Apologies:

Richard Rogerson (Secretary)	Peter Gill (CRC)	Cr. Kevin Bellingham
Glen McFadzean (CRC)	Rita Seethaler (CRC)	Robert Hall (DHS)
Jenny Pullen (CRC)	Megan Lancaster (VBRRA)	

3. Declaration of pecuniary interest

Tony Thompson flagged a potential interest in the 3AW advertising program.

4. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 14 July were accepted by the Committee. The motion to accept the minutes was moved by Keith Ray; Graeme Brown seconded the motion, all in favour.

5. Business Arising

Ray Siegersma reported that further to discussions at the previous CRC meeting about the 3AW advertising campaign, the recent Men's Getaway focussed on song writing and a CD by Red Gum's Hugh McDonald will possibly be available by Christmas.

6. Action item summary – 14 July 2010

	Action item	Action by:
1	Megan Lancaster will arrange a meeting with representatives of MMT	Megan Lancaster was

	to discuss the relocation of the VIC to the RAC.	absent.
2	Clive Clayton will price a fire safety package for each of the halls in the Triangle area, to include a fire blanket, extinguisher and smoke detector/s.	Clive Clayton is working with the Marysville brigade to progress this.
3	Graeme Brown will talk to representatives of the Chamber of Commerce about their web site requirements.	David Sterling has discussed this with FRRR; it does not need to be followed up by CRC any further.
4	Clive Clayton will find out more about the scrap book group who use the Buxton Hall and their future activities with a view of being able to offer some assistance in some way	Clive Clayton reported that he has not heard back from the group.
5	Tony Thompson will raise the issue of mentoring some young people at the Economic Leadership Forum.	Tony Thompson will follow up.
6	Tony Thompson and Graeme Brown will draft a letter questioning the allocation of the tree removal works to the Shire contractor without any opportunity for local contractors to tender for the works, and also the proposed cost of the work by the Shire contractor.	See discussion below.
7	Howard Paix will circulate the DPCD funding application forms.	Completed.
8	Richard Rogerson will follow up on the application by the volunteer ski patrol for funding.	Mike Wasley reported that he had spoken to Sue Parry and has requested more information.
9	Robyn Hill to follow up with Julia Peddie about arts group storage requirements	Completed. To be discussed at the next meeting.
10	Jenny Pullen to forward indicative costs for the replacement of lost equipment at the Marysville tennis courts.	Jenny Pullen to follow up.
11	Graeme Brown will complete an events application form to support the Big Fish marketing campaign in the Triangle region.	Graeme Brown
12	Glen McFadzean to complete an events application form for youth events and circulate to the CRC.	See agenda item 13.1
13	Tony Thompson to write a letter of thanks to Robert Hall.	Completed

Action item 6 – Letter to the Council about the use of local contractors

The letter has not yet been drafted. The issue has been raised at the Section 86 meeting. Bruce Ackerman reported that he had received a letter from the head of the Engineering department apologising for the lateness of the response and advising that the tender will be dealt with at the Council meeting at the end of the month. Graeme Brown said that it was important to understand how the Council will make sure that this does not happen again.

Action item 11 – Events application form – Big Fish

Graeme Brown tabled a request by the Alexandra Traders and Tourism Association to support the Big Fish event to be held in Alexandra. 3AW will broadcast from the event and there will be market stalls showcasing local produce and wine. Alexandra Traders and Tourism Association seek \$4,000 to assist in the promotion of the event. The CRC agreed that many Alexandra businesses and the broader Alexandra community helped to support Marysville and Triangle area after the fires. The event will be supported by the Shire and Mystic Mountains Tourism.

Steve Coker moved a motion to support the request for \$4,000, Bruce Ackerman seconded the motion, motion carried.

6. Guest – Jo Mason, Bushfire Recovery Project Manager, Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal (FRRR)

Jo Mason provided some background information about FRRR – it is an independent foundation established ten years ago. The foundation supports the development of regional community foundations, and uses seed funding and challenge grants to move regional development project funding into a more dynamic context. FRRR made the decision to be involved in the medium to long term recovery process, rather than the immediate short term. It is a non government body who are keen to promote projects which do not traditionally attract philanthropic attention. There are a range of grants programs available; the information and application forms are available on the web site.

FRRR have a program called Repair, Restore, Renew. They have the ability to open region specific accounts and have special tax provisions which assist with their programs. Projects can be multi – year commitments, subject to the approval of the FRRR Board.

Jo Mason welcomed members to contact her to discuss funding opportunities and committed to providing honest feedback.

Action: Robyn Hill to circulate Jo Mason's (FRRR) contact details.

7. Guest – Pam Williams, Director of Bushfire Recovery Services, Department of Human Services (DHS)

Pam Williams discussed her role in the co-ordination of case management, hubs, temporary housing etc. DHS services will continue next year, but the need for the service is declining. There are around 200 families that continue with case management services in the Triangle area, there were originally more than 700 active clients immediately after the fires. High risk clients are constantly reviewed, as are people who have ongoing needs. About 225 families are currently in supported housing, mostly in the temporary villages. A survey has been sent to the 1600 households who lost their primary place of residence to ascertain their plans for re-establishment. DHS have also funded community development work within local government. Psychosocial services continue.

There have been rumours in Marysville that there will be between 20 and 40 housing commission homes built in Marysville, this is not true.

DHS continue to work with people to confirm their exit strategies from the temporary villages. Graeme Brown asked when the temporary village would be removed, Pam Williams thought that it could be at the end of 2011, it depends on individuals and their requirements, and the intention has been to give people time to do what they needed to do. The lack of available rental properties remains a problem for people who want to leave the village. Bruce Ackerman commented that people like Rob Croxford and others need to be recognised for all their efforts in securing the land for the village.

8. Guest – Ben Hubbard, CEO, VBBRA

Ben Hubbard made five key points:

- 1) CRC leadership forum was held in the Yarra Valley, 120 residents representing CRCs across the state, 30 people from local government, and additional representatives from VBBRA, DHS and other government departments. It was a great opportunity to share stories and skill development. It was a very successful forum.
- 2) Christine Nixon has announced her resignation as Chair of VBBRA. The Premier will make a call about whether there will be a replacement Chair appointed.

- 3) Royal Commission – the contents of the final report are unknown. It will be made available on 31 July, copies of the report will be available at the RACs, Shire offices in Yea and Alexandra. The Premier has indicated that he may do a tour around fire affected areas and may come to a CRC meeting.
- 4) Community Recovery Plans and VBAF – the VBAF process finished at the August meeting. There is an allocation for emerging needs. Ben Hubbard will provide information about the projects that have been supported through VBAF.
- 5) VBBRA – ongoing projects will be handed over to other appropriate parties, projects which can be finalised will be. The handover process will be transparent. The aim is to have full closure by mid 2011.

Bruce Ackerman reiterated his thanks to Christine Nixon for her efforts at VBBRA.

Golf Course – there is an offer on the table from Greg Norman to design the golf course, and there is also someone looking at the golf club facilities and conference centre. Facilities need to be profitable before they can attract investment. Confidence builds confidence. People would like to see another local attraction other than Lake Mountain. Ben Hubbard hopes to have more information by late August.

Ben Hubbard discussed the Investment Fund and other small business support. They continue to work through the recommendations of the Boston Consulting Group report.

Steve Coker asked for a breakdown of the \$51m business support package that was announced in March/April 09.

Action: Ben Hubbard will obtain a breakdown of the allocation of the \$51m business support package.

David Barton is presenting the sky rail proposal to Council tomorrow.

Action: Tony Thompson will circulate the email about the proposed sky rail.

Tony Thompson asked Ben Hubbard about workshops to assist community groups to apply for grants and asked if workshops could be held in the Triangle area.

Action: Ben Hubbard will investigate the option of workshops in the Triangle area to assist community groups to apply for grants.

Graeme Brown thanked Ben Hubbard for the CRC leadership forum; it was well run and sensitively handled. He also congratulated Christine Nixon for her work as Chair of VBBRA. John Brumby and Ben Hardman have done a lot of work in bushfire affected areas, as has Jacinta Allen, and they should be congratulated.

10. Stage 2 Community Centre – Keith Ray

Keith Ray advised that there had been a ceremony to celebrate the first sod turning last Friday. The early works tender has been let. The project has moved along quickly. There needs to be a continual reminder to Bovis Lend Lease to use local contractors wherever possible. Keith Ray described the services and facilities that will be available in the new community space.

General discussion: Ben Hubbard asked if there was any appetite to further pursue a community facility at the golf club. There has been interest in a multipurpose complex that would be different to Stage 2 at Gallipoli Park. There is interest in the long term sustainability of the golf club.

11. Narbethong Hall – Jennifer Wood

The planning permit was finally achieved after much complication.

The Narbethong Public Hall Committee (NPHC) considered options which were presented by VBBRA, about how the facility could be managed. There have been some reservations about BLL coming on

board. Prior to the appointment of BLL the project had been progressed with the assistance of pro-bono offer from an architect and also from Arup. Those parties now have to do re-work and there is some discomfort that they have been asked for considerable further input.

The project is managed by monthly Project Control Group meetings, with 2 to 4 meetings held in between the PCG meetings as required. The commitment from NPHC has been significant and some are getting tired.

BLL are reviewing the costs estimated that were previously provided; their costs have come in at \$315,000 over the original estimated cost of the project. The NPHC is not entirely comfortable with their relationship with BLL at this stage. It is a challenge to deal with them when there is a pro bono offer on the table. Tony Thompson confirmed that he had heard of other projects that BLL have costed that are higher than the original estimated costs.

The concern about the use of local contractors was re-iterated, including the definition of 'local' and requirement to invest in programs (eg OH&S) without any guarantee of work.

Clive Clayton reminded the CRC that the Buxton Hall was designated as a dedicated relief centre after the fire and was not able to be used for any other purpose for quite some time. Upgrade works to the hall were given a high priority and the urgent need of the repairs was recognised, but he has still not heard anything about the progress of the funding application. He had been advised that it would be discussed at the VBAF meeting on 15 July but has not heard anything.

<Clive Clayton moved a motion to extend the meeting by half an hour, Keith Ray seconded the motion, motion carried>.

Jennifer Wood advised that works on the Narbethong streetscape had commenced and thanked Howard Paix for all his efforts in assisting this project. A draft master plan has been developed for the Narbethong Reserve, public consultation will commence soon.

12. Review of Community Recovery Plan Projects

To be discussed at the next meeting.

13. Other Business

13.1 Events program

Marysville & Triangle Youth Group – Bruce Ackerman tabled an events request form for activities for the youth group, including horse riding, a trip to Luna Park, a movie trip, rafting at Rubicon.

Action: Robyn Hill to circulate the Marysville & Triangle youth group's events application form to the CRC for consideration.

13.2 Marysville Central Committee of Management – Report

To be discussed at the next meeting.

13.3 Economic Leadership Group update

To be discussed at the next meeting.

13.4 Treasurer's Report

Bendigo Bank account balance at 14 July 2010: \$13, 768.50

All summer event acquittals paid – all cheques have been presented.

Steve Coker moved a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, Clive Clayton seconded the motion, all in favour.

14. Correspondence

There was no correspondence to report.

15. General business

15.1 Local contractors – concern was expressed by Bruce Ackerman that some local contractors are destroying some of the works recently done as part of the streetscape project. Some contractors are acting responsibly and some but some are not.

Action: Tony Thompson will discuss the concern about damage to recent streetscape works with the Council.

15.2 Access at Marysville Central – Tony Thompson advised that at a meeting last Friday it was agreed that a temporary fence would be put across the land opposite the ingress blocking access to cars but not pedestrians. A pedestrian path will also be built at the Marysville Central car park. The works are being done by the Council even though it is not Council's responsibility. A plan of the works was circulated.

15.3 Town entrance signs – Howard Paix advised that a media release will be issued soon about the town entry signs; they will be similar to the gateway signs. Funding is subject to VBAF approval.

15.4 Steavensons Falls – Ray Siegersma advised that he had been to Steavensons Falls recently and repair works are looking good. DSE advise that they hope to re-open access to the Falls at the end of August.

16. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on **Wednesday 11 August at 5.30pm at Maryton Park.**

Rita Seethaler recorded an apology for meetings in July and August as she will be away in Switzerland.

Action item summary (27 July 2010)

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2	Clive Clayton will find out more about the scrap book group who use the Buxton Hall and their future activities with a view of being able to offer some assistance in some way	Clive Clayton
3	Jenny Pullen to forward indicative costs for the replacement of lost equipment at the Marysville tennis courts.	Jenny Pullen
4	Robyn Hill to circulate Jo Mason's (FRRR) contact details.	Robyn Hill
5	Ben Hubbard will obtain a breakdown of the allocation of the \$51m business support package	Ben Hubbard
6	Tony Thompson will circulate the email about the proposed sky rail.	Tony Thompson
7	Ben Hubbard will investigate the option of workshops in the Triangle area to assist community groups to apply for grants.	Ben Hubbard
8	Robyn Hill to circulate the Marysville & Triangle youth group's events application form to the CRC for consideration.	Robyn Hill
9	Tony Thompson will discuss the concern about damage to recent streetscape works with the Council.	Tony Thompson