

S355 Cemetery Advisory Committee Meeting

21 February 2019



Minutes

HELD AT **Bega Valley Commemorative Civic Centre**

Present

Michael Pryke	Nancy Grant	Cr Jo Dodds (BVSC)
Peter Phillips	Jackie Miles	Katrina Berenguer (BVSC Acting Cemetery & Hall Officer)
Fiona Firth	Cr Jo Dodds (BVSC)	Ann Fagan (BVSC Administration Assistant)

Apologies

Anne Greenaway and Barbara Grant (Wyndham)

1. Confirmation of Minutes and Introductions

The minutes from 4 December 2018 Cemetery Advisory Committee Meeting were taken as read.

2. Business Arising

2.1 Action Items from the last meeting

ROLLING ACTION: Please provide suggestions or feedback to Ann Fagan regarding ideas to include on the new cemetery signage.

Jackie Miles is visiting Wyndham, Towamba and Rocky Hall cemeteries soon to discuss the flora and fauna with Council's Biosecurity and Invasive Species Coordinator. Will advise Ann Fagan when these visits are scheduled.

2.2 Signage for Cemeteries update

Ann Fagan advised that she will make contact with Bega Valley Genealogy Society to discuss local history applicable to the cemeteries to assist with the new signage.

When installing the new signage all old outdated signage will be removed at the same time.

Cr Dodds asked if there was any provision for an information hub with signage possibly under a roof where information can be added and it becomes a notice board and active space. Good tourism opportunity.

It was recommended that Eden Cemetery is a good location for this type of signage and an opportunity for cruise ships to look at historical information.

ACTION: Council to investigate possibility of an information hub type signage and look at funding streams and locations where this would be most beneficial like Eden, Bega, Pambula, Bermagui and Cobargo.

3. New Business

3.1 Cemeteries Strategic Plan Update

Community consultations were held 2 weeks ago in Cobargo, Pambula and Bega which was well attended. A total of 45 online surveys have been completed and 44 hand written surveys to date. Surveys are open until 3 March 2019. Great result to date.

Communication strategy has been successful with over 4,000 social media hits on initial announcement and email notifications have been sent to all registered groups on Council's community directory.

Survey feedback will be compiled by Kategic and included in the Cemetery Strategic Plan. The draft document will be submitted by the end of March 2019.

ACTION: Katrina Berenguer to distribute draft Cemetery Strategic Plan by email to the Committee before it is presented to Council. If needed, can provide hard copy of draft document.

ACTION: Committee to review draft Cemetery Strategic Plan document and advise if an Extraordinary Meeting is required to discuss the document.

3.2 Other Business

Eden Cemetery

Peter Phillips advised that at Eden Cemetery the white wooden fence on the western side has white ant damage that will need replacing soon. He suggested replacing the fence with the same material on the nearby boardwalk like a Naxan product which is good for natural harsh environments.

The Asset Management Plan states that it needs to be replaced in 2023.

ACTION: Council to investigate the fence and get an assessment of the existing fence and report back to the Committee.

Gravedigger was engaged to investigate vacant plots due to the cemetery being at almost full capacity.

Peter Phillips advised that the Gravedigger removed the concrete crosses in the area and stacked behind the shed. In that process the crosses were damaged.

Post meeting update

Robert Jennings (Gravedigger) advised that he uses a web sling when removing the crosses and has taken due care and diligence. He replied that the concrete crosses get damaged while mowing as the impact of the hit makes them crack. When he removes them they are often already broken.

Unmarked Graves

Fifty brick pavers have been purchased that sit in a stainless steel frame with spikes to place on the head of a grave that does not have a headstone. The brick paver includes name and date of birth and death. Will trial these to see if they are suitable.

Request from Darragh Reynolds

Darragh Reynolds requested that the meeting be held at 4pm so that he can attend. He is unable to attend earlier due to work commitments.

It was decided by the Committee that the current time of 11am works well for everyone and that the meeting be held on Tuesdays.

5 Meeting Close

12:05pm

6 Next Meeting

Tuesday, 14 May 2019 at 11am