Anzac Centenary Community Coordinating Committee

Minutes

Meeting #9
Monday, 8 February 2016 at 6pm
Committee Room, Moonee Valley Civic Centre
9 Kellaway Avenue, Moonee Ponds

**Attendees**
- Cr Jan Chantry Chair, Buckley Ward
  *Arrived 6.40pm*
- Cr Jim Cusack (Sub chair) – Myrnong Ward
  *Arrived 6.37pm*
- Barry Gough Former Mayor City of Essendon
- Bill Laker President, Keilor East RSL
- Bob Chalmers President, Essendon Historical Society
- Elaine Brogan Friends of Sandy
- Everette Reynolds 58/32 Infantry Battalion Association Inc.
- John Hills Essendon Historical Society
- Judy Maddigan Local Historian

**Council officers**
- Gil Richardson Acting Director City Services
- Troy Watson Manager Arts, Culture and Libraries
- James Martin Acting Manager Communications and Customer Service
- Craig Medcalf Manager Operations
- Alana Stevens Executive Assistant City Services (minute taker)

**Apologies**
- Cr Shirley Cornish (Sub chair) – Rose Hill Ward
- Ange Kenos President, Essendon RSL Sub Branch
- Gavin Comport General Manager, Keilor East RSL
Order of Business

Welcome
Meeting opened at 6pm.
Chair Cr Jan Chantry welcomed all attendees to the meeting.

Apologies
Noted as per page 1.

1. Confirmation of Previous Minutes
Moved by Elaine Brogan seconded by John Hills that the Minutes of the Anzac Centenary Community Coordinating Committee (#8) held on Monday, 9 November 2015 be confirmed with no changes.

2. Declarations of Conflict of Interest
Nil.

3. Actions arising from previous minutes
3.1 Committee term and memberships extended
Cr Chantry advised that at the Ordinary Meeting of Council in December 2015 the committee’s Terms of Reference and memberships were extended to now align with the Anzac Centenary.

Two committee members - Jane Canaway and Yvonne Kernan – chose not to extend their memberships and have resigned from their positions on the committee.

**ACTION:** On behalf of chair Cr Chantry, Alana Stevens to prepare letters to Jane Canaway and Yvonne Kernan, thanking them for their contribution to the committee.

3.2 100th Anniversary of Fromelles – July 2016
Ev Reynolds advised that 58/32 Infantry Battalion Association Inc. Vice President Maj. Bob Prewett will be representing the Battalion at the 100th Anniversary of Fromelles in July this year.

Cr Chantry suggested the committee may like to provide Maj. Prewett with an item to take to Fromelles on behalf of the committee. The committee agreed that this item would be a photograph of the Moonee Ponds Cenotaph.

**ACTION:** Alana Stevens to liaise with James Martin and Councillor Support to arrange for photo to be provided to the 58/32 Infantry Battalion Association Inc.

3.3 Street signs in Ascot Vale
James showed the committee the final artwork for the Ascot Vale street signs and advised that the biographies are now up on Council’s website.

Cr Chantry suggested she would like the website to acknowledge the work of the committee and the Essendon Historical Society in researching this project.

Discussion was had around the launch of the signs and it was decided that Essendon Historical Society would conduct a history walk on the weekend prior to Anzac Day. The walk will be led by John Hills, invites will be extended to local schools and Elaine Brogan and friend Eve will dress in historical costumes.
Judy Maddigan suggested that a flyer be distributed to letter boxes in the area to explain the significance of the street names. As the area is home to many recently arrived migrants, it was suggested that the flyers include translations.

Cr Chantry asked James to pass on the committee’s thanks to Ingrid Busuttil who had designed the signs and Gary Haythorpe who will be printing and installing the signs. Cr Chantry also thanked John Hills for his work in researching the signs.

**POST MEETING NOTE:** For consideration when planning for the launch of the signs: The Anzac Day commemoration ceremony at Queens Park Cenotaph, run by Council in partnership with Essendon RSL Sub Branch, will be held on Sunday, 17 April commencing at 3pm.

**ACTIONS:**
- James Martin to **update website, acknowledging the committee and Essendon Historical Society.**
- James Martin to liaise with John Hills to arrange promotions for launch, including invites to local schools and a letter box drop of flyers with translations.

### 3.4 Rosemary statue – Victory Park

Craig Medcalf provided an update on the theft of ‘Rosie’ from Victory Park. Council is preparing an insurance claim and looking at options for a replacement, which will be an ‘up-spec’ statue that will be more theft/vandal proof than the original. This may involve filling the statue for greater strength. Better lighting for the area is also being investigated.

**ACTION:** Craig Medcalf to keep the committee updated on the replacement of ‘Rosie’.

### 3.5 Update on projects

#### Queens Park Memorial Wall

Judy Maddigan advised that she recently met with Peter Gaffney and Venta Slizys from Council on this project. A new design was discussed, which will be presented to Essendon Historical Society next week for approval. The project will require some funding from Council for completion. Council officers are looking into the cost.

**ACTION:** Gilbert Richardson to follow up with Peter Gaffney regarding the cost for this project.

#### Boulevard Project

Bill advised that the Boulevard committee will be looking to meet with Council’s Grants Officer Nina Stanwell to seek feedback on their previous unsuccessful application. They will be re-applying in the current round of Council grants.

Gil Richardson provided a brief update on the impact the Melbourne Water Aberfeldie Main Drain project will have on the Avenue of Honour. Some trees and the *Irresistible* plaque will need to be removed and then reinstated. This will take place around April 2016. Cr Chantry asked that James Martin include this in Valley View, so that residents are aware of the work.

Ev Reynolds advised that the 58/32 Infantry Battalion Association Inc. have managed to make contact with the family of Maj. William Charles Scurry, who is one of the names receiving a plaque as part of the Boulevard project. Judy Maddigan would like to see the man who worked with Scurry acknowledged on his plaque.

**ACTIONS:**
• James Martin to include Melbourne Water works at the Avenue of Honour in Valley View.
• Item to be listed on agenda for next meeting.

3.6 Telling the story of the Anzac Centenary Community Coordinating Committee

Cr Cusack arrived late to the meeting and this item was returned to following item 4.

Cr Cusack suggested he would like to see a document or video put together to tell the story of the Anzac Centenary Community Coordinating Committee and what it has achieved over its term. Troy Watson suggested this could be done as an audio project.

James Martin asked the committee members to send him their information, photos etc and he will start to collate these.

ACTIONS:
• Committee members to provide information, photos etc. to James Martin.
• Cr Cusack to liaise with James Martin and Troy Watson to determine how this project will be brought together.

4. Event / project status updates

4.1 Friends of Sandy memorial

Elaine Brogan advised that Friends of Sandy have been making progress in gaining access to the site where their memorial will be installed. They are currently seeking a mock-up of the memorial – which will be a steel framed wire horse.

Due to the unforeseen delays, the group may need to request an extension to the funding they received for the memorial.

6.37pm – Barry Gough arrived.

4.2 58/32 Infantry Battalion Battle Honours and Colours

6.40pm – Cr Jim Cusack arrived.

Ev Reynolds advised that all is on track for the October 2016 unveiling of the Battle Honours and Colours. The booklet is also nearly completed and ready to distribute to schools.

4.3 Annual Pompey Elliott Memorial and Luncheon

Ev Reynolds advised that the annual Pompey Elliott Memorial and Luncheon will be held on Friday, 11 March commencing at 11am at Keilor East RSL.

4.4 Essendon Rifles book

Judy Maddigan advised that the Essendon Rifles book is in progress and is currently being proof-read. The book will likely be launched next year.

4.5 Moonee Valley Libraries events

Troy Watson advised there are some upcoming events being held at Moonee Valley Libraries.

ACTIONS:
• Troy Watson to provide Alana Stevens with details of library events.
• Alana to update summary of events and activities document and distribute with minutes.

5. Other Business

5.1 Final event for Anzac Centenary
The committee agreed they’d like to see a significant final event held to mark the end of the Anzac Centenary in November 2018 – such as a dinner dance or ball held at the Clocktower Centre.
Elaine Brogan has some ideas and the item will be discussed further at the next committee meeting.

ACTIONS:
• Alana Stevens to add event to summary of events and activities document.
• Item to be included on agenda for next meeting.

5.2 Visit to Villers–Bretonneux
Barry Gough advised the committee that he will be visiting France in May, and requested that Council write to the Mayor of Villers–Bretonneux to offer an introduction. Ev Reynolds advised that the 58/32 Infantry Battalion Association Inc. may also be able to arrange a letter of introduction for Barry’s visit.

ACTIONS:
• Barry Gough to provide further details of his travel arrangements.
• Alana Stevens to liaise with CEO or Mayor to arrange for letter of introduction to be sent to the Mayor of Villers–Bretonneux.

5.3 Gift to Cr Joan Brodie
Judy Maddigan enquired as to what had happened to the book that was gifted to former Councillor Joan Brodie on her visit to Villers–Bretonneux during her term on the City of Essendon Council. Judy felt this should be placed on display.

ACTION: Cr Chantry to investigate whereabouts of Villers–Bretonneux book.

5.4 Remembrance Day Commemoration Ceremony
Ev Reynolds advised that the Remembrance Day Commemoration Ceremony held in Queens Park in November 2015 ran behind schedule and the minutes silence was not observed on time at 11am.

ACTIONS: James Martin to liaise with Jackie Digiorgio and request that this year’s ceremony run to time.

5.5 Victoria Cross commemorative pavers
Cr Chantry read aloud a letter received from the Veterans Branch at the Department of Premier & Cabinet, advising that pavers would be made available to Councils in commemoration of Victoria Cross recipients with links to the municipality.

The letter identified Issy Smith VC as a recipient who lived in Ascot Vale and died in Moonee Ponds. Cr Chantry asked the group if there were any other VC recipients they knew of with a connection to Moonee Valley. The group suggested Lt. Rupert Vance
Moon and Maj. Frederick Harold Tubb may qualify for a commemorative paver in Moonee Valley. Discussion about the location of the paver/s will be had at the next meeting.

**ACTIONS:**
- *Alana to respond to Veterans Branch suggesting that Lt. Moon and Maj. Tubb may qualify for a commemorative paver in Moonee Valley.*
- *Item to be included in agenda for next meeting.*

### 5.6 Scurry Court proposal

Barry Gough requested that an item be included in the next meeting’s agenda, to discuss the possibility of renaming a section of West Street in Ascot Vale to Scurry Court.

**ACTIONS:** *Item to be included in agenda for next meeting.*

### 6. Date of next meeting

Meeting schedule for 2016:
- Monday, 21 March, 6pm-8pm
- Monday, 6 June, 6pm-8pm
- Monday, 12 September, 6pm-8pm
- Monday, 5 December, 6pm-8pm

The meeting closed at 7.23pm