

SOUTHERN
MIDLANDS
COUNCIL



Annual General Meeting

MINUTES

9th December 2015

Municipal Offices
85 Main Street, Kempton

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
OF THE SOUTHERN MIDLANDS COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 9th
DECEMBER 2015 AT THE MUNICIPAL OFFICES, 85 MAIN STREET,
KEMPTON COMMENCING AT 5.00 P.M.**

1. OPENING/WELCOME

Mayor Anthony Bisdee OAM opened the Southern Midlands Council Annual General Meeting and welcomed those present.

2. APOLOGIES

Jim & Denise Rossiter

3. ATTENDANCE

Councillors: Mayor A E Bisdee OAM, Deputy Mayor A O Green, Cllr A R Bantick, Cllr E Batt, Cllr B Campbell, Cllr D F Fish and Cllr D Marshall

Officers: Mr T Kirkwood (General Manager), Mr A Benson (Deputy General Manager), Mrs K Woodward (Community Development Officer), Ms E Lang (Executive Assistant)

Residents: Bruce Forster, Michael Burnett

4. MEETING PROCEDURES

See Attachment 1.

5. 2014/2015 ANNUAL REPORT & 2014/2015 GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL REPORT

5.1 Mayor's Report

Mayor A E Bisdee OAM presented the 2014/2015 Annual Report, incorporating the 2014/2015 General Purpose Financial Report.

DECISION

Moved by Deputy Mayor A Green, seconded by Cllr B Campbell

THAT the Annual Report for the year ending 30th June 2015 incorporating the 2014/2015 General Purpose Financial Report be received.

CARRIED

6. STRATEGIC PLAN 2014-2023

6.1 Invitation to provide comment on Council's Strategic Plan

Members of the public are encouraged to provide comment on the 2014-2023 Strategic Plan at any time, which will be subject to review in the 2015/16 period.

6.2 Questions/Discussion on Strategic Plan

Nil.

7. DISCUSSION ITEMS ON NOTICE

7.1 J & D Rossiter re: Waddamana to Lindisfarne Transmission Line

J& D Rossiter submitted the below e-mail dated 7th December 2015 and specifically requested that this matter be placed on the Agenda for the forthcoming AGM.

Background information

Last year, the Combined Planning Authority returned to Councils, including the Southern Midlands Council, the responsibility for ensuring that Transend (now TasNetworks) fulfilled its commitments to landowners in respect of the upgraded Waddamana to Lindisfarne transmission line.

When we reminded the Council of this at the last AGM, the Council seemed unaware of their responsibility and undertook to fulfil their commitments in this respect.

Subsequently, TasNetworks has not been complying and Council has apparently done nothing about it. Such absence of action by the Council is a failure to comply not only with its responsibilities to the land over which it holds authority and to the landowner ratepayers, but also with an undertaking made at a General Meeting.

Officer Comments:

At the last Annual General Meeting, 15th December 2014, Council discussed a letter submitted by J & D Rossiter of Nunns Road, Broadmarsh regarding Council's responsibility to ensure Transend conduct weed management of the Waddamana to Risdon Vale Electricity Transmission Line project at their property in Nunns Road, in accordance with the permit that was issued in 2007.

The Rossiters have lodged a submission, per the enclosed letter, seeking an update to the December 2014 AGM.

Background Information

The construction and operation of the Transmission Lines between Waddamana and Risdon Vale was undertaken by Transend under the Major Infrastructure Development Approvals Act 1999 (MIDA), and the Major Infrastructure Development Approvals (Waddamana to Risdon Vale Electricity Transmission Line Project) Order 2004.

As the project spanned multiple local government areas and was considered a Major Infrastructure Development a “Combined Planning Authority” (CPA) was established under Section 16 of the MIDA in 2004 to specifically assess the development. The CPA was created from representatives from each Council and a planning consultant firm.

The project was deemed completed in November 2014 and the CPA was formally dissolved. A certificate of completion dated 3rd November 2014 was handed to Council with direction to follow up matters relating to weed control as required by the permit.

Weed control was the only outstanding matter. It was a condition of the permit that the planning authority ensures Transend (the developer) conduct follow up clearing and poisoning of weeds 5 years after the construction works were completed in accordance with a “Weed Control and Maintenance Strategy”.

This left Council with the responsibility to follow up this legacy matter as the CPA no longer exists.

Council as the Planning Authority need to make sure the weeds have been treated in accordance with the weed control and maintenance strategy.

Follow up:

At the 2014 Annual General Meeting, Council Officers were directed to undertake the following tasks in 2015:

- *Contact Transend and former members of the CPA to acquire information on the following:*
 - *Clarify the final inspection date. This date was unknown at the time of handover. The Audit report only described the next inspection date as “...due at the 5 year mark”.*
 - *Clarify that the conditions of the permit relate to all properties along the transmission line and not just the Rossiter farm at Nunns Road.*
 - *Obtain a copy of the weed management strategy so that Council Officers can use to ensure compliance with the conditions of the original permit.*

Officers gathered the following information:

- *The final inspection date is June 2017.*
- *The condition on the permit, regarding follow up and management of weeds, relates to all land that was subject to the “Weed Management Strategy” per the condition of the permit.*
- *We have not yet received the “Weed Management Strategy”. It is understood that Brighton Council and Transend has a copy of this report. It is advised Officers will obtain this report as soon as possible.*

RECOMMENDATION:

- A. Officers to hold a copy of the “Weed Management Strategy” at the Southern Midlands Council.**
- B. Officers to contact Transend, as the responsible developer, to remind Transend of their responsibility, to undertake final follow up weed management by June 2017 in accordance with the Weed Management Strategy.**
- C. Officers to ensure the follow up works are undertaken by Transend in accordance with the “Weed Management Strategy” by June 2017.**

It was resolved to note the information provided and forward a copy to the Rossiter’s accordingly.

8. DISCUSSION ITEMS WITHOUT NOTICE

Mr Michael Burnett raised an issue regarding drainage issues at his property in Bagdad.

The Deputy General Manager provided comment in relation to this issue, confirming that on-site’ works would commence in January 2016.

9. CLOSURE OF MEETING

There being no further business, Mayor A E Bisdee OAM declared the meeting closed at 5.10 p.m.

MEETING PROCEDURES

1. The **Annual General Meeting** is in essence a Council meeting and will be **conducted in accordance with normal Council procedures** for the conduct of meetings; with the exception of course it is intended to make it as easy as possible for members of the public to have input so that maximum benefits is gained.
2. The **Mayor** is **Chairman** of the meeting.
3. The first part of the meeting comprises a presentation of an overview of:
 - (i) **the Annual Report**
 - (ii) **Financial Statement, and**
 - (iii) **the Strategic Plan**
4. At the **conclusion** of each of these presentations electors may ask questions.
5. **Questions and comments should be concise** to allow as many people as possible to have their input.
6. **No one is to be interrupted** whilst they are speaking.
7. You will be asked, as a matter of courtesy and for the minutes, to **identify yourself** before speaking.
8. **All discussion** will be addressed **through the chair**.
9. **No person may:**
 - (i) **make any personal reflection** on any Councillors, Council employee or member of the public;
 - (ii) **disrupt the meeting;** or
 - (iii) in the opinion of the Chairman, **use any offensive expression.**
10. If you intend to move a motion the following procedures apply: -
 - (i) All motions must be **moved and seconded** before debate is permitted.
 - (ii) In speaking to a motion, individuals may **speak only once** and for **no longer than 5 minutes.**
 - (iii) Voting is **by a show of hands.**
 - (iv) **Only electors of the Southern Midlands municipal area are entitled to vote.**
 - (v) A motion is passed by **half plus one of the electors present** voting in favour of it.
11. Any **resolution passed** at the Annual General Meeting **will be considered at the next ordinary meeting of Council.**