

Beaconsfield Progress Assoc. Inc.

President's Report 15.12.2020

Welcome to members and community representatives to tonight's meeting. Special welcome to the Cardinia Shire Council Engineering staff attending to discuss traffic matters and, in particular, the works at the O'Neil Rd/ Old Princes Hwy Intersection.

I also welcome Cr. Brett Owen and congratulate him on being elected Mayor of Cardinia Shire Council. I look at Agendas and live streamed the Council Meeting on 30 November. Any major issues affecting Beaconsfield will be discussed by Cr. Brett Owen tonight.

Tania Baxter has kindly already emailed members on most of the current issues since the last BPA Meeting. She has expended considerable time and energy on matters that needed attention which seems to happen each year during the busy pre-Christmas period. A few items I will comment on are, as follows:

1. The development of land on Princes Highway after the Old Princes Hwy. merge heading east before Tivendale Road. Earthworks have commenced and a planning application did not go before Council as it was in accordance with the Officer Precinct Structure Plan. It involves fast food stores and other stores like KFC, Carl's Burgers, Taco Bell and possibly a service station. I was contacted by a Reporter from the Pakenham Gazette to discuss the development. The article should be in the Gazette tomorrow and my main negative was that traffic on Old Princes Hwy. merging with Princes Hwy traffic heading east with the entrance soon after may not be safe if cars have to slow to allow cars to enter and exit the development. The Reporter also asked my views on Foreign Ownership of the businesses which I advised that I was more concerned with the businesses in Beaconsfield township that are hurting during Covid-19.

2. Beaconsfield Reservoir and Nature Reserve. There have been many developments since the last BPA Meeting including:

- I emailed to members the most relevant information and documentation that I had on the issue.
- I spoke to Pakenham Gazette Reporter Mitch Clarke and he was agreeable if I wanted to write a letter to the Editor.
- Melbourne Water have new Guidelines concerning Dams and Bodies of Water to consider when the revised Business Plan is issued which should be in the near future.
- There was an article in the Pakenham Gazette last week on behalf of the " Save the Beaconsfield Reservoir Action Group ".The 8 signatories included two politicians and only one township group.
- There was an article in the Pakenham Gazette on 9 December from Ian Chisolm providing CEC's views supporting the partial upgrade. I also spoke at length to Ian Chisholm.

If time permits we can discuss this matter tonight.

3. On behalf of BPA, I signed a new Agreement with Beaconsfield Neighbourhood Centre for the use of a meeting room in 2021 rent free for our monthly BPA Meetings. I also received a new entrance key with instructions.

Thanks to all the BPA Members for all the work done during this difficult Covid-19 year and you should be proud that we have managed to continue most of our activities eg monthly meetings on Zoom, produced all 4 four editions of the Beaconsfield Banner, applied for new Grants for 2021 activities even though we are in uncertain times, attended to all correspondences and business matters. Some events needed to be cancelled however we look forward to the “ Carols by the Creek “coming up next Sunday on You Tube at 7.30pm and the 2021 Australia Day Outdoor Movie as a Drive-In Movie in a Covid-19 safe manner.

Best wishes for an enjoyable Christmas, a restful break and let’s hope that 2021 is kinder for everyone.

Graeme Taylor