

President's Report Meeting on 15 November, 2022

Welcome everyone to tonight's meeting. Thanks to everyone for the AGM/General Meeting for October. It was a full night with BPA elections, Guest Speaker and many discussions on local issues and, in particular, the Level Crossing Removal Project (LXRP) and Bonette Reserve. Both these issues have a significant effect on Beaconsfield Residents. Everyone's involvement on the evening is much appreciated.

A pressing issue is the LXRP and, in particular, the level crossing at Station Street, Beaconsfield. On behalf of BPA and the community, we organised a Zoom Meeting with LXRP on Tuesday 25 October. The Meeting was hosted by LXRP and went for a half hour mostly with their staff speaking. Questions had to be submitted online however any questions with any reference to the Old Railway House property were not answered. The LXRP have preferred an option for the route diagonally south from the Goff St, Beaconsfield Ave and Station St intersection through the Old Railway House property (proposed to be compulsorily acquired and demolished) then an overpass Bridge across the Railway line and Kenilworth Ave and then joining a new roundabout at Kenilworth Ave. The only way to make representations to LXRP was to complete a Survey which has now closed. A Petition has been commenced by closely affected residents and hopefully the community will demonstrate their concerns and save this Heritage House. This matter will be discussed at tonight's Meeting.

The proposed Capital Works at Beaconsfield War Memorial and Bonette Reserve was discussed at the last BPA Meeting after the AGM. Draft Concept Plans were presented at that Meeting. Subsequently pop-up sessions at Bonette Reserve have been scheduled for Sunday 13 November (we attended) and on Wednesday 16 November 3.30 to 5.30 pm. An online consultation format can be accessed between 28 October and 25 November at www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/haveyoursay. It is important for the community to provide Council with your thoughts and comments to ensure that the design meets our community expectations.

The Summer Edition of the Beaconsfield Banner is now in production. The initial deadline for adverts and articles is 15 November for distribution at the end of November/start of December. Editor Robert Cooper will discuss the Banner.

The Upper Beaconsfield Renewable Energy Group met again and discussed various issues including a Survey to establish community interest, Village Festival publicity, Green Initiatives, partnerships with power companies, educating the community etc. Further meetings are due to be held.

We need to discuss future BPA activities including if we hold the Australia Day Drive In/Outdoor Movie and Picnic and activities. The Carols by the Creek return to Bob Burgess Reserve this year. The Carols will be held from 7.30 to 9pm on Sunday 18 December. We should also consider if there are any more events or activities in respect of which a Council Grant may be available.

Graeme Taylor President Beaconsfield Progress Assoc. Inc.