

BRIDGE ART PROJECT

STEERING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Date: Wednesday 2 May 2018

Time and Location: 5.00pm 53 Haverfield St Echuca

1.0 Present: Clive Atkinson, Chris Bilkey, Barry Donchi, Lynne Gillard, Christine Sebire, Jenny Turner, Peter Williams.

2.0 Apologies: Jacqui Berthaume, Sue Badham, Sonya Cooper, John Kenley, Hayley Lawton, Damian Morgan-Bulled, Kevin Simpson, Martin Szakal.

3.0 Minutes of previous meeting of 22 November 2017

Minutes confirmed. Moved Clive Atkinson Seconded, Peter Williams Carried
The meeting scheduled for 28 Feb had to be postponed due to lack of quorum and meeting scheduled for 25 April deferred for a week so as to not fall on Anzac Day.

5.0 Business arising. Arts and other Grants (see below)

6.0 Correspondence

BBRF

The BAP applied for matching funding of \$50,000 through the Federal Building Better Regions Fund – Community Investment stream (BBRF). Awaiting announcements which are due mid-2018.

NSW Regional Cultural Fund

An application was also lodged with the NSW Regional Cultural Funding seeking an amount of \$60,000 (to add to BAP's funds of \$50,000) for the development of the master plan and the preparation of a video. The application successfully passed the first round in this process. Announcements of successful projects also due mid-2018. The Committee thanked Lynne for the time involved in preparing the applications.

In order to be ready to go, if either of the applications is successful, Chris and another member will meet with the new General Manager and new Economic Development Manager at Murray River Council to brief them on the BAP and seek suggestions of several consultants who can be approached to quote on undertaking the Master Plan consultancy. It is understood that the NSW government has a list of preferred providers, and if we utilised a consultant on this list, the process may be expedited. It is also timely to again brief relevant staff at Campaspe Shire - CEO Jason Russell and Economic and Community Development General Manager Keith Oberin, and if appropriate following discussions with Murray River Council, obtain

suggestions of consultants who would be appropriate to ask to quote on the Master Plan development. Jenny Turner, Community Planning Officer for Campaspe Shire, will facilitate.

Vic Roads

John Baldock of VicRoads contacted Chris and Barry regarding BAP providing an expression of interest for BAP to utilise some of the timber being made available through clearing of the forest on the Victorian and NSW sides of the river for the bridge and its approaches. A draft response was tabled and discussed. The Vic Roads Environmental Reference Group (of which Chris is a member), had discussed other community groups which might have an interest in accessing the wood. Further assessment and analysis by Vic Forests would be undertaken to evaluate the timber.

A current estimate is 300 – 500 tonnes of wood. Of this, Barry estimated that 10 – 20% would be millable. If there were 50 - 100 tonnes of millable timber, the cost of milling would be in the order of \$20,000. A considerable amount of the timber would be landscaping quality and be able to be used for fencing, edging, retaining walls etc, with a small proportion possibly suitable for internal use. Barry offered to provide secure storage for any timber provided for BAP. Some modifications to be incorporated in the response to Vic Roads before submission in the coming week.

7.0 Reports

7.1 Chris Bilkey presented the Chairman's report.

Chris provided a presentation recently on BAP to a meeting of South West Arts in Deniliquin. The group was keen to provide contacts to engage with the BAP. Chris also presented to the Echuca Moama Tourism Board a week ago and they were supportive of the BAP concept.

Tony O'Halloran and colleague from the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, Indigenous Affairs, visited the region from their Wagga Wagga base on 21 March and met briefly with Chris. John Kenley provided a guided tour of the BAP precinct and riverine forest down to the river on the NSW side, and also showed the bridge approaches and preparatory work taking place on the Victorian side to the visitors, accompanied by Lynne. Thanks to John for fulfilling this role.

Tony circulates to his network notifications of relevant funding sources. One such NSW grant was focused on the preservation and teaching of Aboriginal languages as well as an arts focus. Once the BAP is established, there may be scope to apply for funding through that source. Clive mentioned that he had written a book some years ago as a resource for teaching the local Aboriginal language.

7.2 Secretary's Report

Meeting time and date

Lynne mentioned that this meeting had been held at 5pm in order to facilitate Damian's attendance from Shepparton. After discussion, it was agreed to keep the meeting on the fourth Wednesday at 4pm. Next scheduled meeting on 30 May Lynne, Chris and Peter have a conflict. Propose to defer the next meeting to **27 June 2018 at 4pm.**

7.3 C4EM Report

No Report.

7.4 Treasurer's Report

Bank statements now redirected to Lynne. Last statement shows credit balance of \$257.50 as at 29 March 2018.

Membership fees for 2018 due for any members who have not paid. (NAB Bridge Art Project Inc. BSB 083 629 A/C No. 94 929 0964 listing surname as reference.) Membership runs financial year.

7.5 Communications Report

Christine advised that she had been in contact with Hagan Reick at Vic Roads to facilitate linking the BAP website and Facebook pages with the Vic Roads Echuca Moama Bridge works.

Jacque Berthaume had circulated a speech by Richard Flannagan which strongly supports the government adopting the recommendations coming from the Uluru Statement of the Heart from the 2017 National Constitutional Convention. Jacqui suggested that Richard might be a suitable patron for the BAP.

8. General Business

8.1 Funding

Discussions held with all stakeholders who agreed to roll-over commitments to the second BBRF application and in support of the BAP NSW Regional Cultural Fund application.

2. Yorta Yorta partnership- MOU

Chris and Barry will make contact with the new Yorta Yorta Chair, Monica Morgan, to make her aware of the BAP, discuss scope to progress the MOU and other areas of mutual interest regarding the arts precinct. The Committee agreed that a strong partnership with Yorta Yorta was fundamental to the success of the BAP.

Members to follow up with grass roots contacts to make the BAP better known in the Aboriginal arts community. Barry to follow up with Sonya, Christine and Jenny to follow up other suggested contacts.

Potential to hold one of the next BAP meetings in Shepparton to facilitate attendance, if feasible. Committee to be kept up to date on progress.

8.3 Vic Roads

Work on the Murray Valley Highway roundabout and Warren Street are progressing. Stage three, the design of the bridge proper, commenced about a month ago with Vic Roads working with a chosen company. Once the design is completed and approved by the Vic and NSW architect's offices, the tender to build the bridge will be let.

8.4 James Whitten

No report. Chris to follow up how James's project is progressing.

9 Other Business

Nil.

10 Meeting closed: 6.00pm

11 Next Meeting: plan for Wednesday 27 June 2018 at 4pm.