

LAUNCESTON RATEPAYERS' ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

MINUTES OF MONTHLY GENERAL MEETING,
MONDAY, 12th NOVEMBER, 2007 AT HEATHER HALL

Meeting opened at 7.30pm, John Henshaw, President in the chair, and Janet Headlam as Minute Secretary. President welcomed the 3 aldermen attending.

Apologies were received from: Kelvin Jowett, Pam Butler.

Minutes: Minutes of the September and October meeting were distributed to members and visitors.

Moved by Lionel Morrell and seconded by Max Plummer that the Minutes be accepted as a true record.

Motion passed without dissent.

Business Arising from the Minutes: nil

Treasurer's Report: September and October reports were distributed to members and visitors.

Moved by Alan Chugg and seconded by Allan Miller that the Report be accepted.

Motion passed without dissent.

Correspondence:

Inwards: Letter from Mr. Frank Dixon, LCC dated 1st October in reply to our letter of 7th September and asserting misrepresentation.

Letter from Mayor Ivan Dean, dated 19th October complaining about his treatment at the October Forum.

Letter from Mayor (AS ABOVE) Ivan Dean, dated 24th October in reply to our Letter to the Editor, Examiner printed 25th October.

Letter from Department of Justice, dated 24th October in response to our letter of same date to the Department (see below).

Outwards: Letter to Mr. Frank Dixon, LCC dated 7th October denying misrepresentation.

Letter to Department of Justice, dated 24th October advising of new office-bearers.

Letter to Examiner, dated 22nd October responding to Mayor Dean's call for a report to examine a flat rates system.

Letter to Examiner, dated 24th October alleging bias in not having printed Letter to the Editor, above.

Letter to Mayor Ivan Dean, dated 26th October in reply to his complaint.

Letters dated 31st October to Rosemary Armitage, Jeremy Ball, Ian Norton and Albert Van Zetten congratulating them on their election.

Letter to Mayor Dean, dated 6th November responding to his letter of 24th October.

Business Arising from the Correspondence:

General Business:

The LCC's AGM requires Questions on Notice to be submitted in writing by Friday, 16th November.

After discussion, the following were suggested for consideration by the Executive in addition to other topics previously discussed:

- Is it the Council's intention to close the Basin Pool due to structural concerns, if so, when and for how long, and what standard of pool will replace it?
- What proportion of voters are also ratepayers, and what is the relationship between the number of ratepayers and the number of voters, who lodged a vote in the 2007 election? Also, is a rateable property (household) with say two persons on the roll but one rates assessment regarded as one or two ratepayers?
- Given the discontent expressed by ratepayers over the past year, what strategies are proposed for Council to better consult with ratepayers on major decisions concerning expenditure of rates money?
- What strategies can be considered to improve the recycling of cardboard and paper within the CBD where no such Council collection facilities exist?
- What strategies are proposed to improve weed control in the urban area including parks and road reserves, especially the spread of Capeweed?
- What action does Council propose to police the danger presented by low branches overhanging public footpaths?

Max Plummer addressed the meeting about ratepayer poverty and their distress at their inability to pay for essential living costs as well as the increasing costs of municipal rates and water charges.

Alderman Norton offered to approach Council for assistance with provision of meeting facilities for monthly meetings, recognising the worthiness of the Association as a valuable consultation group and a conduit to ratepayers on a regular basis.

Meeting Close: 9.15pm

Next Meeting: 7.30 pm, Monday, 18th February, 2008, Heather Hall.