

# LAUNCESTON RATEPAYERS' ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

MINUTES OF MONTHLY GENERAL MEETING,  
MONDAY, 18<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY, 2008 AT HEATHER HALL

**Meeting opened** at 7.45 pm, Lionel Morrell, Vice President in the chair, and Janet Headlam as Minute Secretary.

**Apologies** were received from: Pam Butler, Ald. Jeremy Ball and Ald. Rosemary Armitage.

**Minutes:** Minutes of the November 2007 meeting were distributed to members and visitors.

Moved by Kelvin Jowett and seconded by Alan Chugg that the Minutes be accepted as a true record.

Motion passed without dissent.

**Business Arising from the Minutes:** nil

**Treasurer's Report:** Financial Report indicating no changes to the previous report was distributed to members and visitors.

Moved by Max Plummer and seconded by Kelvin Jowett that the Report be accepted.

Motion passed without dissent.

## **Correspondence:**

- Inwards:
- Refer to Agenda for Details.
  - Letter from Australian Productivity Commission 18 December 2007.
  - Emailed letter from Mr. I Freeburgh regarding Machen's Reserve Kingsmeadows.
  - Letter from LCC (Frank Dixon) 4 December 2007 regarding Association's letter about the LCC Annual Report.
  - Letter to L Morrell from LCC (Frank Dixon) 14 December 2007 regarding answers to questions not satisfactorily answered at the LCC AGM, and subsequent letter advising that the earlier letter had not been authorised by the General Manager.
  - Letter of Resignation from President John Henshaw.
  - Copy letter from Mrs Laura Hardina regarding her letter to LCC about the NTDA and seeking support for her submission.
- Outwards:
- Letter to Mr. Frank Dixon, LCC dated 28 November 2007 seeking information and an explanation of what was published in the LCC Annual Report.

Letter to Australian Productivity Commission detailing the Supplementary Submission by the Association.

Letter to LCC dated 14 February 2008 regarding NTDA.

### **Business Arising from the Correspondence:**

Australian Productivity Commission Draft Report. Refer to correspondence. Chairman précised the Supplementary Submission as prepared by the Executive. RESOLVED that the supplementary submission be endorsed.

LCC Annual Report. Chairman tabled the Annual Report and read out the questions put by the Association, as noted in the Report, along with the answers provided. Correspondence associated with this issue was referred to, and the general dissatisfaction of those attending the meeting was gauged.

President's resignation. Members expressed their sincere appreciation for the dedicated service given by Mr Henshaw and the improved profile he had generated for the Association. RESOLVED that the resignation by Mr Henshaw be accepted with regret, and a suitable letter be drafted by the Executive and forwarded to Mr Henshaw.

Northern Tasmanian Development. Correspondence noted, and support expressed for the separate effort by Mrs Hardina in bringing this issue before the Aldermen. In view of the decision made by LCC at its Council Meeting held earlier in the day to continue funding the NTD , albeit on a reducing basis, members RESOLVED that LCC be asked to concentrate on establishing a special levy on Commercial Ratepayers to fund the LCC contribution, and reduce the rate burden on Residential Ratepayers for what is a non-core activity for the Municipality.

Machen's Reserve. A copy of the Machen's Reserve Management Plan 2007 was tabled and a copy of a plan showing the layout of the developed Reserve was distributed to members. Chairman guided members through the general principles of the Management Plan, and Mr Ian Freeburgh was invited to address the meeting. Mr Freeburgh explained the nature of the issues of concern to him, regarding safety, poor maintenance, incomplete works, vandalism, risk of snakes, and overall a lack of proper consultation with the nearby community and regular users of the Reserve (noting that only 7 parties randomly selected by LCC and living in the Kingsmeadows/Sandhill area were consulted). RESOLVED that a special meeting of the Association be convened at Kingsmeadows, and that the Executive investigate a suitable meeting facility with a view to convening a meeting there on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2008. Mr Freeburgh offered to assist with promoting the meeting and distributing to letterboxes and noticeboards in the area.

### **General Business:**

#### Special Guest Speaker

Chairman announced that at short notice the LCC Waste Manager , Mr Sean Adams had advised him that upon instruction by the General Manager, he would not be available to attend the meeting or address Members on the topic of Launceston's Recycling System and Collections Systems. Mr Adams had given a personal apology for not being allowed to attend the meeting as previously hoped.

Members expressed their disappointment at the instruction reportedly given by the General Manager, and particularly as Mr Adams had been assured that Members were not expecting him to defend Council's publicised plan to change the weekly recycling crate service to a fortnightly or monthly wheelie bin service, but to generally address Members on how and what recycling services were provided by LCC. RESOLVED that Mr Adams be welcomed to another meeting in the near future.

LCC assistance with provision of monthly meeting facilities.

Ald. Norton, having joined the meeting after its commencement, was invited to speak.

Ald. Norton indicated that at the last meeting when this issue was raised, he intended restricting his dealings with Council to provision of a meeting facility at the QVMAG site at Inveresk. He reported that Council's system of security and supervision at Inveresk was such that the idea had proved to be impracticable, even if he as a Councillor facilitated the use of a meeting room there.

Ald. Norton indicated he would continue to explore the idea in relation to other LCC venues and report at the next opportunity.

**Meeting Close:** 10.10pm

**Next Meeting:** 7.30 pm, Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2008, (Likely to be at Kingsmeadows, if a suitable venue can be secured).