Shire of Lake Grace

TOURISM ADVISORY COUNCIL (SoLGTAC)

Minutes

Tuesday 21th May 2024 Meeting Commencing at 10:00 am

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Acknowledgement of Country to be read by the Chairperson

I begin today by acknowledging the Ballardong people, Traditional Custodians of the land on which we meet today, and pay my respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

I extend that respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples here today.



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SHIRE OF LAKE GRACE

Agenda for the Lake Grace Visitors Centre Committee meeting to be held at the Lake Grace Visitors Centre on Stubbs Street, Grace on Tuesday 21st May 2024

Objectives of the Shire of Lake Grace Tourism Advisory Council is to advise the Council on:

- 1. The identification, inclusion and implementation of tourism matters in Council's Strategic Community Plan (and other operational plans/annual budget) in order to increase tourism income in partnership with the Community, Commonwealth, State and Local government and other industry stakeholders
- 2. The coordination of and collaboration between Lake Grace Shire's tourist attractions, heritage museums (AIM Hospital etc), events, tourism promotion/marketing and services to visitors
- 3. Developing community understanding of the value of tourism
- 4. Industry development, employment and training to benefit tourism, heritage and events
- 5. Seeking funding to support and promote tourism and develop new and existing tourist attractions
- 6. Assisting in the development of current, quality information to visitors and stakeholders
- 7. Recognising and promoting excellence within the local tourism industry
- 8. To represent the Shire at Roe Tourism meetings and events

1.0 DECLARATION OF OPENING & ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

The Chairperson opened the meeting at 10.11am.

2.0 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE (PREVIOUSLY APPROVED)

2.1 PRESENT

Committee Members:

Ms Catherine Kelly	Chairperson – Newdegate		
Ms Suzanne Reeves	Deputy Chairperson – Lake Grace		
Cr Debrah Clarke	Shire of Lake Grace Councillor		
Mr Peter Stoffberg	Community Representative – Lake Grace		
Shire of Lake Grace Mr Chris Paget Ms Jo Morgan	Deputy Chief Executive Officer Lake Grace Visitor Centre Manager		
In attendance via electronic means (TEAMS link)			
Mr Kevin Penny	Community Representative – Lake King		
Ms V O'Neill-Gray	Lake Grace Visitor Centre Coordinator		
Mrs Carla Hyde	Community Representative – Varley		

**Unfortunately, due to technical difficulties with the IT system internet access at the Shire office we were unable to connect the Teams link through to those waiting online; the meeting subsequently proceeded without them.

2.2 APOLOGIES

Ms Karen HumphriesLake Grace Visitor Centre OfficerMrs Sheena ZurnamerCommunity Representative – Varley

4.0 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

RESOLUTION 02

Moved: Cr Debrah Clarke Seconded: Peter Stoffberg

That the Minutes of the Shire of Lake Grace Tourism Advisory Committee held on Tuesday 20th February 2024 be accepted as the true and accurate record of that meeting.

CARRIED: All

5.0 MOTIONS OF WHICH NOTICE HAS BEEN RECEIVED

Nil

6.0 NOTICES OF URGENT BUSINESS

Nil

7.0 MEMBERS REPORT

Visitor Centre Manager Report

- Work on Across the Lake continues. Final of final checks as we speak. Currently seeking quotes to print book. All agreed a quote for 300 books would be best. Once quote comes through it will be shared and a decision made.
- 100-year celebration of the Stationmaster House. We will need a few speakers for the event. Perhaps someone that once lived there? Mr Pitts, the last Stationmaster? Lois Dickins may have contact with Pitts family? Jo to follow up. Saturday October 12th afternoon was pinned as possible day to hold festivities. There is \$5000 in this financial year put aside. We will seek more in next financial year. Afternoon tea catering. Background music needed to be booked. Katelyn Sullivan, Hayden McGlinn, Nick & Lucy Kelly suggested. Date available could depend.
- Jo discussed meeting she and Aimee Turnbull had with Artspace members regarding wall facing VC lawn. Idea of train mural by artist Shakey to celebrate 100 years of Stationmaster House was rejected. Both parties agreed painting the wall white (by the Shire) was a start to tidy up the wall.

 Aimee offered to assist with a grant for future 3D art by the Lake Grace Artspace. Acknowledging there would be a timeframe once the grant was successful. Jo and Artspace members agreed we are both aiming for the same goal – the art would bring many to visit Lake Grace specially to admire the art and spend time visiting our region. A possible Art /Heritage Trail was also discussed from Dumbleyung and throughout our Shire. Aimee to discuss grants with Artspace members.

AIM Hospital Report

- Community group has met a few times to begin organising 100-year celebration in 2026, maintenance etc; this is intended as a "friends of" group that was originally formed many years ago will seek interested people to join with the intention that this group will keep an eye on the AIM building & surrounds for potential issues.
- An open day was suggested to invite anyone with history or stories of the hospital. June 9th was originally planned; however, it was suggested a new date be made to hold this so both Jo & Vicki from the Visitor Centre can assist with this. A date when Lake Grace hosts sports on a Saturday was suggested but rejected. Morning tea of scones and cream to be included on the day.
- Old fencing has been taken down. Falling apart and looking a mess. No for the white plastic fencing proposed.

Roe Tourism Association

- Sign project is in the final stages. Final 6 photos to be sent through to Council Meeting to confirm choices recommended by SoLGTAC. Once confirmed Jo to send through to Roe Tourism Friday 24th May.
- Cathie Kelly objected that the signs will have *Pathways to Wave Rock* website on the sign. Why advertise Wave Rock as they are entering our Shire. Peter Stoffberg however explained Wave Rock is one of the main icons international and national tourists recognise, so why not piggy back on its popularity. Remember that this is a regional tourism initiative that involves many local Shires.

Australia's Golden Outback

- Since Maddie has left a working Agritourism group both Cathie Kelly and Jo were a part of has stopped. Jo to call CEO Marcus Falconer for an update where things are at.

Cathie Kelly discussed sign idea she and family were working on for this group. Mullewa has flower disc signs. Perhaps our region could have salmon gums, verticordia shapes? Peter Stoffberg reminded us this was a similar thought of the rebrand the Shire tried a few years ago. Why not have local features of our region rather than the somewhat 'tired' shire logo of sheep and wheat which could represent many shires – Shire of Narrogin have an excellent example of such a type of logo "brand" that they use effectively in their marketing and public relations.

10.0 MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

11.0 OTHER BUSINESS

- Chris Paget noted we need to consider updating the Tourism Development Strategic Plan. Last one on file is very old. Steph Clarke updated it a few years ago. Debrah Clarke asked of its whereabouts, Jo confirmed it wasn't at the Visitor Centre. Jo to contact Steph Clarke Lloyd if she has it on file. Quite possible as it belonged to the VC Committee, not the VC or Shire (at the time). The group resolved to request the Shire Council make provision for this to occur
 - in 2024/25. Signs at old trainline sidings requested again. Kent Shire has them. Signs budget
- Signs at old trainline sidings requested again. Kent Shire has them. Signs budget allocation to be checked, we can fit this in soon. Check with WA Railway Heritage Group to see if they happen to have any information.
- HIP Camps mentioned again. Farm camping sites. Jo to action an article to be added to local papers so locals are aware and possibly set this up on their farms as a possible extra accommodation option.
- Correction of last meeting minutes for VC garden to be ripped out. It should read *Grass Trees to be ripped out only*. All other plants to be kept for its historic and sentiments of the Stationmaster House.
- App for the hearing impaired brought up again by Cr Debrah Clarke.
- Hainsworth Building. Would be great to see it open more. Staffing is an issue. A topic to discuss with CRC staff when back from holidays.
- Newdegate streetscape has missing trees by the school and the bare area with ugly rocks looks atrocious with no plants whatsoever. Because there is no longer a Townscape Committee, could the Shire be encouraged to repair asap?
- Cathie Kelly discussed there is no parking bay between Kulin and Lake Grace. Need one in the middle? There is parking at Lake Evelyn. Need one closer to Kulin? Suzanne will bring this request to the next Roadwise committee meeting.
- Harvest Festival/Combined Playground opening on 12th December. No longer held in Stubbs Street (main street through town). String Quartet hopefully booked. Festoon lights. Food available. Videographer and photographer planned.
- Varley entrance mural. Artist details and quote have been sent to Shire in the form of a Community grants budget request for 2024/25.
- Kwongan walk trail road signage, fence and bollards installation was raised again this has been going on for over 12 months.
- Holland Track & Way the historical significance and difference of both routes was
 raised by Cathie Kelly; the need for better signage was emphasised and also the
 excellent example of the gazebo located near Broomehill that has historical
 information panels etc. It would be great to have one of these installed at Jam
 Patch Soak (not the same Jam Patch north of Lake Grace) with JH Track/Way info
 along with tables/chairs and a toilet. To be discussed further after signage
 throughout all shires have been accounted for.

The group resolved to request the Shire contacts the Shire of Broomehill-Tambellup about proposing a JH Track/Way signage audit; and that Council consider the installation of the gazebo & rest stop structure at Jam Patch Soak.

12.0 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next Lake Grace Visitors Centre Committee meeting is scheduled to take place on Tuesday 13th August 2024 commencing at 10:00am at the Newdegate Hainsworth Building.

13.0 CLOSURE

There being no further business, the Chairperson closed the meeting at 11.47am.