

## Kirwans Bridge Community Panel Minutes #2

**Date:** Wednesday 14 July – 7pm

**Ward:** Lake Nagambie

**Invitees:** Robert De Fazio, Des Mason, Darren Lyons, Andrew Cox, Robyn Taylor, Paul List, Milton Hammond

**Councillors:** Cr Reg Dickinson

**Council staff:** Director Community and Planning Amanda Tingay, Manager Infrastructure Uwe Paffrath, Communications and Engagement Officer Merrill Boyd.

**Apologies:** Bob Arnold, Michael Greenaway, Gordon Akers, Tony Hammond, Richard Hiscock, Cr Mel Likos

**Left the Panel:** Claire Ewart Kennedy

Time	Item	Responsibility
7 pm	Acknowledgement to Taungurung Country	Amanda Tingay
	Darren welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked all for their participation. Darren encouraged the group to shift their thinking to a firm direction/focus and timeframes. Darren welcomed Robert De Fazio to his first meeting via video link.	Darren Lyons
	Nicola J Stairmand – Manager Statutory Approvals Heritage Victoria (DWELP) answered questions regarding the status and any future aspirations for the bridge. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Any structural work on the bridge would need a permit.</li><li>Understood the tourist interest as well as a carriage way.</li><li>Removing, replacing, or retaining the bridge still requires a permit form HV and this extends to five meters either side of the current structure.</li><li>There is an obligation for owners to undertake the upkeep.</li></ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HV would not allow a bridge to fall apart - like demolition by neglect. HV would expect it to be kept in good condition.</li> <li>• HV encourage owners to maintain bridges whether they are in use or not.</li> <li>• The link to the VHD with information about the bridge referred to is here: <a href="https://vhd.heritagecouncil.vic.gov.au/places/6067">https://vhd.heritagecouncil.vic.gov.au/places/6067</a></li> <li>• Nicola also mentioned the Inventory but has investigated this further but the bridge is NOT on the inventory. However, the registration covers all the structure above and below the water.</li> <li>• HV has grant funding available – through application.</li> <li>• Thanked Nicola for her time.</li> <li>• At this time, it is envisaged that we do not undertake any discussions with City of Greater Shepparton regarding wooden bridges or shire boundary realignment.</li> <li>• A suggestion was made that we could approach other shires for funding as their residents use the bridge regularly.</li> <li>• Currently there no discussion with Regional Roads Victoria in relation to road ownership or transferring roads is planned, as further investigations are required to determine if the roads status can be upgraded to an Arterial Road, based on origin/destination surveys, value of goods transported, vehicle volumes and classification.</li> <li>• Questions were asked regarding the state of the bridge below the waterline.</li> <li>• Milton suggested we contact Peter Yttrup to speak at a future meeting as he has history of the bridge from his 2010-11 work and extensive timber bridge knowledge.</li> </ul>	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paul advised some interesting information from the GMR Shepparton website where they have developed a concept design for the demolition of the existing bridge. This information/concept was to be followed up by SSC staff.</li> <li>• If there was to be a new bridge or top of bridge replacement are the materials available?</li> <li>• Local member Damien Drum MP offered his assistance, although Amanda said we need to come up with a solution before we advocate through him.</li> <li>• Looking at local roads would RRV transfer any road ownership, i.e. mutual exchange no loss of benefits and funding remain the same as the roads that link the bridge are arterial roads.</li> <li>• Chris O'Brien will review the timber bridge.</li> <li>• Uwe will check out the records for Stage 1 – part of the written report on the pylons i.e. their life expectancy.</li> <li>• What would be the cost of 1:1 replacement, foot traffic only or a new bridge?</li> <li>• Weir Road upgrade: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- engaging a Cultural Heritage Advisor to ascertain any areas/items of significance before any design/works commence</li> <li>- The area is prone to flooding – will this be reviewed? Yes, this will be in the design brief because the flooding would require the bridge to be raised a metre.</li> <li>- Is there a timing or a cost?</li> <li>- The point of the exercise is of keeping a bridge open not a new road.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Kirwans Bridge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Another possible crossing would be 240 m across (water to water) from high ground to high ground and connects with Murchison Road.</li> <li>• A document was presented which was written by Phil Howard Acting Chief Exec Officer to a</li> </ul>	
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	<p>Strathbogie Shire Council Meeting Tuesday 18 February 2014. Uwe to look into this document and the history around it.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is the council able to compulsorily acquire land if there was to be a new bridge nearby?</li> <li>• If funding was procured it might be that we develop the bridge options in stages.</li> <li>• Staff will check out funding options but first we must decide what we want.</li> <li>• The last time funding was requested for works on the piers was for 2017-18 - \$200k. Bridge Renewal Program application was \$400k.</li> <li>• Repair works being undertaken next week include fixing the decking underneath – capital works.</li> <li>• Best option is to have traffic lights at either end and use the passing bays – one way flow.</li> <li>• Have we looked at the approaches for a possible new bridge – the land is owned by GMW and also DEWLP. Do they have any requirements?</li> <li>• Can the replacement have a look-alike to keep in with the Heritage Act?</li> <li>• Uwe said the lifespan of a new timber bridge 75 years 100 years for concrete and steel.</li> <li>• Could we have Peter Yttrup as guest speaker for the next meeting – Darren to organise.</li> <li>• Paul would like to explore bracing the existing one pillars to support the two large H beams. Cross brace etc GMR Engineering could help to put new pillars in as a permanent fix.</li> <li>• This sort of bracing – how much would it cost.</li> </ul>	
	General business	
	Keeping the community informed	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Darren asked the Council staff to assist with a media release which would then be put on their Facebook page as well.</li> </ul>	
	Next meeting planned for 28 July at the Regatta Centre at 7pm – COVIDSafe permitting.	
	Close	

## ACTIONS

Item	Who's responsible	Timeframe	Status
Follow up with GMR the information/concept that Paul provided at the meeting re their website information.	Uwe - SSC	Next meeting	
Chris O'Brien will review the timber bridge.	Uwe - SSC	As soon as contractor is available	
Can we check out the records for Stage 1 – part of the written report on the pylons i.e. their life expectancy.	Uwe - SSC	Next meeting	
What would be the cost of 1:1 replacement, foot traffic only or a new bridge	Uwe - SSC		
Safety assessment of Weir Road route	Uwe – SSC	Asap	Cultural Heritage Advisor engaged. Confirming availability of Advisor

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Item	Who's responsible	Timeframe	Status
Council Minutes 14 February 2014 – review content	Uwe and Amanda - SSC		Provide comment at next meeting
Look at previous Heritage Victoria Grant allocations	Amanda - SSC	Next meeting	
Contact Peter Yttup to ask him to speak with the panel.	Darren	Next meeting (if possible)	
Media release to the community/social media	Merrill and Darren	In the next week	