

Title Kirwans Bridge Community Panel Minutes #8**Date:** 7pm - Wednesday 8 February 2023**Venue:** Regatta Centre Nagambie

Attendees: Darren Lyons (Chairman) Bob Arnold, Des Mason, Robyn Taylor, Paul List, Gordon Akers Milton Hammond, Shane Anderson, Darren Ough, Jacquie Anton, Nicole Wharton, Maggie Zaki, Wayne Gammon, Helen McCurdy

Councillors: Cr Dave Andrews

Council staff: Vlad Adamek Director Sustainable Infrastructure, Daniel Haysom Manager Asset Planning, Merrill Boyd Engagement and Communications Officer

Apologies: Mark Charlton, Cr Reg Dickinson, Amanda Tingay Director Community & Planning

Time	Item	Responsibility
7pm	Acknowledgement to Country	MB
	Welcome - Darren welcomed all to the first 2023 meeting and asked the group to introduce themselves. He discussed how important it was to have people's physical presence at the meeting.	DL
	Housekeeping – Merrill explained the sequence of the Kirwans Bridge panel appointments.	MB
	Review of Terms of Reference for Panel Membership says membership will lapse if members do not attend three consecutive meetings in a row – so two members of the panel, by agreement of those present, membership has now lapsed and they will be advised by the Chairman.	DL
	Update on the waterways – Chinamans Bridge exclusion zone – hoping for a resolution shortly. The state of the bridge was discussed.	VA

	<p>The responsible ownership entity has not been established and when it is they will have to take responsibility for its condition. Concern was expressed that even with the restrictions Council were not policing the offenders. Council has no ability to issue fines. It was stated that the local lake users were not the issue it was visitors abusing the restrictions.</p> <p>We have a report on Chinamans bridge by J J Ryan – this to be forwarded to the panel members. This was qualified by saying it would require Executive Leadership Team/CEO approval.</p>	
	<p>Update on current bridge closure (insurance)</p> <p>JLT the Council's insurers are yet to provide their report to Council. They have assessed the bridge's structures and we are waiting on the report– is it salvageable or unusable?</p> <p>What is the bridge insured for? This will not be made publicly available. Frustration was expressed as to the timeframe the report was taking.</p> <p>What support are we receiving from the Flood Recovery fund as Deloitte's have been offering assistance to other councils that do not have their assets inspected yet?</p> <p>Strathbogie have had their assets (roads/culverts ovals) inspected and contracts for repairs are well underway in relation to flood recovery except for Kirwans Bridge.</p>	VA
	<p>Update on the successful tenderer -</p> <p>J J Ryan Consulting based in Melbourne have been awarded the tender from the extensive brief we provided (before the flood) which included the report from Extent Heritage – this \$107k tender is in the budget for this financial year.</p> <p>The same person who assisted us with writing the tender (structural engineer) will assist us for the third-party review.</p>	DH

	<p>Weir Road update</p> <p>The specifications in the tender for the upgrade of Weir Road changed following the flood and we are awaiting the contractor's revised tender. We do not have a starting date for this work. However, it will be a sealed road and the traffic will flow while the works are underway. Is it necessary to have the native vegetation assessed delaying the process? No, this assessment has already been undertaken. The blind corner will be redesigned and streamlined.</p>	VA
	<p>General business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a new wine tourism sign on the Goulburn Weir-Murchison Road with advice to turn left in 300 metres – this is to Kirwans Bridge which is closed. • Advice is that this sign was installed by VicRoads and we have advised DTP of the error while the bridge is closed. • It has been noted that Council had not provided any contact with the Kirwans Bridge residents during the flood • However, an update was provided by staff at the fire station on December 15. • Will there be a rate reduction for Kirwans Bridge residents – No Bridge No Rates • It was noted that most of our communication posts were Facebook updates there had not been any letter drops to the community • Council communications needs to improve • Is Weir Road and its culverts suitable for B Doubles? • Inspection to be carried out with Vlad and staff along with Des Mason 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advice (community signage) needed in relation to Weir Road construction be clear when sealing is happening • It was noted that some previous decisions were made when there was only seven people attending – this was contrary to our Terms of Reference • It was the Panel members that put forward the options, but it was acknowledged that the community would be informed when costings were available as they would be required as well to assist Council in any advocacy for the preferred option • The option needs to be something that works for everyone 	
	Close 8.40pm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next meeting to be held when there is an update 	

Actions from this meeting

- The engineering report on Chinamans bridge to be circulated to all Panel members upon ELT/CEO approval
- Advised VicRoads about the new winery signage promoting turn left 300 metres which would take people to the currently closed bridge ...DTP advised
- Letter to resident advising them of the current situation – delivery to be arranged through Jacquie and Bob - completed
- Updated information to be provided to the media and on the Shire website