

Dwellingup Community Compact Presidents Report
5th February 2018

The past year has flown. I have been to many meetings over a number of projects but I am pleased to say many of those meetings are bearing fruit with real progress on a number of projects and initiatives.

Thanks to Margaret Noble and her team we cracked of the year with a New Year's Great Gatsby Ball. Funds from the function finally allowed us to install hot water units in both men's and women's showers, in the ablutions next to the Dwellingup History and Visitor Information Centre.

In March, Dean Unsworth, myself and John Cusack presented to the community progress on what we now know as the National Trails Centre Project. The development of the Green Precinct initial concept plans were presented. The meeting was attended by over 80 persons with a wide cross section of interested community members represented. Support for the project was overwhelming. From the meeting 17 submissions were received all supportive of the project.

Hotham Valley volunteers have already commenced groundworks removing some railway lines and trees, in preparation for the installation of a turntable as well as parking and access adjustments.

Greg Caswell and his volunteers once again joined in Clean Up Australia Day in March. Thanks Greg again for the time and effort employed on the project.

The installation of the 3 BBQs from the Alcoa funding was officially acquitted in June, with a sausage sizzle brunch with riders from the Dwellingup Bush Riders Team attending after their practice ride for the Dwellingup 100. Representatives from Alcoa and the Shire of Murray attended.

The additional \$25,000 set aside by Alcoa was applied for and granted for the "Where Trails Meet Community Art and Trail Markers Project". Under the guidance of Sue Fyfe this project will see the marking of the passage of both the Bibbulmun Track and the Munda Biddi Trail through Dwellingup. Both routes will need some small adjustment to fit in with the final Green Precinct Project plan, ensuring that the redeveloped Dwellingup History and Visitor Information Centre (Dwellingup National Trails Centre), becomes the arrival/departure point for both routes.

The Street Pole Banner Project made some real progress with Cable Locators contracted by the DCC to identify and map/mark services that are close to pole locations. Carl has now completed the 5 poles. They are galvanized and in storage. A test banner frame was erected at Dwellingup Adventures. The 2x5mm back to back corflute test banners held well over a range of winter weather conditions. The current project is to organise some early morning working bees to install the pole footings.

The Dwellingup Protection Group with the particular hard work of the chair Chris Portlock released the "Dwellingup Community Compact Draft Position Statement. Bauxite Mining in and Around Dwellingup Townsite Area". Public comment was invited and a significant number of submissions were received. In December a public/community information and workshop was held at the hall. Over 100 persons attended with the Shire funding professional facilitation of the workshop. At the same workshop the

Shire of Murray CEO Dean Unsworth gave an update on the National trails centre Green Precinct Project.

The Dwellingup Community Compact produced three Resident Update Newsletters in 2017. In January of this year Dean Unsworth and I discussed how better we could inform and keep the Dwellingup Community up to date with a more regular publication. I will meet this week with Lauren Williams the Shire , to discuss and implement a joint bi monthly publication of a dedicated Dwellingup Community Newsletter. It is intended the newsletter will be published after each Dwellingup Community Compact meeting with content generated by both DCC and the shire.

The community website www.dwellingupwa.com.au continues to provide content for both residents and visitors alike. I can't thank our Shire President David Bolt enough for again making his expertise and time freely available for the site upkeep. Di Pickering continues to work behind the scenes keeping the calendar of events on track. I remind all community and business members alike that it is our website managed by us. David is not engaged as our paid web site manager chasing up membership, correct business content, providing photos and copy content or the like. While there is a charge for business membership this covers other website expenses including maintenance of the name etc. It is up to members of the site to manage their own entries. Please inform and provide the DCC secretary with any updated copy or photos that we can pass on to David for entry updates.

This year will see an increased effort to provide more community update content on the site.

Colleen Warr asked for our support and assistance this year with a couple of youth initiatives directed towards the younger Dwellingup population. Membership was overwhelmingly supportive of the initiatives. This has allowed Colleens group to be part of the DCC taking advantage of our recently acquired Public Liability Insurance and providing secure fund management for the group. An anonymous donation directed through Colleen of \$600.00 was gratefully received to offset the cost of our Public Liability Insurance.

This year will see the start of the bike rack project. Carl has provided a new and interesting concept for the bike racks for consideration. Funding for the entire project is now secure with the \$5,563.64 received from Royalties for Regions Peel Community Chest Fund with an additional \$2,000.00 provided by Mayday. The request for support from Mayday also included \$400.00 towards the cost of our Insurance. Big thanks to Mayday for this support.

It has been a busy past year attending meetings and dealing with a number of issues, projects and initiatives but a rewarding one. The groundwork established at these meetings will bear fruit on the ground this year as residents will start to see some physical changes around Dwellingup. My personal thanks to Chris Gray our secretary/treasurer for providing not only governance oversight on all we do but keeping our day to day matters under control. Thank you to our executive committee who have provided support and in particular advice on some fast changing matters that have needed answers 'yesterday' Our working relationship with the Shire of Murray grows from strength to strength much to do with the strong support and advocacy we get from Dean Unsworth and David Bolt.

Peter White

