

Cowwarr Community & Historical Association Inc.

COMMUNITY MEETING WITH WELLINGTON SHIRE

Tuesday 9th. September 2003.

The following is a summary of the issues brought up at the Meeting – sorry for the delay.

DRAINS

This includes Stormwater, Septic Discharge, Greywater and Open Street Drains

The Wellington Councillors and Staff admitted that the provision of, and the disposal of the above was not satisfactory but, as usual thought it was someone else's problem.

With regard to the main stormwater drain which flows directly into Rainbow Creek and carries with it overflows from septic and greywater systems with no filtering or settling pond system, Wellington Shire thinks this is something for Gippsland Water.

CCHA Asst. Sec. rang Gippsland Water and they had no idea that they had any responsibility for the main drain but are "looking into it" whatever that means

CCHA will continue communication with the Shire and Gippsland Water on this issue

With regard to our disposal of waste to the main drain one thing must be acknowledged.

All waste as above must be contained on your land

To this end, if there is not enough land to provide adequate evaporation and you wish to replace your septic/greywater system then there are a few things that need to be done!

1. Have a proper soil test
To assist here are the names of Companies provided by Wellington Shire close to Cowwarr who can provide a service. Make sure you check them out with the EPA.

Geo Eng	Hazelwood Rd.	Morwell	5133 9511
Gippsland Soil Tests	PO Box 568	Sale	5149 7541
Ark Angel	475 Old Melbourne Rd	Traralgon	5175 0895

2. With soil test in hand apply to Wellington Shire for a permit to install a system which will cover your and the environment needs.

It was "strongly" pointed out that the open street drains do not run when/if we get rain and that these drains need re-alignment/clearing as some over driveway pipes etc., block the flow from one property to another causing pooling and other problems.

The Councillors saw this problem and have taken it onboard – CCHA will follow-up

PLAYGROUND

Council reported that \$10,000 - \$15,000 has been allocated for Playground maintenance and improvement by Christmas 2003.

They were very surprised to learn that our playground was not on the regular mowing roster and have promised to have it included on the roster.

At this time we are not sure just how many times per year this will occur so it may mean that the Community will have to chip in and do some mowing. It is very unfair that one family should have to shoulder this responsibility on their own!

STREET NUMBERS

Apart from a request many years ago by the Lions Club, this issue is back on the agenda and the Shire is about to come up with a solution which will be common across all small towns in the Shire.

CCHA looks forward to and will press for this solution to be published ASAP.

STREETScape AND DESIGN

There are a number government schemes – Pride of Place – Australia Day Trees to mentions a few.

Shire WILL NOT DO ANYTHING unless this Community comes up with a plan of what we want to do, so get your thinking caps on and put forward your ideas.

Shire WILL DO SOMETHING if a Community has a plan and the commitment to see the plan through to completion and will assist the Community for grants etc., to complete a project.

OLD REC RESERVE – RAINBOW CREEK

Members of the Cowwarr Community met with Councillors and Staff at this bit of Shire land to put forward a plan to rid it of weeds, clean it up and put in some infrastructure to make the area a better place for locals and visitors to spend some time.

The old cypress trees are getting to the end of their day judging from the number of dead limbs that have been removed in the last year so there needs to be a plan about their future.

One suggestion put forward was to fell the tops and turn the trunks into carved artwork with a shelter, electric coin operated BBQ and possibly a composting toilet.

AGAIN Shire WILL NOT DO ANYTHING unless this Community comes up with a plan
AGAIN Shire WILL DO SOMETHING if a Community has a plan and the commitment to see the plan through to completion and will assist the Community for grants etc., to complete a project.

CHRIST CHURCH UPDATE

The new Minister Rev. Keith South starts on 17th. October and to date we do not know when the next service will take place. Check the Heyfield News and Shop window.

Mowing, Cleaning and Flowers Roster – put your name down for a turn at making the Church a place that you would like to worship in.