



Dodges Ferry Community Conversation Meeting

Sea Rescue Tiger Head Road – Thursday 28 June 6pm

Councillors in Attendance

Mayor Kerry Vincent, Deputy Mayor Brett McDonald, Crl Carmel Torenus, Crl Lindsay White, Crl Kerry De Grassi, Crl Natham Reynolds, Crl Deborah De Williams

Staff in Attendance

Russell Fox – Manager Engineering & Regulatory Services, Robert Higgins – General Manager, Darren Carter – Senior Compliance Officer, Roz Sherratt – Community Services Administration.

Mayor Kerry Vincent opened the meeting introducing **Darren Carter, Municipal Inspector** to address the proposed changes to the access times to Red Ochre Beach for Dogs from 1 December to 1 March due to community feedback from Council's previous decision as follows:-

Red Ochre beach is to be divided in half, with the rocky outcrop acting as the dividing line between the Northern End (known as Blue Lagoon) and the Southern End.

From **1 December to 1 March**, dogs would be **prohibited** on the **southern end of Red Ochre Beach** between the hours from **10am to 6pm**.

From **1 December to 1 March** dogs would be **prohibited at all times** on the northern end of **Red Ochre Beach** known as Blue Lagoon Beach.

Darren handed out a Public Notice – Intention to Declare Areas (Dog Exercise Area), a copy of which is attached hereto, setting out the details and advising written submissions on the intention to declare these areas. Submissions must be received by close of business Tuesday 24 July and only relating to the area specified, Red Ochre Beach.

Darren invited any questions from the public:-

Q: Why? Also why total ban on north beach?

R: Darren The Community has advised Council they are not happy with current dog beaches and want dog free beach for a family beach.

R: Robert The decision on the southern beach is for a balance of access rights between the dog owners and the rest of the community.



There was some further points raised by the public including:-

- Red Ochre Beach is difficult to access for some people with the northern stairs hard to jump to the rocks and the southern stairs are also hard for people with limited mobility.
- Driving and walking access to the beach was raised as an issue.
- Why the dog access has been reduced from 4 months to 3 months.
- The access to the jetty is limited for some people.
- Shore birds protection - there was question as to when the last study of the shore birds was done.

Darren advised that the reduction in times set out in the proposal will bring it in line with other Councils in an effort to be uniform with other neighbouring Council's Dog Management Plans.

Russell addressed the queries in relation to the access to the beaches etc. and advised that these are Crown Land and Council has no authority over these. In order to have any control over the beach access Council has to enter into a 99-year Lease with the Department and pay to maintain the area for the period of the lease.

Q: There was concern relating to the safety at Carlton River Road and Carlton Beach Road, there was a suggestion for a crossing on each road for students' safety.

R: **Russell:** Pedestrian crossings on both of these roads are on a priority list which will seek funding from the Vulnerable Road Users Grant Program.

A roundabout was suggested as an alternative, but as a subdivision in the area was not proceeding which would have provided additional funds, Council does not have any surplus funds for this.

The playground at Carlton was discussed, it is on hold at the moment, as there are lot of additional factors, including toilet facilities, which also need to be considered. Council continues to investigate possibilities for additional recreation spaces in the area.



MAYOR KERRY VINCENT

Buses: The increase in the weekday bus services are nearly finalised with 38 services to Sorell per day expected to commence on the 1st day of school in 2019. There are expected to be 28 services on Saturdays and 20 on Sundays. There may be some adjustments. Redline Buses will be providing the service under an overall Metro contract.

The airport round-about options are still being discussed with the various Government Department and adjoining landowners for a solution to the ongoing problem. Kerry has been to a number of meetings with Politicians and the departments pushing for a solution. South East Traffic Solution was made available to the public and attached hereto.

There was a question from the public that a crossing should be marked near the McDonald's roundabout in Sorell, as it is extremely hard for pedestrians to cross the road. Kerry advised that this is a main road and therefore Department of State Growth is the authority who maintains this road. Council has no authority.

Kerry also advised that Council have been granted funding for a long-term project on infrastructure at the Sorell School, which will benefit the area as well as creating additional employment.

The recent renovations to the Bowls Club in Sorell has upgraded the facility so it can cater for functions, thus keeping the dollars in the Sorell region and not travelling into Hobart.

Council has been in discussions with TasWater for a solution to the water and sewerage for the Dodges Ferry School and the Recreation Grounds, which Council is at present buying tankered water to maintain the grounds.

Q: Boat Park Ramp extension and pontoon extension

A suggestion also is to erect a memorial at Boat Park for those locals who have been lost at sea. Kerry thought this was a good idea.

R: **Robert** has again spoken to MAST, as there should be an overall review throughout the whole state to provide funds and infrastructure. He is speaking to them on a regular basis.