



Sorell Community Conversation Meeting

Sorell Memorial Hall – 28 July 2022

Councillors in Attendance:

Mayor Kerry Vincent (KV), Deputy Mayor Natham Reynolds, Crl Geoffrey Jackson, Crl Beth Nichols
Crl Carmel Torenus and Crl Melinda Reed.

Council staff in Attendance:

Robert Higgins - RH (General Manager) Russell Fox (Manager Engineering and Regulatory Services) and
Sonia Pullen – (Community Engagement Officer).

Public attendance: 24

Introduction by Mayor Kerry Vincent

Kerry welcomed the community attendees.

Issues raised by residents:

- **Signage New Bypass**

Council is very conscious about how we will move people around the town, advice has been sought from Peter Kenyan (Bank of Ideas) who has varied experience in dealing with many towns throughout Australia that have been affected by a bypass. Council is looking at the Streetscape Strategy and working closely with the Sorell Business Council. The Streetscape Plan is on the council website <https://www.sorell.tas.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Sorell-Streetscape-Plan.pdf>. Plan to continue over the next 4-5 years adding trees to beautify township and ideas in relation to murals and public arts are being discussed.

Michael Larkins, President of the Sorell Business Association introduces himself and suggested that if any business that is not involved with the association and would like to be to contact him to discuss.

- **Graffiti/Rubbish**

Graffiti is an ongoing problem that cost Council thousands of dollars and resources annually. Council are continually working to remove any reported graffiti as soon as possible.

Business owners are responsible to remove their own and the Department of State Growth are responsible for the removal on the main roads, e.g. Causeways, new bridge.



Suggestions were made to have graffiti walls, engage the youth and commission artists to do the art work.

It was also suggested we do something like the town of Sheffield. Mayor Vincent advised that the works have taken many years to build up, costing the town large dollars and that you also need individuals to want to do it and have the works done on their walls.

Shopping Trolleys in Waterways – This is the responsibility of the supermarkets, it is a major safety risk for staff to retrieve the and generally contractors will be engaged to recover trolleys. Council have met with management at both Woolworths and Coles to discuss on going issues.

Rubbish – Once again this is an ongoing issue for Council. Robert Hughes advised that there is a small group of volunteers who do pick up rubbish, however the community need to be re-educated. The deposit scheme will begin shortly and hopefully this will encourage groups and individuals to collect as a way of making some extra cash.

- **Sorell Dog Park**

Petition has been received by Council in relation to the Sorell Dog Park, requesting for improvements. Mayor Vincent advised that soil samples had been done and we were waiting on the report. This matter will be discussed once the report has been received.

- **Upcoming Council Elections**

Polling opens for voting from 3rd October – 25 October, KV encourages people to get involved and advises that it is now compulsory to vote

- **How is Infrastructure keeping up in Sorell**

The South East Regional Development Association commissioned a report by KPMG to pull together growth figures for the area. In October 2015, the report was accepted and the area is now being supported with funds. Sorell School upgrade to be completed within 3 – 4 years, Emergency Services Hub to be completed by end of this year.

New subdivisions – developer pays for the upgrade of all the new infrastructure required as part of the approval process.



- **Causeway Upgrade**
Duplication of causeway planning in progress. Works to begin end of 2023 and finish by end 2025. Funding is 80% Federal and 20% State.
- **Neil Davis Art Works**
Councillor Torenus advised that the new operator did not want art works on their building. Frank Morgan has them safely stored and is interested in refurbishing a room at the Gordon Highlander to accommodate a room designated to Neil Davis.