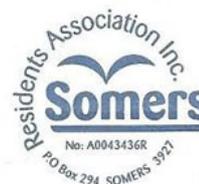


SRA members update April 2019



Council approves path project

THE shire has decided to proceed with building paths in the village accepting the proposals contained in a Traffic Management Plan (TMP) prepared by council officers in association with consultants Traffex. The decision was made at a council meeting held on 26 March at Balnarring Community Hall and attended by members of the SRA committee.

The works will be fully funded by the council ...

there will be no levy on Somers ratepayers.

The shire will:

- Build a path from Sandy Point Rd down Camp Hill Rd to the school with work likely to be undertaken in 2020.
- Install raised platforms along The Boulevard and Tasman Rd on the approach to Camp Hill Rd and install one raised platform in the southern section of the permanent 40kmh school zone along Camp Hill Rd.
- Change speed limits along Sandy Point Rd to provide a constant 80 kmh limit and advocate for the introduction of a 40kmh area speed zoning in all local streets excluding Lord Somers Rd, Parklands Ave, Camp Hill Rd, Tasman Rd and South Beach Rd.
- Construct footpaths along Lord Somers Rd, Parklands Ave, Tasman Rd and South Beach Rd and install a raised pedestrian crossing to the north of Zarah Court. This is the final stage of the project and will cost \$1.8m ... it is unlikely to proceed for some years given the cost.

Council officers have indicated to the SRA that the Camp Hill Rd shared path will proceed in 2020 once an additional \$68,000 is made available in the shire budget. Similarly the shire will at the same time advocate for common 80kmh speed limit along Sandy Point Rd and for 40kmh limit in all local streets except those excluded earlier.

The only amendment to the proposal was that the shire officers take into consideration the unique character of the coastal villages of Westernport in any foot-path proposals, ensuring informal footpaths were considered as a first option.

To see the minutes of the council meeting go to:

<https://www.mornpen.vic.gov.au/About-Us/About-Our-Council/Council-Meetings/CouncilCommittee-Meeting-Agendas-and-Minutes>

Have your say

The SRA is encouraging members and residents to raise issues of concern with the association and are invited to attend before regular monthly committee meetings to discuss their concerns.

All that is asked is they provide details a week before the scheduled meeting so that the committee can prepare answers. Members are also encouraged to suggest agenda items for consideration by the committee via email a week ahead of the regular monthly meetings. Check our website for monthly meeting dates.



**SRA liaises with Mornington Shire Council Officers and State and Federal Members, regarding issues concerning our community.*

**SRA is a member of RAM, giving it direct access to our local councillor.*

**SRA has a good working relationship with DELWP and Parks Victoria.*

**SRA encourages members to raise or discuss their concerns.*

**SRA attends shire Council meetings to ensure it is aware of issues relating to Somers.*

**SRA donates to our local school & community groups.*

SRA members update cont.

What's important to Somers

A survey undertaken of members late last year asking what they thought the SRA's role should be, revealed a number of issues that were considered important to residents.

Some response said the SRA should:

- Protect the social and natural environment.
- Save the koala.
- Keep vigilant regarding development proposal
- Protect our green wedges.
- Ensure all roads, foreshore and services have proper upkeep.
- Support volunteer groups caring for the environment.
- Represent the entire community.
- Be the voice of the village.
- Provide information re proposed changes to the area.
- Keep the community up to date and informed.
- Communicate with Mornington Peninsula Shire Council.

A sub-committee is going through the suggestions and seeing how the SRA can address the various issues raised in the survey so it can better serve the community.

SRA to provide dog poo bags

The SRA will provide dog poo bags and dispensers at strategic points near beach access points in an effort to encourage dog owners to clean up after their pets.

The SRA will cover the cost of the bags and is assessing the best places to locate them.

Planning meeting

Three members of the SRA together with a number of concerned residents met two of the shire's senior planning officers in Somers to point out buildings considered to be inappropriate in the context of the village.

The shire is undertaking a survey of Westernport's coastal villages to produce guidelines that will go into the shire's planning scheme

taking into account neighbourhood character when granting permits.

Consultants will survey all Westernport villages, townships and communities and where appropriate precincts within the villages and townships will be identified for their unique characteristics. The result will be a map of all communities on Westernport.

Members are encouraged to fill in the [neighbourhood character survey](#) at:

www.mornpen.vic.gov.au/About-Us/Have-your-say/Have-Your-Say-Neighbourhood-Character-Study

Report an incident

A new phone App that allows people to report local issues to their local council is available on iPhone and Android devices.

It is free and is called Snap Send Solve. Many local councils, including Mornington Peninsula Shire Council, and utilities have embraced the App. You can also send a photograph of the incident. For more information go to <https://www.snapsendsolve.com> and to download the App go to the App Store or Google Play.

Time to renew membership

SRA subscriptions are now overdue. So if you haven't renewed NOW is the time to act.

Without your subscriptions we cannot continue our work on your behalf advocating for issues that are of concern to the community as well as staying across any possible changes that would impact on our village.

The SRA also maintains close contact with shire officers as well as our local councillor David Gill to ensure the village voice is heard where it counts.

We also maintain contact with local federal and state politicians.

Membership is a modest \$10 per person a year. We encourage as many people as possible in each household to join .

All work undertaken by the SRA is on a voluntary basis and fees are used to cover running expenses.