1. **Present:** R Fielke (Chairperson), D Kimber, J Williamson, T Tol, T Shannon, M Vowles, G Furness, P Madden, S Emery, J Sylvia and J Barry (Minute Secretary)

2. **Apologies:** K Spangenberg & B Falcinella

3. **On Leave:**

4. **Confirmation of Minutes:** P Madden moved J Williamson seconded that the minutes of the previous meeting held on Tuesday 3 December be taken as read and confirmed. **CARRIED**

5. **Business Arising:**

5.1 **Action Plan/Exception Report**

   **Prunus trees planted in Heritage Park**
   - R Fielke suggested that the condition of the prunus trees be reviewed and a decision made within the next month.

   D Kimber moved P Madden Seconded that J Sylvia arranges a time to meet with B Mackzowiack and those interested LRGC representatives before the end of February 2014. **CARRIED**

   - The meeting is to be scheduled for 7am and avoid Wednesdays due to unavailability of LRGC members.

   **Loxton North Primary School plaque/Heritage Park**
   - J Sylvia reported that he is awaiting wording for the plaque from the Primary School. Will conclude by the next LRGC meeting in April 2014.

   **Lutheran Church Property**
   - T Tol has notified the Church of Council's potential support under the Community Support Policy to assist with works up to a value of $1,000. Completed.

   **Heritage Park**
   - R Fielke attended an arts meeting and informed them that there was some money available in the trust. Following on from this he met with P Ackland who assured him that the $35,000 will remain with the Heritage Park project.
• This money will be held onto as it will take some time for the project to progress.

• R Fielke suggested that the committee endorse that they agree to defer the development of section D of Heritage Park until it is confirmed as to what funding is available for the artwork.

• R Fielke has corresponded with a chainsaw artist to inspect the trees to see if they are suitable for what is proposed.

• In the meantime photos have been presented to a chainsaw artist who have said the allepo trees will be suitable to be used as tree sculptures.

• It is still unsure as to the longevity of these trees once sculptured.

• D Kimber suggested that the project be deferred until the end of the 2013/2014 financial year.

• Project is planned for possibly August 2014.

• R Fielke suggested that a committee be formed consisting of representatives from the arts committee, Loxton Rotary and members of the LRGC. J Williamson, P Madden, D Kimber, G Furness and T Shannon are interested being apart of this committee.

  D Kimber moved P Madden seconded that the development of Heritage Park (section D) be deferred until confirmation of funding is received. **CARRIED**

**Paruna Road Entrance Wall**

• J Sylvia informed the committee that a budget bid for the 2014/2015 financial year will be submitted.

**LAP Regent Parrot sign for Heritage Park**

• J Sylvia informed the committee that the sign has been installed on the car park end of the Heritage Park walk.

**5.2 Project Planning Sheets**

**Sheet 5: Loxton West Stormwater Basin planting**

• D Kimber mentioned that point 5, arranging for planting/volunteers to direct seed is not completed as the planning sheet states. Numerous sites are still to have dripper systems installed and approximately 5-6 boxes of trees still yet to be planted. J Sylvia expects this to be completed late February/early March.

• Point 5 of the planning sheet to be changed to ongoing not completed.

**Sheet 1: Creek bed**
• R Fielke updated the committee on the renovation works that has been completed, stating that it has worked out extremely successful especially because there were concerns with the decay of the creek bed.

• Little money has been spent on this project so far, therefore there is a considerable amount of money left over.

• S Emery presented a preliminary plan for improvements of the garden around the creek bed (plan attached to minutes).

• R Fielke suggested planting some sort of tree to act as a feature. J Williamson suggested installing discrete but effective lighting to light up a tree or feature piece. D Kimber suggested some robust vintage looking bikes and go carts made from used wagon wheels etc. P Madden queried if any consideration has been given for the installation of seating. At this stage this has not been considered.

• R Fielke advised that these recommendations can be considered and added on at a later date.

• The committee accepted the preliminary plan in principle.

T Tol entered meeting at 7.41am

Sheet 2: Cemetery gates
• J Sylvia contacted the contractor who will begin work when the weather permits.

Sheet 3: Rail Land concept
• Nothing further to add at this stage.

6. Correspondence:

6.1 Nil

7. Reports:

LRGC Terms of reference and specific objectives
T Tol outlined that this item has been brought back to the LRGC because the Governance Officer has informed us that informal meetings are not allowed for Section 41 Committees, and because a resolution from the last LRGC meeting was not carried.

R Fielke suggested that in the off month that a sub committee meeting be held to discuss 1-2 specific projects. The sub committee will then present their recommendations and formalise them at the bi monthly LRGC meeting. Minutes from these sub committee meetings will be taken by the committee members and a chairperson nominated (not necessarily the Chairperson of the LRGC). The sub committee does not need to be held in the Council offices and the committee members are able to meet in their homes.
T Tol suggested giving the sub committee a purpose by naming it the Project Management Sub Committee for example, and to nominate a chairperson and committee members.

D Kimber has communicated with B Falcinella who was absent from today’s meeting and they are both in agreement that at least some sort of meeting should be held on the month that the LRGC meeting is not held.

P Madden raised his concerns with the effectiveness of the LRGC if they were to meet bi monthly.

R Fielke therefore suggested forming a sub committee to avoiding losing touch between the formal bi monthly LRGC meetings.

Various discussions were held around informal meetings.

S Emery moved T Shannon seconded that
1. That reports numbered 7.1 to 7.5 be received.
2. That the Loxton Recreational Grounds Committee recommends to Council that the Loxton Recreational Grounds Committee Terms of Reference be amended by;
   - Removing Specific Objective 8 - Preparation and review of a long term management strategy for the recreation grounds and facilities under the management of the committee.
   - Removing all commentary within the Volunteers section and replacing with “All volunteers that assist in Loxton Recreational Grounds Committee projects must be inducted and listed on Councils Volunteer Register”.
3. That the next meeting of the Loxton Recreational Grounds Committee be held on the first Tuesday of April 2014 and that the Loxton Recreational Grounds Committee meet on the first Tuesday of June, August and October during 2014.
4. That the Loxton Recreational Grounds Committee reviews the effectiveness of the new meeting schedule at its meeting in October 2014.

CARRIED

Tom and Steve left at 8.13am.

8. Business Plan and Action Plan

2014/2015 Council Budget
Budget bids to be submitted so far for the 2014/2015 financial year are the Paruna Road town entrance wall and the Centenary Park plantings.

R Fielke suggested re submitting the 2013/2014 financial year budget bid to beautify the Apex Park area of Heritage Park.

D Kimber suggested re submitting the Bookpurnong Terrace trees/curbing that was unsuccessful in the 2013/2014 budget.

Further budget bids may be determined at a later date.
All unsuccessful budget bids from the 2013/2014 financial year will be resubmitted.

9. General Business:

- D Kimber suggested using the post and rails from Section D of Heritage Park and from the area behind the Historical Village to form a border along the arboretum at the Loxton West Stormwater Basin and then mulch the arboretum area.

- Loxton Caravan Park Road way- D Kimber recommended that the appropriate native plants be planted. J Sylvia, D Kimber and any other interested parties will meet with the Caravan Park owner to discuss what vegetation will be suitable for this area.

- Works request to be submitted to remove dead trees along Bookpurnong Road from the Research Centre to the end of the 80km speed zone.

10. Next meeting: Tuesday 1st April 2014.

11. Closure: The meeting closed at 8.30am
SCULPTURE PROJECT

HERITAGE PARK

Bookpurnong Road, LOXTON SA

Background and Project Overview

Loxton Rotary is undertaking the development of the final stage of Heritage Park, located on Bookpurnong Road on the southern approach to/through Loxton, which is to be completed by end of March 2014. There is an existing group of 18 pine trees that were earmarked for removal to make way for the new gardens but the idea of retaining the trees and carving them into a feature forest was put forward to Rotary, who embraced the idea and subsequently got the Council’s endorsement for the project.

The 18 trees are in 3 rows of 6 trees and as such present an ideal formation to create a “forest” of Totem Poles which will be carved by Chainsaw Artists and finished with the assistance of local craftsmen/carvers and other artists. The totems can be left plain and natural (sealed) or decoratively painted or perhaps a combination of both. Some trees could be cut down and then carved into decorative bench seating or perhaps cut into smaller pieces and carved into smaller sculptures of individual figures/items.

The general idea for the carvings would be to have 3 main themes, one theme for each row of trees, with the themes being relevant to Loxton and the Riverland region in general.

Example

Theme 1 – Native Fauna & Flora (kangaroos, emus, snakes, kurrajongs, cockatoos, pelicans, wattle etc)

Theme 2 – The River and Lifestyle/culture (water, fish, yabbies, birds, dingy, ski-boats, paddlesteamers, houseboats, water-activities eg: swimming, fishing, skiing/boarding, canoeing, caravanning, camping)

Theme 3 – Agriculture & Industry (Crop Farming, Wineries, Orchards, Irrigation, Trucking, Houseboats etc)

Other possible inclusions:

Historical events, places, buildings, churches/faith, prominent/significant local people, Aboriginal culture

There has been some initial discussions with a chainsaw carver from Victoria, Angela Polglaze, who has given us a brief overview of how a carving event would take place and what is involved.

Chainsaw carving is a huge long-standing art-form internationally with massive events held across Europe and America and other countries throughout every year. It is a lesser known art-form here in Australia due largely to our much smaller population, demographics and are predominately sparse landscape.

There is presently only about ½ dozen full-time professional chainsaw carvers in Australia with most periodically travelling overseas to perform their art.
There are quite a few examples of carvings throughout Australia which can be looked at more closely once more in-depth investigation gets underway.

Carvings make a wonderful feature and the actual carving event is a real crowd puller and pleaser as it involves much activity and noise and people see a plain dead tree transformed into a work of art right before their eyes with various chainsaws, angle-grinders and hand-tools used by professional carvers standing on platforms of scaffolding.

The carvings will last many decades once completed and the entire process can bring a real connection with the community through the planning and designing process, creation and decoration, sponsorship and naming rights. Previous carving projects and events have incorporated participation from other groups such as Rotary and Lions, Mens Sheds, local schools/students, local art groups and the general public.

By creating an actual event and involving the local community, we can apply for funding through local, state and federal Grants, in addition to seeking sponsorship from local businesses and organizations and donations from the general public.

Chainsaw Carving is a very good art-from to promote as it is a “live” event and as such could be very good to incorporate into SALA during August of this year, tying into the whole Arts theme. It would generate excellent publicity and be a real draw-card of difference for Loxton.

Rebecca Farrant from Country Arts SA at Berri is onboard to help with obtaining Grants and offering advice and support and their grant is available for application shortly, with a closing date in March.

Rebecca has advised that there has been a similar project done in Mt. Gambier and has offered to get more details for us.

Another aspect that could be incorporated into the event is some “workshops” to help cultivate an interest in the Art of carving on a local level.

Angie Polglaze, the “Chainsaw Chick” is happy to work with us on whatever level we wish to retain her services and has offered to come and visit Loxton and do a presentation to those who are interested in this project so they can ask questions and become informed first-hand.

Angie has indicated that a project of this size would require at least $100,000 worth of funding but could be approached in several ways ranging from doing the entire project at one time to breaking it up into 2 or 3 events over several years.

We believe the way forward would be to form a specific Sculpture Project committee and are seeking the support and assistance of suitably interested or qualified people to join us and help to bring this wonderful project to fruition so that Loxton and all its wonderful people can experience and prosper from this undertaking. This project can certainly help to put Loxton on the map and the Art Trail as it will rank as a tourist attraction in its own right and if successful, further projects, events and workshops could follow.

Prepared by Charmaine Quinn

20-01-2014