

## OBERON COUNCIL

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**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:** Councillor Keith Sullivan (in the Chair); Col Roberts; Stella Cotton; Peter Harper; Dietmar Torner and June Evans.

**OBSERVERS:** Mr Gary Wallace, Director of Development; Mr Christo Aiken, Heritage Advisor.

**APOLOGIES:** Apologies were received and accepted from Mr John Brien and Ray & Laurie McMahon.

### **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Timber Heritage Committee Meeting held on the 30 October 2011 were accepted.

### **BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

Nil

### **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Nil

### **INTERPRETIVE SIGNS**

#### **Information on Signage**

A report was submitted by Mr Col Roberts (Attachment 1) indicating that the final piece of the Heritage Walk research has been completed and tabled for the committee to consider. Mr Roberts indicated that the information has been validated by representatives of the Medium Density Fibreboard (MDF) Plant and that completes that research for the interpretive signage.

The committee thanked Col for his dedication to this project.

The Committee discussed the need for appropriate photos to be incorporated into the signage and that photos will need to be tabled for the Committee to recommend for each sign to be erected on the walk.

Action item from the discussion was for the Director of Development, in association with Council's Heritage Advisor to look at developing the signage and editing the information previously submitted to the committee for consideration.

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Minutes of the duly convened Oberon Council Timber Heritage Walk Committee Meeting held at the Oberon Council Chambers on Monday 27 February 2012, commencing at 4.50pm.

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General Manager

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Chairperson

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### Financial Support Information

The Director of Development gave a verbal presentation in relation to previous actions indicating that he had written to the management of the factories that comprise the Oberon Timber Complex (OTC) seeking financial support to the Timber Heritage walk project. It was indicated that two separate groups within the OTC had replied seeking further information on the project however were generally supportive.

The Director of Development indicated that he would provide further information upon receipt of all correspondence.

The Committee indicated that the project was an overall positive step in the community and should be supported by the industry. It was considered and accepted by the Committee that a budget of \$20,000 should be considered for the project and appropriate signage should be considered together with the booklet to be prepared in line with previous resolutions.

Councillor Sullivan asked Councils Heritage Advisor was there any Heritage funding mechanisms Council could apply for given the nature of the project. Councils Heritage Advisor indicated that he would investigate any options available.

Councils Director of Development indicated that he would forward information onto Councils Community and Customer Services Manager to seek opportunities for funding from other sources.

### Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway

The Director of Development provided a verbal report indicating that he had engaged with Mr Tim Amison and Mr Shane Moorhead seeking clarification on the Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway (OTHR) project. Both parties have indicated they are happy to work with the Timber Heritage Walk Committee to get a consistent and uniform result for both projects.

The Director of Development indicated that OTHR had offered to donate 18 treated sleepers to be used as the frame for potential signs similar to the one currently existing within the OTHR complex (Attachment 2a).

Councils Heritage Advisor indicated that the sleepers were a good idea given the like relationships and provided sketches of what could be undertaken using the sleepers as a centre piece of each sign (Attachment 2b).

Discussion was held and it was considered that the signage for the THW would ideally be much larger than that in Attachment 2a however the use of the sleepers was accepted.

Councils Heritage Advisor supplied an additional sketch (Attachment 2c) indicating how this could be accommodated. The sketch was accepted by the Committee as an appropriate template.

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**CODE OF CONDUCT TRAINING**

Councils Director of Development indicated that code of conduct training would be undertaken at the next available meeting. All Committee members are required to undertake the training.

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

Nil

**NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Timber Heritage Walk Committee will be held on Monday 23 April 2012, commencing at 4.00pm.

This concluded the business of the meeting and the meeting closed at 5.37pm.

Confirmed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2012.

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General Manager

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Chairperson

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General Manager

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Chairperson

## The Medium Density Fibreboard Plant and Precinct

Medium Density Fibreboard (MDF) is board of various thicknesses made from timber fibres glued and pressed together, much like paper is made. It has timber like qualities, is easy to machine, with an excellent finish and is produced in the factory as a wide board in a continuous process.

The MDF Plant at Oberon was built by AMCOR Ltd (previously APM) and opened in 1988 trading under the name of Fibron Industries. This plant was built to process small or pulpwood sized material from the local softwood plantations. The mill was commissioned and made operational but within 12 months it was sold to the CSR Wood Panels Group.

In 1994 CSR Wood Panels was the successful bidder for a significant new parcel of sawlogs and pulp sized material and as a result added to the factory a third MDF production line, a moulding facility and door skin plant.

In 1998 an adhesive resin plant was built by Woodchem Australia within the MDF plant precinct. The resin plant supplied resin primarily to the MDF and Carter Holt Harvey owned Particle Board plants

In 2000 CSR sold its Timber Products Division to the New Zealand Company Carter Holt Harvey Ltd. Not included in the sale however, was the Doorskin plant which was sold to Jeld – Wen. In 2008 Carter Holt Harvey purchased the Resin plant.

In 2010 the MDF precinct and Resin plant were sold to Borg manufacturing. In 2011 the Jeld Wen plant ceased operation and the assets were purchased by Borg Manufacturing.

Through all these company dealings and associated staff changes the factory has continued to maintain the production of MDF products and sell them into a competitive market.

The products currently manufactured at the MDF plant are:

- Customwood MDF
- Redicoat Door skins
- Ultraprime Mouldings

All products are sold domestically and 70% is value added within the Borg Organisation before on selling to end users.

In 2011 Borg employed 180 people, and sourced 300,000 tonnes of pulpwood material from local softwood plantations and sawmill waste.

⑧ Long version / Short version

Volume

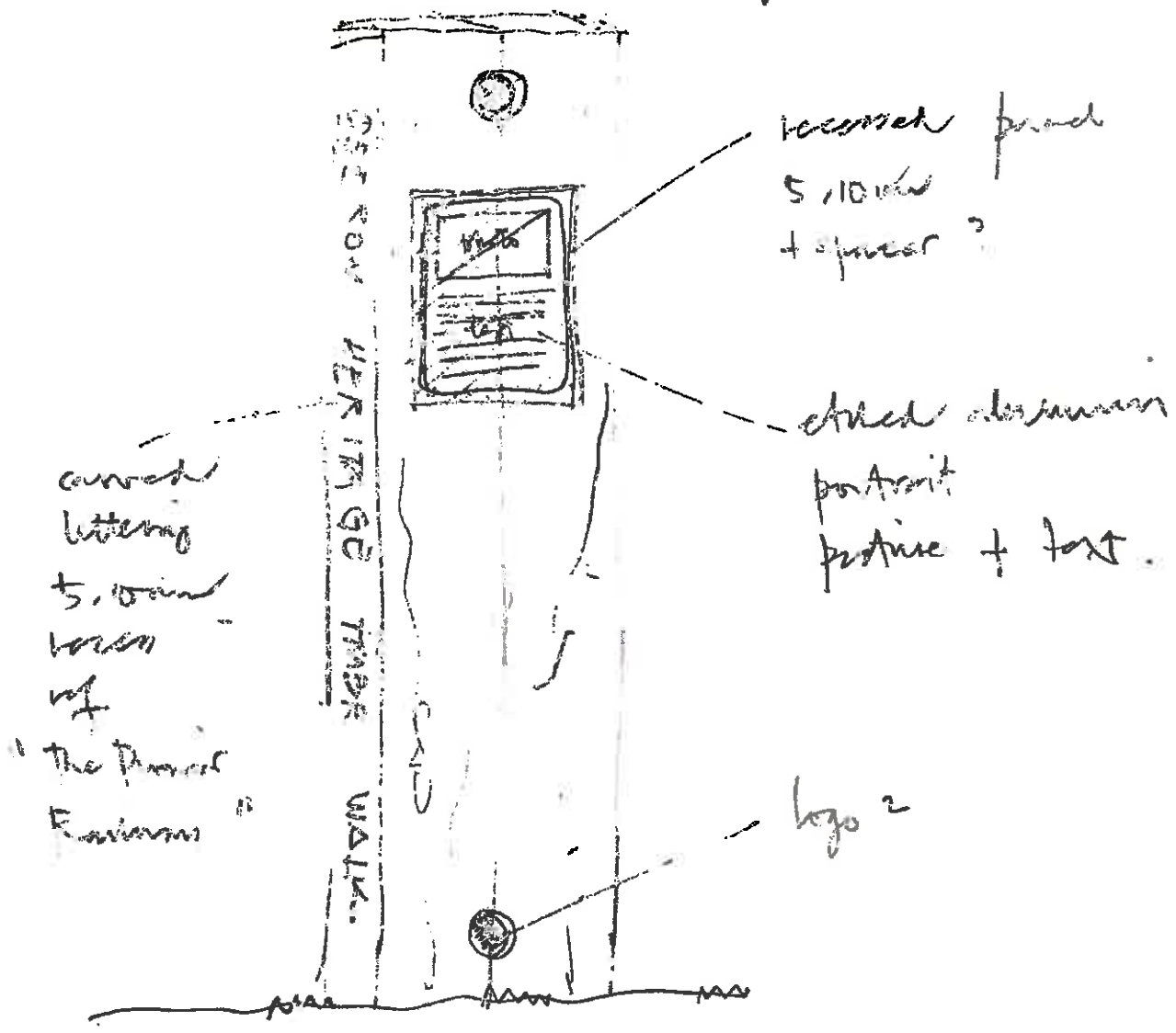
NUMBER OF WORDS

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Attachment 2(a)



Logo/Icon  or



Ken Smith 0427 652 871  
 Turntable 6331 7967  
 Mon 5/3

Attachment 2 (c)

