

OBERON COUNCIL

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PRESENT: Councillor Keith Sullivan, Mayor (in the chair); Councillor Kerry Gibbons; Jill Evans; Belinda Massey; Janice Musgrave; Ray Mawhood; Mark Boffa; Ian Whalan, Graham Parker.

OBSERVERS: Councillor Clive McCarthy, Oberon Neighborhood Centre Coordinator Amanda O'Brien, Oberon Council General Manager, Leanne Mash and the Information and Communications Officer, Carolyn Hendry.

APOLOGIES: Apologies were received and accepted for the non-attendance of Paul Toole MP, Councillor Bob O'Bernier, Ian Davis, Joanne Campbell and Graham Parker.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil

1. Hammond Care Presentation

Joanne Campbell was unable to attend the meeting due to illness. The Hammond Care presentation will be rescheduled.

2. Evans Community Options - outline services offered to the community

A presentation will be made by Evans Community Options to a future meeting.

3. BINC Presentation - services available to aged residents

- Amanda O'Brien discussed the new program being set up in Oberon; the Oberon Neighbourhood Centre.
- The centre will be funded from a BINC program and will run for the next three years. It will operate 12 hours per week, Wednesday - Friday from 10.00am to 2.00pm.
- The centre will act as a referral centre for aged care needs, family issues and general community support. Interagency meetings will be held at the centre.
- Amanda is currently in the process of creating a database with community groups and services available to the residents of Oberon. Research is being conducted into the various services on offer to the community and the findings will be available for discussion with the committee in October 2011.

Minutes of the duly convened Seniors Welfare Committee Meeting of Oberon Council held at the Council Chambers, Oberon on Monday 1 August 2011, commencing at 9.30am.

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4. Donation Request – Evans Community Options

This matter was deferred after a presentation from the Evans Community Options has been received by the committee.

5. Hathaway Cottages

- The notion is to have the units at Hathaway revert to self-care facility and to be supported by the hospital and/or the new Aged Care Centre.
- It has always been Council's intention to return the cottages to self-care units with some support from other providers.
- This item won't be discussed any further at Council until an outcome regarding the aged care facility is to hand.

6. Approach to Oberon LGA Schools regarding the Seniors Outreach Program

- Oberon LGA Schools have been approached with regard to participation with an outreach program for over 55 year population. Assisting with a community service program such as volunteering for hospital visits, and social events.
- Currently waiting on a response from schools. Will put to discussion with the committee once feedback has been received from Oberon LGA Schools.

7. General Business

- Mayor Sullivan stated that communication within the community remains an issue and service providers need more up-to-date information so they can make more informed decisions. This could be in the form of an awareness program through the community regarding actions that need to be taken in regards to aged care concerns.
- Amanda suggested running financial aged care seminars to help educate the community on the pressing issues and concerns with aged care.

Aged Care Committee Proposal – closed session – committee members only

- The Aged Care Committee proposed the recommendation that a trust fund be established to raise funds to assist with the provision of financial assistance for six low support beds in Oberon.
- Discussion was held in closed session.

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- Committee agreed that a trust is a viable option for the community; however, regulations and conditions will need to be in place to ensure the appropriate use of the funds towards aged care and to ensure the funds stay in the community. Contact will be made with Doctor Akbar Alamyar and Graeme Parker to investigate previous fundraising that was generated by community organisation approximately 7-9 years ago.

Recommendation to Council: That investigation be undertaken into the establishment of a trust mechanism to capture donations made to facilitate the provision of aged care facilities and services in Oberon.

Moved: Belinda Massey
Second: Mark Boffa

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be held on Monday 10 October 2011 commencing at 9.30am the Oberon Council Chambers.

Meeting closed at 10:55 am.

Confirmed this _____ day of _____ 2011.

General Manager

Chairperson

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