

FOCS newsletter

No. 3 May 2014

We hope you all had a safe and happy Easter holiday. FOCS has been very busy over the last few months, mainly researching and progressing ideas raised by the Cape Schanck community during our "Big Idea" exercise. We are happy to report some progress on a number of actions you nominated as being of importance.

Inside FOCS group

We in Friends of Cape Schanck are determined to work towards building a strong and supportive community.

Big Idea results and priorities

In January we compiled a prioritised list from the input provided by a number of you in our Cape Schanck community. We are now using this list to drive our efforts for 2014. For the full list please visit our webpage <http://focs.com.au/index.php/my-big-ideas-for-our-community>

Budget Submission

With Big Ideas feedback behind us we then prepared and submitted a proposal to MPS for budget allocations. This submission included a number of issues identified as being important for our community, for example a communal meeting area/playground, road safety, green waste management, bus shelters and so on. For details please refer to <http://focs.com.au/index.php/the-things-we-do/current-actions-supporting-documentation>.

Revamping FOCS webpage and Facebook

We consider communicating with the community one of our most important roles. We are pleased to report that we have now revamped our Web Page, as well as our fully functioning Facebook page. The Web Page will be used to make visible all relevant documents we come across about our area, as well as up to date information on all our activities.

We are keen to have your feedback on anything you would like to see included on this page or any improvements you would like to suggest.

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Friends-of-Cape-Schanck>

<http://focs.com.au/index.php/focshome>

Cape Schanck community initiatives

Thursday Tapas and drinks

The regular Tapas and drinks have been a successful event allowing people to come together on a regular basis to socialise with their neighbours. Therefore, once again throughout 2014 we will continue to hold regular informal get togethers at RACV Resort Cape Schanck. These are held on the second Thursday of each month, starting at 6pm with Tapas and drinks at the bar – those who want can then stay on for dinner if they feel like it.

Neighbour Day BBQ

We celebrated Neighbour Day on 13th of April with a community BBQ at The Pines picnic area. Neighbour Day was founded in Melbourne, Australia in March 2003 by Andrew Heslop. It is becoming Australia's annual celebration of community, bringing together the people next door, across the street or on the next farm for a beer, a barbie or just a cuppa. The event was a great success with shy of 30 attendees enjoying a pleasant afternoon and getting to know some of their neighbours. And what a diverse and interesting lot of neighbours we have in Cape Schanck! Great to see you all and look forward to more gatherings. And a special thanks to Debbie who was the initiator and driver for this event.



Use of council owned land for fenced community facility

We have had an initial meeting with Playgrounds Recreation Planning & Development MPS to discuss options and a possible site for a playground/Community area for Cape Schanck.

We are pleased to report that the process is now underway within MPS – although as with all things there will be some way to go before we can see any real progress. Hopefully we will see a useful community asset in time.

Southern Peninsula News

At this stage we have made available a link for people to obtain the Southern Peninsula News (as well as the Mornington Peninsula Leader and Mornington Peninsula Magazine) online. Links are available both on our Facebook and webpage <http://focs.com.au/index.php/the-things-we-do/current-actions>

Reaching out to other groups

FOCS continues to reach out to other groups through its involvement in the Red Hill Ward Consultative Group. In so far as progress on issues within our Ward – and Cape Schanck is a part of this Ward – regrettably our Councillor Frank Martin is on extended sick leave. While we wish Councillor Martin a full and speedy recovery, unfortunately his absence has left the Ward without any representation for some months now. The Consultative Group has made a number of approaches to Mayor Celli asking for a meeting so that we better understand who is looking after the needs of our Ward during what is Council's budgetary period.

Wider Community Initiatives

Boneo Road

The response from VicRoads to our request for road safety improvement (previously circulated) has little to offer but we are continuing to pursue this on a number of fronts, including direct representations to MPS Mayor and with VicRoads particularly in light of the Barragunda development and the proposed redevelopment of the RACV Resort which will see traffic increase dramatically. We also have the support of Flinders Community Association and Mornington Peninsula Bikesafe to add weight to our case.

Verge maintenance

As part of our engagement with Mornington Peninsula Shire we obtained the verge clearance specification that Mornington Peninsula Shire is required to adhere to. For specification and information on planned verge maintenance in our area go to <http://focs.com.au/index.php/the-things-we-do/current-actions>

If you have instances that do not meet this please call MPS on 1300 850 600.

RACV discussions

Interchanging ideas meeting at RACV

We have contacted RACV resort to pursue common interests (Bike path, bushfire planning, access to RACV facilities, playground, Boneo Rd upgrade, etc) . We have had an encouraging response from the Manager of the Resort and are now in the process of organising a meeting time to progress our ideas.

RACV proposed redevelopment

We have been contacted by MPS Strategic Planning, who want to ensure the planning proposal is visible to local residents. If you would like to see the latest information on the proposed redevelopment check our website at <http://focs.com.au/index.php/barragunda-development/racv-redevelopment>

What's on the horizon

The next few months will see us progressing our "Big Ideas" initiatives to build up momentum. In particular we hope to have some meaningful discussions/meetings with:

- RACV resort.
- Mornington Council (the Mayor) to highlight unsatisfactory progress on Boneo Rd and keep up pressure to address our budget submission.
- Our local State MP Martin Dixon in the lead up to the state election later this year to ensure our local views and concerns are represented.
- Build further connections with neighbouring community groups to pursue common objectives.
- And of course to continue a range of social events to give us all the opportunity to get together.

Contacts

Website: <http://focs.com.au/>

Facebook: [FOCS on Facebook](#)

Email: friendscapeschanck@gmail.com

If you feel passionate about any of our activities and can devote some of your time we are always looking for some help championing some of our projects

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS HERE

As always you are invited to advertise your local business in this newsletter (or our website) – we are not seeking any money in exchange for advertising your business – we just want to help you as a member of our community.

Or maybe you are looking for help. You never know your neighbour might just be the one to offer the assistance you need.

Just drop us a note via the contact page on our website and we can include your details in future newsletters.

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