

Applewood Residents Committee

5, Grand Boulevard, Doncaster , Victoria, 3108

Minutes of Meeting No. 5/2025

Wednesday 14th May2025

Held in Private Dining Room at **9.00 am**

1. Present: Peter Sage (Chair), Ellen Boyd (Deputy Chair), Geoff Dreher (Secretary),
Roger Godfrey, Stephanie Orr.

Apologies: Grahme Bond, Carole English, Peter Horton, Naomi Liner (ARD).

Quorum: OK

2. Minutes: Minutes of 9th April 2025 had been approved. Ellen moved, and Stephanie seconded, a vote of congratulations to Geoff for his outstanding work as ARC Secretary.

3. Business arising from the Minutes:

3.1 Applewood Lifestyle Document: This document, prepared by Mike Reece and Peter Sage, was discussed. It was noted that most new Residents are in an older age group and are therefore less involved in social activities and often require more daily care. It was noted that the Australian Government Health and Aged Care website lists Retirement Villages as an option for those seeking aged care services.

3.2 Resident's Survey: Awaiting the result of the recent Resident's survey conducted by ARD.

3.3 Liquor: As it is confirmed that to serve alcoholic drinks a person must be an employee of a Liquor Licence holder, but that guests may bring their own alcoholic drinks, it was suggested that suppliers to the Village could sponsor events to raise funds and that guests could bring their own drinks. Peter Sage will pursue this suggestion.

4. Correspondence:

4.1 Council Rates History: A letter from John Sheedy was noted which detailed the history of efforts since 2012 to reduce the Council Rates at Applewood. Many good points were noted and were very helpful.

5. General Business:

5.1 Council Rates were discussed with Matthew Guy (MP Bulleen) recently and he was very helpful. He recommended speaking with particular Manningham Councillors.

It was agreed that a tour of Applewood for Councillors be arranged in the last week of May, and that a meeting with the Manningham Mayor, CEO, and CFO be arranged for 11am at the ARC meeting on 9th July 25 to discuss the MCC Budget.

5.2 Interest Only Loan Report : Peter Sage indicated that this proposal could fund and fix major problems of repair and replacement in Applewood which are held up at present. It was agreed to refer this to John Smrk and discuss with the CFO of TiG Corp if necessary.

5.3 Relocation paper. This paper prepared by the P&I S/c will be referred to John Smrk

5.4 Property & Infrastructure Subcommittee Minutes 30th April 25: These minutes were accepted, and it was noted that major items were discussed including the Relocation Paper, progress of the RV Bill. and events to raise funds.

5.5 Grounds Subcommittee: The report submitted by Peter Sage was noted to have been reviewed by Erin and many items have been concluded. However many also are still not progressing such as the Pool cover, Refurbishment of Bathrooms, Lights on the community building etc.

5.6 Welcome Report: Ellen reported that she had welcomed new Residents to 3 properties in the last month and is expecting 5 more in the next two months. Ellen noted that many Residents go out of Applewood to Cafes and Restaurants as they don't like the current arrangements for the Restaurant in Applewood. Also, Ellen described letters dating back to 2013 about how to improve the Restaurant service. It was agreed to take these matters to John Smrk and develop a subcommittee to review options for a Café.

5.7 OHS Report: The report from Jeff Hore was noted. Traffic Lights at the Tram Road exit are still a concern as traffic often continues from the left when lights have stopped traffic on the right. Roger has noted that less lights are seen by traffic on the left (3 lights) compared to 6 lights seen by traffic on the right. Other matters also need to be discussed with John Smrk.

5.8 Table Tennis Table: Roger noted that the table recently collapsed is dangerous to players. Discuss with John Smrk.

5.9 ARC General Meeting : It was agreed to hold the next ARC General Meeting at 11.00 am on Wednesday 11th June 25. The Agenda will consist of Presentations by The Chair; John Smrk ; and Stephanie Orr who will present the "Leave a Legacy, Not a Mess" document to Residents which has been prepared for consideration when leaving Applewood. Early communication needs to be published re the meeting. Peter Sage to send ideas to J.Smrk.

6. Meeting with John Smrk (Manager ARD) 10.30 am.

6.1 John Smrk indicated that a trial of an Aqua Aerobic instructor is scheduled but costs etc. will need be assessed. He will inform Residents.

6.2 John Smrk agreed to speak at the ARC GM on 11th June.

6.3 Lifestyle document – John only knows of Residents aged 65 + moving into Applewood. He cannot discriminate on any basis of Cognitive or Aged Care problems of Residents who seek residence in Applewood. The difference between Retirement Village and Aged Care Homes is not clear to some people. He noted that refurbishment of a property after a short stay (e.g. 2 years) will in most cases, require very little refurbishment costs.

6.4 Relocation Paper - John had examples of Residents who could not move property because of cost. He will pass the relocation paper proposal to TiG Corp for discussion.

6.5 Resident Survey 2025 results. John provided a document for Members with details of the results of the recent Resident survey which is compared with the last survey

held in 2023. The number of Residents who completed the survey was 182 which was lower than the 237 in 2023. The 26 questions are standard and may be altered in the next survey in March 2026.

- 6.6 Cleaning a mess found by a Resident is not in the job description of an ERO. However in a particular situation the ERO will assist if urgency etc demands.
- 6.7 The Café Trial at Rivervue was discussed and John was asked if we could do one at Applewood. He indicated that a trial at Applewood was done for 3 months and was found to be too expensive. It needs regular patronage to survive.
- 6.8 OHS Report. John said the concern of the delay in left traffic lights at Tram Road has been pursued and has had the delay reduced from 10 seconds but still some motorists run through the lights. John suggested we have someone from Vic Roads come out and actually see what happens with cars speeding through the red light.
- 6.9 Pond Water Level John said that the pond depends upon natural water flow and lack of rain has reduced the water level. He is hoping rain will return soon.
- 6.10 Table Tennis Table . A new more expensive (\$1000) and better designed table has been ordered to replace one of the damaged tables.
- 6.11 Coffee Machines maintenance has now been shown to all staff including ERO's so no delays should now occur.
- 6.12 John thanked ARC members for assisting with the accreditation of Applewood recently which has been confirmed. Involvement of all Residents in future will be pursued.

7. Meeting closed at 11.50 am.

8. Next ARC meeting: Wednesday, 11th June 2025, 9.30am.



Signed:

Peter Sage - Chair

Geoff Dreher - Secretary

18 /05 /2025