

DDRA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

23 SEPTEMBER 2025



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AGENDA ITEM 1

Welcome

✓ **Welcome to our guests:**

- Local Member for Darling Range: Mr Hugh Jones, MLA
- President of the Shire: Cr Rob Coales
- Councilors: Cr Tricia Duggin, Cr Nathan Bishop
- Candidates for NW Ward: Mr Joel Chan & Mr Philip Pettis

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AGENDA ITEM 1

Our prime objectives

- ✓ Discuss some key challenges
- ✓ Describe progress towards achieving objectives
- ✓ Explain current plans
- ✓ Get your ideas on what should be done
- ✓ Cover these issues in a reasonable timeframe

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AGENDA ITEMS 2 & 3

2. Presentation of apologies
3. Discuss/ratify the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting (AGM) and any business arising from those minutes (Bruce)

DDRA AGM Minutes 29 August 2024

Darling Downs Residents Association
Minutes from the AGM
Conducted on 29 August 2024

DDRA Annual General Meeting
The Darling Downs Residents Association (DDRA) Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held at the Oakford Community Centre at 57 Foxton Drive in Oakford on 29 August 2024.

Meeting Opened
The meeting opened at 7.05 pm.

Present
The following people attended the AGM:
Shane Arens, Alan Baker, Tina Baker, Peter Benson, Nathan Bishop (Shire Councillor), Member for Shire of Ward, Kath Blundell, Karen Brember, Peter Cappendill, Bill Darnell, Samosa Darnell, Eric Chabot, Peter Ellis, Dave Emery, Matt Emery, Aliannah Favrett, Carol Favrett, Peter Gallois, Sue Gilbert, Nicky Gustersen, Bruce Hillard, Pam Hillard, Carol Indridol, Adam Kestel, Eugene Kestel, Karen Nelson, Phil Petruccio, Nevena Petrovic, David Ranson, Gordon Scotchford, Tim Scotchford, Casey Turnbey, Brian Vale, and Robyn Vale.

In addition to these members, the following special guests were present: Mr Hugh Jones, MLA (Local Member for Darling Range), Cr Rob Coales (President of the Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale), Cr Morgan Dryas (Member for NW Ward).

Apologies
The following apologies were received: Cr Tricia Duggin (Deputy President of the Shire), Jerome Donders, Shirley Donders, Patricia Holland, Perry Holland, Marissa Marrot, Amanda Smith, Mal Smith, Ian Stanley, Wendy Stanley, Chris Thompson, Peter Thompson, and Deb Venturini.

Previous AGM Minutes
Three points were highlighted from the previous AGM Minutes. These included the implementation of the Rain Lover Court turnaround, implications of the Thomas Road Upgrade and the other worksstreams. Regarding pertinent aspects of the preceding AGM Minutes, a vote was conducted on the following resolution.

Resolution
To accept the minutes of the AGM dated 27 September 2023 and the information provided on the outcomes of matters arising from the minutes.

Proposed by: Eugene Kestel
Seconded by: Carol Favrett
Vote outcome: Carried unanimously

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DDRA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

23 SEPTEMBER 2025

ISSUES FROM THE MINUTES

- A. Drainage & Flooding**
- B. Opening the area to the east of the 70 Acres for subdivision – (Change Lot 9009 should be Lot 9005)**
- C. Thomas Road Upgrade & Safety Wall**
- D. Other workstream – Will be covered in the Workstreams**

DDRA AGM Minutes		29 August 2024
Darling Downs Residents Association Minutes from the AGM Conducted on 29 August 2024		
DDRA Annual General Meeting The Darling Downs Residents Association (DDRA) Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held at the Oakford Community Centre at 57 Foxton Drive in Oakford on 29 August 2024.		
Meeting Opened The meeting opened at 7.05 pm.		
Present The following people attended the AGM: John Green, Robert Baker, Tim Baker, Peter Benson, Nathan Bishop (Shire Councillor - Member for NW Ward), Kathie Black, Karen Black (Shire Councillor - Member for NW Ward), Bill Davies, Suosse Davies, Eric Chakres, Penny Ellis, Dave Emery, Matt Emery, Allahah Favcett, Carol Favcett, Peter Galella, Sue Gilbert, Nicky Gusterson, Bruce Hillard, Pam Hillard, Carol Indridolf, Adam Kestel, Eugene Kestel, Karen Nelson, Phil Petrovic, Noreen Petrovic, David Kanson, Gordon Scocchford, Tim Scottford, Casey Tunney, Brian Vale, and Robyn Vale.		
In addition to these members, the following special guests were present: Mr Hugh Jones, MLA (Local Member for Durung Range), Cr Rob Coales (President of the Shire of Serpentine Jarrahshale), Cr Morgan Byas (Member for NW Ward).		
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Resolution To accept the minutes of the AGM dated 27 September 2023 and the information provided on the outcomes of matters arising from the minutes. Proposed by: Eugene Kestel Seconded by: Carol Favcett Vote outcome: Carried unanimously		

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VOTE ON AGENDA ITEM 3

Resolution:

To accept the Minutes of the AGM dated 29 August 2024 and information provided on the outcomes of any matters arising from the Minutes.

Proposer

Seconder

Vote

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4 – Some key challenges



1. Flooding and drainage in Byford & Darling Downs
2. Build up in the area to the east of the 70 Acres
3. A safety wall on Thomas Road – Protecting equine users

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FLOODING & DRAINAGE



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FOUR KEY COMPONENTS TO THE PROBLEM



WATER FROM THE EAST



WATER FLOWING TO THE MIDDLE OF NEW DRAIN



BLOCKED DRAINS



THOMAS ROAD DRAINS

- ✓ Today is just a short summary (some sections have also been removed)
- ✓ The [interim report](#), [summary](#) and [presentation](#) are at these links

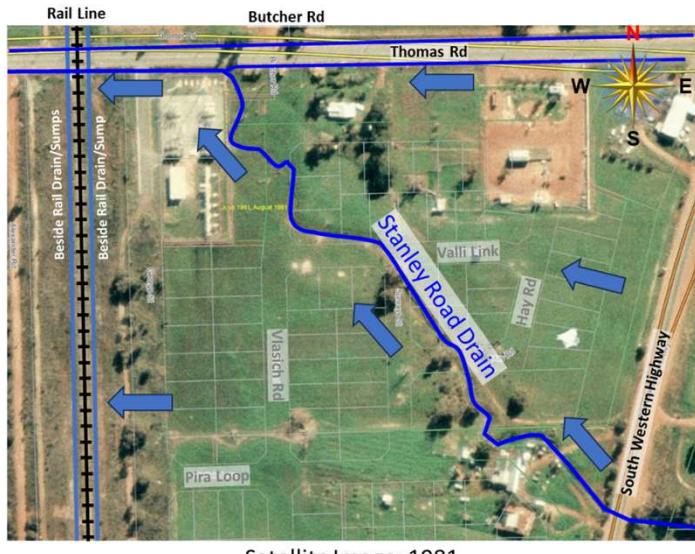
9

WATER FROM THE EAST



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FLows FROM THE EAST – BEFORE DEVELOPMENT



Satellite Image: 1981



- ✓ Flowed into a long sump alongside the railway line
- ✓ Formed a **Retention** and **Detention** basin to slow flows to the west

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FLows FROM THE EAST – BEFORE DEVELOPMENT



- ✓ So outflows into the Kentucky Fields area were mostly fairly minor
- ✓ This is an example from 4 Kentucky Drive (Point P) (c. 2018)

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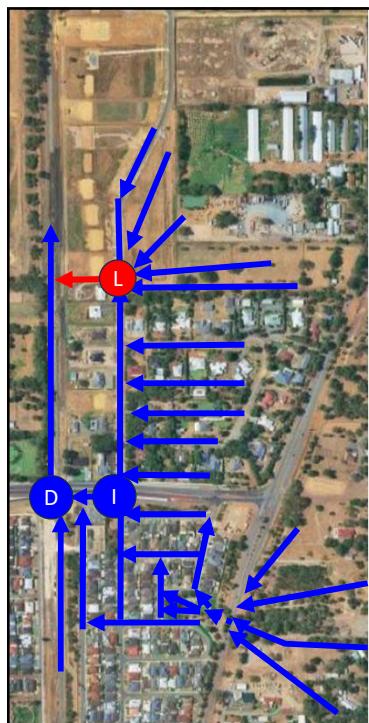


FLows FROM THE EAST – NOW

- ✓ Large flows into Sunrays Park – overwhelms drains
- ✓ Floods the streets in this area and joins catchment water
- ✓ Most flows down roads to Point I and then Point D



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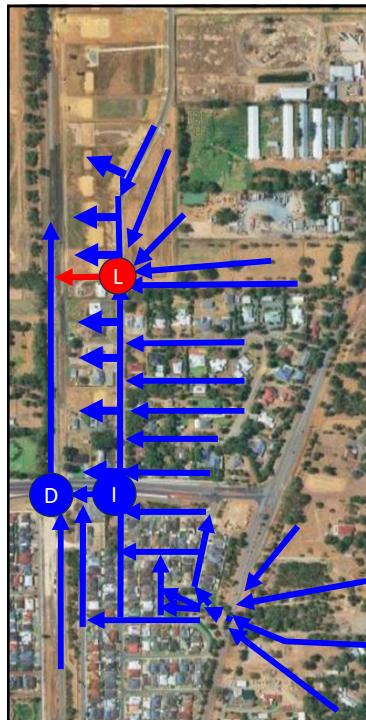


FLows FROM THE EAST – NOW

- ✓ A lot of water flows into Butcher Rd from the south
- ✓ It is joined by water flowing downhill (from east and northeast)
- ✓ Some goes into adjacent properties but a lot goes to Point L



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FLOWS FROM THE EAST – NOW

- ✓ And it floods the properties to the west
- ✓ Water flows into the rail line drain to the west are blocked
- ✓ So some owners are digging their own drains
- ✓ But these don't seem to be working well (see the full report)



A range of solutions have been proposed. Remember, fixing these will just push the problem further west

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FLOWS FROM THE EAST – FROM POINT D



Direct Run-off & from sumps
(Already connected)

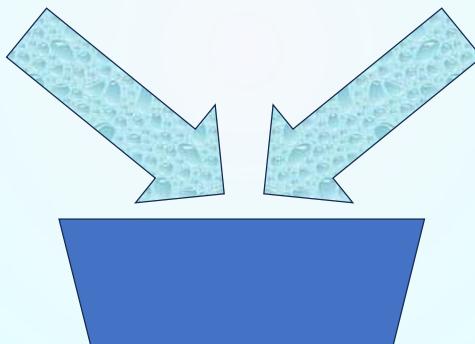
Large channel running west
from Point G

Going into a narrow channel
(Flooding Thomas Road)...

... and flooding
Plaistowe Bvd

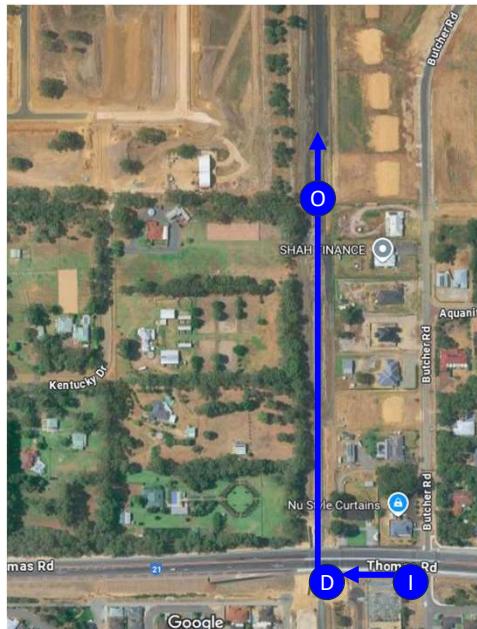
16

WATER FLOWING TO THE MIDDLE OF THE NEW RAIL DRAIN



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FLOWS TO THE NORTH OF POINT D



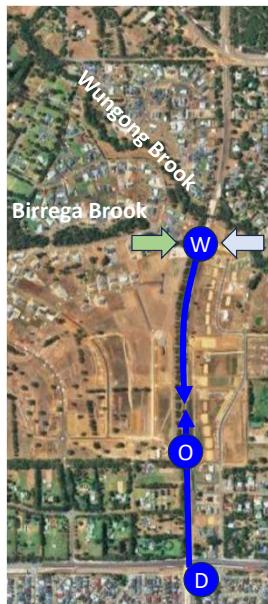
- ✓ Weirs have been inserted but they are not high enough (The Shire has asked PTA to build this up)
- ✓ And the grade on this drain is still very steep
- ✓ And is already causing substantial erosion

Why was the grade so steep?

Why is it pooling around Point O?

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FLOWS TO THE NORTH OF POINT D



But the real surprise was finding this massive culvert at Point W.
Virtually no water goes through this culvert



- ✓ Water flows from the south to north from about Points D to O.
- ✓ Water flows from the north to south from about Points W to O.

Why would they build such a huge culvert – that is dry because the water flows away from it?

- ✓ The logical answer is that the original plan was to have the **water run from south to north** consistently and out **through the Birregal Brook** (this is to be confirmed)

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MANAGING FLOWS TO THE NORTH OF POINT D



- ✓ Because the grade is not correct on the railway drain the **water pools just to the east of the Darling Downs area**



- ✓ It then has **nowhere else to go** with the current implementation **except into the middle of Kentucky Fields** – for the reasons discussed shortly

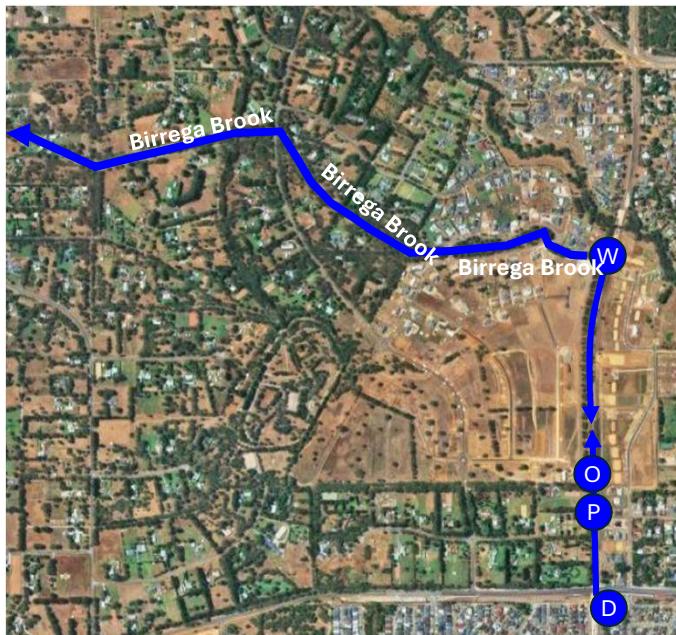
It will be worth investigating this and getting PTA to rectify problems if the design contention is correct

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MANAGING FLOWS TO THE NORTH OF POINT D



- ✓ The water could then be channelled out through the Birregga Brook
- ✓ However, in designing this solution, care must be taken with:
 - ✓ water flow to the east and west of the Darling Downs area (the drain gets shallow/disrupted in places); and
 - ✓ the area to the west of Hopkinson Road where suburbia is being developed and extra water would need to be channelled appropriately

But it could resolve many of the current problems effectively

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IF MOST OF THE WATER CANNOT GO TO PT W



- ✓ Last year the contractor promised to create a drain at Point O, so water can drain out through the swale to the north of Kentucky Fields
- ✓ This would take a lot of the pressure off the flows at Point P (4 Kentucky Drive)
- ✓ The drain was created, but they could not get authorisation to have it flow into the area to the north of Kentucky Fields
- ✓ Consequently, the drains at Point O were blocked and will not be able to be opened until the subdivision is authorised.

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FORMALLY BLOCKED DRAINS



EAST SIDE



WEST SIDE



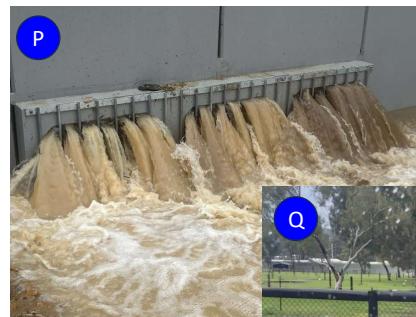
Note the water still sitting in the low area

23

THE EFFECT OF BLOCKING THIS DRAIN



- ✓ This left all of the water to flow through Point P, then Point Q, & into Kentucky Fields

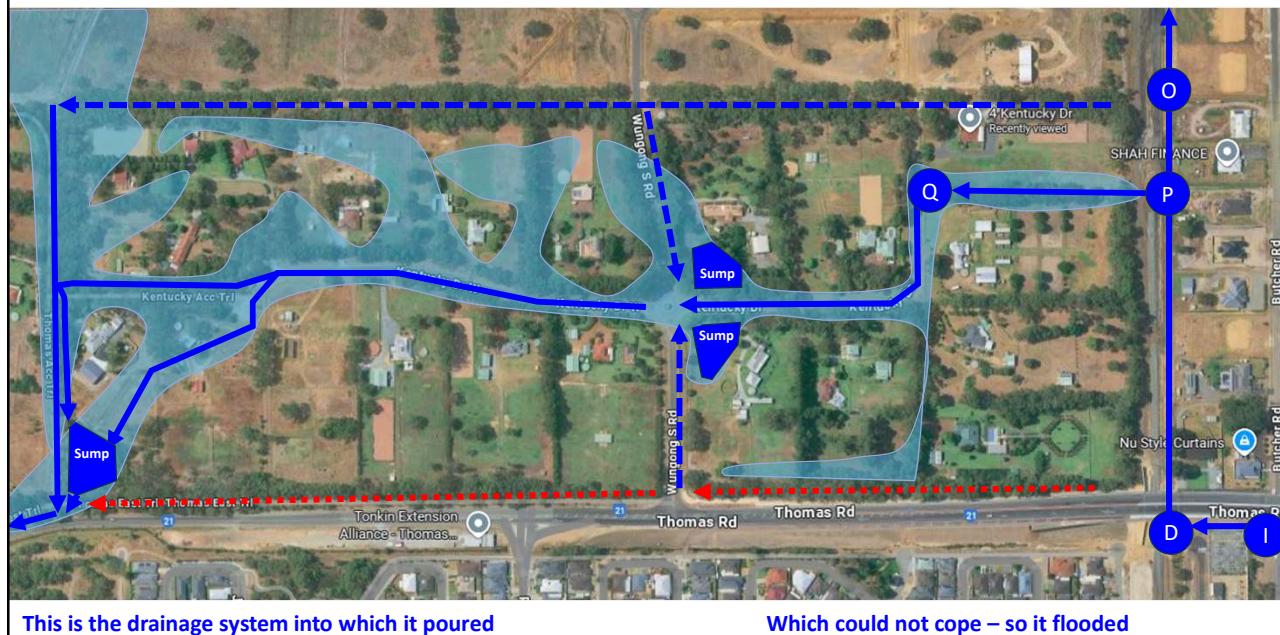


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DDRA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

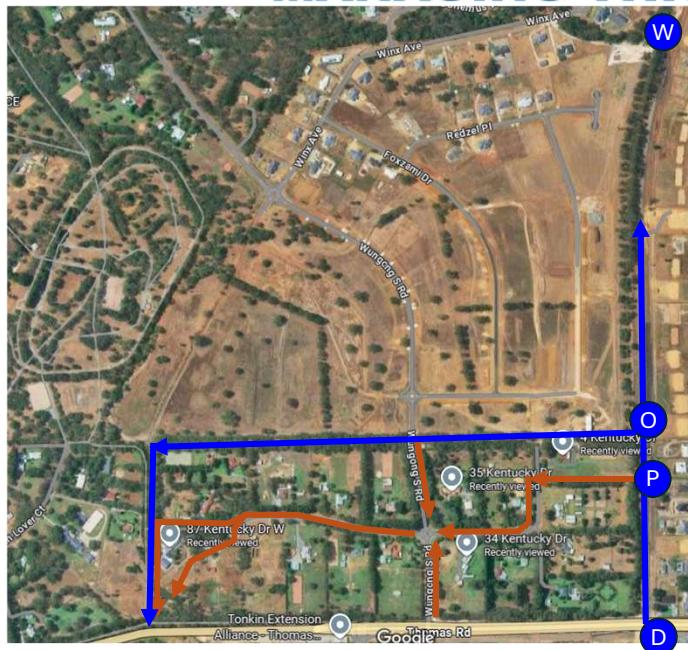
23 SEPTEMBER 2025

FORMALLY BLOCKED DRAINS - EFFECT



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MANAGING THIS PROBLEM



- ✓ It will be essential to open the drains at Point O (particularly if Point W is not used)
- ✓ This will not be feasible until the subdivision is agreed (which will be discussed shortly)
- ✓ The easement area may also need to be increased to widen the swale



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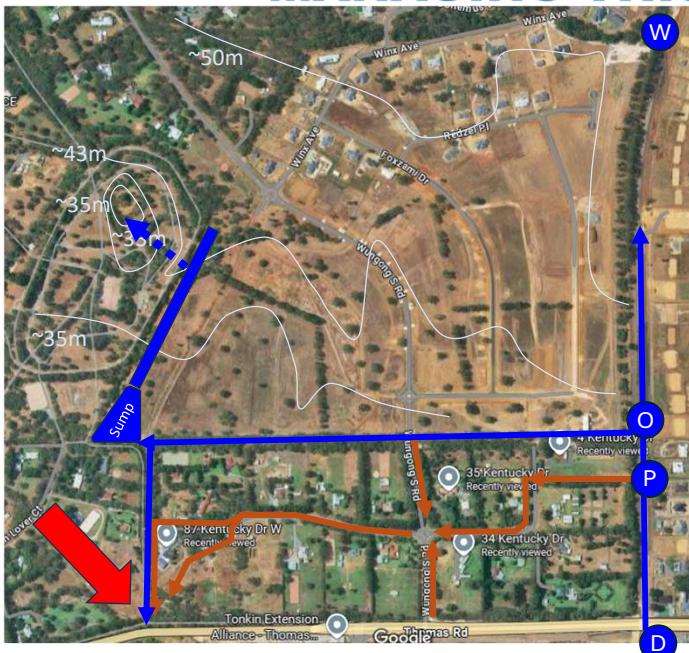
MANAGING THIS PROBLEM



- ✓ There is also a **detention** sump being proposed in the southwestern corner of Lot 9005 Wungong South Road
- ✓ Aims to help avoid backups where the flows from the north and middle of Kentucky fields join near Thomas Road
- ✓ It is only 0.75 m deep (~4 M litres **< 2 x Olympic Swimming Pools**) and this could fill up quickly

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MANAGING THIS PROBLEM



- ✓ If it overflows it can currently only flow south – so it will back up where it joins the other flow at Thomas Road
- ✓ Because the ground rises to the north
- ✓ Therefore, a deeper drain to the north is required, which could include:
 1. Creation of a **vegetated easement** with a longer sump along the western boundary of Lot 9005, and
 2. **Overflow** drainage into an underground pipe to the **70 Acres wetlands**

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BLOCKED DRAINS



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BLOCKED BY SILT/DEBRIS



Many Shire drains were blocked



Many PTA Drains were Blocked

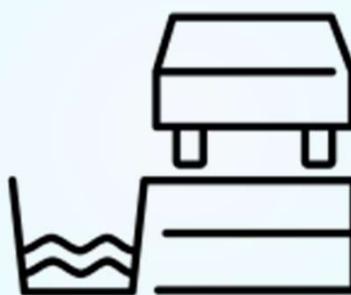
30

MANAGING SILT/DEBRIS BLOCKAGES

- ✓ The Shire is developing an approach to **manage the drainage** in this area **holistically**
- ✓ This includes **implementing an MOU with the PTA**
- ✓ This approach should include:
 - **Proactive maintenance schedules** (e.g. prior to winter)
 - **Reactive widening and clearance based on lessons learnt each year**
 - **Reactive clearance after storms**

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THOMAS ROAD DRAINS



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2024

ORIGINAL FLOWS



KEY DIFFERENCES THAT WILL AFFECT DRAINAGE

- ✓ Water doesn't lay in built up areas – increasing flow
- ✓ **Winter wetland areas are being built out**
- ✓ Rail line retention sums removed - More flow to the west
- ✓ Drain to north of Thomas Rd near rail line is not getting flow from east
- ✓ Drains on Thomas Road will need to be deep enough to support flows

The Shire will be working with the
Alliance Partners & PTA to address
drainage issues

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**What are
your
thoughts?**

Vote on options as required

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LOT 9005 WUNGONG SOUTH RD PLANNED SUBDIVISION IMPLICATIONS



AVOIDING THESE TYPES OF RISKS

As small lot owners may not be aware of equine safety issues

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SUBDIVISION – EAST OF THE 70 ACRES



- ✓ The western side of Lot 9005 is being subdivided
- ✓ The Phase 6 Plan for the subdivision is currently being contested by the Shire

For some critical reasons

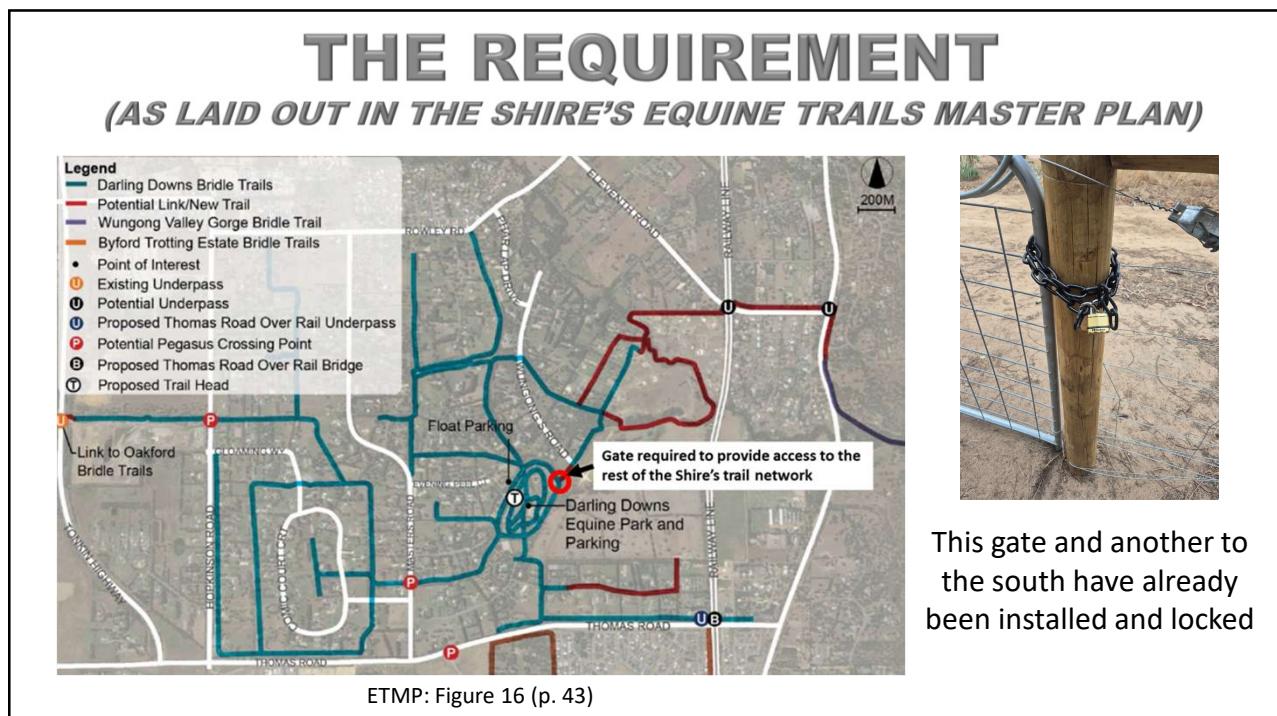
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This gate and another to the south have already been installed and locked

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THE PHASE 6 DEVELOPMENT

- [Green Box] 12 x Smaller Blocks (Already Approved)
- [Red Box] 34 x 1 Hectare Blocks (~4K m²)
- [Blue Box] 4 x 1 Hectare Blocks (10K m²)
- [Orange Line] Does not include the Shire mandated trail
- [Light Blue Box] 13.5m wide swale easement Shire is seeking wider easement to cope with flow (*seeking much wider easement*)
- [Light Blue Box] Sump – Too small to handle expected flows
- [Dark Blue Box] Extended sump with vegetated easement
- [Dashed Blue Line] Overflow pipe to wetlands



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THE PHASE 6 DEVELOPMENT

- [Green Box] 12 x Smaller Blocks (Already Approved)
- [Red Box] 34 x 1 Hectare Blocks (~4K m²)
- [Blue Box] 4 x 1 Hectare Blocks (10K m²)
- [Orange Line] Does not include the Shire mandated trail
- [Light Blue Box] 13.5m wide swale easement Shire is seeking wider easement to cope with flow (*seeking much wider easement*)
- [Light Blue Box] Sump – Too small to handle expected flows
- [Dark Blue Box] Extended sump with vegetated easement
- [Dashed Blue Line] Overflow pipe to wetlands



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What are
your
thoughts?



Vote on options as required

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SAFETY WALL ON COMIC LOOP SOUTH TRAIL



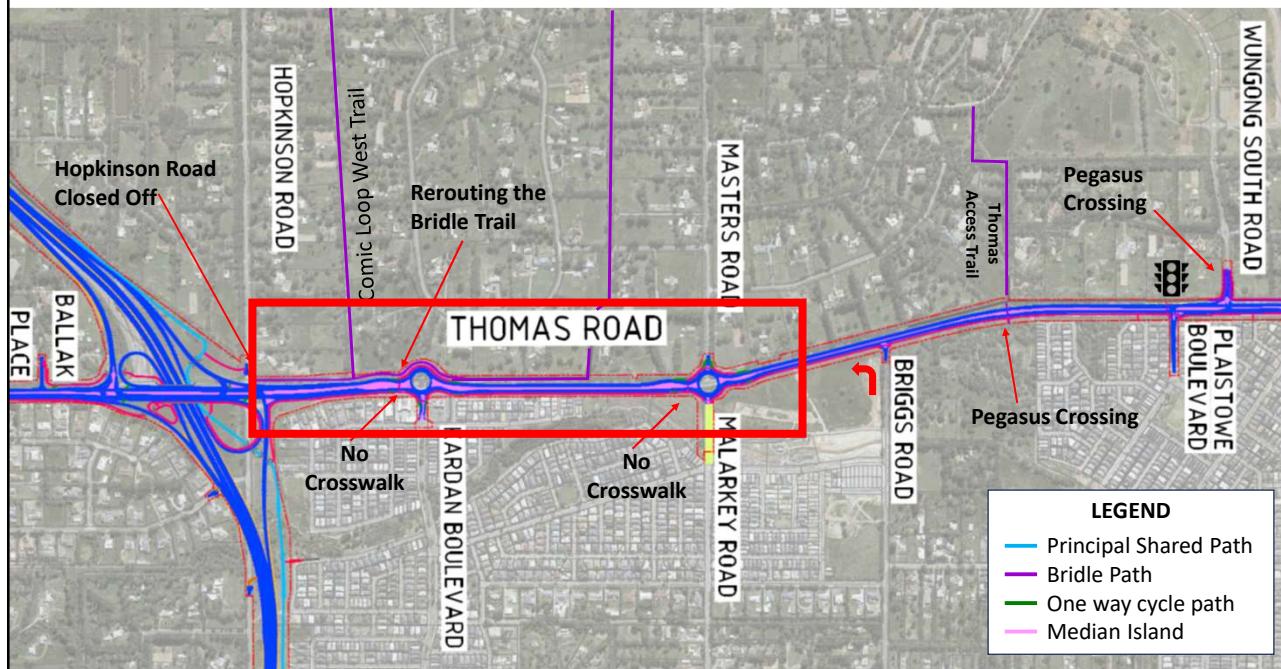
AVOIDING THESE TYPES OF RISKS

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THE LATEST AVAILABLE THOMAS ROAD UPGRADE PLAN



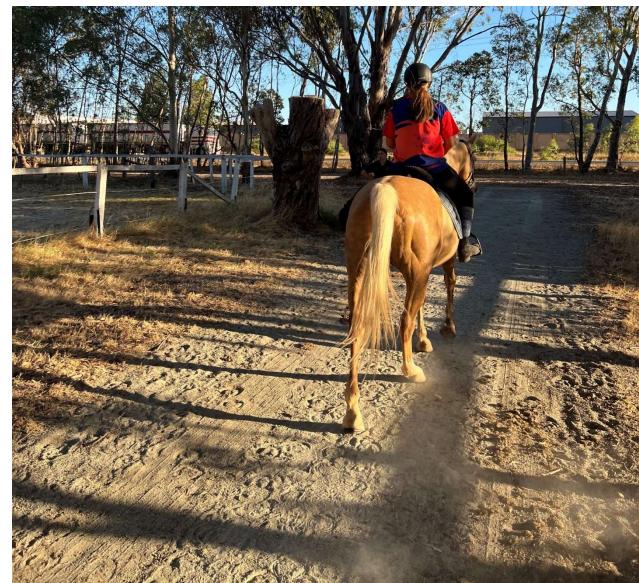
43

THE ROUNDABOUTS – NOISE IMPLICATIONS

Currently, Thomas Road is **relatively unimpeded** so traffic (*including large trucks*) move through this area at a steady speed and noise level

Experienced horses can typically cope with this (*particularly as trees form a partial barrier*)

Therefore, the Comic Loop South Trail can be used (*and it has been used a lot*)



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THE ROUNDABOUTS – NOISE IMPLICATIONS

The Roundabouts change this – trucks will need to brake/accelerate!



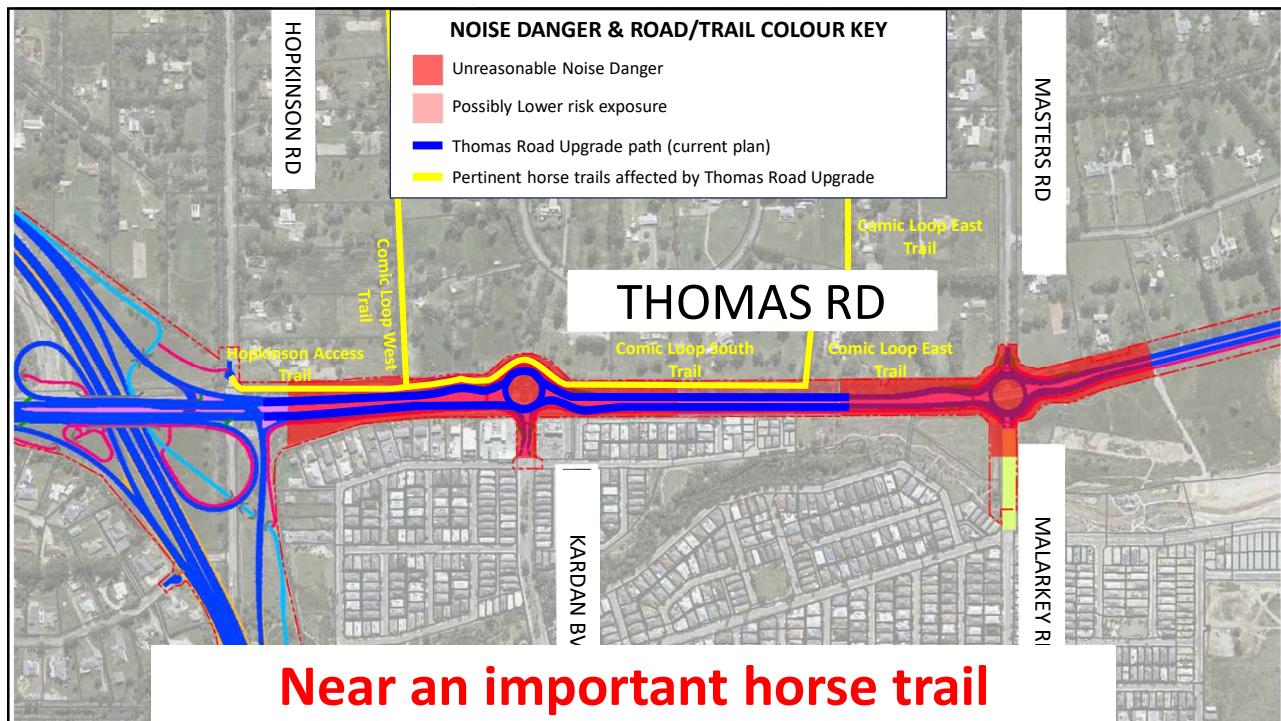
Malarkey Road/Masters Road Roundabout



Kardan Boulevard Roundabout

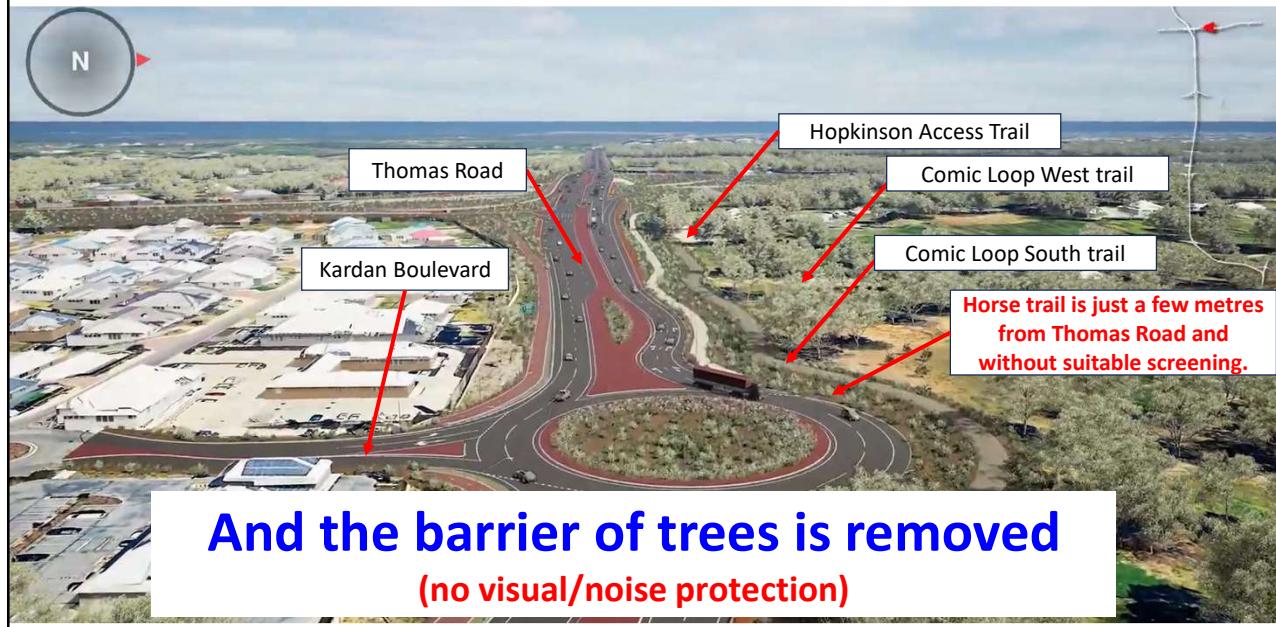
Generating unpredictable noise spikes >100 dB(A) & creating a long area of dangerous noise

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THE PROXIMITY OF THE COMIC LOOP SOUTH TRAIL



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WHICH CAN LEAD TO CATASTROPIQUE ACCIDENTS

- Horses spooked and bolting
(killing/injuring horses, riders, bystanders and even people in vehicles)
- Making the area unusable!
- The State Government and Shire have mandated this reserve for equine use

See: [Taking the Reins, WA Horse Trail Management Guidelines](#),
[SJ Trails Master Plan](#), [Equine Facilities Master Plan](#), [Equine Strategy](#)



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WHY IS A SAFETY WALL NOT BEING INCLUDED?

- The risks are not even being assessed by the Alliance Partners
- Because they have taken a very narrow view of the term '**sensitive land use**' – Which does not formally include recognition of Public Open Space in SPP 5.4
- However, other State Government Policies (*such as SPP 4.1 – Land use interfaces*) **mandate the need to assess the risks in relation to Public Open Space reserves** like the DDEP trails

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ADDRESSING THIS IMPORTANT RISK

- The legal principle of **Statutory Interpretation** mandates that the broader interpretation be applied
- And SPP 5.4 mandates that when designing roads, they must provide suitable 'amenity' – ***They are obliged to do something about the noise risks***
- Consequently, the DDRA has escalated the resolution to the Local Member in a letter (**Hugh Jones, MLA, Member for Darling Range**)



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**What are
your
thoughts?**

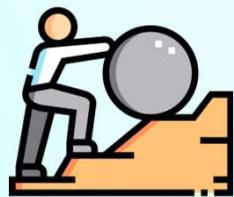


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5 - Strategic Development Plan



1. Snapshot of effort



2. Workstreams



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ANNUAL EFFORT



Summary of Activity for the Period 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025

Approximate number of hours of volunteer work over the period: **2,480** hours

Covering the workstreams that we will discuss shortly

Approximate value of the hours of volunteer work provided (@ \$48 per hour): \$ 119,054

Approximate value of the hours of volunteer work provided (@ \$79 per hour): **\$ 195,944**

Target Hours for this FY: **2,200** hours

Percentage of Target Effort completed: 112.7%

Funds spent over the period supporting these activities: **\$17,681.65**

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SNAPSHOT UP TO TODAY



Summary for the period 1 July 24 to 22 Sept 25 (Last night)

Approximate number of hours of volunteer work over the Financial Year (FY) to date: **752 hours**

Approximate value of the hours of volunteer work provided (@ \$48 per hour): \$ 36,096

Approximate value of the hours of volunteer work provided (@ \$79 per hour): **\$ 59,408**

Target Hours for this FY: 2,200 hours

Percentage of Target Effort completed: **34.2%** vs Percentage of the FY completed: **23.1%**

About 243.6 hours ahead of requirement

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5 - Strategic Development Plan



2. Workstreams



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THE WORKSTREAMS

- Discussion of the DDRA Strategic Development Plan (SDP) (Bruce, David & Eric)
- The objectives are:

- A. Provide an update on progress*
- B. Talk about current future plans*
- C. Let you have your say on future works/developments*



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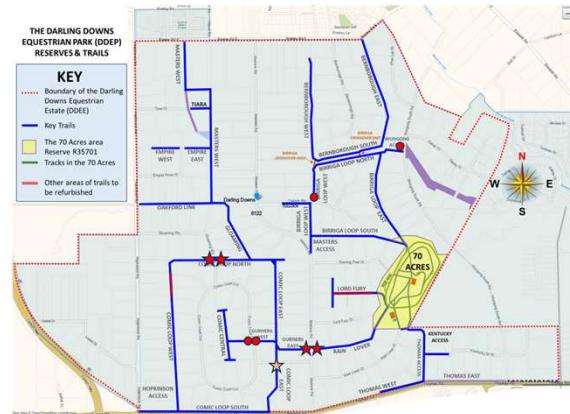
WS1 – TRAILS

CHICANE/CROSSOVER SURFACE REFURBISHMENT

Chicanes & Trail Surfaces

- ★ Surfaces completed
- ☆ Surfaces partially completed
- Surfaces yet to be filled

The plan is to **complete** these remaining chicanes/crossovers will be filled and levelled prior to the **end of November**



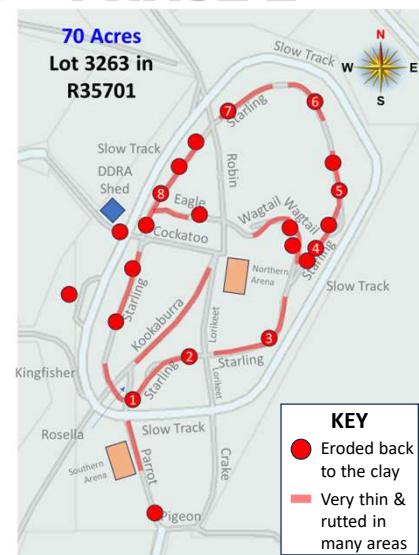
Ref #	Origin	Date Raised	WS	Priority	Action by	Action Description	Due Date	Closed Date	Comments	Status
1.2	SDP-Task 1.2	28/11/2023	WS1	2	DDRA	Chicane/Crossover trail surface refurbishment	1/12/25		Making progress – aim to finish this year	In Progress

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WS1 – TRAILS

TRAIL REFURBISHMENT – PHASE 2

- The trail surface problems are worse
- The surface has **broken through to the substrate (clay)** in many places
- In surfaces is now very thin, rutted and pools with water



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WS1 – TRAILS SOME EXAMPLES OF THE PROBLEM



You can see where it puddles at the low points, and it has broken through to the clay

All photos taken Monday PM – After no rain for more than 12 hours

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WS1 – TRAILS SOME EXAMPLES OF THE PROBLEM



Deep puddles and exposed clay base – this is likely to get worse quickly if a new surface is not laid

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WS1 – TRAILS SOME EXAMPLES OF THE PROBLEM

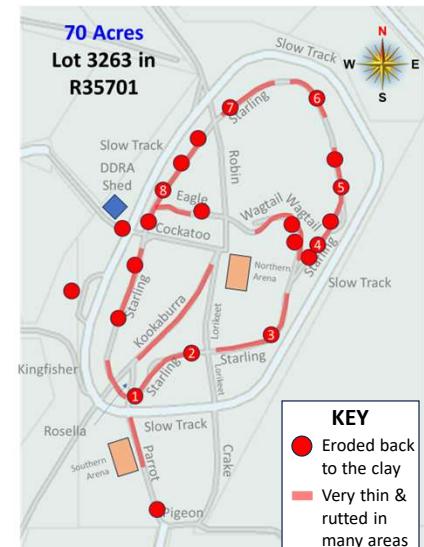


The sides of the track are just eroded clay, and it is getting worse

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WS1 – TRAILS TRAIL REFURBISHMENT – PHASE 2

- ✓ The Shire has agreed to **fund the refurbishment** of these trails
- ✓ We expect the **project to commence in mid-October**
- ✓ Bruce will keep you informed on which sections are being addressed through Facebook – **Please monitor FB if you use the 70 Acres**



Ref #	Origin	Date Raised	WS	Priority	Action by	Action Description	Due Date	Closed Date	Comments	Status
1.3	SDP-Task 1.3-1.5	28/11/2023	WS1	1	SJ/ DDRA	Refurbish key trails	30/10/25		8/7/25: Rod Manning committed to provide funding for the 70 Acres	Awaiting Funds

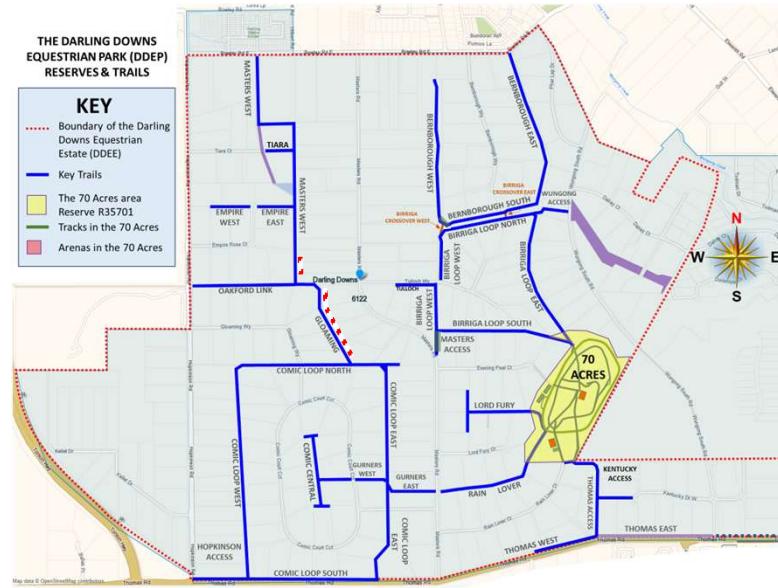
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WS1 – TRAILS (Other Trail Erosion)

Some of the trails upgraded in Phase 1 are also eroding

Trail erosion

We are monitoring these



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Is anything
else
needed?

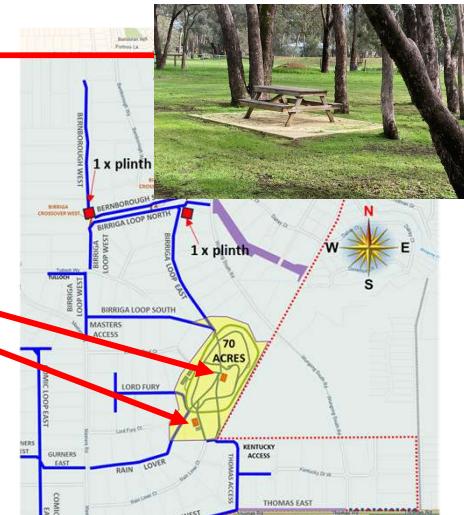


Vote on options as required

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WS 2 – REST AREAS – NEXT PHASE

- ✓ Second table has been repaired and will be installed soon
- ✓ The focus will then turn to providing the tables on the plinths



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Is anything
else
needed?



Vote on options as required

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WORKSTREAM 4 – VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

- A lot of trees and branches have come down this year



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WORKSTREAM 4 – RAPID RESPONSE

Reporting these on Facebook, means that we can address them quickly – often [within just a few hours of the report](#)



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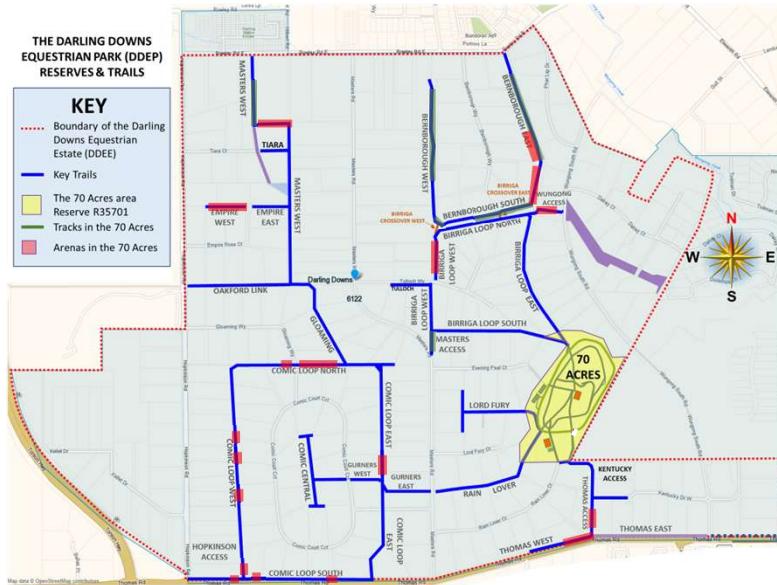
WORKSTREAM 4 – VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

— Areas needing most work

Most areas have been cleared (DDRA & Shire)

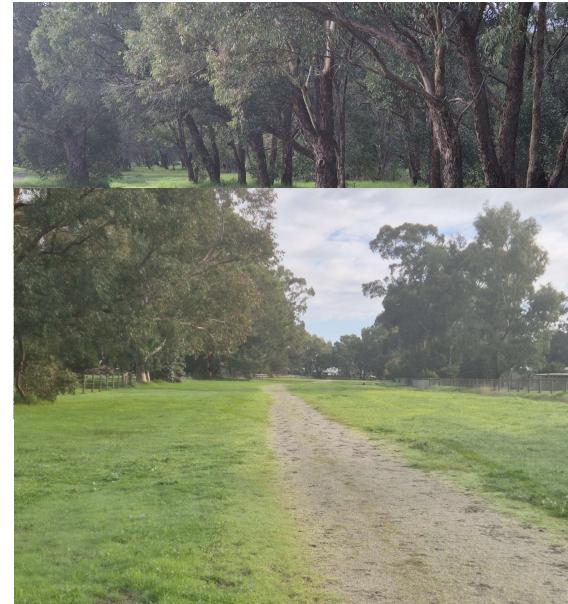
Some areas need some more work

Mowing is ongoing



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WORKSTREAM 4 – MOWING



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23 SEPTEMBER 2025

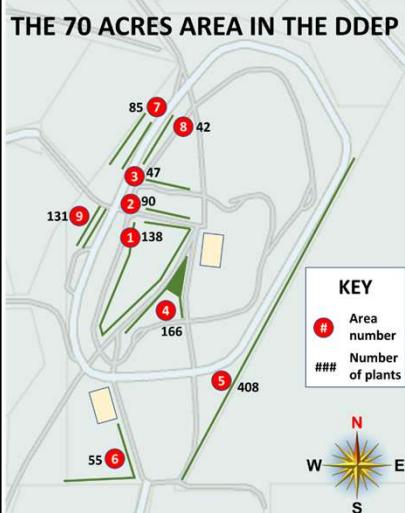
Is anything else needed?



Vote on options as required

71

WORKSTREAM 5 – NEW VEGETATION



NEW PLANTING

- ✓ 1164 native trees/bushes were planted on 12 Jul 25



Ref #	Origin	Date Raised	WS	Priority	Action by	Action Description	Due Date	Closed Date	Comments	Status
5.10	SDP Tasks 5.1 – 5.4	28/11/2023	WS5	2/3	DDRA/SJ	Planting new plants in the DDEP	13/7/25		Next round of planting successfully completed on 12 July 25 – 1164 plants	Closed

72

DDRA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

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WORKSTREAM 5 – NEW VEGETATION

WE HAD A GOOD TURNOUT – DESPITE THE WEATHER



Ref #	Origin	Date Raised	WS	Priority	Action by	Action Description	Due Date	Closed Date	Comments	Status
5.10	SDP Tasks 5.1 – 5.4	28/11/2023	WS5	2/3	DDRA/SJ	Planting new plants in the DDEP	13/7/25		Next round of planting successfully completed on 12 July 25 – 1164 plants	Closed

73

WORKSTREAM 5 – NEW VEGETATION

MULCH DISTRIBUTION



- ✓ A lot of mulch is being provided – and this is much appreciated
- ✓ Now that the rains have eased, DDRA volunteers will be **spreading this** (control weeds, improve growth of the new plants)
- ✓ DDRA volunteers will distribute this over the next two months

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DDRA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

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WORKSTREAM 5 – NEW VEGETATION

MULCH DISTRIBUTION



- ✓ We also need people to rake it out
- ✓ Please come to the Busy Bees on 18/19 Oct & 8/9 Nov 25 – **We need your help with this, and other work needed to prepare for summer**

75

Is anything
else
needed?

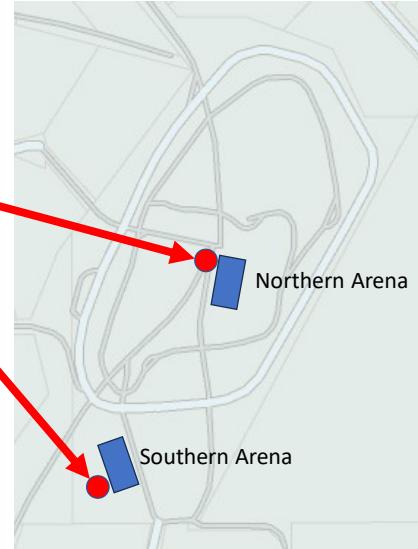


Vote on options as required

76

WORKSTREAM 6 – FENCES, GATES, ETC

PROVIDE DEDICATED HITCHING POINTS AT THE TWO ARENAS



- ✓ Provide hitching rails at the northern and southern arenas – Aim to complete during this FY

77

WS6 FENCES

Many fences have been installed and repaired

With thanks to
[Matelan Pilgrim](#)
(Mates Rates
Fencing) &
[Chris Eden Street](#)
(Rods Equine
Solutions)



78

Is anything
else
needed?



79

WORKSTREAM 7 – SAFETY CONTROLS

BACKGROUND - MASTERS ROAD – PEGASUS CROSSING



Byford Local Development Strategy Figure 19



Key Danger Areas

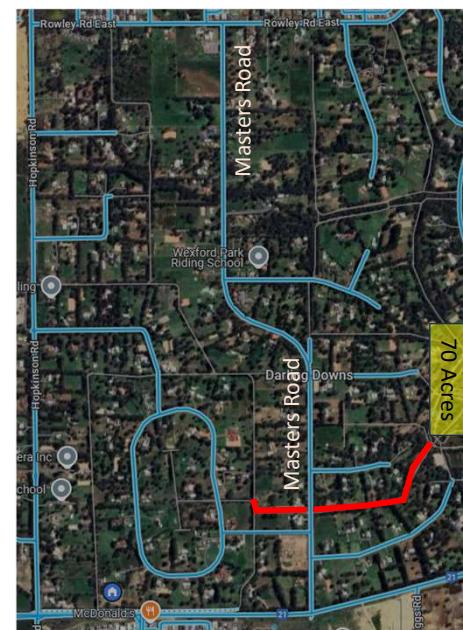
- ✓ Masters Road will be taking a lot more traffic (Linked to Malarkey & with the closure of Hopkinson Road)
- ✓ There are numerous places where horses use Masters Road

80

WHY IS THIS SO IMPORTANT?

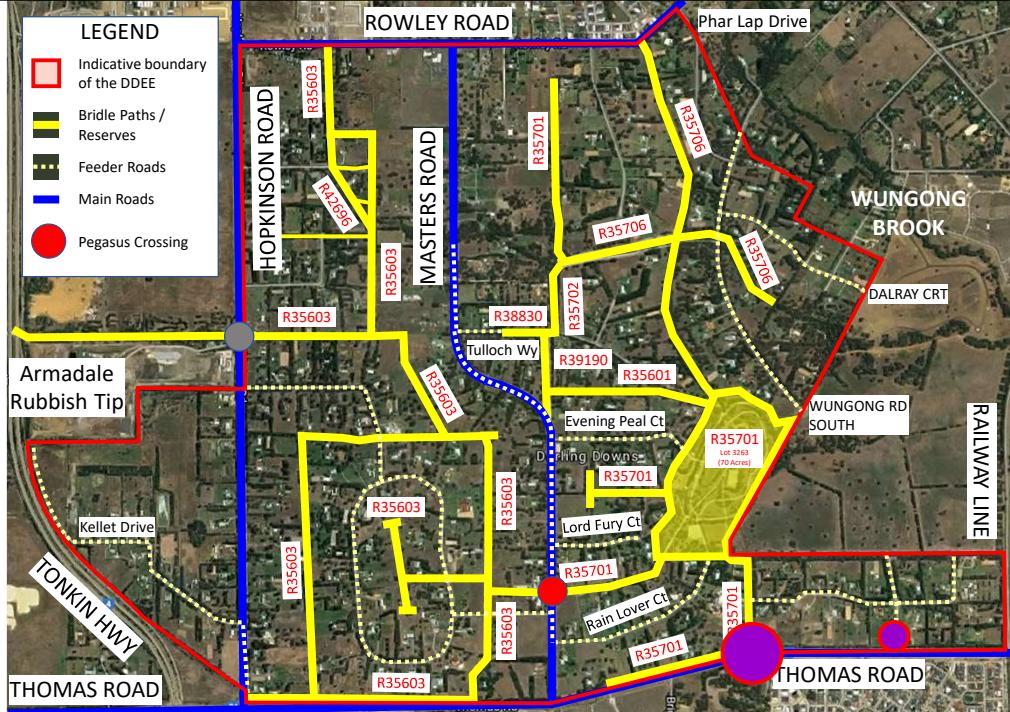
- ✓ The key trail in the Darling Downs Equestrian Park crosses Masters Road
- ✓ This is the **only** trail that connects the **east and west** of the Darling Downs Equestrian Park (*Providing the key access to/from the 70 acres*)
- ✓ It is used a lot (*by groups and individual riders*)
- ✓ As the traffic on Masters Road increases, the **risks of an accident here will rise**
- ✓ The importance was already identified in the Shire's Equine Facilities Master Plan (EFMP)

We need to proactively address these risks



81

ADDRESSING THE PRIME CROSSOVERS

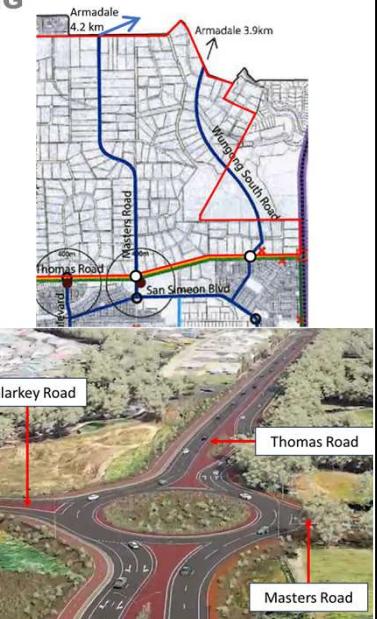


82

WORKSTREAM 7 – SAFETY CONTROLS

MASTERS ROAD – PEGASUS CROSSING

- ✓ However, *Main Roads WA is unwilling to proceed, currently insufficient traffic flow volume*
- ✓ *Missing the fact that closing Hopkinson Road and opening the Masters/Malarkey roundabout will increase traffic flows rapidly*
- ✓ *Exposing horses using this crossing to much more risk*
- ✓ *The DDRA is working with the Shire to address this (see this presentation)*
- ✓ *State Government support is also needed*



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WORKSTREAM 7 – SAFETY CONTROLS

SPEED LIMITS – MASTERS ROAD



- ✓ Masters Road has a **70 kph** limit
- ✓ Many cars go much faster
- ✓ The main crossing in the DDEP is here
- ✓ Quickly moving vehicles *increase the chance of a horse being hit (this has happened before)*
- ✓ *With the increase in traffic this risk rises significantly*

Main Roads WA is unwilling to change the current speed – State Govt Support is needed

84

WORKSTREAM 7 – SAFETY CONTROLS

SPEED LIMITS – OTHER KEY ROADS - SIGNAGE



- ✓ *Thomas Rd & Masters Road have 70 kph speed limits*
- ✓ *Other roads have no speed signage*
- ✓ *And people speed on these roads*
- ✓ *Rain Lover Court is a good example...*

 Shelby Capeling
2 September at 17:41 · 

To the person that just drove out of rain lover court from the 70 acres SLOW THE F**K DOWN!! God knows what speed you were doing with your float on! Big white ram/Ute type of car, this isn't the first time this particular person has been caught speeding down the road last week my mum and her friend were riding back on the side of the road to our house when this person came roaring down and wasn't slowing down to pass! My mum had to put her arms out to warn them to slow down her friend actually had to quickly hop off because her horse was getting scared at the fast approaching car! Talk about courtesy NOT!!!

[View insights](#)

451 post reach 

 Tracy Brimblecombe and 5 others

6 comments

85

WORKSTREAM 7 – SAFETY CONTROLS

SPEED LIMITS – OTHER KEY ROADS - SIGNAGE

- ✓ *It is understandable that people might not know the speed limits because they might not equate side roads in the DDEE as 'built up areas'*



86

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WORKSTREAM 7 – SAFETY CONTROLS

SPEED LIMITS – OTHER KEY ROADS - SIGNAGE

- ✓ *It is understandable that people might not know the speed limits because they might not equate side roads in the DDEE as 'built up areas'*



87

WORKSTREAM 7 – SAFETY CONTROLS

SPEED LIMITS – OTHER KEY ROADS - SIGNAGE

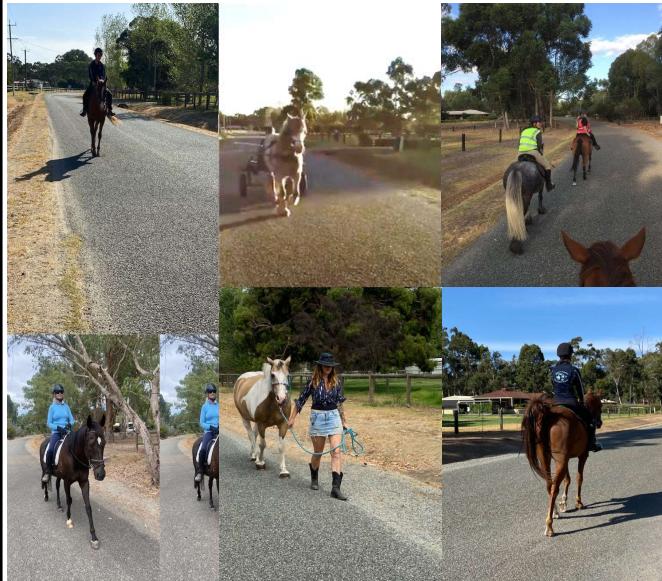
- ✓ *Can you spot the difference – not-built-up/built-up?*
- ✓ *Can someone who comes off Masters Road at 70kph be expected to see Rain Lover Court as being a 50 kph zone*
- ✓ *The DDRA and Shire have raised this point with Main Roads WA twice*
- ✓ *They have rejected speed signs – completely missing the risks*



88

WORKSTREAM 7 – SAFETY CONTROLS

SPEED LIMITS – OTHER KEY ROADS - SIGNAGE

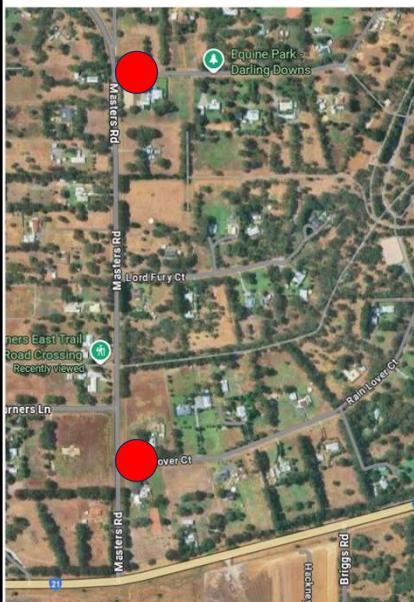


- ✓ *This exposes horses using the road to substantial risk*
- ✓ *Main Roads WA have rejected installing speed signs (they have been approached twice now)*

89

WORKSTREAM 7 – SAFETY CONTROLS

SPEED LIMITS – OTHER KEY ROADS - SIGNAGE



- ✓ *Although speed signs can't be procured*
- ✓ *The Shire has agreed to investigate and install appropriate signs*
- ✓ *The priority is Rain Lover Court and Evening Peal Court*



90

WORKSTREAM 7 – SAFETY CONTROLS

SPEED LIMITS – ROAD MAINTENANCE

- ✓ *The roads in the Darling Downs area are getting hammered and there is a lot of wear and tear*
- ↳ *The Shire team is doing a lot of work to try to fix these*
- ✓ *But high-volume roads (e.g. Masters Road) are being fundamentally damaged*
- ✓ *The Shire is investigating getting funding under the Act to repair the damage done*



91

Is anything
else
needed?



92

WORKSTREAM 8 – MAINTENANCE

NORTHERN & SOUTHERN ARENAS IN THE 70 ACRES



- ✓ The two arenas are being upgraded and repaired this FY
 - Fencing repairs
 - Gate repairs
 - Clearing overhanging trees
 - Adding more sand (particularly southern arena – address hard spots)
 - Raking in and levelling the sand
- ✓ The equipment in each arena will be upgraded and rationalised

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WORKSTREAM 8 – MAINTENANCE

NORTHERN & SOUTHERN ARENAS IN THE 70 ACRES



- ✓ **Northern Arena – Multi Use**
 - Set up 60 x 20 dressage arena (Eastern side) – dressage markers on fence & cones with markers
 - Provide more jumping facilities on the western side (2 x cavalettis & poles for flatwork space)
- ✓ **Southern Arena – Multi Use**
 - Jumps can be cleared easily
 - Provide more jumping facilities in this arena (Jumps & wings, 3 barrels, short poles for flat work)

This project has commenced

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This has been made feasible by donation of:

- *The wings – donated by Peter Benson*
- *The poles - donated Gosnells Riding & Pony Club – with thanks to Robyn Vale*
- *The delivery of the poles at no cost by Daryl & Brian Vale*
- *With thanks to everyone involved*

Once the poles are
painted/mark, they will be
provided – **does anyone want to
help with this
project?**



95

**Is anything
else
needed?**



Vote on options as required

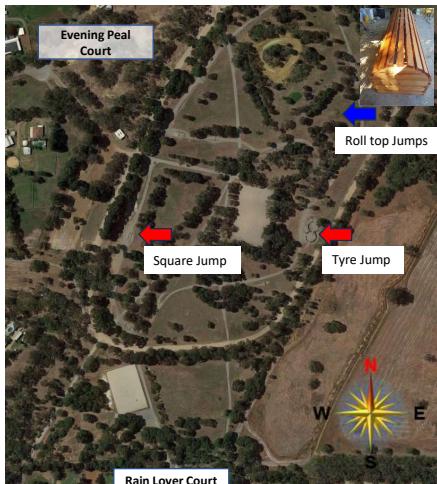
96

DDRA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

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WORKSTREAM 10 – JUMPS

CROSS COUNTRY JUMP PROJECT



✓ Refurbish all jumps



Ref #	Origin	Date Raised	WS	Priority	Action by	Action Description	Due Date	Closed Date	Comments	Status
10.2-10.3	SDP Task 10.2 – 10.4	28/11/2023	WS10	2/3	DDRA	Upgrade old jumps in the cross country course	31 Dec 26		First three repaired/installed 16 Apr 25. Others as time is available.	In progress

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WORKSTREAM 10 – JUMPS



The previous tyre jump was in a poor state

Ref #	Origin	Date Raised	WS	Priority	Action by	Action Description	Due Date	Closed Date	Comments	Status
10.2-10.3	SDP Task 10.2 – 10.4	28/11/2023	WS10	2/3	DDRA	Complete plan for the cross-country jumps & then upgrade	31 Dec 25		First three repaired/installed 16 Apr 25. Others as time is available	In progress

98

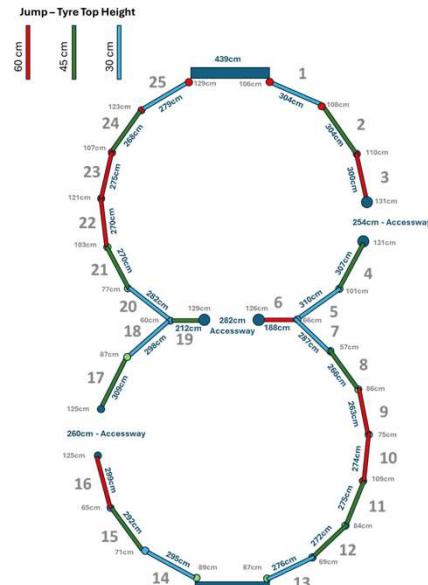
DDRA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

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WORKSTREAM 10 – JUMPS



This is being completely refurbished and built to be more practical & last for a long time

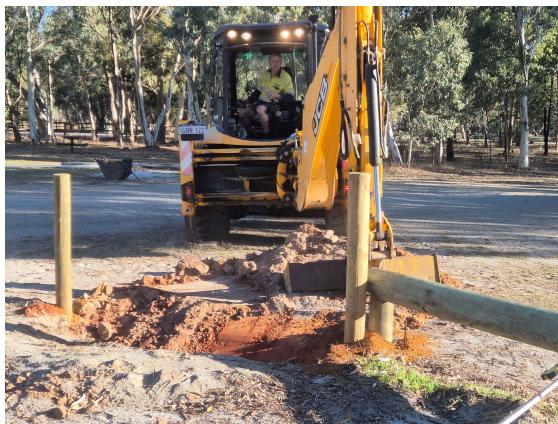


Ref #	Origin	Date Raised	WS	Priority	Action by	Action Description	Due Date	Closed Date	Comments	Status
10.2-10.3	SDP Task 10.2 – 10.4	28/11/2023	WS10	2/3	DDRA	Upgrade old jumps in the cross country course	31 Dec 26		First three repaired/installed 16 Apr 25. Others as time is available.	In progress

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WORKSTREAM 10

TYRE JUMPS



- We have had free contractor help provided Kevin Cox & Ross Stewart & Tristan Merrick (Merrick's Maintenance) – Thank you

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WORKSTREAM 10 TYRE JUMPS



- Volunteers have worked hard to implement this project
- Now the weather is drier, we will push forward on finishing this – we need your help

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WORKSTREAM 10

The full Refurbishment Project

- *Shean Lowry has provided advice – which has fed into a clear plan*
- *Most jumps will be replaced, realigned or modified to meet good design practices (individual & group)*
- *Trotting fines will be laid to improve take-off and landing areas.*
- Once the 70 Acres is completed - jumps in other parts of the DDEP will be addressed
- *The plan is to finish this project during FY26/27*



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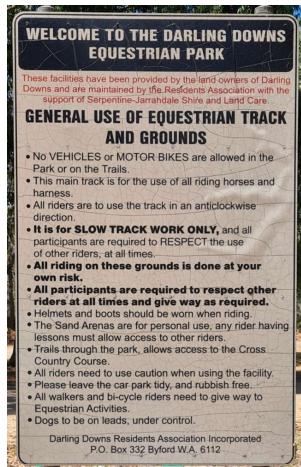
Is anything else needed?



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WORKSTREAM 12 – NEW INFO SIGNAGE

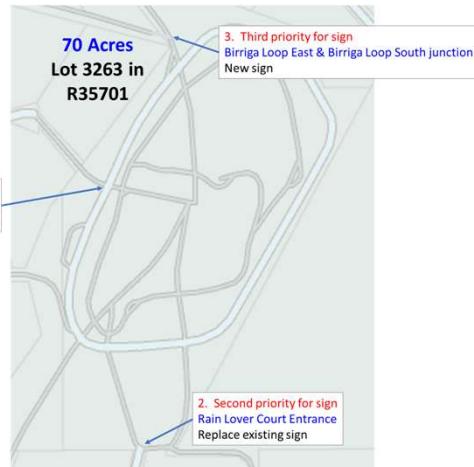
OLD



NEW



1. First priority for sign
Evening Peal Carpark
Replace existing sign



2. Second priority for sign
Rain Lover Court Entrance
Replace existing sign
3. Third priority for sign
Birriga Loop East & Birriga Loop South junction
New sign

New information signage has been fitted – to help people understand the regulations & etiquette to make the area safer

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WORKSTREAM 12 – SIGNAGE

TRAIL SIGNAGE



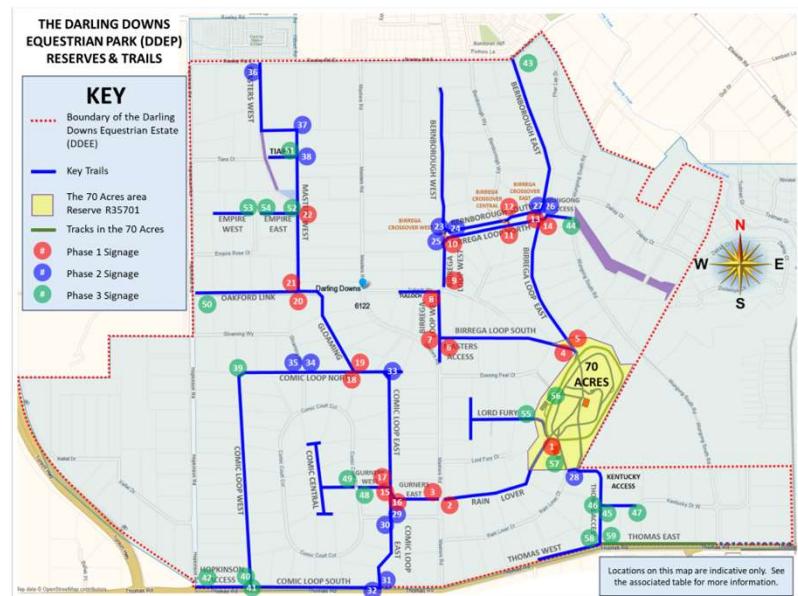
- ✓ \$25,000 - State Government Grant – Available by 4/10/25
- ✓ \$11,000 - Bendigo Bank Funds already provided
- ✓ The DDRA has budgeted the remainder (\$1,421)
- ✓ Aim to implement at least Phases 1 & 2 this year

Ref #	Origin	Date Raised	WS	Priority	Action by	Action Description	Due Date	Closed Date	Comments	Status
12.4	SDP Task 12.3	28/11/2023	WS12	2	DDRA	Develop costed plan for provision of trail signage	30 Jun 25		The plans were completed and forwarded for grant request	Closed
12.5	SDP Task 12.3	28/11/2023	WS12	1	DDRA	Source funding for trail signage	4/10/25		Bendigo Bank & State Gov	Pending
12.6	SDP Task 12.3	28/11/2023	WS12	1	DDRA	Implement trail signage	30 Oct 25		Phases 1 and 2 before end 2025	

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WORKSTREAM 12 – SIGNAGE

TRAIL SIGNAGE



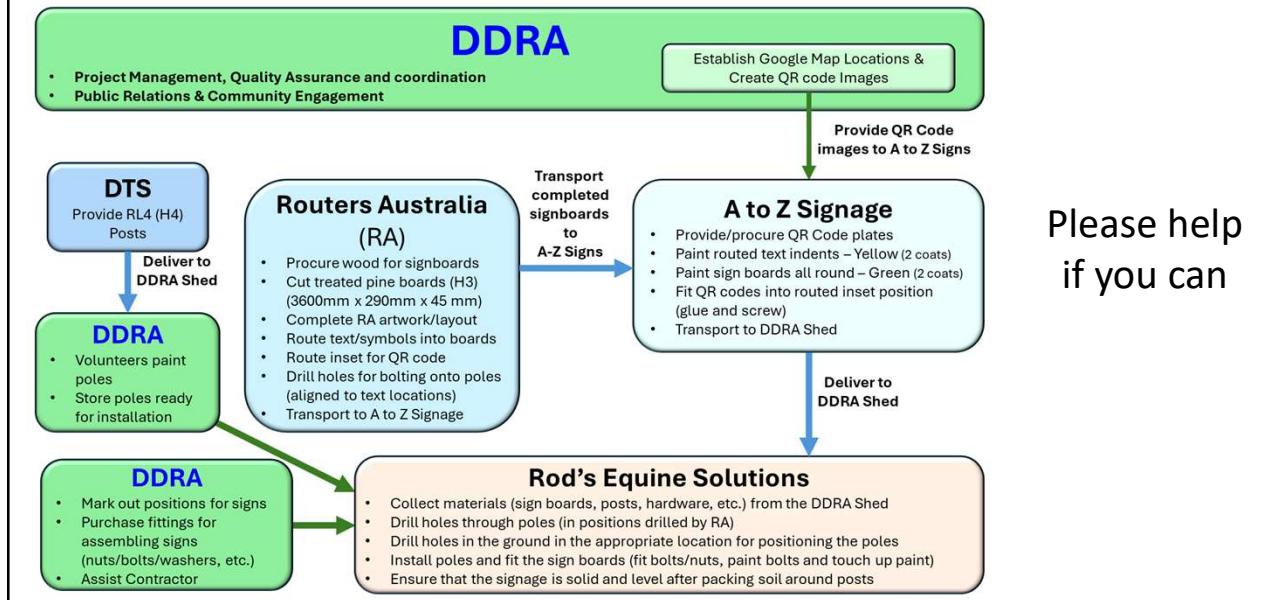
106

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WORKSTREAM 12 – SIGNAGE

TRAIL SIGNAGE – PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PLAN



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VOTE ON AGENDA ITEM 5

Resolution:

To accept the updated report on the implementation of the DDRA Strategic Development Plan and the new works discussed and agreed during this AGM.

Proposer

Seconder

Vote

AGENDA ITEM 6

Present/consider and vote to accept/otherwise the Committee's Annual Report (Bruce)

Darling Downs Residents Association (DDRA) Committee's Report - 2024/25

Over the period since the last Annual General Meeting (AGM), Darling Downs Residents Association (DDRA) volunteers have done a great deal of work. To achieve the tasks summarised in this report, DDRA volunteers provided more than 233 hours of work. The following table details the hours (T7) and the average hours in the current FY. The following points outline some of the key outcomes achieved from this effort.

- Tracks.** Most of the older track in the 70 Acres has been replaced by a new track. The new track is much smoother, making the surface more usable and safer. In addition to this focus, volunteers have been busy repairing and maintaining the tracks for the 70 Acres and the 70 Acres crossers. Most of these refurbishments have been done, and the remaining areas are expected to be completed during the current FY. Unfortunately, the track in the 70 Acres has suffered significant damage from the Shire of Serrigine Jarrahdale (SoS) as refurbish degraded trail surfaces in the 70 Acres and other key areas. We will be working with the SoS to ensure that the most important refurbishments will be forthcoming in the very near future, as many sections of the track now require an increasingly expensive to repair if funding is further delayed.
- Barbecue Areas.** Over the period, new barbecue areas and refurbishment project is ongoing. Over the period, new picnic tables have been fitted to picnic in the southwesterly corner of Bambers Creek West trail and the northwestern corner of the 70 Acres. The 70 Acres has been the focus of these areas as pleasant places to take a break. Other tables will be fitted to the installed picnic areas as funds become available.
- Hydration Station.** DDRA volunteers have been busy during the year conducting moving and cleaning fallen dead trees, bushes, and branches. In particular, many branches and trees cause dead and unstable areas that are a hazard to people. The DDRA volunteers have done a great job of quickly clearing the trails and making the Darling Downs Equestrian Park (DDEP) a safe place to ride. The fallen trees and branches were cleared within as little as an hour after the problem had been reported.
- Native tree planting.** In July 2024, volunteers planted 616 new native trees bushes to help provide better habitat and enhance the area for native animals. During the previous year, the Shire undertook most of the tree planting, but the success rate was around 70%. However, over the last months, the Shire did not have the resources available to water the plants. This change in responsibility has led to a significant drop in the success rate of the new tree feed. To help overcome this problem, the DDRA implemented another native planting event on 11 August 2025, where 116 native trees and shrubs. New planting techniques were also applied that year, which should improve the success rate. The DDRA would like to thank the Shire of Serrigine Jarrahdale (SoS) and thank MetCONNEX for donating the plants, fertilizer and other equipment, and providing their employees' support. To the DDEP could be enhanced and made safer. The DDRA also wants to thank the local businesses for their support, and the many volunteers who worked hard to complete the planting some ran on the day.
- Fence Repairs.** Many fences were required during the year. In particular, the DDRA would like to thank the Shire of Serrigine Jarrahdale (SoS) and the local businesses for their support. They have done a great job of helping out with the ongoing repairs. In particular, one of the largest tasks entailed the replacement of the damaged fence on the eastern side of the 70 Acres. This



fence had previously been out at numerous places and was in poor condition. With funding provided by the SoS, this fence was refurbished. Two gates were also installed, so these can be used in future to allow better access to the 70 Acres from the eastern side. The repair of these fences helps to improve safety in the area.

- Traffic Management.** DDRA volunteers have been working with the SoS and Main Roads Western Australia (MRWA) to help address some key issues. These issues include the provision of speed signage on roads within the Darling Downs area, including the 70 Acres, and installing a Pegasus crossing on the 70 Acres and the Darling Downs railway to separate the Cross Loop Section from the expanded Thomas Road. Each of these measures will be important in ensuring safety for riders and drivers. The Pegasus crossing will be a key feature in the 70 Acres, and the safety of the area and these matters will be very important for future safety in the area. The DDRA will continue to lobby the state government for further safety measures.
- New Tractor.** The old DDRA tractor was becoming unsafe and could not support the wide range of necessary tasks. Consequently, in January 2025, the SoS provided the funding to purchase a new DDRA tractor. New implements have been purchased, and the tractor has been modified to fit the new equipment. We were also sourced to make the tractor much more useable. Since its arrival, the new tractor has been used to move fallen trees, clear brush, move and shift fallen tree bushes, branches, refurbish jumps, repair trail surfaces, and many other tasks. The new tractor has, therefore, been invaluable in helping to maintain the trails and the 70 Acres. The DDRA Committee would like to thank the SoS for funding the new tractor and implements so our volunteers can provide better services to the area.
- Marking.** A couple of years ago, a decision was made to limit the burning of dead fallen vegetation in the DDEP. Since then, the SoS has been responsible for the removal and vegetation control in the DDEP. DDRA volunteers continue to spread this to help reduce fire risks and maintain the safety of the area and the community.
- Fence Maintenance and upgrades.** DDRA volunteers have also conducted maintenance of equipment, areas, and facilities within the DDEP. This volunteer effort has helped to maintain maintenance on available funds can be applied to improve the area and facilities more effectively.
- Cross-Country Jumps.** As a part of Workstream 10, our volunteers have been working on the cross-country jumps. Since the last time of writing this report, new roll-top jumps have been installed, the old jumps have been replaced (see the picture to the right), and the project to construct a new set of jumps has been completed. The new jumps throughout the DDEP will be addressed as a part of this workstream. The DDRA volunteers have also been involved in the design and creation of the jumps. We would also like to thank Kevin Cox for his assistance in digging the tree jump ditch (see the Facebook Post). Most importantly, the DDRA Committee thanks Ross Dore, the DDEP Manager, and the DDEP staff (including Ross Dore, who have provided their expertise, time and equipment to help us create these jumps effectively).
- Obstacle Jumps.** The community demonstrated significant demand to provide additional jumps in the area. The DDRA Committee has been working with the DDEP to provide these jumps. Ross Dore (downdated by Peter Benson), and Geronella Ridings and Penny Cuth also donated the required jump poles. The DDRA would also like to thank Daryl Vale for his assistance in collecting and delivering the jump poles. These jump facilities are being deployed as part of the ongoing refurbishment of the 70 Acres areas.

Upgrades of the DDRA track. A lot of work has been done in the DDRA area to make it safer and different implements to be fitted on the track and loader for the tractor.

New Infrastructure signage. New infrastructure signage has been provided to key access points within the area to help address this important safety issue. It is recommended that people use the new signage. These changes will help to reduce the risk of injury.

Fencing and Drivage. During the winter of 2024, significant flooding problems were identified in the eastern part of the DDEP, which were caused by changes to the drainage associated with the new gravel road extension to Byfield. The DDRA would like to thank the Shire of Serrigine Jarrahdale for the funding and support to address these problems. However, in August 2025, the Shire of Serrigine Jarrahdale was unable to alleviate the flooding problems. The DDRA continues to liaise with pertinent parties to identify and implement solutions to this issue.

Trail signage. Grant funding for the trail signage project outlined in the DDRA Strategic Development Plan (SDP) has been procured. Some of the funding has already been forthcoming from Beulah Shire. However, the Shire of Serrigine Jarrahdale has not yet provided the funding for the signage. Once the funding is received, Phases 1 and 2 of the project will be implemented, as outlined in the project plan. The DDRA would like to thank Beulah Shire and the State Government for the funding and support. The DDRA Committee would like to thank Mr Hugh Jones (Shire of Serrigine Jarrahdale) for his ongoing assistance.

All of this work would not have been achievable without the help of our wonderful volunteers. In particular, the DDRA Committee would like to thank the following volunteers: Peter Benson, Ross Dore, Geronella Ridings, Terry Marley, Adam Kent, Eugene Keel, Ian Stanley, Wendy Stanley, Bruce Vale, Shire of Serrigine Jarrahdale, Charlie Bell, Mal Dugdale, Carol Dugdale, Mal Farrant, Mark Taylor, Amanda Smith, Mal Farrant, and others. Many thanks to all of you. However, the DDRA Committee would like to thank the many other volunteers who have provided their support during the various busy bees. Without these volunteers, the maintenance on available funds can be applied to improve the area and make it more useable for the many people who use these facilities.

The Committee would also like to thank the SoS for their ongoing support. Firstly, the DDRA could not achieve our common goals without the support of the Shire of Serrigine Jarrahdale and their supportive staff at the Shire office to achieve our common goals, as illustrated by the aforementioned examples.

The DDRA has also been gaining the support of various sponsors through advertising on the web page. This support is greatly appreciated. The DDRA Committee would like to thank the following sponsors: Just as important, the money provided by these sponsors is being invested in improvements and developments within the DDEP.

Bruce Dore, Councillor, DDRA

Thank You to the Volunteers

So much work done behind the scenes

DDRA Committee

- Planning & coordination of works and management
- Coordinating with the Shire and other stakeholders
- Implementing actions to achieve the various goals identified

DDRA Stalwarts

- Mowing, clearing trees, planting and doing much of the other work described for the workstreams
- Being on call to help and working hard to help achieve the goals

Other volunteers

- Many people have participated in one or more busy bee – their help is invaluable as we need assistance to achieve the objectives

**WE CAN DO EVEN MORE WITH ADDITIONAL VOLUNTEERS. COME AND JOIN!
YOU ARE WELCOME TO BE INVOLVED IN ANY PART OF THE TEAM**

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VOTE ON AGENDA ITEM 6

Resolution:

To accept the DDRA Committee's Report.



Proposer

Seconder

Vote

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DDRA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

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7. FINANCIAL REPORT: 24/25 FY

Main Account

Funds in working account 1st July 2024	\$ 194.77
Income/Revenue	
Revenue received from beginning of FY to date	\$ 20,905.00
Expenditure	
Total Expenditure to date	\$ 17,681.65
Bank Fees	\$ 14.40
Bridle Path/ Track Improvements	\$ 1,389.68
Consumables	\$ 232.78
Fuel	\$ 1,490.09
Equipment & tools	\$ 1,203.02
Shed	\$ 1,149.56
Jumps	\$ 2,054.94
Shire payment for free slasher – Get Grapple	\$ 3,300.00
Support Costs	\$ 1,139.56
Insurance	\$ 2,151.03
Tractor/Equipment & Maintenance	\$ 3,556.59
Balance at bank working account 30/6/25	\$ 3,418.12

WS20 Account

Funds in WS20 1st July 24	\$ 2524.79
Income/Revenue	
Interest received	\$ 41.73
Expenditure	
Signs	\$
Closing balance at bank	\$ 3,566.52

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7. FINANCIAL REPORT 25/26 FY

Main Account

Funds in working account 1st July 2025	\$ 3,418.12
Income/Revenue	
Revenue received from beginning of FY to date	\$ 18,660.00
Expenditure	
Total Expenditure to date	\$ 2,226.34
Bank Fees	\$ 4.80
Bridle Path/ Track Improvements	\$
Consumables	\$ 43.60
Fuel	\$ 159.36
Equipment & tools	\$ 267.98
Shed	\$ 24.99
Jumps	\$ 1,270.18
Support Costs	\$ 246.93
Insurance	\$
Tractor/Equipment & Maintenance	\$ 208.50
Balance at bank working account 18/09/25	\$ 30,851.78

WS20 Account

Funds in WS20 1st July 25	\$ 3566.52
Income/Revenue	
Interest received	\$ 8.25
Expenditure	
Signs	\$
Closing balance at bank	\$ 3,574.77

Total funds at present	\$ 34,426.55
State Govt Grant (signage)	\$ 25,000.00
Total Funds in Oct 25	\$ 59,426.55
Minus Signage Project funds	\$ 37,421.00
Available for Projects	\$ 22,005.55

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DDRA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

23 SEPTEMBER 2025

VOTE ON AGENDA ITEM 7

Resolution:

To accept the DDRA Financial Report.

Proposer

Seconder

Vote

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AGENDA ITEM 8

**Committee
Members**

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DDRA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

23 SEPTEMBER 2025

AGENDA ITEM 8 – COMMITTEE STATUS/VOTE

Role	Incumbent	Status
President	Bruce Hilliard	Confirmed at AGM
Vice President	David Ransom	Elected by Committee – Needs AGM confirmation
Secretary	Pam Hilliard	Confirmed at AGM
Treasurer	Carol Fawcett	Confirmed at AGM
Works Manager	Eric Chabros	Elected by Committee – Needs AGM confirmation
Ordinary Member	Brian Vale	Confirmed at AGM
Ordinary Member	Robyn Vale	Confirmed at AGM
Ordinary Member	Amanda Smith	Confirmed at AGM
Ordinary Member	Dave Emery	Confirmed at AGM
Ordinary Member	Matt Emery	Confirmed at AGM
Ordinary Member	Eugenie Kestel	Confirmed at AGM
Ordinary Member	Charlotte Boyes	Elected by Committee – Needs AGM confirmation
Ordinary Member	Emily Dagnall	Volunteer – Needs confirmation at the AGM

Are there any additional volunteers?

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VOTE ON AGENDA ITEM 8

Resolution:

To accept the **new** members/nominees to become members of the DDRA Committee for a period of up to three years (as per RoA Clause 11.4(2)).

Proposer

Seconder

Vote

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AGENDA ITEM 9

Discuss and vote on other Agenda items raised by DDRA members, in accordance with Clause 18 of the DDRA Rules of Association ([Bruce](#))

Additional points for discussion were already covered in the SDP discussion

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AGENDA ITEM 10 General Business

Does anyone have any matters they want to raise now?

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AGENDA ITEMS 11

Close the meeting (Bruce)



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DARLING DOWNS RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION



Thank you for your time and support

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