



The Grapevine Report

November seems a long time ago now! The last Meeting of the Management Committee of the Residents' Association was a follow-up to the Annual General Meeting in October. Bob Sandercock, continuing Vice President, chaired the meeting because Tom Falconer, elected at the AGM for his second term, was in the United Kingdom, "fixing Brexit" we were told! Did you help Boris, Tom?

We were pleased to welcome new General Manager Service Delivery, Ben Hall, to his first meeting. Ben gave us a little of his background, education, family situation and work experience. The Gardening Team must be delighted with him, seeing his first degree is in Landscape Architecture.

Ben takes on a heavy workload being responsible for such major projects as the 19 bed extension to The Residency, the hydrotherapy pool and planning for the Heritage Park development, which we discovered at the AGM is behind Armstrong Avenue, Sheard and River Road where presently the sheep graze.

He will also take on asset management of our units, taking some of the burden from Carl to whom we are grateful for having actioned some of our long-term requests like gutter and roof cleaning and beginning the "Sydney Harbour Bridge" job of external repainting. An external audit has been done of all units, identifying some requiring immediate remediation and further down the list some likely to need further evaluation. At the AGM we heard for the first time there are plans to revamp the Scholz Avenue precinct. Representatives from that and surrounding Clusters would appreciate an invitation to be involved in that consultation.

Several Clusters raised issues that need attention. We made the most of the opportunity of Ben still being a "new boy" to make him aware of some regular concerns of residents, such as the preventative maintenance schedule which was due to begin again in January. However, the extreme hot weather in late December prevented outside work and thus allowed inside tasks such as this maintenance to commence earlier than planned.

The issue of keeping pets was raised. It is Barossa Village's practice to have owners sign a Pet Agreement. With our units having such limited open space yards, the Village must assess the impact of a pet on the neighbourhood. Specific examples of nuisance must accompany any complaints made. If any resident with a pet is not aware of the policy, or if you get a new pet, please let Tom Herring know. We will discuss this matter further at the February meeting.

If you or your Cluster did not receive a kerbside rubbish collection calendar from The Barossa Council you can pick one up from our Reception or from your local Council Office.

With thanks to all representatives and proxies for their commitment to another year of service to their Cluster, the next meeting of the Management Committee will be on **Wednesday 19 February 2020** at 1.30pm at the Joy Rice Centre.

Carmel Devonish, Secretary, BVRA
January 2020.

