

THE

*Vines*

RESIDENTS AND  
RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION (INC)

**The Grapevine**

NEWSLETTER

21 August 2023

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## UPDATE FROM THE CHAIR

A big thank you to everyone who attended The Vines Residents and Ratepayers Association AGM on Monday night – to see the bowling club filled to the brim with members and residents and supporters was just fantastic. This continued strong support shows the commitment to preserve and sustain the value of The Vines suburb.

A summary of news from the AGM:

- The Chairman's report acknowledged the community support and reflected on a very busy year in both the campaign against the redevelopment and through the many social events.
- The Treasurer provided a commentary on Income and Expenditure for the Operating and Fighting Fund accounts. Both reports were accepted.
- A full new committee was elected. This comprises 7 existing committee members and 2 nominations for 2 vacancies.
- The Local Member Representative, Ms Jessica Shaw expressed her praise for The Vines Community involvement, the significance of The VRRRA win at JDAP (Joint Development Assessment Panel) in opposing the Development Application, an outline of proposed electoral area changes and encouragement for community comment.
- The VRRRA Committee Activities were then presented giving an account of what was delivered and what was next. These activities covered:
  - Delivery on the commitment made to oppose the Redevelopment Plans of The Vines (WA) Pty Ltd, and wider community engagements.
  - Detail of the Development Application and how both the City of Swan (CoS) Council and JDAP supported the community in stopping it were described.

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# 2023 AGM: Monday 14th August

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- The Vines (WA) Pty Ltd, through their consultants, applied to construct an all weather two storey concrete driving range on the 9th hole of The lakes course and to build housing all over the existing green driving range.
- The CoS Councillors unanimously rejected the application on planning grounds.
- Not satisfied, The Vines (WA) Pty Ltd, again through their consultants, submitted an application to the JDAP, a group of experts appointed by the Minister of Planning to consider large development applications.
- JDAP overwhelmingly rejected the application, again on planning grounds.



The recent approach by The Vines (WA) PTY Ltd to the Western Australia Planning Commission (WAPC) was also raised. This has started with an enquiry to seek rezoning of The Vines to Urban. At this point the CoS Council have been invited to comment, and if supported, it will proceed through a high-level process which only engages the community at a late stage. The VRRRA were able to report on their engagement with authorities to express their views about this approach. The CoS Council will submit their comments by 1 September and have already acknowledged The VRRRA opinions.

Part of the present and future plans for the community to oppose the endeavours to change golfing areas into housing were outlined.

There is also a strong, positive emphasis on activities to preserve and improve the environment within The Vines and surrounds. This includes Friends Groups to assist with maintaining the reserves and tree planting campaigns to improve our tree canopy.

The number of residents volunteering to support The VRRRA Environmental, campaign and fundraising activities on the night was fantastic.

Other items of interest on the night were questions around:

- Why are all the traffic counters on the roads? The explanation is quite simple, CoS do this regularly to help shape their maintenance plans for the next five years.
- What are the water pipeline changes? The road closures are part of the new Bullsbrook wastewater plant. Trees that have been removed will be replaced at the rate of 3:1.

In summary, we need to stay united. We need to continue to have a strong voice. We are winning this war of attrition and we are confident of success. Should you have any questions regarding the AGM reports or the plans ahead, please contact the committee through - [vinesresidentsassociation@gmail.com](mailto:vinesresidentsassociation@gmail.com)

Thank you again for your encouragement and commitment.

**Finally, our apologies** to anyone who received an email saying the AGM had been cancelled. We regret that there was an email system error that created this message. If you received this and were planning to attend, please accept our apologies.

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# Friends of The Vines Bushlands

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We have some wonderful remaining bushland surrounding The Vines that supports rare and endangered flora and fauna. The Vines Resort land is integral to these reserves, as it provides the links that flora and fauna need to travel along to survive and thrive in the long term.

This bushland is located in, and protected by, two Class A Reserves called Bordeaux Lane and Maralla Road. These Reserves are managed by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) .

However, there is a problem. These 325 Hectares of land are in real need of support from the community to help restore and maintain these crucial bush areas. **To support these reserves, The VVRA is launching a Friends Group that will work in collaboration with the DBCA and the Urban Bushland Council (UBC)** to bring these areas back to the highest possible standard.

The kinds of activities that we will undertake are very broad, and include, Tree Surveys, Planting, Path Maintenance, Fencing , Fire Mitigation, Clean-up, Weeding, Rehabilitation, and improved Signage. As part of this work, the DBCA provide a number of exciting free training courses, along with incentives for volunteers, including free park passes and other discounts.

We have 55 volunteers from the AGM and are seeking more interested residents who might like to join in. The launch of The Friend Group will include tours and activities for the Friends Group volunteers and will be announced in the next few days.

For examples of what we have / what we need to do, some pictures from our recent tour of the Reserves:

**Very Good - vibrant, bushland. No litter, good access, mature trees & good understorey plants.**



**Needs some help! Rubbish, weeds, needs clean up and replanting**



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# Update from the Treasurer

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## ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES

As previously advised it has been agreed that all annual membership fees fall due in September of each year. However, as an interim arrangement it has been decided that members who have paid their membership fee of \$25.00 after 1 March, 2023, will not have to pay any further membership monies until September 2024. The payment of annual membership fees can be paid from now through to September as convenient to you.

## DONATIONS TO THE FIGHTING FUND

Significant effort is being applied to preventing The Vines WA Pty Ltd from destroying our suburb as we know it. In order to ensure the best possible strategies are applied to achieve this goal we need to have sufficient funds to pay for relevant professional advice. If you are able, we would appreciate it if you could donate to the fighting fund.

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## Campaign Bin Stickers

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Would you like to show your support for our campaign against the redevelopment? We have bin stickers available which have been printed with our campaign logo.

These are a glossy vinyl sticker, measuring 340mm by 300mm. The photo to the right is an illustration of what the size looks like on a bin. **They are available for just \$5 each!**

Show your support for our campaign by buying one (or two) for each of your bins.

You can order by scanning the QR code, or via our website. We will deliver to your letterbox as soon as possible.



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## To Finish.. A Few Wine Quotes!

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"I drink champagne when I'm happy and when I'm sad. Sometimes I drink it when I'm alone. When I have company I consider it obligatory. I trifle with it if I'm not hungry and drink it when I am. Otherwise I never touch it - unless I'm thirsty." - **Madame Lilly Bollinger**

"Wine makes daily living easier, less hurried, with fewer tensions and more tolerance." - **Benjamin Franklin**

"Wine improves with age. The older I get, the better I like it." - **Anonymous**

"Sometimes when I reflect back on all the wine I drink, I feel shame! Then I look into the glass and think about the workers in the vineyards and all of their hopes and dreams. If I didn't drink this wine, they might be out of work, and their dreams would be shattered. Then I say to myself, "It is better that I drink this wine and let their dreams come true than be selfish and worry about my liver?" - **Jack Handey**

"In victory, you deserve Champagne. In defeat you need it." - **Napoleon Bonaparte**

"Penicillin cures, but wine makes people happy." - **Alexander Fleming**