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BEECROFT - CHELTENHAM
CIVIC TRUST
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P.O. BOX 31, BEECROFT, N.S.W. 2119

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
8.00pm TUESDAY, 18th MARCH 1997
CHELTENHAM BOWLING & RECREATION CLUB
THE CRESCENT, CHELTENHAM

The Beecroft Cheltenham Civic Trust Incorporated will hold its Annual General Meeting at Cheltenham Bowling and Recreation Club, The Boulevard, Cheltenham (access via The Crescent) at 8.00pm on Tuesday 18th March 1997. All local residents are invited. **PLEASE NOTE NEW VENUE.**

The Guest Speaker will be Peter Hinton, Executive Manager Planning Division, Hornsby Shire Council who will speak on the Housing Strategy and White Paper on Development Approvals. Local 'C' Ward Councillor Steven Pringle will be in attendance

President Betty Grant will report on activities of the Trust during 1996. The election of Committee Members for 1997 will also take place. Remember only financial members are eligible to vote at the meeting.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH IN CRISIS

Some of the Neighbourhood Watch Groups that operate in Beecroft Cheltenham are facing problems through lack of support. There would appear to be some apathy in sections of our community and a general lack of interest to become involved. One area had great difficulty in filling their executive positions and recently two groups had to amalgamate to ensure the service they provide for us could be maintained.

With the current uncertainty about the level of policing to be available in the future, Neighbourhood Watch can provide a valuable service to the community.

So come on, find out about the Group operating in your area and get involved. Let's work together to help make Beecroft Cheltenham a safe environment for all of us.

BEECROFT CHELTENHAM CIVIC TRUST INC.
(1997 SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE NOW DUE)

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One may only guess as to why the installation of the Copeland Road lights has been repeatedly delayed.

Perhaps it was the widening of Copeland Road (now dropped), the Traffic Plan for Beecroft Centre (where is that now?) or the proposal for a new fire station.

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GENERAL MEETING HELD 11th FEBRUARY, 1997

Despite inclement weather about 130 people attended a very successful General Meeting and Open Forum on Tuesday 11th February 1997 to hear Member for Northcott Barry O'Farrell discuss his draft traffic proposal for Beecroft and Cheltenham.

Mr. O'Farrell indicated that 2 000 homes were surveyed and some 400 responses received to his survey, to which would be added the comments from those at the meeting.

He then went on to summarise the result of his survey which led to lively debate about the issues raised in relation to the future use of Beecroft Road after the M2 opened. Some concerns were voiced in regard to the location of traffic lights at Kirkham Street and at Cheltenham Road, which could affect local traffic in Boronia Ave, child and pedestrian safety, the "truck route" and many more.

Both Michael Richardson, Member for The Hills and Councillor Steven Pringle spoke to the proposal. Mr. Richardson strongly supported the installation of traffic lights at the corner of Kirkham Street and Beecroft Road, but sounded a note of caution about converting Beecroft Road to an 'obstacle course', pointing out that it would probably divert traffic onto local roads such as Boronia Ave and The Crescent. Councillor Pringle spoke about Council's plan to upgrade Copeland Road and the possible effect on local residents of closing roads such as Boronia Avenue.

In general the meeting supported the return of Beecroft Road to local road status, the imposition of a truck limit on the road, the provision of disincentives to through traffic and the commissioning of a Traffic and Accident Report for Beecroft Road. It was also agreed that Beecroft Road should return to the control of Hornsby Shire Council where it was felt local residents and local concerns would have a far greater impact on future decision making about its use.

Mr. O'Farrell said he would be taking the proposals up with both the RTA and Council.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS TOWER UPDATE

Negotiations are continuing in the bid to find a satisfactory outcome to the location of the telecommunications tower in Pennant Hills Golf Club. It is understood an alternative site which is technically feasible to the carrier and places the tower away from homes is now being considered. This is yet to be ratified by all parties involved. It is hoped that good sense will prevail.

HOW GREEN IS MY VALLEY?

We are lucky in Beecroft Cheltenham to live in a part of Sydney that abounds in natural greenery, complimented by beautiful gardens and shrubbery. The recent rain and humid weather have encouraged plant growth and many shrubs are now overhanging fences. In some cases this can be quite dangerous to pedestrians using local footpaths. We would ask residents to be aware of the difficulty pedestrians can face walking or jogging around the area and cut back those overhanging branches to ensure a safer area for us all. Thank you.

DEVELOPMENT APPROVALS

The Trust has become aware of a number of a number of housing developments which have not complied with the conditions of their building approvals. Council has appeared reluctant to challenge instances of non compliance in the Land and Environment Court, which could lead to open slather for unscrupulous builders in our area.

If you know of any development which does not comply with its conditions of consent, please contact the Trust Secretary Vic Batten on 9484 6714.

President
Betty Grant 'phone 9876 3521

Secretary
Vic Batten 'phone 9484 6714