

COOBER PEDY PROGRESS AND MINERS' ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Select Committee

In 1981 a Select Committee of the Legislative Council, S.A. Parliament, reported on a Bill to confer limited powers of local government on the Coober Pedy Progress and Miners' Association Inc. During its examination of the Bill the Select Committee received evidence in Coober Pedy and some residents took the opportunity to express their views to the Committee.

The Bill was assented to by Parliament on 26th November, 1981, and became effective as from 1st January, 1982.

The effect of the passing of the Coober Pedy (Local Government Extension) Act 1981 was to grant to the Progress Association the statutory right to make levy charges on properties within the defined area and also to grant certain powers of operation to the Association.

A copy of the Act is attached herewith for your information.

The Committee

The introduction of the Act has brought with it extra responsibility, but I am sure that the Committee will meet this challenge and be able to formulate policy that will provide services and development for the town that have not been enjoyed in the past.

The present Committee members are:

Eric Malliotis
George van Brugge
Boro Rapaic
Alex Inisimoff
Peter Caust
Slavko Goverdarica

Lyn Hollow
Barbara Mavrides
Lester Marsh
John Provatides
Andy Shiels
Danny Sostaric
Jeff Ferguson

Executive Officer

I am pleased to advise that after consideration of applications for the position, Mr. Neville Hyatt, the former President of the Association, has been appointed the Executive Officer of the Association. Neville's experience in Coober Pedy and his local knowledge of the problems confronting the Association will be of great benefit to the members in making decisions in the future.

During the establishment period of the Association as a statutory local government authority, the Department of Local Government is assisting the Association in gearing up to its new role.

Budget and Levy Charge

On 18th March, 1982, the Committee of the Association gave consideration to a preliminary Budget for the second half of the 1981/82 financial period and has declared that a levy charge as set out below be made on properties within the Coober Pedy Local Government area for this period. An account for the levy charge declared by the Association for the last 6 months of the 1981/82 financial period is enclosed herewith.

Government Site Valuation
Range

Levy Charge

0 - 1000	50
1001-2000	50
2001-4000	100
4001-6000	200
6001-8000	300
8001-10000	400
10001-15000	500
15001-20000	750
20001-30000	1000
30001-40000	1500
40001-50000	2000
50001 and over	2500

It should be noted that this levy charge is only for a 6 months period and the Committee will be giving consideration to its first full year levy charge in the early part of the 1982/83 financial period. It cannot be assumed that the full year levy charge will be double the half yearly charge, as some establishment costs have been included in the first levy. The level of the charge for 1982/83 will be dependent upon the projects which the Association intends to undertake during that period.

Ongoing Projects

Between now and 30th June, 1982 the Committee will be mainly interested in completing those projects presently in hand.

- a) Repayment of \$57,600 to the Outback Areas Community Development Trust being the first year's repayment of a 2 year \$100,000 debenture loan. Some \$58,000 of this loan was allocated to the sealing of the airstrip. The remainder has enabled the Association to operate for the last 8 months as the Drive-In is only marginally profitable.
- b) Ongoing grading of roadways, and this will be carried out for at least 30 man hours per week.
- c) The construction of the terminal building at the airport.
- d) Negotiations are at present taking place between a firm of architects for the drawing up of plans and specifications for a 50 site caravan park. Whilst the initial stages of this project will be a draw on funds, it is hoped that in the long term the enterprise will prove profitable and be a major source of revenue for the Association.
- e) Renewal of the salt water pipeline for the purpose of providing fire hydrants and if possible to extend the service to other parts of the area.
- f) Continuing and improving as necessary the rubbish disposal facilities which service the township area. It is hoped that some limited form of rubbish collection will be undertaken.
- g) Improving the office accommodation within the hall for the staff of the Association.
- h) Continuing and upgrading where possible the existing Drive-In Theatre facilities and every endeavour will be made to provide quality films for presentation to the public.

Future Projects

The Association would be pleased to receive from residents of Coober Pedy their views on future projects to be undertaken by the Association, bearing in mind that the primary objective of the Association is to provide facilities for the community at the least possible cost to the community, but which will provide the greatest benefit to the residents. Consideration is currently being given to:

- a) Examining of possible avenues for the provision of a low salinity non-potable water supply at the least possible cost.
- b) Rebuilding of some of the roads with long term view to sealing.
- c) Begin an active tree planting programme.
- d) Provide street signs and names.
- e) Improved street lighting all over the town.
- f) Organise and publish a regular news bulletin.

System of Selecting Future Works

So that there can be no confusion with the contracts undertaken by the Association, the Committee has resolved that all future works to be carried out shall be by the calling of at least three quotations for such works.

Elections and Annual General Meeting

Elections for the Committee of the Association will be held on the first Saturday in October, 1982 and in future the Committee will consist of 12 members. The Annual General Meeting of the Association must now be held within 12 days of the annual election. Future notice of the Annual General Meeting will be given by the Executive Officer to the residents. At the appropriate time the Executive Officer will call nominations for vacancies on the Committee and any person who is a member of the Association by reason of being over the age of 16 years, a permanent resident of the area or owns or occupies any land or premises situated within the area, is deemed to be a member of the Association.

The Executive Officer will maintain a permanent voters' roll and will automatically include on that voters' roll all of the persons who are presently on the existing membership roll of the Association and also on the Electoral Roll for the area.

I seek the co-operation of all of the residents of Coober Pedy in making this system work, whereby the local community will have the right and the ability to decide its own destiny and undertake any particular works which are going to benefit the majority of residents of the community.

To enable the Association to be in a financial position to carry out its duties, it would be appreciated if payment of the levy charge for the period of the 1981/82 financial year was made as early as possible.

E. MALLIOTIS
PRESIDENT