

Wee Jasper Community Association

www.weejasper.org/association

General Meeting

1 February 2014, 9.00am Wee Jasper Memorial Hall

Minutes

1. Present

Bob Holloway, John Robinson, Michael Carey, Kate Howarth, Charlie Barton, John Parker,

Also Present

Neville Slyney, Irene Holloway, Jean Frost, Councillor Geoff Frost, Kerry Parker, Helen Cathles, Jenny Chapman, Chris Garner

2. Apologies

Janet Smith, Michael Smith, Steve Howarth, Geoff Kelly, Rosemary MacKenzie, Colin Webeck, Les Shelley

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Moved as correct by Neville Slyney. Seconded Bob Holloway. Carried.

The President explained some of the complications of running as a Section 355 Committee and as such that the previous minutes were not considered 'official' in the eyes of Yass Valley Council.

However, the President asked that the minutes be accepted as official by the members present on this day and that the motions from the previous minutes be accepted as official and correct and therefore submitted to Council.

Moved John Parker, Seconded Bob Holloway. Carried

The President will look into the Section 355 issues including insurance implications. Councillor Frost asked to be kept in the loop. The President will also arrange a meeting with the relevant staff of Council to further discuss this matter.

4. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

4.1 **REGEN Festival** – Helen Cathles reported that it was highly unlikely that the Festival would be going ahead at the end of February due to Police requirements in relation to the DA. Police are requesting that the DA include a 'request for Police presence' which could equate to a cost of over \$60,000. Mrs Cathles advised that the festival organisers and herself met with the Police and Council to put forward their case re. good behaviour. They also met with the Emergency Co-Ordination Committee for the region, with whom the Council have an MOU. The purpose of the meetings was to give those present a better understanding of how the festival runs, including security and emergency management aspects.

The Emergency Co-Ordination Committee expressed their concerns regarding bushfire risk at the time of year in question. Mrs Cathles explained the history of the site to them and its particular safety issues in relation to bushfire. The Committee suggested May-October were preferable for such events and that they were pulling the pin on anything in February. The organisers (who are the same organisers of the successful Dragon Dreaming event) are going to put forward their case for May and ask the Council and Emergency Co-Ordination Committee to reconsider the Police requirement.

Charlie Barton moved that the following motion be communicated to Yass Valley Council. Seconded John Robinson. Carried.

That the Wee Jasper Community Association:

- **notes the benefits in the Yass district for tourism and local business of hosting events such as the REGEN "Regrowth" Festival - benefits we do not wish to see going to another district,**
- **applauds the success of the Dragon Dreaming Festival held last October in the Wee Jasper Valley, at which there was not a single case of unruly behavior by any of the 2100 ticket holders and stall holders, and which assisted the community in raising sufficient funds to make possible a school excursion for our children to the Northern Territory,**
- **welcomes the environmental benefits of hosting the REGEN Festival, which will result in the planting of many trees and the participation of the Wee Jasper Public School students in the educational environmental program written especially for them ,**
- **recognises that festival organisers and members of our community have already made a financial commitment to running the festival in its present form,**
- **considers the stated requirements for policing to be unrealistic and non-justifiable, and the argument for not hosting the festival because of bush-fire risk to be spurious (the Cooradigbee site by the lake is a natural safety zone),**
- **urges the relevant authorities to facilitate the holding of the REGEN Festival in the Wee Jasper Valley as planned, and**
- **requests a reply from the Yass Valley Council on the Community's 6 points raised above.**

4.2 **Café Wee Jasper** – Michael Hawkins has left the area and no one has been forthcoming with further plans. This item is to be removed from the Agenda.

5. Correspondence

IN – Yass Valley Council re REGEN Development Application

OUT – Yass Valley Council supporting REGEN Development Application; Helen Cathles re success of Dragon Dreaming Festival.

6. Treasurer's Report

Moved Charlie Barton, Seconded Irene Holloway that Treasurer's Reports from previous and current meetings be accepted as correct. Carried.

Account balances as tabled by Treasurer for 01/02/14:

CBA Chq Acct	\$2,200.28
CBA River Care Acct	\$818.73
Rural Bank Term Deposit	\$11,812.60
CBA Term Deposit	\$10,000.00

Treasurer's Reports are available at <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/s5lpd90gx6krr6n/6RbQ5GkcuB>

Moved John Parker that the Wee Jasper Community Association allocates \$350.00 to the Wee Jasper valley promotional/tourism brochure, Seconded Irene Holloway. Carried

Kerry Parker asked that phone numbers on brochure are double checked as she still receives calls from a previously incorrectly printed number.

Charlie Barton moved that an official motion of thanks be recorded to Ian and Helen Cathles for their work relating to the Dragon Dreaming Festival and the hopefully upcoming REGEN Festival, in relation to the significant financial contributions these events have made, and will make, to the Wee Jasper community. Seconded John Robinson. Carried.

The meeting discussed the positive impact that the Dragon Dreaming Festival has had on the community and their desire to be involved in the REGEN Festival and future Festivals of this type.

7. Community Paddock

Bob Holloway reported that there are plans afoot to pull tree fencing down and re-erect fencing between the paddock and the tavern.

8. General Business

8.1 Rubbish – The increase in roadside rubbish following the Xmas period was noted. The meeting agreed that participation in Clean Up Australia Day was a good idea. John Robinson offered to co-ordinate.

Jenny Chapman moved that a letter be sent to Yass Valley Council regarding the covering of the load on the recycling truck and also that Council be generally more diligent in the transport of rubbish from Wee Jasper. Seconded Irene Holloway. Carried

Michael Carey moved that a letter be sent to Yass Valley Council and also Yass Police requesting information on their policy on the removal of abandoned vehicles on the side of the road, indicating the associated fire risk, and impact on public perception and asking them to remove the blue Ford near 'The Dip' on Nottingham Road. Seconded Bob Holloway. Carried.

8.2 ANZAC Day – The meeting discussed the erection of a large commemorative stone ready for ANZAC Day 2015 was a good idea. Plans will be made in the coming months to get this underway. Kate Howarth asked for volunteers to help with ANZAC Day 2014. The meeting agreed that the Community Association would host a sausage sizzle on the day this year.

8.3 Roadworks–The meeting noted and appreciated the work done on roads around Wee Jasper by Yass Valley Council, including the school zone signs and the work on Wee Jasper Road towards Tumut.

8.4 Hall Maintenance – The President noted that despite assurances from Tony Stevens of Yass Valley Council two weeks prior to this meeting, the kitchen door lock barrel had not been repaired

9. Next Meeting

The next general meeting will be **Saturday 10 May 2014**, 9am at the Wee Jasper Memorial Hall.

10. Meeting Close Meeting closed at 10.45am.