

**Wee Jasper Community Association
Meeting Saturday 7 February 2015**

MINUTES

Present: Michael Carey, Chris Garner, Michael and Janet Smith, Kerry and John Parker, Ian and Helen Cathles, Chris Griffiths, Zoe Foulon, Geoff and Jean Frost, Lesley Instone, Deborah Houlihan, Michelle Waters, Bob Holloway.

1. Apologies: Jean-Luc Foulon, Irene Holloway, John Robinson, Neil Glassford, Mim Streeter
2. Motion to accept minutes of previous meeting.

Moved Bob Holloway Seconded John Parker. CARRIED

3. Matters arising from previous meeting
 - 3.1. Memorial Stone: John Parker advised it will be ready for ANZAC Day
 - 3.2. Hall pictures: Thank you to Jennifer Barton, John Parker and Michael Carey for arranging picture framing and hanging.
 - 3.3. Rabbit situation: Two deterrent units placed, one at either end of the hall.
 - 3.4. Dragon Dreaming – response to negative reporting.
Helen Cathles advised that Dragon Dreaming organisers would like to hold the event in Wee Jasper again in 2015 and plan positive publicity for the event in Yass and district.
4. Correspondence
 - 4.1. Reply from Council re community consultation meetings.

Motion that the Secretary writes to Council indicating that:

- 7pm is the preferred time for a meeting with meetings alternating between Wee Jasper and The Mullion
- The old format of the meeting is preferable as those attending are then aware of all issues and the priority of the matters raised
- Meetings should be held in time to feed into the budget process
- Our intention is to identify issues before the meeting and advise Council in advance
- We would like our designated officer for community issues, Mr Terry Cooper, to attend the meeting.

Moved Mike Carey Seconded Chris Garner CARRIED

- 4.2. Letter 21 November 2015 regarding electricity safety inspections. Noted.
- 4.3. Email from David Rowe re Fairlight road maintenance. It has recently been gravel resheeted. It is identified as high priority for upgrading and sealing. This will be done in sections and is dependent on funding. Noted.

5. Treasurer's report
Motion: That the Treasurer's report be accepted

Moved Charles Barton Seconded Bob Holloway CARRIED

Motion: That the electricity invoice be paid by direct debit to facilitate payment and reduce costs.

Moved Mike Carey

Seconded Chris Garner

CARRIED

6. Community paddock

Grass level being kept down thanks to Kim and Jack's sheep. Mowers are awaiting repair. Council has offered to pay locals to do the mowing in the meantime. Mike Carey and John Parker to deal with this.

7. General business

7.1. Tennis court net

Chris Garner and Mick Carey authorised to purchase a net and arrange a sign about hiring that will have the Reserves as the contact phone number. The Reserves will also advertise the tennis courts on their website.

7.2. Pictures of Wee Jasper World War 1 soldiers

Pros and cons discussed. Agreed that attendees at Anzac ceremony will be asked if they have any pictures of people from the Wee Jasper district who have served in different conflicts that they are willing to have scanned for the Wee Jasper digital archive and for possible display at some time in the future.

Jennifer and Charlie Barton were asked to seek permission from providers of photographs in the history collection. The archive can then be made available to Yass and District Historical Society and others.

7.3. ANZAC Day ceremony

John Robinson, John Amos, John Parker and Jennifer Barton have the organisation of this event in hand.

7.4. Other business

7.4.1 Damage to wall paint in hall caused by stacking chairs:

Motion that John Parker, Ian Cathles and Chris Griffiths arrange purchase and installation of decking timber around the hall at a height that will prevent the chairs touching the walls.

Moved Janet Smith

Seconded Michael Smith

CARRIED

7.4.2 Concerns about the tip.

Motion: That the Secretary send a letter to Council asking about action on promised removal of rubbish from the evaporation pit and completion of the brush fencing screening the tip from walkers on the Hume and Hovel track.

Moved Chris Griffiths

Seconded Bob Holloway

CARRIED

7.4.3 Slow operation of dishwasher in the hall

Agreed that Ian Cathles will check prices of industrial dishwashers and bring details to the next meeting.

7.4.5 Floor sanding

Discussion of pros and cons of various cleaning and sanding methods. Agreed that Mike Carey will get quote to clean then polish the floor from a Yass supplier of this service and if reasonable will go ahead and get the job done.

7.4.6 Rat Bait

Motion: that John Parker organise purchase and placement of rat bait in the hall.

Moved Janet Smith Seconded Bob Holloway CARRIED

7.4.7 Special Rate Variation

The Yass Valley council has notified ratepayers of proposed rates increase of 10.9% through a leaflet sent out with rates notices and information on the Council website. This is made up of a Special Rate Variation of 8.5% and an annual pegging of 2.4%. Council will vote on the proposed increase on 24 March. Discussion followed regarding reasons provided for the rate increase, the level of current service in our area, and concerns re inefficiencies observed that indicate there is room for greater efficiency, at least in the allocation of labour and scheduling of machinery use.

Resolution of the meeting:

Whilst the WJCA is supportive of the work of the Council, it believes that there are areas where cost savings can be made in the delivery of services and strongly recommends that the vote on the rate increase be postponed until after an **independent** review of service delivery is undertaken.

Moved Charles Barton Seconded Bob Holloway CARRIED

7.4.8 Tree moaning near the school

Deborah Houlihan raised the matter of a tree on Council land next to the school fence and near the intersection that she had noticed moaning. Bob Holloway indicated that Council had probably checked the trees near the school when they removed one recently and said that he would check the tree.

7.4.9 Willow tree infestation

Several present indicated that willows were reappearing along the riverside. Agreed that John Parker, Bob Holloway, Mike Carey and Michael Smith would meet on Saturday 14 February and would check the trees and poison those that were not weeping willows.

7.4.10 Cards

Agreed that Secretary would send a card to Maurice Duffill expressing our sympathy on the death of his wife Lil, and a card with best wishes to Flo Davis following her move to Horton House in Yass.

The meeting closed at 11.35. The next meeting will be on Saturday 9 May 2015.