

MINUTES OF WEE JASPER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION MEETING
HELD SATURDAY 5th NOVEMBER 2016

Meeting opened at 9am

PRESENT : Renee Houssenloge, Chris Barber, Jenny Chapman, Chris Garner, Charlie Barton, Geoff Frost, Les Shelley, John Robinson, Bob Holloway, Bridgette Cathles, Ian Cathles, Helen Cathles, Carol Webeck, John Parker, Kerry Parker, Jean-Luc Foulon, Janet Smith, Michael Smith, Geoff Kell, Glen Cogger, Paul Melville

APOLOGIES: Michael Carey, Rosemary McKenzie

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Moved Bob Holloway, Sec John Parker

BUSINESS ARISING:

Roads- both matters are going to be raised at the Traffic Committee Meeting in November

Stan Jone's Painting- decision re where to place painting, need to send another thank you letter

Dragon Dreaming Report- Helen Cathles

See attached report

Discussion on this report

- * Prospects are slim of the Festival returning due to high cost of police involvement and the road work costs
- * Policing costs- concerns were raised that the DD festival is the only festival activity in the area of Yass Valley to have such a large number of police involved. It was reported that this is due to the isolation of WJ. Motion moved by Charlie Barton sec Jean-luc Foulon "That the community write letters to Police Minister, Local Member, and cc to Yass Valley Council, expressing their support for the Dragon Dreaming Festival and the financial benefit to the wider community of Yass. The concern of the community is that this could be jeopardised by the extremely high expense of policing. The community indicated that increased expense due to isolation of the community is discriminatory." Motion passed Jenny asked Charlie Barton and John Robinson to compose these letters.
- * Charlie Barton requested that money be transferred into the Fire Brigade account. This discussion was directed to the 'February Minutes' which stated that a letter from each organisation be presented to the association saying how the money will be used.

Local Facility- John Parker

There was a meeting with John Parker and other community members and 2 yass valley councillors. Council are investigating and a reply not expected until into the new year. Mel Cook is investigating the crown land aspect and Geoff Frost commented that there is discussion in council of crown land maybe being handed to councils.

CORRESPONDENCE :

Outgoing- A letter of thanks to Stan Jones

Incoming- Email Terry Cooper re roads (see Bus. arising

School Letter re Presentation/christmas party(see general business)

School Letter re School camp (see general business)

TREASURERS REPORT:

Tabled and sec Geoff Kell, accepted

Charlie wanted to express thanks to John Amos for auditing the books and that the association should take note of the recommendations.

Moved Helen, sec Michael Smith that approval be given to the River Care Group to buy a drum of Round Up when needed Approx \$250. Passed

Helen Cathles raised the need to think about other fund raising activities and bring suggestions to the next meeting.

YASS VALLEY COUNCIL NEWS

Geoff Frost thanked everyone for voting for him and he was pleased to be in the position.

New appointments - Rob Fish Director of Engineering, Sharon Hutch- Director of Finances

Roads- pleased to have disaster funding for local roads, notify council of any concerns that are not being addressed.

Community Halls- suggestion of a change in arrangements for managing local halls. There will be more documentation and consultation.

Swimming Pools- raised the awareness of the great cost of running swimming pools . It cost council \$180,000 to run the pool last year and income was \$125,000. A heated pool costs to maintain are extremely high. Council not keen to carry this cost.

Yass Valley Council Consultation Meetings- 24th November in Yass, 29th November in Binalong Crown Land - discussions taking place

COMMUNITY PADDOCK :

Under control, Thanks to Kim and Jack for burning the rubbish.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

School Presentation/ Community Christmas party- Moved Janet Smith, Sec John Parker That the association pay the \$350 for the jute box. Secretary to write to Principal accepting this cost.

School Camp - School writing asking that the association pay \$4652 from the Dragon Dreaming money . Motion moved by Charlie Barton, Sec John Robinson “ that \$3000 be allocated to the school” This motion was passed.

Some members of the association expressed concern re the amount of money the P&C is holding in its account and that should the school close this money would be lost. The association asked the secretary to write to the school expressing this concern

Fund Raising

Chris Garner said she had ideas of raising money for the association. Chris stated that if others would like to join her in organising some activities it would be much appreciated and that those who volunteered need to be willing to put in the work. A group of people volunteered and Chris is organising a meeting.

School Numbers

Geoff Kell raised the issues of the school and the small number of students attending the school and that this is not due to students being available to attend but rather that the educational needs of the students are not being met.

Bridgette shared that she had written to the department and state government re her concerns. The parent body and Pru Goward had met as well as a meeting with the departments representative.

Concerned was also expressed that the image of the school in the Yass area was being damaged and casuals would not come to work at the school.

Moved Geoff Kell, sec Jean- Luc Foulon “ That a letter of concern be written by the association and the ramification of the school closing was not due to the lack of available numbers but that the parents had lack of confidence in the Teaching Principal. The association needed to express the importance of the school to the community.” This motion was passed and the association agreed that the letter be written by Janet Smith.

Meeting closed at 11.45am

NEXT MEETING: Saturday 4th February 2017