

MINUTES 3/12/25	GENERAL MEETING, BALINGUP PROGRESS ASSOC. INC.	
Meeting opened	6.00pm	
Present	J. Hornum, K. Menard, R. Thomas, M. Giles, S. Smith, H. Christensen, A. Scott, B. Slava, S. Doyla, M. Bray, M. Smart, K. Bailey, J. Hawter, J. Taylor, W. Ayres, T. Smith, J. Wilson	
Apologies	W. Trow, T. Benson	
NEW BUSINESS		
Balingup Small Farm Field Day Committee	Andrew reported that the committee is struggling and will need new members to keep up numbers to continue event management. In 2026, the Field Day will include a Dog Trial competition and funding has been secured to cover costs of entry fees for children and activities such as the Lion’s train and Kid’s Corner. The meeting was reminded of the importance of the event as it forms the basis of our Agricultural Insurance policy. Please contact Andrew Scott to volunteer for the committee or help with the event.	A.Scott
Balingup Friends of the Forest	Balingup Friends of the Forest would like to apply to become an umbrella group under the Balingup Progress Association. Balingup Friends of the Forest (BFOF) has been an incorporated body for many years, however voted at their recent Annual General Meeting to review their position and deregister as an association. Balingup Friends of the Forest general aims are to; · promote awareness, appreciation, use and enjoyment of forests in a way that does not adversely impact on the values within the forests; · advocate the value of ‘green spaces’ in the Balingup area, for the health of the community and the natural environment; · liaise with the Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup, DBCA and other organisations with regard to the management of public land with significant conservation and natural heritage values (such as the Racecourse Flora Reserve); · promote the idea of a ‘green belt’ around Balingup as important habitat for endemic flora and fauna. A significant proportion of BFOF’s work is focused on the management and enhancement of the	S. Noonan

	<p>Racecourse Flora Reserve, and the Jenny de Garis Reserve.</p> <p>BFOF had 12 financial members in 24/25, as well as non-financial supporters.</p> <p>Motion – that Balingup Friends of the Forest be authorised to (1) operate as an umbrella group under BPA (subject to Insurance Provider’s approval) (2) operate under BPA’s ABN and (3) operate a bank account.</p> <p>Moved: S. Noonan</p> <p>Seconded: R. Thomas</p> <p>*Wendy to provide summary to AON</p> <p>*Jodie to provide letter for bank account</p> <p>*Sondra to provide asset list and contact details of members</p>	
Town Santa’s	<p>Katrin requested the town Santa’s be put out. The five Santa’s are owned by local business and stored in a BMC sea container. They are to be located at the Tinderbox, Packing Shed, Mushroom Cafe, Rero’s and General Store. BPA members will meet on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December at 1pm to collect Santa’s and place in main street location. Thank you to Andrew for volunteering the use of his vehicle and trailer.</p>	K. Menard
Town street garden beds	<p>Helen requested members report the eucalyptus trees growing out of pavement near Rero’s to the Shire.</p>	H. Christensen
Workspace shed	<p>Joe requested information on work needed to Workspace Shed. The BMC committee is responsible for maintenance of this building and will need to provide an update if required.</p>	J. Taylor
AON Insurance Policies	<p>Insurance policies and invoices have been received and are due for payment at the end of December. Umbrella groups will receive their contribution invoices in the coming week.</p>	J. Hornum
Bushfire Season Mailout	<p>A mailout has been delivered to Post Office boxes. Please share the information with your neighbours who may not have a post box. (document attached)</p>	J. Hornum
<b>Business arising from previous minutes</b>	<p>Balingup Playground – location mud map provided since last meeting (Annex B)</p> <p>Rubbish bins – being collected more regularly</p> <p>Bendigo Bank Community Grants - Balingup Tourism Committee received \$3500 and Jodie Hornum received two nominations for the Bruce Hearman Award.</p>	Chair

<b>Report on Action Items Annex A</b>	Ongoing (tabled) Complete (tabled)	Chair
<b>Correspondence list</b>	<i>** List from November to January to be tabled at next meeting.</i> Incoming/Outgoing (tabled) Annex n/a Correspondence list accepted and received Moved: n/a Seconded: n/a	Secretary
<b>Umbrella Group Reports</b>	Balingup Rail Group (to be provided with meeting minutes)	Secretary
<b>Confirmation of minutes previous meeting</b>	Amendments (N) Moved: R. Thomas Seconded: J. Hornum	Carried (Y)
<b>Treasurer's Report</b>	<u>Bank account balances as of 31/11/25</u> Operating Account \$1621.85 Trust Fund Account \$2,173.54 Term Deposit Insurance Account \$38,444.27 (\$3000 to be transferred to Trust Fund Account on next renewal) Term Deposit Future's Fund Account \$36,528.85 Coordinator Payment Account \$1.21  <u>Accounts for payment</u> DBCR annual sponsorship \$160 Water Corporation \$12.05 AON Insurance Policy 83ASL1874478 \$1,606.10 AON Insurance Policy 47ZAH00525701 \$103.84 AON Insurance Policy 01R 3677131 \$7,676.78 AON Insurance Policy 10M 8232989 \$6,791.18  *request from H. Christensen to check on balance of cleaner payment monies.  <u>Membership payments received (\$3 to bank)</u> T. Smith J. Wilson  Treasurer's Report accepted and received Moved: J. Hornum Seconded: R. Thomas	J. Hornum (for T. Benson)
<b>Reminders</b>	10/12/25 Cancer information session ( <b>Postponed til 2026</b> ) 16/12/25 Carols by Candlelight, Peace Pergola, 7.30pm 19/12/25 Community Markets, Village Green, 4-7pm	

Meeting Closed	6.42pm
<b>Next Meeting</b>	<b>Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> of February 2026 at 6pm</b>

ANNEX A		
as of 3/12/25	ACTION LIST, BALINGUP PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC	
MEETING DATE PERSON RESPONSIBLE	ITEM	STATUS
<b>Staying in Place</b> W.Trow/ J.Hornum C.Bailey Aug 25	BPA has sought approval from the Busselton Hospice Care Inc. Board to enter into a partnership on the Staying in Place model to deliver Home Care Packages in the Balingup district. The terms of the partnership including communication, support arrangements, revenue sharing to be negotiated in the partnership agreement forming process once approval is received. BHCI Board will consider BPA's application to work in partnership with them at a Board meeting on 25 <sup>th</sup> September 25.	ONGOING
<b>Community Foundation</b> Nov 24/ W.Trow	Initial discussions have been held with Fremantle Community Foundation to discuss creating a Community Foundation in Balingup. FCF advised (22 July) they have DGR1 (charitable) status but are still awaiting ATO approval. A meeting will be held with the wider community when DGR1 status confirmed.	ONGOING
<b>Stand pipe costs</b> W.Trow Aug 24	<p>There is a 45% difference between water charges in Donnybrook and Balingup. Shire has written to Water Corporation requesting clarification (10 March 25). This was raised at meeting with Shire on 29 Aug 25 and they advised they have not received a response. BPA has sent a copy of the Shire letter to Jodie Hanns (1 Sept 25).</p> <p>Email response received Thu 16/10/2025 - To Balingup Progress Assoc Thank you for your patience while we awaited a response from the Minister for Water regarding your query on standpipe fees and charges in Balingup. The advice received is summarised below:</p> <p><b>Regional fixed standpipes provide access to bulk water for areas not serviced by Water Corporation's drinking water schemes. Common uses include:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supply to households not connected to drinking water schemes</li> <li>• Municipal services</li> <li>• Commercial operations</li> <li>• Agricultural activities, and more</li> </ul> <p>• Local governments apply for fixed standpipes based on the needs of their communities. They can choose to apply for low flow, community use standpipes</p>	COMPLETE

	<p>(20mm or 25mm) or high flow, commercial standpipes (40mm and greater).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water supplied to low flow standpipes is charged at the community rate (\$3.012 per kilolitre (kL) for 2025-26), while water to high flow standpipes is charged at the applicable commercial rate for each town.</li> <li>Commercial water use in regional towns is charged at 1 of 15 steps, based on the cost of supplying safe drinking water in each location. Step 1 is the lowest and step 15 is the highest.</li> <li>The standpipes in Donnybrook and Balingup are both 50mm and therefore incur the commercial water use charge for each town. Donnybrook is a step 8 town with commercial water use charged at \$5.469/kL and Balingup is a step 15 town with water use charged at \$9.929/kL. (The different prices quoted by the Balingup Progress Association would reflect additional fees applied by the Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup.)</li> <li>The State Government considers it appropriate that water use charges for commercial enterprises reflect the cost of supply.</li> <li>Water Corporation cannot differentiate between the water being drawn from high flow standpipes for commercial purposes and the water being drawn for residential use.</li> </ul> <p>Lastly, I can confirm that the Minister's office has advised there are currently <b>no rebates available for water tanks</b> for residents not connected to scheme water. I understand that this may not be the outcome you were hoping for, but I appreciate your engagement on this matter and your commitment to your community.</p> <p>Natasha Putland, Research Officer On behalf of Jodie Hanns</p>	
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