

MINUTES 4/09/2024	GENERAL MEETING, BALINGUP PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC	
Meeting opened	6.02pm	
Present	J.Hornum, W.Trow, R.Benson, W.Ayers, R.Thomas, K.Menard, G.McMullen, S.Doyle, G.Patrick, D.Cameron, Viv & Adam Pustol, A.Scott, J.Taylor. J.Milton	
Apologies	H.Christensen.	
New Business	S.Franks queried the lack of facilities for disposal of e-waste at Balingup Waste Transfer Station. G.Patrick advised the Shire has to apply for a new licence and there is no short term solution however he will raise the issue with the Shire.	
E-waste disposal		
Pot holes	G.McMullen & S.Franks have reported pot holes on Walter St to the Shire. J.Hornum advised there is a link on the Shire website to report any problems needing attention by the Shire.	
Grants	SFFD & Balingup Medieval Carnivale wish to apply to Tourism WA for grants. SFFD need money for children's activities and equipment (in 2026 and will also be applying to Talison for a community grant. BMC need funds to expand for security, entertainment etc. S.Doyle suggested the groups could also apply to South West Development Commission. The meeting approved the proposal for both sub-committees to apply for grants using BPA Incorporation details.	
Shire Update	<p>G.Patrick advised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Shire faces financial shortfalls and cuts will need to be made. • The Shire has a new community grants policy which is on the Shire website. The overall value has been reduced however there will be 11 community grants made @ \$2000 each. Service Level Agreements (eg Visitor Centres) will also be reduced. Community grants will be advertised within the next few weeks. • Shire Budget is about to be signed off and rates will then be issued. • The new CEO starts at the beginning of November. <p>J.Hornum asked if there was a way to ask for a reconsideration of an SLAs. G.Patrick advised that we could make a deputation to Council to present our case.</p>	
Grass tree	K.Menard advised someone has burned the grass tree on Jayes Road. Everyone to be aware – report suspicious activity to police.	
AGM	Next meeting is AGM on 2 nd October. All sub-committees have been asked to give a short written report. No general business will be discussed. Cr Vivienne MacCarthy (Shire President) has accepted an invitation to attend. We will be calling for nominations of office bearers. Wine and nibbles, up to the value of \$300, to be organised by D.Cameron & G. McMullen. Moved R.Thomas. 2 nd Janine Milton. Carried,	

<p>LEMC Emergency Management</p>	<p>W.Trow advised she had attended the Local Emergency Management Committee meeting in August. Some key points noted include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DBCA advise the summer drought caused ‘abnormal leaf litter accumulation’ and they are carrying out mapping. We are however, having a good wet winter and if that continues, we should expect a normal bushfire season. • There were 90 bush fires in Blackwood District 2023/24 and only 3 fires were larger than 10 hectares. This was due to quick response of aircraft dispatched early to hit fires hard and fast. • Only did 3 prescribed burns in autumn. Planning 7 in spring – nearest to Balingup being North Greenbushes. • St John Ambulance has successfully recruited more volunteers and will receive a brand new ambulance at the end of 2024. • SES membership is now 14. • Shire has applied for funds to develop an Animal Welfare Plan – if successful, this will be included in emergency arrangements. • Western Power now has Starlink telecommunications units on some of their vehicles. 	
<p>Starlink Satellite</p>	<p>Anish Shah advises that a Starlink satellite communications unit has been purchased – this is primarily for use by two major events in town, but also is suitable for use during emergencies. For information/action to be taken, see Annex C.</p>	
<p>Small Towns Talk</p>	<p>W.Trow advised she has been invited to speak at the National Small Towns Conference in Perth 17/18 September where she will explain the BPA model of insurance and sub-committees.</p>	
<p>Mentors Balingup Primary school</p>	<p>Balingup Primary School is calling for people to become mentors through the EdConnect school volunteer program. You don't need any special skills—just an hour a week and a listening ear. As a mentor, you'll be providing support to students who need it most, helping them navigate their school years with confidence and enthusiasm. Phone: 1800 668 550 Email: edconnect@edconnect.org.au</p>	
<p>Water Corporation - discolouration</p>	<p>Water Corp advise that there is now enough water in local dams to switch back to our normal operating mode. This means your drinking water will be supplied from local dams instead of the Nannup bore, which was used as an emergency source during the prolonged dry summer.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You may continue to experience <u>discoloured water</u> while the sediment in the system flushes through. Please be assured water is still safe to use. • If you experience an increase in discolouration, you can help flush the system by running an outside tap for a few minutes. • If you don't see an improvement after doing this, we recommend calling us on 13 13 75 	

Carnivale	H.Christensen asked that her congratulation be given to the BMC committee on a fantastic two days in true medieval conditions! She spoke to lots of people who had a great time. All agreed it was a well run, amazing event. Helen’s comments were endorsed by the BPA meeting members.	
Talison	R.Thomas advised that a group has met to discuss Talison issues – 19 attended from both Greenbushes and Balingup. They are still deciding how the group will operate in the future. R.Thomas & S.Doyle went on a personal tour of the mine. W.Trow advised that Talison has provided written answers to questions raised prior to and at, the public information session held in Balingup. Talison also noted that much of the information can be found in their Sustainability Report –published in 2022 and 2023. It was agreed that the Q&A Summary be distributed with these Minutes. R.Thomas advised that Talison will hold an Open Day at the mine on 7 th October – book early.	
Balingup Rail Group	Rail specialists appointed by the BRG, Linqage International, are scheduled to deliver the final report and business case by this coming Friday 6 September 2024. BRG requested a suitable date for a community briefing. It was agreed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the BPA Executive do not need a special briefing, and • we offer BRG the opportunity to hold a community briefing on the report and business plan on Wednesday 16 October or 23 October. Most recent BRG report will be distributed with these Minutes	
Wheelchair	CWA has an old wheelchair in their rooms and asked if the new wheelchair, recently donated to BPA and stored in the Community Centre, could be held at CWA. This was agreed. Bookings to be made through Wendy Ayers. Meeting agreed CWA to sell old wheelchair.	
Showers	During the summer drought, people ran out of tank water and went to Greenbushes to use free showers because the Shire fee for using showers at the Transit Park is \$6.00. It was agreed that we write to the Shire and ask them to waive or reduce that fee during periods of declared drought.	
Laundry	During the drought, people also travelled to Greenbushes to use the public laundry facilities there. W.Trow advised she had spoken to the Shire but they advise that no Balingup public facilities have the capacity to deal with waste water from a public laundry. Any upgrade would come at considerable cost and is not something the Shire could accommodate at this stage.	
Report on action items Annex A	Ongoing (tabled) Complete (tabled)	Chair

Correspondence list	Incoming/Outgoing (tabled) Annex B	Secretary																																											
Correspondence list accepted and received	Moved: W.Trow Seconded S.Franks																																												
Other meetings/groups	Balingup Rail Group Minutes (attached)	Secretary																																											
Confirmation of minutes from previous meeting	Amendments N Moved W.Trow Seconded J.Hornum	Carried Y																																											
Treasurer's report Accounts for payment	<p>(tabled) BPA Treasurer's Report as 31/08/24</p> <p>Available Balance - BPA Operating Account \$ 5,761.86</p> <p>Current Balances:</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>BPA Operating Account balance (including funds held on behalf of BPA sub committees see table below)</td> <td>\$44,650.80</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BPA Trust Fund Account</td> <td>\$14,619.18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Balingup Futures Term Deposit Account</td> <td>\$21,723.46</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Insurance Reserve Term Deposit Account</td> <td>\$36,700.94</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(previous) Event Coordinator Account</td> <td>\$0.06</td> </tr> </table> <p>Record of funds held on behalf of BPA sub committees as 31/08/24 (included in operating account balance above)</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Name</th> <th>Balance (Start of Month)</th> <th>Balance (End of Month)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Avenue of Honour</td> <td>827.04</td> <td>827.04</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Men in Sheds</td> <td>400.00</td> <td>400.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Community Garden (Shire grant)</td> <td>10,406.90</td> <td>10,406.90</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Health and Wellness Group</td> <td>1,250.00</td> <td>1,250.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Balingup Rail Group</td> <td>25,391.00</td> <td>25,391.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td>\$38,274.94</td> <td>\$38,274.94</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Record of grant funds held for BPA as 31/08/24 (included in operating account balance above)</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Name</th> <th>Balance (Start of Month)</th> <th>Balance (End of Month)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>War Memorial Grant</td> <td>125.47</td> <td>125.47</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Shire DB (past Grant CC)</td> <td>0</td> <td>500.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td>125.47</td> <td>625.47</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	BPA Operating Account balance (including funds held on behalf of BPA sub committees see table below)	\$44,650.80	BPA Trust Fund Account	\$14,619.18	Balingup Futures Term Deposit Account	\$21,723.46	Insurance Reserve Term Deposit Account	\$36,700.94	(previous) Event Coordinator Account	\$0.06	Name	Balance (Start of Month)	Balance (End of Month)	Avenue of Honour	827.04	827.04	Men in Sheds	400.00	400.00	Community Garden (Shire grant)	10,406.90	10,406.90	Health and Wellness Group	1,250.00	1,250.00	Balingup Rail Group	25,391.00	25,391.00	TOTAL	\$38,274.94	\$38,274.94	Name	Balance (Start of Month)	Balance (End of Month)	War Memorial Grant	125.47	125.47	Shire DB (past Grant CC)	0	500.00	TOTAL	125.47	625.47	Treasurer
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Business arising from previous	See Annex A																																												

minutes		
Reminders	2 nd Oct	BPA Annual General Meeting
	5 th Oct	Health & Wellness event at Village Green (cancelled)
	19 Oct	Play "Barman of Balingup" at Balingup Hall, 7pm
		Booking essential phone Noelene 97641080 / Helen 97641291
	2 nd /3 rd Nov	Wedding Expo in Balingup
Meeting closed	7.17pm	
Next meeting date/time	AGM Wednesday 2 nd October at 6pm	No general meeting

BPA Action List

Annex A

as of 05/9/24	ACTION LIST, BALINGUP PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC	
ITEM MEETING DATE PERSON RESPONSIBLE	ACTION	STATUS
Townscape G.McMullen Aug 24	Shire Parks & Gardens supervisor would like to meet up with Balingup Townscape committee. G.McMullen agreed to organise a Townscape meeting and advise J.Hornum of the date/time. No date set as of 4/9/24	ONGOING
Townscape W.Trow Aug 24	The AGM will be held in October. W.Trow has sent out request for Umbrella groups to provide updates in writing by end of September.	COMPLETED
Stand pipe costs W.Trow Aug 24	<p>There is a 45% difference between water charges in Donnybrook and Balingup. The August meeting agreed that BPA should write to the Shire, requesting them to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • lobby Water Corporation and State Parliament to provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ concessional rates to rural community members, irrespective of the cost of new infrastructure, and ○ subsidies for rainwater tanks. • Confirm that the Balingup standpipe charges are not impacted by the commercial use of water by Talison. <p>Letter has been written. Awaiting response.</p>	ONGOING
Dump point W.Trow Aug 24	<p>M.Giles requested BPA ask the Shire if it is possible to have a caravan dump point in Balingup. Shire advises that ‘in towns where there is no mains sewer, dump points need to be connected to holding tanks only i.e. are not able to be discharged into an onsite effluent disposal system. This is due to the chemicals used in the caravan systems and cassettes impacting the microbes in the onsite effluent disposal system’.</p> <p>They suggested we determine the location of the nearest dump point from Balingup and provide this information for travellers.</p>	COMPLETED
Australian Tax Office J.Hornum Jun 24	The ATO now requires not-for-profit incorporated bodies to register and report their income. J.Hornum has agreed to action.	ONGOING
New Residents event J.Hornum Jun 24	<p>J.Hornum plans to hold new resident event –23rd November 24.</p> <p>N.King has offered to help.</p> <p>Anyone interested in helping co-ordinate should contact J.Hornum</p>	ONGOING
Disabled access community centre May 24/ W.Trow/	BMC requested that improvements be made to the ramp that provides disabled access to the community centre. G.Patrick has provided design/specifications of what will be needed and this has been sent to Preston Valley for quote. D.Cameron is liaising with Preston Valley.	ONGOING

D.Cameron		
Australia Day Awards. Mar 24 S.Franks H.Christensen	BPA has purchased an honour board. Names have been collated but records only go back to 1993. BPA to pay for the sign writing. S.Franks explained how the honour board would be laid out. The meeting agreed plans should go ahead and requested that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We add a message 'sponsored by BPA'. • The title be 'Australian Citizenship Awards' (can be shortened to 'Citizenship Awards' if insufficient space). 	COMPLETED
Talison Feb 24/	See new business	COMPLETED
Shire Works Balingup J.Hornum Nov 23	J. Hornum has contacted Shire to follow up on Skatepark maintenance plans/progress and they will visit the park to assess extent of repairs needed.	COMPLETED
Shire Lease Agreement Jul 23 W.Trow/ J.Hornum	The Shire has provided lease documentation that lists approved use as 'Community Centre, workshop and toilet block'. A meeting to review the draft lease with the Shire is still to be held.	ONGOING
Update of map in bus shelter June 2021 H. Christensen Feb 2023	A budget of \$200 was agreed at the September meeting: H.Christensen is coordinating the map with Sandy Mitchell and it is proposed to display the map (using one of the old noticeboards) in the Village Green shelter. H Christensen advises she is waiting for better weather.	ONGOING

Emails/Letters In Note: This list does not include newsletters/general updates from other organisations.

Date	From	Subject	Action
9 Aug 24	Dbk CRC	Annual membership BPA	J.Hornum
12 Aug	Shire	Caravan dump point response	Forwarded to M.Giles
17 Aug	K.Connor	Talison meeting	W.Trow
18 Aug	V.MacCarthy	Education feedback	Forwarded to key individuals
21 Aug	Synergy	Invoice (account in credit)	Nil
25 Aug	Bell Fire	Invoice	J.Hornum
26 Aug	Town Teams	Grants available	Forwarded to H.Christensen
19 Aug	Balingup Primary	Mentoring program	See new business
21 Aug	Water Corp	Discoloured water	All BPA
22 Aug`	Volunteers SW	Volunteer survey	Completed W.Trow
22 Aug	Native Forest	Grant unsuccessful	Fwd to S.Noonan & B.Slava
27 Aug	Anish Shah	Starlink	See new business
28 Aug	Dbk CRC	AGM	Information
30 Aug	S.Burke	Night market report (for AGM)	W.Trow
2 Sept	Talison	Q&A notes	See new business
3 Sept	Town Teams	Newsletter	Information

Letters/emails Out

Date	To	Subject	Actioned by
8 Aug	All BPA	Minutes of August meeting	W.Trow
10 Aug	All BPA umbrella groups	Insurance & AGM – submissions required	W.Trow
10 Aug	Shire	Standpipe charges	W.Trow
29 Aug	All BPA	Water Corp discoloured water	W.Trow

Starlink Satellite System

Anish Shah advises that the following Starlink satellite communications unit has been purchased – this is primarily for use by two major events in town, but also is suitable for use during emergencies.

1. One Starlink
2. Two signal boosters
3. A 4m telescopic tower for the Starlink
4. Ethernet adapter
5. Some cables

Total value: \$6000

Anish has advised that costs include:

- a subscription fee of \$300 for 3 years, and
- the community will only be charged when the unit is switched on.

He also sought advice on the following:

Anish	Action
Requested BPA place it on the asset register.	This to be completed as soon as the SFFD (and possibly BMC) confirm they have paid for the equipment. J.Hornum to action asset register. W.Trow to list for insurance.
Asked if he should continue to store on his premises as caretaker if a more appropriate place cannot be located.	Agreed (BPA to list Anish's address for insurance)
Offered to manage the system in conjunction with Chris Leam however we need other nominated persons who know how to switch the unit on / troubleshoot the basics to get it up and running if they are not available	Grant Patrick offered to be trained to use.
Requested that a deployment plan be developed for emergencies.	Action by A.Shah and Balingup Resilience Group.
Suggested that the system be set up at the Recreation Centre. Power is required.	Action by A. Shah, BADSA and Balingup Resilience Group

Some more hardware and testing is needed for event usage, and he will do that over the coming months.