

MINUTES 3/07/2024	GENERAL MEETING, BALINGUP PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC	
Meeting opened	6.04pm	
Present	J.Hornum, W.Trow, R.Benson, J.Milton, W.Ayers, S.Franks, J.Taylor, R.Thomas, K.Menard, H.Christensen.	
Apologies	M.Giles, J.Wilson, G.McMullen	
New Business Talison Meeting	<p>K.Menard requested that BPA contacts Talison to set the date for a community meeting to discuss mining operations. She advised she has collated and submitted a total of 100 questions (60 new + 40 old). Talison has advised that they have answered all the questions – but they have not yet had management approval and not yet set a date. W.Trow expressed concern at the number of questions and there was some discussion on how the meeting would be run. K.Menard advised the meeting that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talison will have the floor and can collate responses to questions that relate to a similar subject. • The meeting will focus on reading out answers to the questions and should not therefore take much more than an hour. It will only need one Talison staff member. • No new questions will be asked on the day. <p>Based on this format, it was agreed that BPA would contact Talison and ask them to set a day/time for the meeting as soon as possible.</p>	W.Trow
Bendigo Bank Grants	<p>Bendigo Bank advise that their Community Grants Pitch Night will be on 19th October. Applications can be obtained from Bendigo Bank or email donnybrookmailbox@bendigoadelaide.com.au</p>	Information
Financial Support for Farmers	<p>W.Trow advised that she had attended a networking session to learn what financial counselling is available for farmers. A summary of her findings, at Annex C, has been provided to the Preston Press, Balingup Surgery and Pharmacy.</p>	Information
In Home Care Packages	<p>W.Trow gave an overview of InCasa – a group in Perth that is working with small community groups to manage their own at home care for special needs residents. If Balingup wished to progress this:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BPA or Vintage would form a sub-committee • The group approaches InCasa and tell them we are interested in setting ourselves up as a home care provider. They come down and have a chat to explain how it could be set up. • Another group (Mable) will also set up information sessions on how to recruit independent home care contractors/sole traders from within the community. <p>InCasa and Mable provide all the administrative cover needed (insurance, workers comp etc) and care recipients have much more control over the money. Initial research shows this is a financially viable proposal.</p> <p>It was agreed that anyone interested in forming a group to follow up this idea should contact W.Trow who will pass on the contact information.</p>	All
Leadership workshops	<p>The Future Drought Fund is providing a free two-day leadership development workshop for adults who would like to see things change in their communities and play more active roles by becoming changemakers, influencers or community advocates. The next workshop in our region is:</p> <p>Donnybrook – 22 & 23 July at the Donnybrook Recreation Centre, registration via https://events.humanitix.com/changemaker-workshop-donnybrook-region-21-wa.</p>	Information
Loan to Balingup Rail Group	<p>BRG has advised that, as the project is only part way through to completion, they would like to reconcile the final payment when the feasibility study is formally handed over and endorsed by the BRG. The BRG is waiting on a decision from a funding source that will cover all remaining costs including the loan pay back and BRG may need to be able to draw down on the loan until that decision is made. J.Hornum advised that Balingup Trust Fund Committee's condition of underwriting a \$5,000 loan amount to BRG was that it had to be repaid to the BPA Futures Fund Account by 30th June 2024. Funds have been transferred back to Trust Fund account.</p>	Information

<p>Resilience Project</p> <p>Bushfire Ready Facilitators</p> <p>Futures Fund</p>	<p>It was agreed that BRG be advised that, if they require the \$5000 before they secure their funding they will have to submit request to Trust Fund Committee.</p> <p>H.Christensen advised that she has heard of other communities setting up Resilience Groups based on the model established in Balingup. Another first for Balingup! She congratulated W.Trow, J.Milton and the Resilience Group for this initiative.</p> <p>A Bushfire Ready facilitators course will be held 25 August 9am – 3pm in Manjimup. The current facilitator of the BFR program in Balingup, Janine Milton, would like to encourage others to learn more about the program so they could also facilitate this important emergency management program. See attachment for details.</p> <p>J.Hornum advised that a working group has finalised develop application guidelines for the Balingup Futures Fund policy – which was issued with the June agenda. Feedback to be received by 30 June 2024. As no formal feedback has been received, it was moved that we adopt the policy. Moved J.Hornum Seconded Ros Benson Carried</p>	<p>Information</p> <p>J.Milton</p> <p>J.Hornum</p>																															
<p>Report on action items Annex A</p>	<p>Ongoing (tabled) Complete (tabled)</p>	<p>Chair</p>																															
<p>Correspondence list</p>	<p>Incoming/Outgoing (tabled) Annex B</p>	<p>Secretary</p>																															
<p>Correspondence list accepted and received</p>	<p>Moved: W.Trow Seconded J.Milton</p>																																
<p>Other meetings/groups</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>Secretary</p>																															
<p>Confirmation of minutes from previous meeting</p>	<p>Amendments N Moved W.Trow Seconded H.Christensen</p>	<p>Carried Y</p>																															
<p>Treasurer's report Accounts for payment</p>	<p>(tabled)</p> <p>BPA Treasurer's Report as 30/06/24 Available Balance - BPA Operating Account \$6,006.86 Current Balances:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="328 1357 1316 1617"> <tr> <td>BPA Operating Account balance (including funds held on behalf of BPA sub committees see table below)</td> <td>\$44,407.27</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BPA Trust Fund Account</td> <td>\$9,602.04</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 30/06/24 (included in operating account balance above)</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="328 1715 1256 2024"> <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>30,391.00</td> <td>25,391.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td>\$43,274.94</td> <td>\$38,274.94</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Record of grant funds held for BPA as 30/06/24 (included in operating account balance above)</p>	BPA Operating Account balance (including funds held on behalf of BPA sub committees see table below)	\$44,407.27	BPA Trust Fund Account	\$9,602.04	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	30,391.00	25,391.00	TOTAL	\$43,274.94	\$38,274.94	<p>Treasurer</p>
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	Name	Balance (Start of Month)	Balance (End of Month)	
	War Memorial Grant	260.17	125.04	
	Bendigo Bank Grant	250.30		
	TOTAL	510.47	125.47	
Treasurer's report accepted and accounts approved for payment	Amendments N Moved J.Hornum Seconded R.Thomas			Carried Y
Business arising from previous minutes	See Annex A			
Reminders	6 -7 th July Telling Tales 24/25 Aug Medieval Carnivale 5 th Oct Health & Wellness event at Village Green November Wedding Expo (date to be advised)			
Meeting closed	6.55pm			
Next meeting date/time	Wednesday 3 rd August at 6pm			

BPA Action List

Annex A

as of 03/07/24	ACTION LIST, BALINGUP PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC	
ITEM MEETING DATE PERSON RESPONSIBLE	ACTION	STATUS
Change Electoral Boundaries Jun 24/ W.Trow	Australian Electoral Commission has proposed changes to the federal electoral boundaries in Western Australia including a proposal to move the Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup from Forrest into O'Connor. BPA has written a submission objecting to this proposal.	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
Volunteers bag Jun 24/ W.Trow	The Shire has provided 20 volunteers thank you bags. Nominations have been received and bags distributed.	COMPLETED
New Residents event J.Hornum Jun 24	J.Hornum suggested another new resident events when it warms up (November). Anyone interested in helping her co-ordinate should contact J.Hornum. No-one has contacted her to date.	ONGOING
Balingup Post Office/wine Bar W.Trow June 24	Balingup Post Office a business proposal for a wine bar and requested letters of support. BPA has written letter of support.	COMPLETED
Talison land acquisition May 24/ T.Ridley/ W.Trow	T.Ridley raised issues about Talison land development in Balingup. She has been told of cases where land has been acquired using heavy handed tactics. T.Ridley to send W.Trow contact details of persons affected so that we can arrange for them to meet with State MP Jodie Hanns. Update: T.Ridley will follow up with the farmer himself. She thinks he would appreciate support, although he wishes to remain anonymous at this time. She also advised that the Minutes should say "land was seeking to be acquired" not "had been acquired" and that "heavy handed tactics" referred to how it would affect the native bush lands around the property, and how unjust this situation is.	COMPLETED
Disabled access community centre May 24/ W.Trow/ D.Cameron	S.Franks 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
Balingup Futures Fund applications Apr 24/ J.Hornum	At the April meeting we agreed to form a working group to further develop application guidelines for the Balingup Futures Fund policy document. This meeting was held on 27 May and draft document issued with the June agenda. Feedback to be received by 30 June 2024. See New Business.	COMPLETED
Australia Day	BPA has purchased an honour board for \$385. Names are still being collated. \$510	ONGOING

Awards. Mar 24 S.Franks H.Christensen	held in BPA grant funds, and \$430 from BPA current account, to be used to pay for the sign writing. H.Christensen is going through old BPA records to collate a list.	
Talison Feb 24/ K.Menard R.Thomas	K.Menard/R.Thomas are organising a community meeting with Talison. See New Business	ONGOING
Shire Works Balingup J.Hornum Nov 23	J. Hornum has contacted Shire to follow up on Skatepark maintenance plans/progress. This being followed up by the Shire.	ONGOING
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'. BPA has responded with a request to add "event, recreation and market stalls" to the approved list. Shire has advised that the new Sub-Lease between the Shire and BPA has been prepared however it will need prior approval by ARC. A meeting to review the draft lease with the Shire is being arranged for end June.	ONGOING
Update of map in bus shelter June 2021 H. Christensen Feb 2023	A budget of \$200 was agreed at the September meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Display posters have been returned to the panels (J.Hornum) • 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. 	ONGOING

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

Date	From	Subject	Action
31 May 24	K.West	BPA membership	J.Hornum
3 Jun 24	S.Franks	Futures Fund query	W.Trow
5 Jun 24	Shire CEO	Strategic Plan acknowledgment	Info
5 Jun 24	Shire Works	War Memorial	J.Hornum
6 Jun 24	R.Thomas	Talison meeting	Info
9 Jun 24	R.Price	Nominations gift bags	W.Trow
10 Jun 24	S.Franks	Nominations gift bags	W.Trow
10 Jun 24	R.Wright	GVTP thanks to BPA for grant	Info
18 Jun 24	AEC FedDistribution	Electoral submission acknowledge	Info
25 June 24	T.Ridley	Talison land	Updated Action Plan
25 June 24	K.Menard	Talison meeting questions	See new business
25 June 24	R.Thomas	Chasing Talison meeting	Info
28 Jun 24	G.Hodge	BRG \$5000 loan extension request	See new business
26 Jun 24	AON	Carnivale insurance	W.Trow
1 Jul 24	Rural Leaders	Changemaker leadership	See new business

Letters/emails Out

Date	To	Subject	Actioned by
7 Jun 24	AEC FedDistribution	Electoral boundary submission	W.Trow
8 Jun 24	Balingup Post Office	Letter support - wine bar	W.Trow
8 Jun 24	All BPA groups	Volunteer gift pack	W.Trow
25 Jun 24	Shire	Invoice \$500	J.Hornum
25 Jun 24	G.Hodge	BRG \$5000 loan return to Trust Fund	See new business
26 Jun 24	AON	Carnivale insurance	W.Trow

Real Support For Farmers

If you are reading this document, you can do something very tangible to support the people who put food on your plate - simply by sharing this information with any farmers that you know. Just leave a copy on their kitchen table.

The recent drought put many small farmers under financial stress but they are too busy surviving to 'mess around' filling out forms to get financial support. And of course, there's always that inherent trait found in all farmers.....of being too darned independent for their own good!

The good news is that free financial counselling is available in the South West through Rural West Financial Counselling Services. They will come to your farm, have a chat, tell you what financial support is available and if you want, come with you to the bank to negotiate a better deal. Their job is to help deal with a problem instead of hoping for better times next year. To contact Rural West, phone 1800 612 004.

Rural West is particularly helpful for those who are putting off dealing with Services Australia (Centrelink) and will help you access the Farm Household Allowance. For information, go to <https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/farm-household-allowance> OR just make an appointment at the Donnybrook CRC on 97312177 and Coordinator Sue Martin will help you make the application online.

For farmers on larger properties who might want help to develop long term business plans and budgets, think about having a chat with a farming consulting business. Companies use templates to determine what crop/stock best suits your land based on water supply and other resources needed. They can also help develop business plans, succession plans and carbon audits. One-on-one support is usually charged at an hourly rate. You can search for a farm consultant at <https://www.aaacwa.org.au/find-a-consultant/>

The above information is a summary of a South West NRM online discussion that can be accessed at <https://southwestnrm.org.au/project/community-resilience-network/>.