

Minutes of AGM Balingup Progress Association held on 3/10/18

Meeting opened: 7.02pm

Present: John Ranieri, Jodie Hornum, Helen Christensen, Helen Vander Waal, Per Christensen, Wayne Irvine, Geoff McMullen, Douglas Gordon, Joe Taylor, Fred Mills, Mark Giles, Lucy Bourne, Deb Vanallen, Tim Colegate, Nadia Adams, Wendy Ayers, Peter Gubler.

Apologies: Noelene King, Malcom Lee, Brian Vanallen, Michael Staff, Michael King, Vicky Henderson, Carol Bullard, Mike Staffa.

Confirmation of minutes of 2017 AGM:

Resolution - that the minutes of the AGM of the Balingup Progression Association held on September 6th, 2017 at the Balingup Community Centre be taken and read as confirmed as true and accurate record.

Moved H.Christensen, seconded F. Mills **Carried**

Business arising from previous minutes:

none

President's Report:

This year has been a humbling privilege to serve as President of BPA. I have been amazed at the enthusiasm and dedication of volunteer members of this association. I am still familiarising myself to the many things that have been achieved over the years for our community by the tireless effort of many.

2017-18 saw a few new achievements occur for the benefit of our association and community.

Thanks to Malcolm Lee, Brian DeGaris and Helen Christensen for the work to draft and finalise our new compliant Constitution & Rules.

BPA has been included in consultation meetings with MRWA with respect to road works on the South Western Highway upgrade & Southampton & Roberts Rd intersections, which has included the relocation of the historic "stone chimney".

We were advised last October that \$200,000 had been allocated in the State Budget for our Town Hall renovations. This matter was the subject of a Town Hall committee meeting where a priority list of maintenance items were put forward. This might be an opportune time to investigate grants for further funds to carry out additional required renovations not covered in the government allocation. We conducted a successful afternoon tea to acknowledge community volunteers.

Fruit fly baiting was again promoted and thanks to Ron & Geoff for assisting in distribution.

BPA made a donation of \$2000 to the Primary School for the school children Safe Driving programme for the purchase of motorised gophers. I attended on behalf of BPA the morning the students were displaying their driving talents. A further funding of \$800 was made to the schools breakfast program.

\$500 was donated to Paths Trails & Trax committee for completion of signage along the Brook trail. There is still much "work in progress" with regards to new footpath extensions and maintenance of existing paths.

BPA also approved funding of \$2000 for security cameras at the Racecourse Reserve to track illegal rubbish dumping and firewood removal.

Friday evening markets continued over the summer period which has been a great initiative for community social get togethers and to assist local business.

We are still in the process of negotiating the lease on this BPA land. The matter was discussed with Shire Pres Brian Pierce who has advised that Shire should grant a 5 year lease but this has not yet been confirmed in writing.

I believe the Balingup 2030 Community Workshop was a success in that over 50 people attended and expressed their ideas and opinions on what they would like to happen or what Balingup may be recognised for in the future. Two important sub-committees were initiated from the event, namely the Railway re-birth and Indigenous Cultural Art Hub proposal. Thanks to Malcolm Lee and Sandra Hill for taking on the investigative roles.

Barry Green addressed us re the Donnybrook Community Radio to seek community involvement by Balingup community and to request possible funding for installation of a mast and repeater station to extend its coverage.

There was concern expressed by committee and community in the Shires decision to disband community committees. The Shire has advised that Townscape Committee now be a sub-committee of BPA which is the Incorporated entity. We have requested that the Shire confirm this in writing so that we can clarify any insurance issues and policy cover we may need. It means that the BPA would be responsible for distribution of Shire allocated funding and detailed financial recording and audits. Other matters have been addressed through the year, some are still ongoing issues. Our relationship with SFFD and Mediaeval committees is strong and these committees and the many volunteers are to be congratulated for the professional manner displayed in continuing to run these successful events. Many of our community groups benefit each year from funds raised. In conclusion I would like to thank all of the BPA executive, and committee plus all sub committee members and volunteers for their support and involvement during this past year. You all help to make Balingup a great place to live.

Moved J. Ranieri, seconded J. Hornum

Carried

Reports from Umbrella Groups:

Balingup Small Farm Field Day

presented by L. Bourne

In 2018 the BSFFD selected a total of 287 exhibitors from a strong field of 336 applications. All applications were submitted online and payment made electronically. The weather was not kind this year with an electrical storm and torrential rain after 1.30pm. Emergency management procedures were used to officially close the event early and assist people to leave the site. Approximately 6,000 people attended the day, well down on average due to the inclement weather. With normal costs and reduced gate sales, profits were greatly reduced. 2018 innovations and new ideas included tap and go money collections at gates, a new 3 phase electrical supply, free water stations, food vans advised that next year food packaging will be biodegradable and support of a trial of Farm to Table Tour on Sunday.

Balingup Men In Sheds

presented by D. Gordon

The Men In Sheds group meets monthly at the Community Centre room on the last Tuesday of each month March to November. They have had regular attendance at meetings of between ten and twenty members and have been fortunate in attracting good speakers to talk on varying subjects. Douglas will be relinquishing his position of coordinator in November at the last meeting of the year. The new year 2019 commences with the very popular Ladies Night Dinner in February.

Balingup Rail Group

presented by D. Gordon

The Balingup Rail Group presented the minutes from their last meeting. Business arising included discussion of the SWDC/ARC Infrastructure/ Talison Pre-Feasibility Study. P. Scallan advised the group that a comprehensive draft has been prepared for consideration at a meeting of the parties later in October. They have been advised the Shire received details of a Tourist Rail Service proposal some years ago and the Balingup Rail Group have requested this information from the Shire. A meeting request with the Minister for SW Development has been referred to the SWDC by the Minister and will be attended by the Chair and C. Sharp.

Balingup Medieval Carnivale

presented by F. Mills

The 2018 Medieval Carnivale was a great success with close to 10, 000 visitors through the gate. This year all paying and non paying patrons were counted and the total included 2300 16 years and under (free entry). The Carnivale hosted 125 stalls with a number pre booked for 2019 and approximately 150 volunteers gave freely of their time throughout the year and during the event, the setup and

pack up. The Bunbury Regional Prison Pre-release Unit was acknowledged for their assistance in preparing the Carnivale grounds and installing street decorations. The support of the owners of the Tavern land who allowed use of their properties was greatly appreciated and made it easier for spectators view the events held there. Thank you to all involved.

Telling Tales

presented by H. Christensen

Telling Tales in Balingup enjoyed another very successful weekend with 350 children and their families attending. For the first time the group were able to pay presenters a very small fee. The SFFD Trust Fund were thanked for their grant which enables payment for accommodation and meals for all presenters and volunteers for the weekend, the Shire for their community grant towards Hall hire and printing and Bendigo Bank. The Medieval Carnivale for placing the figurines and organising the parade on Saturday, the town venues, the Gubler brothers for providing apples and the Balingup Primary School for the loan of small chairs. The committee hopes to have some new members for 2019 onwards.

Balingup Patches & Craft

presented by P. Knapton

In 2018 the group has approximately 26 financial members. The members pay an annual fee of 50.00 and then \$2.00 for morning tea when attending and this covers the cost of rent to the Balingup Sports & Recreation Committee and other minor expenses. The group holds regular workshops with local and visiting tutors. There are two outings a year, and they aim to have a yearly weekend retreat. Members attend the Quilt show in Perth as well as the Nannup Garden Festival. Each year Patches & Craft run a Quilt Exhibition as a part of the SFFD and although members are all aging they are determined to run the exhibition again in the new year. This year they had over 70 quilts and about 25 other craft entries and for 2019 intend to expand this section and also do hand craft demonstrations.

Balingup Heritage Exhibition

presented by H. Christensen

The Heritage Exhibition have experienced another successful year and expressed thanks to the organisations and individuals for their continued support. The Exhibition Team have spent a considerable time planning the Historical walk through town and would like to thank SFFD Trust and Shire for their financial support for this project. The existing display space has been reconfigured by the owners. The group has been busy with hammers, nails and paint and anticipate reopening by mid October. While the War, School and original Homestead will continue to be a part of the new exhibition they will be showcasing the life of the town through the stories of some of its characters.

Mullalyup Improvement Group

presented by P. Gubler

Events included Christmas gathering, ANZAC Service, Breakfast BBQ.

Balingup Catchment Group/Carbon Neutral

presented by P. Christensen

Carbon Neutral group is currently inactive and originated with the idea to plant trees in the area to offset carbon. The group reported \$800 was donated to the GVTP towards funding for the Children's Playground. Balingup Catchment group has interest in the new opportunities to create wetlands from mining holes with changes to Mining company regulation and requirements for rehabilitation and replanting trees. This could lead to future possibilities for tourism, recreation and wildlife conservation.

Balingup Night Markets

presented by T. Colegate

The Balingup Night Markets were held with the permission of the Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup every Friday evening from 29 September to 22 December 2017, on the grassed area adjacent to the Peace Pergola. Each week included live music from local musicians, the Birdwood Park Fruit Winery

was open for drinks, Old Shed Café was open for pizza and other food businesses open their usual times. The markets averaged approximately 6 stalls. There are plans to restart the markets on Friday 2 November, and continue again until Christmas, with the last market being 21st December 2018.

Balingup Art & Craft Affair

presented by P. Knapton

This was the events fourth year and the most successful to date in terms of visitation and participation. A total of 41 artists specialising in different mediums were placed in and around businesses in the main street. Local musicians played outside the Taste of Balingup and Wardong Gallery and the event enjoyed perfect weather. The Balingup Rib and Steak House was included for the first time by hosting an artist and the 'Upcycled and Recycled' Fashion Parade held at Wardong Gallery was a highlight of the day. The group is working towards being self funding and wish to thank all financial supporters and volunteers. Preparations are already being made for next year's event on the 11th of May.

Birdwood Park Avenue of Honour

presented by W. Irvine

The group reported they have been planting in the area. They stated contact with the Shire is important and issues included the health of the oak trees and the maintenance of tables and plaques.

Balingup Community Gardens (report submitted after meeting, no representative)

Treasurers Report: (Profit & Loss Statement 1/7/18 through 30/9/2018)

Closing Balance of \$15,455.00

Resolution - that the Treasurer's report be adopted (with amendment of income entry to Lease-Insurance \$2755.00).

Moved H. Vander Waal, seconded W. Ayres

Carried

Nominations for 2018/19 Office Bearers

President. John Raneri nominated W. Ayres, seconded P. Christensen

Carried

No further nominations.

Vice President; Mike Staffa nominated by H. Christensen, seconded P. Knapton **Carried**

No further nominations.

Secretary: Jodie Hornum nominated by H. Christensen, seconded P. Knapton **Carried**

No further nominations

Treasurer: Helen Vander Waal nominated by P. Christensen, seconded L. Bourne **Carried**

No further nominations.

Executive Committee:

Noelene King nominated W. Ayres, seconded P. Christensen

Carried

Helen Christensen nominated by P. Christensen, seconded P. Knapton

Carried

Geoff McMullen nominated by H. Christensen, seconded P. Knapton

Carried

Signatories: to remain as Geoff McMullen and Noelene King and to include Helen Vander Waal.

Moved F. Mills, seconded P. Christensen

Carried

Seal Holders: to be President John Ranieri and Secretary Jodie Hornum.

Moved F. Mills, seconded P. Christensen

Carried

Meeting closed: 8.21pm