

# **MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the MOUNT WILSON PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC.**

**held on Saturday, 17<sup>th</sup> September, 2011  
at 5.30 p.m. in the Mount Wilson Village Hall.**

## **1. CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS**

The meeting commenced at 5.35 p.m. The President, Bill Ryan, welcomed everyone to the meeting, including invited guest, Brian Carrigan of Mount Irvine Progress Association.

## **2. PRESENT**

**Committee:** Bill Ryan (President), Libby Raines, (Treasurer), Moira Green (Secretary), Kim Gow, Alison Halliday.

**Other Members:** Ron Green, Maurice May, Tim Gow, Robyn and John Leonard, Owen Haviland, Susie Hope, Wendy Holland, Judy and Graham Tribe, Mary and John Holt, Robert Chesney, Robert Nichol, Peter Anderson, Barry Freeman, Maureen Ryan, Michael & Gillian Pembroke, Beth Raines, Jane and Philip Beeby, Jane and George Mayne, Suzzane Daly.

**Invited Guests:** Brian Carrigan, Secretary, MIPA.

**Apologies:** A letter of apology from Councillor Terri Hamilton was read to the meeting. Richard & Loretta Beattie, Brian Abrahams, John and Judy Teulon, Martin Barge, Anne De Salis, Beverley & Graham Thompson, Nancy Fox, Bruce Arnold, Mary and Ellis Reynolds, Marilyn & Peter Laving, Helen Freeman, Sarah Hope, Alex Halliday, Diana & Joe Landsberg, Elizabeth and Joe Montano.

## **3. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> September, 2010 and the previous General Meeting, held on 19<sup>th</sup> March, 2011 be confirmed as true records of those meetings.

## **4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

There was no business arising from the minutes.

## **5. TREASURER'S REPORT**

Libby Raines presented the following report and thanked Richard England for auditing the accounts.

### **Mount Wilson Progress Association Inc. Statement of Accounts 1-7-10 to 30-6-11 Working Account**

#### Receipts:-

2009-2010

17,600

B.M.C.C.

Maintenance (includes some from last year)

This Year

31,834.93

3,600	Membership	1,620.00
	Rural Fire Service, Historical Society website refunds	3,395.22
	Silent Auction at Christmas party	650.00
1,379	A.T.O. - G.S.T. refunds	493.00
176	Rabbait Refunds	168.10
27	Booklets Sales of the Mt. Wilson story	60.00
852	Interest	925.74
<u>Total Receipts:</u>		<u>\$ 39,146.99</u>

Expenditure:-

	( Maintenance Alan Gunn 15,684)	
26,245	( Micah Fink 2,530)	20,374.90
	( Peter Raines 2,160)	
	Olley Media – website	5,724.50
2,230	Insurance	2,395.00
858	C.W. Printing - photocopying, printing	779.41
2,395	Finsure Insurance	2,245.00
	Hartley Valley Nursery - nyssa	232.20
2,060	Bill Ryan – fireplaces for Cathedral Reserve	4,176.00
212	Secretary - stamps, stationary	245.58
47	Department of Fair Trading - annual fee	48.00
112	George Mayne - Rabbait	134.95
160	A.T.O. G.S.T.	685.00
	Christmas Party – drinks	88.00
	Rural Fire Service – ½ proceeds from silent auction	325.00
213	Adams Shed – fertilizer, weed spray	244.45
261	Village Hall - meetings and functions	232.50
172	Bank Fees	140.50
<u>Total Expenditure:</u>		<u>\$35,868.98</u>

Total receipts	39,146.99
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- Total Expenditure	35,868.98
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=	3,278.01
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+ Carried forward	2,045.75
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Total	= <u>5,323.76</u>
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Bank Balance on 1-7-2011 \$532.76

Fixed Term Deposits: \$18,000.00

which includes

Money held for weed control	\$731.00
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Money paid in advance for membership	\$1,840
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Audited and signed by Richard A. England, Chartered Accountant, Auditor on 13-9-2011

A question was asked regarding the nature of the insurance and the cost of it. There are two policies, Voluntary Workers and Public Liability. Council requires we have them and payment is included in the Council maintenance payment. All not for profit organizations are required to have such policies.

It was moved by Barry Freeman, seconded Graham Tribe that the Treasurer's report be accepted. It was passed.

A resolution was presented that two members of the incoming committee, who are in attendance at this A.G.M., be authorised to certify for the Department of Fair Trading that this Committee submitted the financial statement in accordance with Section 26(6) of the Act, to members at this A.G.M.

It was moved by Susie Hope, seconded Graham Tribe, that the resolution be accepted. All members were in agreement.

## **6. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

### **Emergency Generator – Mount Irvine**

Endeavour Energy have deferred the installation of an emergency generator at Mount Irvine until a full evaluation of the upgraded transmission lines in the Mount Wilson and Mount Irvine environs has been completed. Significant expenditure on concrete poles and bundled cables has improved the reliability of supply (despite the events of early July).

### **Bowens Creek Road and Bridge**

Despite the briefing of the new Federal and State members on the importance the local community regarded the continued availability of this access link, even if only for Rural Fire Service use, no opportunity has been provided for further discussions.

### **Picnic Sheds and Tables**

The council has completed the re-painting of the picnic sheds and tables in Happy Valley, Cathedral, Waterfall Creek and Wynnes Rocks reserves. Finished in a light eucalypt green with black gloss tables and seats, some visitors have already made favorable remarks.

### **Town Slogan Review**

The Council invited the Progress Association to review our “town slogan”, “Heritage Garden Village” and if desired, to choose a new one. The Council advised that the criteria for selecting a new slogan should include:- 1) year round relevance; 2) international and regional identity; and 3) information permanence/durability. After much thought and discussion the Committee decided on behalf of the community that our current slogan is perfectly appropriate.

### **Places of Interest – New Street Signs**

Council has recently placed new enamel signs denoting the direction to places of interest to visitors e.g. Cathedral of Ferns. Placed on the current street sign poles commencing at the Bells Line of Road and Mount Wilson Road intersection, they are located at various points throughout the village.

### **Rainwater Ponding – Village Hall Verge**

Council tried a low cost attempt to solve the ponding problem but the next heavy rainfall revealed that the level of ponding had not improved. Photographic evidence was provided to Council and they undertook to plan a permanent but more costly solution. The road has been prepared for resealing and the subsequent construction of a “hot mix” formed gutter to channel water away in both directions.

### **Giant Tree**

Removal of the dangerous limbs of the dead Giant Tree has yet to be started although Council have confirmed work will be completed this financial year. In the interim, the Council does not intend to install “Danger” signs despite our request.

### **Encroaching Vegetation**

Council has completed the cut back of vegetation encroaching on Mount Irvine Road between Hillcrest Lane and Cathedral Reserve.

### **Rural Lands Planning Study**

As the first step in a process of reviewing LEP 1991 a Community Consultation meeting was held early June. The impact the outcome of this planning study could have on Mount Wilson is not clear. Given the general thrust of the Council's thinking, it is possible that land use in fragile conservation areas such as Mount Wilson could become more restrictive. A second meeting scheduled for late July has yet to be announced.

### **Farrer Road West – Safety**

Despite grading of the road earlier in the year, the road remains hazardous particularly in wet weather. Representations have been made to Council and it appears to be now accepted that a permanent solution is required. The cost of the works would be substantial and Council is contemplating a special grant application.

### **Wind Storm Damage**

Our heartfelt thanks to the community members/Rural Fire Brigade members, who in the early hours after the disaster on 4/5 July, worked tirelessly to clear sufficient debris to enable access.

### **The Mounts – Community Newsletter**

Our continuing thanks to Tim Gow and his band of correspondents/photographers. They, during the last twelve months, have taken this once humble document to a new standard of excellence. The availability via email has provided an immediacy that is particularly appreciated by “weekenders”.

## **7. WEBSITE REPORT**

Graham Tribe reported on progress of the website and thanked Tim Gow for his work and support.

- Part of the website is for general use by the public, the other part is available for members of the community who can access closed sections by means of logging in with password.
- Stage 1 is complete and people are encouraged to log in for communication and news. It is being well utilized, 100 hits per day, up to 300 in peak periods, queries from visitors are being received and professional use is being made of information e.g. S.M.H. article.
- Stage 2 has been approved by MWPA and will consist of people and property data bases. A live weather report from the brigade tower will also be included.
- MWPA owns the website and it is funded by three associations, MWPA, RFS and Historical Society. The Historical Society has included a great deal of content and archives are being placed in electronic storage. RFS are using it for property protection and mitigation information, people and property database and resource material for training.
- It is suggested that residents log in, check the latest news and the calendar

The Chairman expressed thanks to the Website Committee for the extraordinary amount of work that has been done and that is continuing to be done.

## **8. GENERAL BUSINESS**

**8.1** Ron Green moved that the minutes record special thanks for those setting up the website, and all those of the community who helped clear the village after the storm, also Endeavour Energy, Blue Mountains City Council and Telstra. Seconded Graham Tribe. It was agreed that these sentiments be conveyed to the above organizations.

**8.2 Generator.** More information was asked for, relating to the deferment of the installation of the generator. Upgrading was required for Integral to meet the required standard of supply as set by the State Government. The improvements made to lines and poles seem to meet that requirement. Endeavour owns the land on which the generator was planned.

**8.3 Dingoes.** Robert Nicol reported that he had sighted dingoes on 7 to 8 occasions close to the village and a wallaby had been killed on his property. He requested that MWPA request the Council Dog Catcher remove them. It was agreed that a letter be written to BMCC. People were asked to email the secretary with detailed information regarding sightings of dingoes and wild dogs.

**8.4 Rural Fire Service.** Elizabeth Raines reported that the hazard reduction planned for the following day was postponed. NPWS required assistance with a fire.

**8.5 Bowens Creek Bridge.** Elizabeth Raines reported that she had taken Louis Markus, Federal M.P., to see the road and bridge. RFS will start agitating again to get funding for the road.

**8.6 Trees in The Avenue.** Robyn Leonard asked if there had been discussion by the Committee about replacing the elms that had fallen over in the wind storm. Libby Raines explained that the feeling was not to plant anything yet as more could fall and damage new plantings. When more go it may be best to remove the remaining ones as they may not live much longer. She suggested that when they are replaced, green beeches are good for the local conditions. Approval of MWPA members would be sought before they are purchased. It was suggested that an elm developed in USA is impervious to Dutch elm disease.

## **9. MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE FOR 2011/12**

The Chairman thanked the 2010/11 Committee for its efforts during the year. Since all the members re-nominated and there were no other nominations, there was no need for elections.

The Committee for 2011/12 will comprise:

President	Bill Ryan
Vice President	Richard Beattie
Treasurer	Libby Raines
Secretary	Moir Green
Committee Members	Brian Abrahams, Kim Gow, Alison Halliday, Ted Griffin

## **9. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING**

The meeting closed at 6.40 p.m.

Signed as a true record,

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**Bill Ryan**

**Chairman**