

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING
MOUNT WILSON PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC
Held on Saturday, 17th March, 2018
in the Mount Wilson Village Hall, The Avenue, Mount Wilson**

1. CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS

The meeting opened at 5.45 pm.

Alison thanked Judy Tribe for concluding the Village Hall meeting promptly. The Village Hall General Meeting is a public meeting and everyone is invited to attend. It is everyone's hall so please come along next year.

Thanks to so many in the community who volunteer in many varied ways: first responders, bush care, RFB, village hall, church, historical society – you know who you are!

Special thanks to this small and busy committee – Libby who continues to manage the money, aided by Robbie, Sue who is doing a great job as secretary, Ted, our conduit to the Village Hall amongst other things, Robbie, our vital link to the BMCC and Nancy who liaises with Peter Raines about work to be done. The community is very grateful for your contributions – especially me!

2. ATTENDANCE

Committee: Alison Halliday (President), Libby Raines (Treasurer), Sue Woolfenden (Secretary), Robbie Feyder and Ted Griffin.

Apologies:, Nancy Fox

Other members: Martin Barge, Lorraine Barrett, Tony Barrett, Jane Beeby, Phillip Beeby, Barbara Harry, David Howell, Sarah Howell, Marilyn Laving, Janet McDonald, Peter McDonald, Elizabeth Montano, Joe Montano, Keith Ralston, Tom Riddell, Alan Rose, Alice Simpson, Megan Wood, Steve Woolfenden, Deidre Wren.

Visitors: Frances Griffiths, Peter Griffiths, Allen Hyde, Robyn Hyde, Susan Templeman Federal MP, Lynn Mitchell, BMCC.

Apologies: Richard & Loretta Beattie, Robert Chesney, Barry & Helen Freeman, Tim & Kim Gow, Deb Griffin, Alex Halliday, Susie Hope, Joe & Diana Landsberg, Robyn & John Leonard, Jane & George Mayne, Alex & Katherine Montano, Bill & Maureen Ryan, John & Judy Teulon, Beverly & Graham Thompson, Judy & Graham Tribe, Kevin Schreiber.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT

Robbie presented the report on behalf of Libby as he entered the data on the spreadsheet. Another invoice has been submitted to BMCC for payment for maintenance work..

There were no questions arising from the Treasurer's report.

Proposed by David Howell and seconded by Janet Mc Donald that the report be approved. It was approved.

Alison thanked Robbie and Libby for their work.

4. ACTING PRESIDENT'S REPORT

4.1 The Mounts:

The Mounts is published under the aegis of the MWPA. Thanks to all, especially Jess Delbridge. I am delighted that the Historical Society is publishing their views and information concerning all things historical in The Mounts.

Each edition is taking quite a lot of time to get to a publishable state so we are setting up a few brief guidelines, including a template for contributions such as font type and size, general layout, how to place photographs.

It is published on the open access part of the web site – contributors should be aware of this. Please understand that there is always the possibility your copy will be edited.

4.2 Web site training

Ash did a great job at two training sessions, and it was all much appreciated by those who went. We owe a great deal of thanks for those who continue to keep a watchful eye on the web site and its maintenance – Graham Tribe, Tim Gow, Steve Woolfenden and Robbie Feyder.

There are now PDFs of the five walking tracks on the web site – thanks to Peter Raines and to Robbie - so put your boots on.

4.3 Blue Mountains City Council

1. We had meeting with Dan Long. Dan has been part of BMCC for a long time and looks after us. There will be 8 additional toilets for Easter, six in the Cathedral of Ferns reserve and two at the fire shed. This costs the BMCC a lot of money.

2. Pot holes in various locations have been fixed.

3. Many thanks to Pete Raines and Micah Fink for continuing to keep us looking beautiful – note the work around the trees and road side verges at the top of The Avenue. Work has also been done at Founders Corner which includes new soil and new grass as well as regenerating the path to make the toilets obvious.

4. The contract with BMCC. There was a year's extension to the arrangement which will end at the end of this financial year. An initial draft of the contract has been received. We will be reviewing this closely and giving Dan our feedback.

We have already noted that the cleaning of road gutters is not on this draft and if you have any other comments please contact us now. It will make a difference – but with goodwill and energy there should not be too much difference. Where you can, could you please mow the verges outside your place. The contract will be put out to tender and the committee hope that Peter Raines will apply. If the contract won't be ready for the commencement of the next financial year we can apply for quarterly payment until it comes into effect.

4.4 150th Anniversary

The anniversary celebrates Wyndam's survey of Mt Wilson. A sub-committee has been set up chaired by Nancy Fox – thanks to those who volunteered.

We have a date and a place: Saturday 24 November – at Dennarque – with grateful thanks to Lata and Bill Moss. I think it most appropriate to hold this celebration at one of the original eight houses. If the RFB and MIPA agree we will not be having a Christmas party this year.

4.5 Village Hall

Ted Griffin presented an update.

Neighbourhood Safer Place (NSP) - there has been a large amount of clearing here around the Hall and in Marcus Clark Reserve (MCR). Clearing has been done by head office of the RFS. There are currently broken tree limbs and litter on the ground. We will be asking Peter Raines what we should do with this.

There is no fencing around MCR – we have to decide what to do with it. Under the Rural Fires Act the RFS can require landowners to reduce the risk of bushfire on land.

Legal advice was sought from Raoul Wilson as to whether MWPA is subject to any legal constraints arising from the previous ownership of the land and its transfer to MWPA. Raoul advised that MWPA are not subject to any such constraints and have clear title to the land.

Alison suggested money from the Autumn Festival 2016 could be used to tidy up MCR. Decisions will have to be made in consultation with the RFB.

It was noted that there has been no consultation nor reference to the local brigade in connection with the NSP. This has been instigated and managed by the RFS at Homebush.

4.5 Bowen's Creek Firetrail Update: Elizabeth Montano provided an update by the RFB on behalf of the three associations. (RFB MWPA MIPA)

Susan Templeman spoke about Bowen's Creek Road.

4.7 Joe Montano presented an update on the Study Centre.

5. GENERAL BUSINESS

David Howell raised the issue of bee hives on the Southern Firetrail: ownership needs to be established prior to the next hazard reduction. There should be a number on the hives and thus identified through contacting the NSW apiarist body.

Susan Templeman addressed the meeting and outlined grants that may be available. Difficulties with phone outages in January was raised. It was confirmed that in remote areas the copper network will remain along with NBN satellite.

Libby thanked Alex Montano for organising his work mates from KPMG to assist at Bushcare. Holly and honeysuckle was removed from Merewether Lane. She asked that a collective vote of thanks to Alex be extended through his parents.

Allen Hyde is trialling a village telecommunications system linking houses.

6. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

The meeting closed at 7.15pm. Everyone was invited to stay for wine and cheese.

The next meeting will be the Annual General Meeting on Saturday 15 September at the Mount Wilson Village Hall at 5.30 pm.