

PENSHURST PROGRESS ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD Wednesday 22nd May 2019
SUPPER ROOM PENSHURST MEMORIAL HALL

Opened: 1930 HRS

Present: Ama Cooke, Thomas Cooke, Mark Dalla Costa, Marjorie Dalla Costa, Don Adamson, Josh Hewitt, John Brennan, Brian O'Brien, Liz Kelly

Apologies: Jude Johnston, Shaun McCulloch.

President welcomed everyone.

Previous Minutes:

Motion to accept the Minutes from 1st May 2019 as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

Moved: Mark Dalla Costa

Seconded: Don Adamson

Carried

President's Report:

Well, this month I had to eat my words. The Mt Rouse steps are not near completion and the building of the entrance to the botanical gardens has only just recommenced.

Tom and Ama attended a meeting with Simone Logan and Mary Macarthur and presented a changed Penshurst tourist information brochure and requested an update to the detail in the current one. They were told that there should be funding next year to completely change all of them across the Shire. We look forward to it.

There is funding for a Senior Citizens event from the Council. Does this Association wish to contact the Senior Citizens and see if they would like to use these funds. Email received was forwarded to Margie Eales but no reply received to date. Don Adamson agreed to follow up with Margie.

Treasurer's Report:

Balance of Main Account \$4,477.26 Balance of Market Account \$15.94

Motion to accept the treasurer's report as an accurate presentation of the financial position of the Association.

Moved: Marjorie Dalla Costa

Seconded: Liz Kelly

Carried

Correspondence in:

- 1) From Melanie Starr of Council advising that the children's playground in the botanical gardens is now open.
- 2) From David Molony advising \$100,000 for the Botanic Gardens is in the budget; hence our review of the master plan for the gardens.

- 3) From Melanie Russell reminding people that we can make a budget submission before 27th May.
- 4) From Jane Coshutt re the draft Street Tree Management Plan.
- 5) From Melanie Russell re National reconciliation Week morning tea and story time happening on Wednesday 29th May.
- 6) From Shaun McCulloch re the availability of a CFA representative to assist with public awareness about bushfire planning, prevention, etc.

Correspondence out:

- 1) Letter emailed to Council re change of Association name to update the lease documents for the lease on 98 Watton Street.
- 2) Email to Margie Eales re funding for Senior Citizens event in October 2019.
- 3) Email to all members of the Association conveying the Minutes of the last meeting.
- 4) Email to Jane Coshutt SGSC: re Camp Kitchen in the Botanical Gardens. A second email sent to remind her that we have not been contacted in this regard from 'Infrastructure' about this project. We still await reply.
- 5) Email to Jane Coshutt SGSC: re Recycling Bins in Botanic Gardens and outside Memorial Hall. There is one at the gardens but not yet at the hall.
- 6) Emails to David Moloney re Camp Kitchen.

Business Arising from Previous Minutes:

- 1) Grant request to Dan Tehan's office for the provision of solar lamp posts in the botanical gardens and a solar pump for use in the Public School Community Garden being established by the mens shed. No response yet.
- 2) Successful visit to Nanette Stanes resulted in Elisabeth Siecker now being in possession of all the information she needs to recommence the markets in October this year.
- 3) Logo concepts discussed. Particularly a diamond suspended over Mt Rouse (Penshurst a diamond in the rough). Ideas carried forward to next meeting for further discussion.
- 4) Tom and Ama had discussions with Melanie Russell to review the grant application for the Christmas Market planned for the Gardens this year. She suggested certain additions which will be included and the application is to be resubmitted prior to the end of June. Council appears enthusiastic.
- 5) President advised the community plan is still in review following an examination of all comments and submissions. The full review is to be completed shortly and provided to the meeting in due course.

6) **Botanic Gardens Master Plan.** The President handed out copies of the Consultants assessment of the master plan provided by council, to all members present. A lively discussion on the merits of the various items and priorities identified followed. The President requested all members to take the master plan home, note any comments/suggestions on the plan and drop them off at the Post Office within one week. They will then be included in further consideration/discussions.

Members are requested to note their 6 priorities in order and provide any comments on the plan.

President explained: High Priority - completed in first year of master plan approval, Medium Priority - completed within 3 years of plan approval and Low Priority items should be completed within 5 years of plan approval.

Other points to arise in the discussion included:

- Replacement of trees as required should be an ongoing maintenance event rather than an inclusion in the master plan.
 - There is a need to revamp the 'Friends of the Botanical Gardens' to ensure the master plan is monitored and completed.
 - The duck weed cannot be poisoned because of the effect this would have on native fish downstream. The plan is to aerate the ponds and collect the weed in the lowest pond.
 - Signage for the gardens needs to be reviewed and there should be an informative map at each main entrance.
 - The discussions identified that many items currently included in the master plan are normal housekeeping/maintenance for the facility and should not be included for plan funding.
- 7) The refurbishment of the Lions Club Kiosk is to commence as soon as possible. New maps have been obtained and planning for the fit-out is well advanced.
- 8) Don Adamson is completing the identification and cleaning of the historical markers around town.

New Business

1) President has become aware of grant money availability (up to \$20K) from the Dept of Land Water & Planning. Accordingly, a grant request is to be submitted to replace the windows in the supper room of the Memorial Hall.

Other Business:

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 2030 hrs

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Penshurst Progress Association will be held in the supper room of the Penshurst Memorial hall on 26th June 2019 at 7:30 pm.