

Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum

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Minutes – Tuesday 21 May 2024, 7.30 p.m.at Briarley House

1) **Welcome and Acknowledgment of Country**

2) **Declarations of interest – NA**

3) **Present:** Committee members: Peter Pumpa (PP) – Chair; Craig Proctor - Secretary (CNP); Maryanne Paech - Treasurer (MP); Wendy Werner (WW); Don Pedder (DP); Clem Paech (CP); Tige Mannington (TM); Cr Brett Ireland; Jeff Woodward. Guests: Matt Steen

Apologies: Peter Robson; Wendy Zanker.

MOTION: To accept the apologies. Moved: TM Seconded: DP CARRIED

4) **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The last meeting, on 16 April 2024, was an official meeting.

Motion: To accept the Minutes of the 16 April 2024 meeting as circulated.

Moved: CNP Seconded: TM CARRIED

Business arising from Minutes: MP commented that there is still much work to be done in tidying up the grounds and that we need to organise Working Bees as soon as possible.

5) **Correspondence**

Inwards

HSC (Mick Henderson) re history of Jeparit's two Bills' horse troughs, including the Museum's trough
Western Victorian Association of Historical Societies' membership renewal notice (\$35.00)

HSC (Petra Croot) re meeting with HSC and WMPM stakeholders, 7 May, 7 p.m.

HSC (Petra Croot) re submission of Annual Report and Financial Statement (Chair, Secretary, Treasurer), to be presented at AGM. The 31 August submission date in the notification does not apply to WMPM.

David Sidwell (technical writer) offering voluntary assistance with signage and documentation

HSC (HR) – HSC Volunteer Policies emailed to MC members.

HSC (Mark Fletcher) – Notes and Actions from 7 May HSC/WMPM MC meeting.

Grampians Wimmera Mallee Tourism – Visitor Economy Partnership Webinar 16 May

Outwards

Reply to Mick Henderson re horse troughs

Letter to all Rally exhibitors notifying of cancellation of the Rally 2024.

Motion: To accept the outward correspondence and note the inward Correspondence.

Moved: CNP Seconded: WW CARRIED

Business arising from Correspondence:

HSC/WMPM stakeholders meeting – see General Business

David Sidwell's offer of support (see General Business)

Grampians Wimmera Mallee Tourism webinar (see General Business)

WVAHS Membership renewal - \$35

Writing of Annual Report (Chair/Secretary)

HSC Volunteer Policies – notification to WMPM existing volunteers?

Actions by WMPM MC as per Mark Fletcher's Notes and Actions document

6) **HSC update** (JW, BI, HSC). JW reported that HSC is still seeking advice from insurers re public liability insurance etc. The new Grampians Wimmera Mallee Tourism Visitor Economic Partnership now links with Visit Victoria and this will have significant benefits for our region. MC members are encouraged to attend information sessions on 28/29 May. JW continues to source quotes relating to maintenance/repair of woodwork, painting at Briarley etc. WW asked MC members to commit to sealing the decking at Briarley. To be raised again at June meeting.

7) **Treasurer's Report** (MP)

Volunteer Hours: April 2024: 335.5 hours

Accounts to pay: WVAHS Membership - \$35. Reimbursements: MP - \$270 (stamps); WW - \$83 – curtain, envelopes.

April 2024	
Opening balance 01.04.24	27,817.37
Receipts Cash: 685.50; EFT 728.00	1,413.50
Expenses	1,210.89
Closing balance 30.04.24	27,334.48
Term Deposits (2) Interest: 852.45	35,538.29
Total	\$63,112.87

MOTION: To accept the Treasurer's report as circulated. Moved: MP Seconded: CNP CARRIED

MOTION: To approve payment of outstanding invoices. Moved: MP Seconded: CP CARRIED

General Business

- 1) **Possible AGM date:** 16 July
- 2) **HSC Free Volunteer Breakfast, 22 May, 7 a.m. – 8.30 a.m.**
- 3) **Visitors (MP):**

April Attendance:

Adults	Pens./Conc.	Family	Group
28	51	7 (5 children)	40

Sunday 6 October, 50 people from Seymour Railway Heritage Centre

- 4) **Merchandising** – Pieces of You Jigsaws. WW suggested WMPM purchase a number of these locally relevant jigsaws for merchandising. The decision was made for WW to pursue this further.
- 5) **Donations (MP; CNP)** Yolande Hutson offer of a box of books on farm machinery. TM had borrowed these on 7 May to look through and establish the merits of adding these to our collection. We do have machinery books but not on display; CNP suggested we should consider creating a library of such texts.
- 6) **Volunteering offer** – David Sidwell (CNP, WW). David Sidwell, a technical writer of Melbourne, has offered to volunteer remotely by producing short texts to enhance visitor engagement. These would be an adjunct to the storyboards currently being finalised. CNP has sent David drafts of specific storyboards relating to land clearance, grain management and some machinery so that he can understand what is currently being done. It was felt having David's expertise and his offer to volunteer in this capacity would be a positive move. CNP to share with David the HSC Masterplan.
- 7) **WMPM display at Showgrounds for Show Day (WW, CP)**. The A&P Society has approached WMPM re a possible display at the Showgrounds in October. Generally the feeling was that we could do this but not involving machinery/vehicles as they are too fragile to transport etc. Discussion to continue.
- 8) **Storyboards update (CNP)**. JW is continuing to turn texts into templates for production.
- 9) **Webinars attended by CNP during month: GWMT VEP webinar, 16 May, RHSV Cataloguing Clinic webinars (2 & 23 May), Make a Change webinars on realising a project (3 weeks), History Engagement Partnerships webinar, 7 June**
- 10) **Maintenance** – see appended Maintenance Report from WW.
- 11) **HSC Update** - Cr Brett Ireland
- 12) **Next Meeting: Tuesday 18 June, 7.30 p.m.** (Last meeting of current Management Committee)
Meeting closed at 9.50 p.m.

WMPM Maintenance report May 21 2024

Impromptu meeting with HSC (Aiden Dent).

1. Disabled access: There is quite a large lip between the concrete path and the car park, and between the

walkway and grounds at the toilets. This has been on the agenda for many months and is making access to the Museum with wheelchairs and wheelie walkers quite difficult.

HSC will use asphalt to bridge this gap

2. Briarley Verandah repairs: Sam Bone inspected various projects including the Verandah repairs. It was made clear that replacement of the entire rear verandah deck would be a new budget consideration. We discussed simple replacement of compromised decking in the short term. Both Sam and Aiden were concerned about the integrity of the verandah posts and want to replace them. **Question: Does the committee agree that they need replacement or can they be repaired to preserve the original posts?** The condition of the front verandah which has been recently replaced was also flagged.

Question: Can the Committee organise to protect this with a decking product such as Aquadeck ?

3. Briarley Homestead Kitchen water supply: The water in the kitchen is supplied from a rainwater tank. We discussed the possibility of connecting to mains water vs installation of a filter system to improve the quality of the water. Aiden (former plumber) was of the opinion that it would be much cheaper/easier to install a filtration system. The tank is to be emptied and cleaned when a significant rain is forecast this should improve the water quality.

HSC to follow up with installation of a filtration system.

4. Briarley Homestead Lattice. This is falling away from the fascia. **Don and Peter P to identify a solution and fix.**

5. Verandah roof: The painters (Elliot's) suggested that the infrastructure of the verandah roof needs to be strengthened before painting of the roof itself can occur. He also suggested that the lattice work painting could be done by volunteers. **HSC to replace compromised rafters etc**

5. Chemist Painting: has been completed.

6. School trim paint: ongoing

HSC to complete

7. Tarranyurk Door and threshold: The Tarranyurk door has been replaced without committee consultation. **Question: What does the committee want to do about the replacement of the door?** The raised threshold for the new door presents a possible safety issue for visitors. Can this be replaced with an alternative that is flush with the floor...is the installer responsible for this?

HSC Follow up.

8. Dog Leg fence: This is falling into disrepair. **Question: How do we want to proceed?**

9. Cataloguing room. The blackout curtain and fixings have been purchased. **WW to install.**