

# Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum

Dimboola Road, Jeparit, Victoria 3423

Email: [wmpmjeparit@gmail.com](mailto:wmpmjeparit@gmail.com)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/WMPMJeparit](http://www.facebook.com/WMPMJeparit)

## Minutes – Tuesday 20 August 2024, 7.30 p.m. at Briarley House

- 1) Cr/Mayor Brett Ireland chaired the meeting. Welcome and Acknowledgment of Country
- 2) **Declarations of interest** – NA
- 3) **Present:** (alphabetical order) Mark Fletcher (MF, HSC Manager Economic Development and Tourism); Cr/Mayor Brett Ireland (BI); Tige Mannington (TM); Colin Moore (CM); Don Pedder (DP); Craige Proctor (CNP, Acting Secretary); Peter Pumpa (PP); Peter Robson (PR); Matthew Steen (MS); Wendy Werner (WW); Jeff Woodward (JW, HSC, Tourism and Economic Development Officer); Wendy Zanker. Wendy Zanker was welcomed back after a protracted absence.  
**Apologies:** Mary-Anne Paech; Clem Paech.  
**MOTION: To accept the apologies. Moved: PP Seconded: DP CARRIED**
- 4) **Minutes of Previous Meeting**  
The last meeting, on 16 July 2024, was an official meeting following the AGM.  
**Motion:** To accept the Minutes of the 16 July 2024 meeting as circulated. **Moved: CNP Seconded: WW CARRIED**  
**Business arising from Minutes:** NA
- 5) **Office bearers/Executive** – continued from AGM re Chair and Secretary positions. BI indicated that HSC will require greater commitment to implementing the Masterplan by MC members and Executive and also that HSC is committed to offering curatorial support to a number of heritage bodies including WMPM.  
Position of Chair/President: MS nominated Wendy Werner who accepted the nomination on the proviso that the division within the MC be addressed so that the image of the MC among the community can be improved and that she be supported in the role. MS offered support. Nomination seconded by CNP. **CARRIED.** WW appointed to the role of Chair/President.  
Discussion around role of Secretary. CNP had circulated a proposed delegation of roles among committee members. MF indicated HSC is keen to support role of Secretary, possibly through having a Minute Secretary. CNP offered to continue in the role in the interim for the sake of continuity and the scope of the role can be refined.
- 6) **Correspondence**  
**Inwards**  
**Research request from John Guest** – Baldock and Logan families; referred to John Pumpa and Wendy Zanker.  
**HSC** – Hindmarsh Heritage Study, Planning Scheme Amendment request for feedback.  
**HSC** – letter of introduction from CEO and leadership team  
**HSC** – invitation to civic reception with Governor of Victoria, 13 August  
**Grampians Wimmera Mallee Tourism** – Industry news  
**Grampians Wimmera Mallee Tourism** – information on Industry Partnership 2024/25  
**HSC** – notification of arrangements for Shire Caretaker period from 17 September – 26 October  
**Grampians Wimmera Mallee Tourism** – Industry Development Survey  
**HSC** – **S86** – Notification of Election Caretaker Period  
**HSC** – **Mark Fletcher** – Invitation to Hindmarsh Business Network Evening, Dimboola, 21 August  
MAVEC Newsletter  
**Outwards**  
**HSC** – submission of Annual Report (18 July) and Financial Statement (6 August)  
**HSC** – sharing Echuca Historical Society Volunteer Handbook as a possible model for WMPM  
  
**Motion: To accept the outward correspondence and note the inward Correspondence.**  
**Moved: WW Seconded: DP CARRIED**  
  
**Business arising from Correspondence:**  
Thanks to WW and MS for representing WMPM at the civic reception to meet the Governor of Victoria.  
CNP represented the Jeparit Historical Society.  
**Motion:** to accept the Business arising from Correspondence.  
**Moved: CNP Seconded: DP CARRIED**
- 7) **Treasurer's Report** (MP in absentia)

Volunteer Hours: July 2024: 396 hours

Accounts to pay: C. Proctor, \$18.00 for paper.

July 2024			
Opening balance 01.07.24	28,625.40	Closing balance 30.07.24	28,780.69
Receipts Cash: 235.90; EFT 305.00	540.90	Term Deposits (2) Interest: 852.45	35,538.29
Expenses	342.41	<b>Total</b>	<b>64,559.08</b>

**MOTION:** To accept the Treasurer's report as circulated, to approve payment of outstanding invoice and to authorise MP to reinvest a Term Deposit maturing on 23 August according to her best judgement.

**Moved:** WW **Seconded:** DP **CARRIED**

## General Business

- 8) **HSC update** (JW and MF) – GWMT Management Plan; new Volunteer Coordinator appointed and JW will organise a site visit and a meeting with volunteers.

### **MF's August Report**

#### **Maintenance Site Visit**

Mick and Aiden – Maintenance to visit the Museum site on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September, prior to our next meeting. Request that maintenance item list is forwarded prior to meeting so that they both have an idea prior.

#### **Visit Wimmera Mallee Website**

Hindmarsh Shire is currently working through the assets under its control to update and add Australian Tourism Data Warehouse (ATDW). A lot of future info featured on tourism sites (Visit Wimmera Mallee and many others) will be generated from the ATDW database. We are currently working with GWMT to understand how best to manage this into the future.

- Jeparit Heritage Walk to be added asap - *this trail is not yet 100% finalised, brochure for walk also close to finalisation*
- Jeparit Waterfront Precinct/Wimmera River to be added asap
- WRDT to be added once officially opened (also to be added to AllTrails app) - *this trail is not yet complete and will be officially opened tentatively Nov.*
- Llew Shillings Silo to be added once completed

#### **Current ATDW Listings managed by Hindmarsh**

- Albacutya Silo
- Arkona Silo
- Hermans Hill Lookout
- Jeparit Caravan Park
- Lake Albacutya
- Menzies Square
- Nhill lake
- Pella Lutheran Church
- Pink Lake
- Pomponderoo Hill
- Rainbow Caravan Park
- Rainbow Lake
- Rainbow Murals
- Riverside Holiday Park Dimboola
- Smug's Mural Dimboola
- Travis Price Mural Dimboola
- Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum
- Yurunga Homestead

Note: Lake Hindmarsh is listed by Parks Vic. We are in contact with Parks for them to update the image.

#### **Jeparit IGA Window**

I have worked with Mel at the IGA and have agreement that the Shire can manage one of the windows for tourism information. Once we have a clear direction of what our marketing will look like, I will arrange for large poster format printed maps and information to be installed in the IGA window. I will also be having a range of brochures on a stand and Info flag installed at the IGA shortly.

#### **New GWMT Visitor App in progress**

There is a project currently being rolled out across the GWM Tourism region for a tourist app. Again, this app will be driven as mentioned above by ATDW data. We have seen the initial beta version of the app and it is looking great. The Jeparit Historical Walk has been added to this and it guides you on the map as well as having information on all the stops. The app will be available via a tablet located at the Customer service centre during

opening hours, alternatively, there will also be a QR code on the IGA front window promoting the app for visitors passing through 24/7.

**Wimmera Mallee Industry Partnership Program 2024/25**

GWMT has finalised the partnership program for the Wimmera Mallee Region. See attached. With the new partnership packages just being released, HSC will be looking to have the Pioneer Museum added as a partner which will generate additional marketing opportunities through that relationship. With this in mind, it is even more important that the masterplan for the museum is implemented, something that HSC sees as a priority. One of the main components of the new partnership packages are the importance of the ATDW listing. Getting as many businesses and attractions listed as possible will see more listings show on the website and marketed to a much broader audience.

For context, the Murtoa Stick Shed has been a partner of Grampians Tourism for a number of years at an annual cost of around \$3,500, as part of this partnership they have had several write ups and television segments from travel shows. This is what we are working towards in the Wimmera Mallee Region. Travel shows and magazines are referred on to partners of tourism bodies for promotion, so this is a very exciting part of the whole transition that we are going through.

There is a lot going on behind the scenes and I am trying to communicate better with the groups that I am involved in, please don't hesitate to reach out if you ever have any questions.

- 9) **Return of keys and approval to purchase a lock box.** WW indicated we may need a larger lock box to accommodate keys. MS to work on using the lock box he has donated. Keys need to be returned by Aaron McLean and Trevor Zanker.
- 10) **Working Bees.** Thanks to PP and DP for their efforts at the Bee on 17 August, supported by another volunteer.
- 11) **Meeting schedule** – carryover discussion from AGM. Not discussed. To be carried over.
- 12) **Quote for alarm system.** PP has received a quote for \$4,835 from Jim's Antennas which includes two cameras. All-up costs including secure cabinet for firearms should be around \$7,000. To be carried over.

13) **Visitors:**

July Attendance:

Adults	Pens./Conc.	Children	Student	Group
14	16	11	4	

**Monday 2 September,** Goroke Men's Shed group

**Sunday 6 October,** 50 people from Seymour Railway Heritage Centre. MF gave details on this event vis a vis the train coming to Jeparit. It seems there will be little time for the visitors to visit the Museum due to only half an hour in Jeparit. MF to provide further details.

- 14) **Volunteering** – CNP has produced and circulated a Backup Roster for 2 September – 27 October.
- 15) **Donations.** Reichenbach photo and two photos from Trevor Chilton. Offer of tools and handmade toys from Ryan Parkinson. It was felt that the tools are not relevant to our collection. CNP suggested the handmade toys may be of interest but DP and MS (and others) felt there are safety hazards with the toys being metal. CNP to decline Ryan's offer to donate these.
- 16) **Digitising update.** WW and CM have been cataloguing the collection in Albacutya Homestead but it is an extremely time-consuming undertaking. CM suggested the project could take months if not years. They are attempting to marry up items in collection with existing inventories but this is not an easy task.
- 17) **Visitor engagement initiatives (CNP)**
  - Volunteering offer – David Sidwell
  - Museum Education Kit
  - Storyboards update. Frames and stands needed for most (14 new and 6 previous = up to 20). PP has generously made four more stands from old plough blades which is greatly appreciated.
  - Conversation with Euan McGillivray in Melbourne
  - CNP's visit to Coal Creek Museum, Korumburra, 16 August
  - Wayfinding signpost near the steam engine. WW proposes the Nhill Men's Shed makes these and new signs with photos on sheds.
- 18) **Jigsaws.** WW reported that these have been ordered.
- 19) **WMPM display at Showgrounds for Show Day, 20 October.** Possibly one or two items of farm machinery. CNP suggested Grain pickling storyboards (an example only). Problem with having only one EFTPOS terminal as it will be needed at Museum. Perhaps cash only at Museum on this day? For further discussion at September meeting.
- 20) **Maintenance** – prioritisation of tasks. WW reminded all that it is up to them to seek funding from MC for repairs

to, for example, machinery, tyres etc. as they are the experts in these areas. MS suggested a great deal of money needs to be spent to upgrade the whole collection, let alone buildings. We need to start doing this. Deferred until site visit on 16 Sept.

21) **Proposed Activities for next 12 months** – as determined at AGM (not for discussion; just a reminder)

Re-strawing Thatched Shed	Rabbit proofing perimeter	Additional Storyboards
Development of Educational Kit	Prioritising Maintenance	Marketing and promotion
Resolving OH&S issues	Cataloguing collection	Event planning
Investigating firearms safety options	Curatorial support	Wayfinding signage

22) **Promotion of WMPM** - through CNP's presentations for RHSV in Melbourne (26 July) and Leongatha (17 August). Also WVAHS Wimmera Zone meeting at Minyip, 14 September.

23) **HSC Update** – Cr/Mayor Brett Ireland.

24) **Next Meeting: Monday 16 September, 4.00 p.m.** N.B. Our next scheduled meetings should be on 17 September and 15 October. However, we cannot have a meeting on 17 September nor in October as no HSC committee meetings may take place between midday on 17 September and 6 p.m. on 26 October, the 'Caretaker period' during the HSC election cycle. Consequently, our next scheduled meeting will be brought forward to **Monday 16 September at 4.00 p.m.** preceded at 2.00 p.m. by a site visit by HSC Maintenance personnel with any MC members who are available.

Meeting closed at 9.35 p.m.