

# Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum

Dimboola Road, Jeparit, Victoria 3423

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

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

## General Meeting Minutes – Tuesday 17 December 2024, 4.00 p.m. at Briarley House.

### 1) Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country

The President welcomes members and guests and formally welcomes new Committee Members. The committee of management of the Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum acknowledges the Wotjobaluk, Jaadwa, Jadawadjali, Wergaia and Jupagalk Nations as Traditional Owners of the local lands and waterways and pay our respects to their Elders and people, past, present and emerging.

### 2) Additional Agenda items (HSC CAC Guidelines for Meetings, 6.8.2)

1. Are there any other items of business to be added to the Agenda?
2. Does anyone wish to change the order of the Agenda?
3. If there is a contentious item or some members are absent, the Chair may decide to defer such items to a subsequent Committee meeting.
4. The Chair may also defer any Agenda item which is contentious, or which encourages significant debate and ask that a report be prepared and that the matter be dealt with at a later date after due consideration.

### 3) Declaration of interests

Nil

### 4) Present: Wendy Werner, Colin Moore, Roger Aitken, Clem and Mary-Anne Paech, Don Pedder, Peter Pumpa, Wendy Zanker, Mark Fletcher

**Apologies:** Craige Proctor (Acting Secretary), Tige Mannington, Peter Robson

**Motion: To accept the apologies.**

**Moved:**

**Seconded:**

**CARRIED**

### 5) Minutes of Previous Meeting

The last meeting, on 19 November, 2024, was an official meeting.

Business Arising – was a typo in last month's financial report and has been rectified in this month.

**Motion: To accept the Minutes of the 19 November 2024 meeting as circulated.**

**Moved: Wendy Zanker**

**Seconded: Don Pedder**

**CARRIED**

### 6) President's Report (WW)

Wendy spent a lot of time this month trying to work out how to run the meetings better and without so much angst every month and that has taken up a lot of time because it is difficult to run meetings where we're not all forging forward together. Wendy and Craige met with Mark and Berni about the Volunteer Handbook, and I believe we have another reiteration. Still further reviewing to do. We have also been working on the curatorial support. Craige has been in discussion with Tim Sullivan and Wendy will send the emails to everyone. Tim had some interesting suggestions and insights. Friday night open night had 25 people attending, five volunteers, Crs Aitken and Barker.

### 7) Correspondence/Secretary's Report

#### Inwards

**HSC (Catherine Saul)** – invoice for Limited Operations Health Registration (\$30.00) – allows Wendy's kitchen to be used for food prep

**WVAHS** – offer of books from Stawell

#### MAVEC Newsletter

#### Outwards

Trevor Smith – decline of offer of 1961 Header

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

**Moved: Clem Paech**

**Seconded: Mary-Anne Paech CARRIED**

**Business arising from Correspondence:**

**WVAHS offer of books** – *The Sunshine Works 1884 and History of the Menzies family in Jeparit*. CNP has organised to collect these from Stawell on behalf of WMPM.

**Motion: That the WMPM pay for Wendy’s kitchen registration**

**Moved: Wendy Zanker                      Seconded: Colin Moore                      CARRIED**

**8) Treasurer’s Report (MP)**

Purchases / Finances. – as tabled.

- Account balance \$62,423.05
- Volunteer Hours: 337hrs

**Invoices for payment**

- Hindmarsh Shire – Kitchen registration
- Gifts for volunteers
- PFD Ice Creams
- Rabbit Poison

**Visitors – November attendance**

Adults	Pens./Conc.	Children	Family	Group
20	15		2	

- Wed 15 Jan – 16 ppl from Bordertown Curlew Club. To quote for BBQ or quiche and salad. Charge same as last time approx. \$15 per head. Colin free to assist with barbecue in required.

**Staffing assistance required**

- 1 Jan Wed, needs 2 volunteers – Wendy Zanker & Colin Moore
- 3 Jan Fri, needs 1 volunteer– Wendy Werner
- 26 & 27 Jan, need 2 volunteers - Colin can assist with Sunday, will confirm closer to event.

**Motion: To accept the Treasurer’s report as circulated.**

**Motion: Mary-Anne Paech                      Seconded: Wendy Zanker                      CARRIED**

**Motion: To pay outstanding invoices as presented.**

**Motion: Mary-Anne Paech                      Seconded: Colin Moore                      CARRIED**

**General Business** with suggested time allocation of approximately 45 minutes

**9) HSC update**

- 8.1. OH&S – Defibrillator; Key safe on list for install. First Aid training to be confirmed in the new year.
- 8.2 Maintenance update - Tarranyurk ramp was replaced with steps temporarily, to a new door. Reinstalled front doors which has been sealed inside but unsure about the outside Timber on outside of Albacutya has been fixed to stop birds getting into the roof space. Metre wide section of the kitchen shaker roof has been redone. Fence around the saw pit – used the original rabbit proof fence were used as a strainer. Concerns were expressed about the building’s heritage being compromised by ongoing changes, with a suggestion to establish protocols to preserve original features. Wendy has discussed with Mark and Monica.
- 8.3 Return of keys – Mary-Anne has one from Trevor Zanker key returned. Following up Aaron McLean.
- 8.4 Volunteer Handbook, Emergency Response, Standard Operating Procedures. Continuing to work through.
- 8.5 GWMT Touring Guide almost ready for circulation. Received over 50 images from photoshoot, video just being finalised.

**10) Open Evening, 13 December**

As reported above. Good to see a few people, locals and out of town, attend the evening.

**11) Albacutya complex – current and future**

Wendy and Colin have been cataloguing items in the Albacutya complex, starting with 400 items and increasing the count to about 657 through their efforts. They have linked 298 items to the catalogue, but 359 items remain unlinked, suggesting that many may be misplaced or not properly documented.

The process has been time-consuming, taking an estimated 100 to 125 hours over three months, highlighting the challenges faced in organising the inventory.

The team addressed difficulties in cataloguing clothing items, with Wendy expressing confusion over specific terminology. They emphasised the importance of following guidelines and suggested that curatorial support could help in organising the collection. Additionally, there was a discussion about the need to document the location of items to prevent future confusion.

**12) Merchandising update and replenishing stock**

Jigsaws have been popular with visitors, need to replenish stock.

**Motion: That the committee purchase more jigsaws to bring back to original levels.**

**Moved: Mary-Anne Paech**

**Seconded: Colin Moore**

**CARRIED**

**13) Budget Initiatives and Submission for 2025-2026**

1. Ongoing Curatorial Support \$20,000 1:1 HSC/WMPM
2. Reimagine Briarley Homestead – visitor entrance – first nations info & mural \$5,000 HSC
3. Uniforms for volunteers - \$2,000 HSC
4. Merrett Shed Mural – Point of interest and visual promo to road. Potentially Gail Newcombe, horse mural \$20,000 HSC

**Total request from Hindmarsh Shire Council \$37,000**

**Co-contribution from WMPM \$10,000 towards curatorial support.**

**Committed WMPM funds for future projects**

- New tyres for Tractors \$8,000
- Firearms display \$8,000

**Future projects for planning**

- Gravel for tractor sheds – can be undertaken through maintenance budget
- Reorganisation of machinery shed – engage with Dunmunkle Sump Oilers for assistance.
- New machinery shed – get quotes and a plans for location, size and use of a new shed
- Shed to house wool presses – suggested look for small shearing shed that may be possibly relocated to the site in the future. Can then tell the story of the growth of the area through sheep and wool.
- Firearms display – container and concrete footings
- Plan ways to attract new members & build community support No budget required
- Meet with the Hindmarsh Shire Youth Council for input. No budget required
- Education Kit – Design and Print
- Accounting Software
- Improve marketing & Advertising
- Outdoor displays – are there items on display that could be set up as an outdoor display around the site.
- Improve visitor interest/engagement & carpark improvements

**Motion: That the committee submit a budget proposal requesting \$37,000 from Hindmarsh Shire Council and commit matching funds of \$10,000 towards curatorial support as part of the 24-25**

**Budget submissions**

**Moved: Mary-Anne Paech**

**Seconded: Wendy Zanker**

**CARRIED**

**14) WMPM T-shirts, Volunteer identification**

Discussed as part of budget submission

**15) Curatorial Support – advice from Tim Sullivan, heritage consultant and update.**

- Tim has been working with the historical society and has worked previously with Aust War Memorial, Sovereign Hill and Menzies Foundation.
- Wendy Zanker and Craige both recommend Tim for WMPM works
- Mark to clarify how many quotes required. Need to design a scoping document for works required to forward to other qualified suppliers. Suggested also History at work, need a third option.

**16) Donations and Collection Management (5 mins)**

- Craige attended an AMaGA event in Warrnambool, 27 November. Details already provided.
- WW and CNP to work with HSC to formulate a Collection Policy (in addition to existing Donations and Loans Policy)

**Motion: That the committee work with HSC to develop a collections policy.**

**Moved: Colin Moore      Seconded: Wendy Zanker      CARRIED**

**17) AMaGA Membership renewal**

\$161.00 renewal. Send invoice to Mark for payment.

**18) Rabbits (CP, 2 mins)**

Clem will bait under the Albacutya Homestead when new poison arrives.

**19) Volunteer Barbecue**

Barbecue lunch for committee and volunteers as a Christmas Breakup, to be held on Friday 20 Dec at the museum under the front pergola.

**Next Meeting: Tuesday 18 February 2025, 4.00 p.m.**

Meeting closed at 6.45p.m.