

CAPTAINS FLAT COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

MEETING

7.30PM WEDNESDAY 19TH APRIL 2006

MINUTES

1. *Attendees and Apologies*

Attendees: Jan Booth, Leanne Brown, Christine Kennedy, Anita King, Nicole Lott, Peter Marshall (Minutes), Lesley Platt, Chris and John Sandow, Alex Wells.

2. *Minutes of previous meeting*

John noted that while he had written a letter about the rugby club, it was on behalf of the Community Association. Minutes were accepted subject to this amendment – proposed by Jan seconded by John and passed..

3. *Business arising*

- Disco – the kids disco on 7th April was attended by about 60 young people, who had great fun. The talent competition got off to a slow start but was a great success. An article was provided to the Captains Flat Telegraph but missed the deadline. The disco made \$460 in income (costs were covered by Palarang Council), and the organisers proposed to hold these funds as a float for further events. The next event is provisionally planned for August.
- Palarang Council grant for youth activities – further information had been provided, but Council was now advertising for submissions. Anita would submit an application for funding for activities on the Labour Day long weekend.

4. *Correspondence*

Received

- Cheque and letter from the Queanbeyan Whites
- Bank statement
- Deposit book

Sent

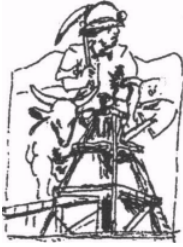
- Letter to Queanbeyan Whites

5. *President's report*

Alex reported on the resource recovery meeting he attended in Bungendore on the date of the last Association meeting. Non-mutually exclusive proposals included:

- i. close all the Palarang tips and ship the waste to Woodlawn – costs would double.
- ii. As each tip closes, transfer waste from its transfer station to other surviving tips; charges would remain at or near current levels; this proposal had unanimous support
- iii. Inviting business to set up resource recovery and to manage the tips;
- iv. Establishing a bioreactor at each tip – e.g. a worm farm to make compost or mulch, and generate gas or electricity; but this may need external funding.

There was support for the Association being involved in running the Captains Flat transfer station, perhaps by subcontracting it, but there was a list of caveats. Alex will write and locally distribute a further discussion paper.



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6. **Treasurer's report** – Jan provided a written report. There was further discussion on purchasing a term deposit, but no firm conclusion was reached.
7. **Community organisations' reports**
 - a) Landcare – no report
 - b) RFS – Christine reported that AGM was held recently. Dave Yarra is the new President, Vernon Uncles Vice President, Chrisse Uncles is Treasurer and Chris Quinn is Captain.
The Brigade had attended a fire at the dam and an accident near the tip. Christine provided a brief update on smoke alarms, which would soon be compulsory in NSW.
 - c) SES – no report.
8. **Subcommittees' reports**
 - a) Markets – the numbers of customers were down at the April Markets and it was agreed to promote again. It was also agreed to expend up to \$200 on new signs, as the old signs were disappearing and were also becoming decrepit. There was discussion but no conclusion about how the café should be run, in the absence of sufficient volunteers from the Pre-school.
 - b) Ball – Lesley Platt, Brooke Lenon and Olwyn had been asked to be on the Committee and had accepted. Mark will commence dance lessons again soon.
9. **Representatives' reports**
 - a) Mines Rehabilitation Committee – John reported that Scott Brookes had been in contact with him. The work is progressing very well. The fire brigade had assisted with some high-pressure hosing. The entrance of the mine had been uncovered.
 - b) Palerang Rates Reference Group – Peter reported that after its presentation to Council, this Group had completed its work and no longer exists. This item would be removed from future agendas.
 - c) Palerang Heritage Committee – no report.
 - d) Palerang Tourism Committee – had not yet met. Jan reported the first meeting would be held on 4th May. Anne Blackley was organising a local meeting to do with Tourism.
 - e) COPRA – no report.
10. **Section 355 Committees' reports**
 - a) Hall – no report
 - b) War Memorial – this was being tidied up for ANZAC Day.
 - c) Town Sign – no progress to report.
11. **Reports on other projects and activities**
 - a) Cemetery – no report



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- b)* Rail Trail – no progress to report.
- c)* Directory of Services – no report
- d)* Website – Peter reported that he was migrating the Fire Brigade's website across to the Captains Flat website, and had offered to create a webpage within the website for the SES and any other community organisations that wanted one.
- e)* Back To The Flat – It was agreed that Ed Whalan would be asked to attend the June meeting (on his return from travel) to present funding estimates. There was some discussion of other activities that could be built around the proposed photo exhibition.
- f)* Pre-school – see separate report (attached).
- g)* BMX Track – Peter would send the submission to Council.
- h)* Waste Management – see President's Report.

12. *General business*

13. *Next Meeting*

Next meeting 17th May 2006 in the Community Hall at 7pm.



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11 f) Pre-school

Nicole updated the Association on the status of the pre-school:

- It is now opening 2 days per week for 6 hours, which makes parents eligible for some extra government assistance; fees were also increased this year to \$24 per day, but break-even point is \$31 per day.
- Parents and staff are fund-raising continuously.
- No rent is paid on the building, and rates are refunded by Council as a donation.
- DoCS Licensing inspection is due to occur in July or August, and the pre-school may need to spend some funds on requirements for licensing, e.g. some deteriorating/lifting concrete and also some play equipment; DoCS may give a grant for this.
- Enrolments for next year remain unclear, but not many children will move on to primary school.
- A national protest day was held on 8th April and received substantial support and media attention.
- Perhaps three local children are not enrolled at the pre-school because of the increased fees.
- Many pre-schools have changed to long day care so as to survive.
- NSW Opposition has stated they will transfer management of pre-schools to the Dept of Education, with substantial implications.
- Locally, it has been suggested that the pre-school move into the grounds of the primary school so as to save money, but the costs and savings are unclear.
- Suggestion of bussing or car-pooling kids to Captains Flat from elsewhere. There was also a discussion of the catchment area, and QDPSA's prioritising of kids (e.g. children from Carwoola go to Queanbeyan pre-schools, when they could potentially be encouraged to come to Captains Flat).
- The pre-school is currently licenced for 20 children with 2 staff
- The pre-school has applied for two grants this year.
- Discussion of political lobbying
- Discussion of developing a marketing flyer
- Noted that primary school is now operating with only 27 children – demographics?
- One pre-schooler now come son the primary school bus.
- Child care would require substantial modification to the building.
- Similarly, before- and after- school care would require accreditation which is difficult.
- DoCS will be examining financial viability as well as physical structure etc.
- Jingera Café (at the Markets) will be closing because of lack of volunteers, barbecue will continue.
- CFCA consider taking over the building if the pre-school ceases, so as to keep it available for Play Group and other suitable purposes, subject to investigation of the costs (primarily insurance and electricity).

Recommendations:

- 1) raise the profile of the Pre-school
- 2) Nicole will take these suggestions to the next QDPSA Committee
- 3) Major fundraising – special disco or the Ball?
- 4) Christmas in July to be held in the Hall, as a fundraiser?
- 5) Try to involve the Primary School P&C
- 6) Pursue collaboration with the Primary School
- 7) Grants – CFCA will offer support and lobby State and Federal Government

"PRESERVING THE PAST, CREATING THE FUTURE"

www.captainsflat.org.au