# **Minutes of Committee Meeting Mount Wilson Progress Association Inc** 13 November 2015, at Wedgewood, Smith Road, Mount Wilson

# Action items highlighted

Chairman's opening remarks	What a treat to have such good rain that has filled tanks, got new grass seed growing, given gardens a wonderful start for hotter summer days and recently kept away thoughts of bushfires.			
	Tonight we have a full agenda again with yet another state and federal government issue added with the release of the proposal for aircraft landing at the new Western Sydney Airport to come in over our communities.			
Present / apologies	<u>Present</u> – Richard Beattie (President), Alison Halliday (Vice President), Libby Raines (Treasurer), Sue Woolfenden (Secretary), Nancy Fox, Ted Griffin and Peter Laving. <u>Apology</u> – Lorraine Barrett			
Confirmation of minutes	The minutes of the Committee Meeting of 21 August 2015 at Trelm, Hay Lane were approved with amendment.  Draft minutes will be circulated with action items highlighted and for comment by the committee prior to the next meeting.			
Treasurer's report	Mount Wilson Progress Association Inc Statement of Accounts 1-8-15 to 31-10-15  Working Account  Receipts:  BMCC Maintenance First and Last Membership Website ATO GST refund Toyota Gift - Seat for War Memorial Interest  Total receipts:  Expenditure:  Mount Wilson Rural Contracting Micah Fink: maintenance Crawfords Earth Moving Recycled Timbers: Log Barriers Bradmill: locating Telstra wires Andrew Clark: deposit for signs Cotswold Furniture: seat from Toyota CW Print: newsletters Study Centre: rent for Market Day Bank Fees  Total expenditure:	13,460.00 1,487.00 1,480.00 324.00 1,000.00 61.42 \$17,7812.42 3,135.00 640.00 5,940.00 3,657.65 440.00 500.00 1,556.00 39.88 200.00 42.50 \$19,010.15		
	<u>Total expenditure:</u> Total receipts:	\$19,010.15 17,812,.42 <u>1,197.73</u>		

Carried forward 20,311.31 Total = \$19,113.58

Bank Balance 1-11-15 \$19,113.58 Fixed Term Deposits: \$25,000.00

Nancy asked if we know how much we expect the website to generate each year. The RFS & Historical Society each pay \$330 pa; individuals pay \$75 pa for the listing of gardens &/or accommodation; tour companies pay \$150 pa.

The committee does not have a formal budget for each year; this will be explored.

# Correspondence

#### In

06-07-15 Dean Fordham and Roger Pfund to President re tree planting in The Avenue

> The committee discussed established trees in The Avenue as comments have been made questioning the quality of their maintenance. Micah Fink prunes and whippersnips around the trees once a year. The large trees will not benefit from feeding and mulching. The trees need to be healthy but also allow pedestrian access. Alison will produce an article for The Mounts on street tree maintenance with a picture of Micah removing low branches. The community needs to be informed about the role of the Progress Association. A No Parking sign has been placed outside the Post House in busy times. The committee decided to monitor the regularity of use of private signage on public land. In autumn, the area opposite the school house will be planted with waratahs and will need to be roped off to deter parking

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30-08-15	Trish Doyle MP re apology for AGM
09-09-15	Ted Griffin to Richard England re MWPA accounts and brief to Raoul Wilson
14-09-15	Heath Greentree, Endeavour Powerlines/Active Tree Services to MWPA Mount Wilson visit re tree lopping
15-09-15	Bruce Kerridge, MIPA Secretary, re unable to attend AGM
16-09-15	Peter Raines to President re Proposed changes to The Avenue, Mount Wilson
23-09-15	Peter Belshaw, BMCC, to Secretary re Marcus Clark Reserve environmental assessment
24-09-15	Bruce Kerridge, MIPA Secretary to President re emergency access
29-09-15	Henric Nicholas to President re Mount Tomah Tower submission
29-09-15	Cr Paul Rasmussen, HCC, re emergency access support
30-09-15	M Monahan (for Premier Mike Baird) re MWPA request for assistance on access
30-09-15	Ron and Moira Green re thanks to Committee for retirement gift
05-10-15	Joe Montano to President re availability of school house for wider use
07-10-15	Dear Fordham to Alison Halliday re mulch around trees in The Avenue
06-10-15	Jim Battersby, Chief Engineer, Endeavour, re overhead powerlines in Mt Irvine Road
20-10-15	Henric Nicholas to President re copies of Western Sydney Airport EIS
20-10-15	Elizabeth Montano to community – BMCC passed resolution to reach out to HCC to work on approach to state and federal governments on fire trail

20-10-15	Zaharah Braybrook, President Historical Society, re acceptance of John Holt plaque
21-10-15	President to Ted Griffin and Keith Ralston re War Memorial seat
21-10-15	Robert Greenwood, GM BMCC to President re contacts for WSA issue
21-10-15	Cr Sarah Shrubb to President re support for MWPA suggestions on WSA
29-10-15	Graham Tribe to President re Mount Tomah Tower submission survey
04-11-15	Cr Don McGregor to President re WSA
05-11-15	Jeff Organ, Director Infrastructure Services, HCC, to Tim Gow – Council continuing discussions with BMCC re approach to governments re fire trail
04-11-15	BMCC Mayor Mark Greenhill to President re WSA
06-11-15	Sue Bell, BMCC, re update on Mt Irvine Road tree lopping
08-11-15	Kiralee Roscoe-Bynon, BM Youth Council re Christmas charity appeal
09-11-15	Ashley Phillips re his IT services available in Mount Wilson
Out	
22-08-15	President to Dean Fordham and Roger Pfund re tree planting in The Avenue
26-08-15	Secretary to xxx re invoices for listing on Mount Wilson website
30-08-15	Secretary to Robert Greenwood, GM BMCC, re MCR environmental report
13-09-15	President to community leaders re date for Christmas party
13-09-15	President to MWPA membership re MWPA AGM
14-09-15	President to Mark Bancroft and Bruce Kerridge invitation to MIPA to attend AGM
15-09-15	Peter Laving to Stuart Buller, BMCC, re work done by Tony Crawford
16-09-15	President to Steve Lette, Acting Chief Engineer, Endeavour Energy re bundled cabling
16-09-15	President to BMCC and MWPA Committee re bundled cable submission to Endeavour
17-09-15	President to Richard England, MWPA financial statement reviewer, re thanks
17-09-15	President to MWPA Committee re adoption of 2014/15 financial statements
17-09-15	Acting Secretary to Louise Markus MP re AGM
21-09-15	President to Bruce Kerridge re Bowens Creek Road a public road
25-09-15	President to Karen Coorey (for Louise Markus MP) with MWPA comment on Mount Tomah mobile tower
27-09-15	President to Mark Bancroft and Bruce Kerridge re <i>The Mounts</i> story on emergency access campaign and invitation to contribute to the newsletter
28-09-15	President to Black Spot Working group and David Howell re potential problems for Mount Wilson with Mount Tomah mobile tower
28-09-15	President to Premier and others re emergency access from Bilpin to Mount Irvine
29-09-15	President to BMCC, HCC councillors and staff and MW and MI people involved with emergency access issue re letter to Premier
29-09-15	President to Peter Raines re work to be done
30-09-15	President to Peter Raines re work to be done at Cathedral Reserve
01-10-15	President to community re update of Contractors and Suppliers list
06-10-15	President to Joe Montano re school house and no MWPAC plans for area
06-10-15	Acting Secretary to Geoff McLeay, PSC Insurance Brokers re MWPA appointment
08-10-15	Alison Halliday to Dean Fordham re mulch around trees in The Avenue
21-10-15	President to Robert Greenwood, GM BMCC, re WSA
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26-10-15	Tim Gow to community with updated Contractors and Suppliers List
03-11-15	President to Duncan Gay, Minister for Roads, re emergency access issue
04-11-15	President to David Elliott, Minister for Emergency Services, re emergency access
06-11-15	President to Sue Bell, BMCC, cc Ward 1 Councillors, re her update on tree lopping
06-11-15	President to Robert Greenwood, BMCC, re public toilets in Mount Wilson
08-11-15	President to Alan Hyde, President MIPA, re April 16 Autumn Festival
09-11-15	President to Ash Phillips re request about provision of IT services in Mount Wilson
11-11-15	President to Rev Tim McIver – thanks for Remembrance Day service

# **Business arising** from minutes of the meeting held on 21.08.15

# 1. Bilpin to Mt Irvine fire trail

Richard reported that following the AGM resolution calling on BMCC and HCC to work with the state and federal governments to establish a fire trail from Bilpin to Mount Irvine, there was intense work ably assisted by Elizabeth Montano to engage the communities to write to the Premier and other decision makers to get the work done. A response to Tim Gow from the Premier's office said the Minister for Roads Duncan Gay was responsible. A further letter has been sent to the minister but Elizabeth advises the minister for emergency services has the primary responsibility and so a further letter has been sent the minister, David Elliott. See also the correspondence and October issue of *The Mounts*.

BMCC is pulling its weight. It passed a resolution last month requesting HCC to work with it on a joint bid for funding.

Tim Gow has had a response from the HCC Director for Infrastructure Services, Jeff Organ, saying the council is continuing discussions with BMCC "to carry out the necessary steps to enable grant funding to be sought."

# 2. Mobile phone and data service in Mount Wilson and Mount Irvine

The story in *The Mounts* on the event at Mount Tomah on 22 September brought the community up to date with the confirmation of the government's decision to have Telstra install a mobile phone and data tower there. Graham Tribe and David Howell have agreed to prepare a submission based on sightings from Mount Wilson and Mount Irvine to suggest the optimal place for the tower. This is necessary because it may be that homes in the shadow of the Wynstay hill, the Hillcrest Lane ridge or the lower side of Smith's Road among others may not benefit from the Mount Tomah tower. Richard asked Andrew Bogg if repeaters could be put in. This is unlikely as in the second round, the funding would go to those communities which were initially unsuccessful.

# 3. MWPA/BMCC current issues report and responses

Richard offered special thanks to Peter for getting a tremendous amount of work completed:

- Nature strips adjacent Marcus Clark Reserve
- Cathedral Reserve including top soil, seeding, power poles and roadside markers
- Unsightly crushed concrete on The Avenue has been cleaned off

**Peter** will follow up with BMCC on payment for these works.

Operation puddle – Peter reported he had met with BMCC's Paul Creelman and there was agreement a concrete path to the hall gate be built to the kerbside and finished so as to raise the gutter a little allowing effective drainage to the two culverts. Peter advised Tony Crawford has quoted \$1,000 for the job which Peter will arrange to have done.

The culverts in Mount Wilson have been a consistent problem. Richard proposed pursuing the issue with BMCC so council is held responsible for the maintenance. Libby has a map of all the culverts. A record/spreadsheet of all culverts will be made by Richard and Peter who will then approach council with a request to ensure they are regularly maintained.

Request to BMCC re zig zag gutter clean up. This is still to be done – **Peter**.

# 4. Marcus Clarke Reserve RFS APZ clearing proposal update:

BMCC's Program Leader Bushfire & Emergency Management Peter Belshaw wrote saying Neighbourhood Safer Places "present some challenges" and council is waiting to hear further from the RFS and "a coordinated approval mechanism is identified for works across all tenures" including MCR.

Peter will contact RFS's Cameron Lounds again re the payment for the MCR environmental report.

#### **5. Toilets** – see correspondence.

A letter has been sent to BMCC. A claim has been made for the same standard as the rest of the mountains. The toilets in Cathedral are an urgent matter, especially before autumn. Silva Plana toilets are not fully operational. Peter to follow up.

# 6. Proposal for MWPA, MWMIRFB, VH meeting

Richard to write to Joe Montano (School Council), David Howell (RFB) and Judy Tribe (VH) and suggest there is no present need for a meeting of the organisations about suggestions for improvements in the MCR, VH, fire shed and War Memorial area because of the uncertainty of the RFS NSP proposal. However, the Committee recommends the organisations publish an annual calendar with the dates of their major public events.

#### 7. MWPA work for BMCC

Richard reported a lot has been done by Peter Raines' Mount Wilson Rural Contracting:

#### Sep 2015

- Move rock from Wynne Reserve to Silva Plana
- Silva Plana: tidy up strip along road edge (still ongoing)
- Commenced work on APZ around shelter shed @ Wynnes Rocks lookout (requires slashing - weather delayed)
- Clearing & slashing Milparra to Hall
- Clearing & slashing War Memorial (outside school gate)
- Slashing top corner Silva Plana

#### Oct 2015

- Mowing /Slashing Founders Corner, Silva Plana, Waterfall & Gregson Reserves, Cathedral Reserve & War Memorial
- Construction of turning circle / loop road in back of Cathedral near toilets & install log barriers around loop.

#### **Next work**

- Commence 2nd round of mowing
- Complete Silva Plana: tidy up strip along road edge
- Happy Valley APZ & slash
- Pressure clean all shelter sheds and clean gutters etc
- Queens Ave near Silva Plana: trim tulip trees
- Continue tidy up of The Avenue road edges from top of zig zag to Ferny
- Cut old timber barriers (that were replaced at Cathedral) and remove steel & leave wood for campers to burn.
- Remove silt fence & rubble from bottom of Cathedral.
- Clean out all fireplaces at Cathedral
- Commence tidy up work on walking tracks

A significant amount of graffiti has appeared at Cathedral Reserve. Peter will ask council for a solution. Peter Raines' new mower is doing a great job as is apparent at Silva Plana. The rocks coming out of the ground in areas required to be mowed are damaging the mower. Richard has told Peter R these rock hazards are to have first priority to be removed for personal and equipment safety.

**Peter L** will organise the removal of the old tennis court pots from Silva Plana.

# 8. Marcus Clark Reserve – valuation

Ted advised no further action is required on this issue. He passed an invoice for the Marcus Clark will purchased as part of the valuation inquiries to Libby for payment.

# 9. Insurance review and new broker

The new broker, PSC Insurance Brokers represented by Geoff McLeay, has been appointed. Ted advised the invoice for the insurance was delayed being sent from the broker's server but has recently become available and will be paid immediately by **Libby**.

# 10. War Memorial Cotswold seat installation

Ted passed invoices for the installation costs to **Libby** for payment.

Peter has a quote from Tony Crawford for the restoration (clean up and re-seal) all the public place timber seats in MW for \$6,500. Many of them are showing deterioration from mould, fungi and lichen and it is uncertain if they were ever sealed when originally installed. Should we have all the seats made as good as possible and that would include the new one?

Peter will ask Cotswold for a recommendation for preservation of the seat and the other seats subject to the maintenance quote.

**Sue** will send a letter of appreciation to the builder who did the installation work, Brad Moon. Richard will send a photo of the seat at the War Memorial to Sue to forward with the grant documentation to Toyota.

#### 11. Village Hall parking comments from VH Committee

The VH committee has not met about this yet.

#### 12. MCR surrounds & street trees

As previously minuted: Trees have been bought for planting in autumn. Maples for the street and rosemary for the war memorial have been ordered. A small horse chestnut will be planted where there is a gap in The Avenue.

The rock cairn has been erected. There is further clearing of underbrush to be done at the corner of The Avenue and Queens Avenue. Richard and Peter R have agreed on the work to be done.

The blackwood has been removed opposite the War Memorial. MWRC is still to remove the nearby dead eucalypt. **Libby** will poison the ivy growing up the trees with Milba's consent.

Two conifers are to be removed from the memorial area before the new trees are planted.

Trees from Breenhold growing onto the street will be cleared. MWRC will provide a quote for the work to be discussed with Tom Breen's property manager Peter Kerstens.

#### 13. Mt Irvine Road golden elm and copper beech lopping.

Richard offered special thanks to Libby for the considerable time and work she put in to surveying, drawing an alternative power lines route and writing information for the Endeavour submission. Endeavour Chief Engineer Jim Battersby responded in October confirming the electricity supplier will not consider undergrounding or placing its power lines bundled overhead to protect the avenue of golden elm and copper beech trees in Mt Irvine Road. The utility essentially said it has to comply with regulations and safety standards in lopping the trees but the community could pay to have the work done to protect the trees. Ted proposed we ask a private contractor to give a quote on what could be done – Richard to follow up. Richard proposed a community arborist be on site when the trees are pruned.

# 14. Weed eradication

Libby reported it had been too wet to spray weeds. This month the Bushcare group worked on Gregson Park. There is ivy on The Avenue near the Post House which **Libby** will work on.

# 15. Signs repainting

Peter successfully organised for the wooden signs about Mount Wilson to be removed, restored, repainted and put back. They now look great.

# 16. Proposal of Barry Byrne for pole removal outside Bebeah

Libby outlined the history of the logs outside Bebeah, plane trees get a disease in Mount Wilson. The Botanic Gardens suggested the barriers be put there to stop cars compacting the ground under the trees. They were also placed there for safety reasons so people couldn't picnic between the cars. It was suggested that one picnic table be moved to the other side of the road. This would mean there are two tables on each side of the road. The remaining tables will be turned so they are further from the road and thus safer. The logs will be moved

back 18 inches. As a courtesy, **Alison** will let the Beebys know of the change.

After the communication, Peter Raines will move the table, move back the poles and turn the other tables. **Richard** is to talk to Barry – we do not want to remove the logs. If the log on the corner of Waterfall Road does not go back then a temporary sign needs to go on the corner in busy times advising visitors not to picnic there (because of the dangers of cars coming off the road).

### 17. Coordination of Mount Wilson community fundraising events

The outcome of the meeting reported at the last committee meeting requires no further action.

# 18. Report on Mount Wilson Festival preparations for 16 April 2016

Nancy reported Rosie Walsh is agreeable to doing the promotion and publicity including Facebook, perhaps, not just for the Festival but also for the Committee generally. Linda Raines is facilitating the Mount Wilson Facebook page. Allen Hyde, who has succeeded Mark Bancroft as president of the Mount Irvine Progress Association, has been asked again whether MIPA wishes to be involved in the Festival. The next Festival Meeting is on Sunday, November 21. The committee is the same as last year. Lorraine has ten gardens committed, including Breenhold and Bebeah. New gardens increase the number of visitors. The committee cuts across the community. Rosie has already approached magazines and websites. It has been noted we need to give BMCC notice about extra toilets. There is an events person at Council who can notify police and other relevant groups - Peter to action.

# 19. Remembrance Day review

Richard commended Alison on the excellent talks and arrangements she made for the day. The service went well and was well attended. The gravel at the War Memorial needs weeding and more gravel laid down before the next service -Alison.

# 20. Offer of donation of John Holt plaque to Historical Society

Zaharah Braybrooke has advised, pending confirmation at the Society's next committee meeting, the Society will exhibit the John Holt plaque in the Turkish Bath Museum.

#### 21. New brochures for spring

The brochure stalled during Sue's absence but is being followed up. A new photo is required and it was suggested we ask permission to use a photo from the website. **Sue** to approach Bev Woodman.

# 22. September AGM review and preparations for March/April 2016 GM

- Earlier Committee nominations **Sue** to send nomination forms to committee members before the Committee meeting prior to the AGM so they might easily be completed and left with her at the committee meeting.
- Libby will arrange for the financial statements to be typed and, along with the books, submitted to Richard England for review prior to AGM.
- Nancy and Bruce will arrange the nibbles and drinks for the AGM in 2016.

#### 23. Communications and December issue of *The Mounts*

**Richard** will write the MWPA contributions for *The Mounts*. This task will be expanded to include more details reporting on and promoting the work of the

#### MWPA.

Alison reported a member of the community says the MWPA is not consultative. It was felt that at AGMs there are reports of what has happened rather than the community being asked what they needed. In the past the community was asked before decisions were made. To allay community concerns it was decided the committee should consider:

- At the AGM list some issues for discussions, eg parking for big events
- In The Mounts add a general statement about contacting the members of the committee with ideas, issue, or concerns
- At the Christmas party in the president's speech invite approaches to the committee.

# 24. Contractors and suppliers list

Richard agreed to continue updating this list

#### **General Business**

# 1. Western Sydney Airport noise issue

- Richard reported Brett Simpson, Danes Way, has been regularly in touch especially re wilderness & quiet
- Submissions with objections are due by 18 December

Conversation with BMCC director Andy Turner 12.11.15:

- Council joined with Greater Western Sydney councils to commission an expert EIS peer review
- The BMCC report on the review will be available along with its draft submission on 30 November for an extraordinary meeting w/c 7/12
- Issues: curfew v 24 hour operation, flight path change west with second runway etc

# Richard will write the MWPA submission

**Richard** will provide an article on WSA for *The Mounts*. Individuals writing have much more effect influencing politicians than form letters. *The Mounts* is due out on the 4 December and the submissions are due to Airservices Australia on 18 December.

# 2. Coal waste discharge into the Wollangambe River

The Historical Society had Dr Ian Wright, formerly of the School of Natural Sciences at the University of Western Sydney, speak at the Society's AGM in 2014 on this issue. A record of the speech is in the Historical Society newsletter. The coalmine currently meets its legal environmental discharge standards. However, coal mining discharge pollution affects the Wollangambe River and an MWPA member suggests the association should advocate for more stringent discharge standards. Alison will research the issue and prepare a report for the next meeting with a recommendation on whether MWPA should pursue the issue.

#### 3. MWPA MWMIRFB Christmas party arrangements

Alison and Alex will order and buy the wine for the Christmas party on 28 November and bill the MWPA. The party will be held at the fire shed due to the work at the Village Hall. Committee members are asked to bring a plate.

	Beth Raines will coordinate decorating the shed and <b>Sue</b> will assist. <b>Nancy</b> will ask Bruce to organise/lead the carol singing. <b>Sue</b> will coordinate with Judy Tribe. <b>Richard</b> to make a speech along with David Howell and Allen Hyde. <b>4. 2016 Proposed Committee meeting dates</b> The proposed dates were agreed except for the GM as it was decided Easter Saturday could be difficult. The VH work will start soon and finish in February. The proposed date for the GM is May 7, 2016. <b>Sue</b> will contact Milba re booking the VH for the AGM and GM.		
	2016 MWPA MEETING DATES  Friday, 12 February at 7.30 pm		
	Saturday, 7 May 5.30 pm – General Meeting, Village Friday, 8 April at 7.30 pm		
	Saturday, 16 April – Mount Wilson Autumn Festival Friday, 10 June at 7.30 pm Friday, 19 August at 7.30 pm		
	Saturday, 17 September at 5.30 pm – AGM, Village Hall Friday, 11 November at 7.30 pm		
Date/location next meeting	Committee Meeting: Friday, 12 February 2016 at Kirk's Corner, Hillcrest Lane.		
Close	The meeting closed at 10.45 pm. Nancy was thanked for hosting the meeting.		