

MOUNT HELENA RESIDENTS & RATEPAYERS PROGRESS ASSOCIATION (INC)

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MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING

Held 19th January 2021 at 6:30pm at Elsie Austin Reserve

Present: Joan Quinn (President), John Bell (Vice-President) Ken Wyatt AM MP, Jessica Shaw MLA, Sebastian R., Jenny & Peter Grimshaw, Gwyn Bell, Rod Henderson, Hazel Williams, Gwyneth Dean, Chip Marsh, Melanye Wawrik, Simon Johnson, Narelle Threadgold, Wade Isaad (Mount Helena Swim Club), Andrew Schwagereit (MH Senior Football Club), Ryan Schwagereit (MH Senior Football Club),
Apologies: Rod Teale Krystina Lancaster, Hannah Dyer, Anna Lancaster

Minutes of Previous General Meeting: Moved John Bell, seconded Melanye Wawrik that the minutes are correct. Carried. (Matters Arising dealt with under Notified and General Business).

Correspondence In:

15/12/20 Shire of Mundaring - Capital works request submission 2021/22 form
Youth Futures Fundraising Event – volunteer marshals sought for Parkerville May 5th
Shire of Mundaring – Summer of Entertainment Activities (will be put on notice board.

Thanks to Gwyn Bell for keeping board organised)

Ken Wyatt – Sporting Clubs Capital Work funding. **Details Below:**

EOI Form: www.kenwyatt.com.au/scp2021

[Stronger Communities \(Round 6\) – The Hon Ken Wyatt AM MP](#)

Guidelines: <http://www.business.gov.au/.../stronger-communities...>

Shire of Mundaring – thanks for Reconnect and Celebrate event, simple and excellent.

Shire of Mundaring – Electors' Meeting Feb 3rd (Joan, John and Rod T attended meeting of Joint Ratepayer Groups, a new initiative)

Ken Wyatt – Xmas card

Correspondence Out:

Members – Capital works request submission form

Shire of Mundaring- Reconnect Grant.

The Mount Helena Residents & Ratepayers were given a grant of \$2,400 from the Shire of Mundaring's Recover Together Covid-19 Relief & Recovery Fund. With this money we organized a community event to reconnect people and celebrate Mount Helena. The Mount Helena Swim Club, Lion's Football club, Junior Football Club, Mount Helena Primary School, Hills Billy Cart, Mount Helena Fire Brigade, Lost Mundaring, Perth Snakes, two local bands and the assistance from Bendigo Bank with printing all helped make this a great Sundowner for the community. It brought together so many groups, clubs, and community members in Mt Helena. Thanks to the Shire of Mundaring and its people!

Treasurers Report:

Banking:

Checking account	\$16,767.93
Savings Account	\$13,031.66
Transaction account credit card	246.44
Total banking	\$30,046.03

Liabilities:

Elsie Austin Field Light	\$4,470.75
Barrier build for Billy Carts PER GRANT	\$15,000.00
Contingent liabilities	\$1,000.00
Held over for Whim Festival (without Billy Carts)	\$5,000.00
Total Liabilities	\$26,370.75

Grants paid:

Community Sporting Clubs PER GRANT	\$900.00
Covid 19 Recovery PER GRANT	\$2,400.00
Balance	\$3,675.28

Ken Wyatt, MA MP Member for Hasluck, introduced.

Summary of remarks: - COVID-19 has been a challenge to all of Australia, Victorian lockdown particularly difficult for mental health and economy
-JobKeeper and JobSeeker has maintained economy
-Post Covid Australia will not be the same; food security and imported medicines and medical supplies revealed weaknesses. Manufacturing grants will become available to implement changes.
-Meetings between premiers and prime minister very effective
-South African and UK new strains of virus new challenge
-Bringing Australians home is another problem, states not taking enough people; NT OK.
-WA govt. has been proactive so we have way of life like no other
Grants look on KW's website for co- contributory grants, remember to cost volunteers at \$40/hr

After viewing the change rooms with the football club members he indicated that he was not pleased and would bring the state of the rooms to the attention of the Shire CEO.

Notified Business

a.Jessica Shaw, MLA, Member for Swan Hills, (invited to speak on local sporting facilities improvements)

Discussion opened by Joan Q – Change rooms and toilets for sporting clubs frankly disgusting
Narelle T (President MH Junior Football Club)- Shire has not given permission for Juniors to even use facilities

Some clubs refuse to play at Mount Helena due to the conditions of the sporting facilities.

Melanye W – no female change rooms, therefore no women's football team

- No umpire change room

Jessica – At least \$2m needed for capital works to upgrade Elsie Austin oval

- Education department policy on use of school facilities has changed so that sporting and other clubs can make arrangements to share existing facilities. Principal Eastern Hills SHS now open to idea as they need funds to upgrade their own sports grounds
- Has approached MHFC to see if they have any interest in pursuing this as Shire does not have upgrade in its forward estimates.

Narelle – Juniors and seniors should use the same facilities

Andrew S (Senior MHFC) – ESHS oval not regulation size

- No alcohol will be permitted, supporters will not support
- Facilities will belong to school, so no control
- State of oval though bad, less critical than lack of facilities

Narelle T – MH in Swan Districts FC area, could there be money available from there?

Ken W – Clay base means that to rectify water problem is very expensive. To do this and upgrade club facilities will cost between \$3.5 and \$3.9M

Wide ranging discussion concluded that town is growing, many young families; tennis, skate park and other sporting groups including the growing swim club need a hub for young people and these grounds are best situated for that, school also needs lights etc. so will cooperate; need parents to advocate

Way forward

Decide amongst groups exactly what is needed

Work with Shire

Focus short term on improving buildings

Joan will try to access plans already drawn up with Shire

When wish list has been sorted out with all stakeholders Joan will approach Shire for short list of approved builders, meet on site with them and cost the work (KW allow 15% extra)

Shire of Mundaring will be requested to price oval work

Identify funding opportunities, (both Jessica and Ken have access to assist with funding)

Fund raise!

Wade Isaad (President and Head Coach of Swim Club) reported that membership is now 70. Wade and other club members have done well to make it happen.

Need to have arrangements with School, Shire and community. Every other swimming club has year-round facility; Swan Aquatic are reluctant to accommodate Mount Helena and will be closed for 18 months for renovations. Bilgoman is also closed in winter. We need winter options or club will build and fail again. \$200,000 is needed to keep it open.

Jessica S suggested they put in grant application through Department of Sports and Recreation

Jessica S – Regional Development Australia meeting tomorrow open to the public – What are the big issues for Hills communities?

Federally funded project with sensible funding

Bill Johnson will speak about energy systems

b. Busy bee for storage area clean up: Contact Joan if you can assist with this

c. Reconnect acquittal done

d. Media statement about future of Hills Billy Cart Event- constitution for Billy Cart not yet completed, Stephen Fox is contacting people to perhaps engage officers to form a club. Must keep process transparent as it is the responsibility of MH Ratepayers to disburse materials and cash. This is a legal process.

John is anxious that process of incorporation be completed so that the Billy Cart group can access funds and plan for future events.

The Shire and Lotterywest have already been informed that there will be two separate entities.

e. Motions for Elector's Meeting Feb 3rd – Issues in Shire discussed at joint ratepayers meeting, Residents and Ratepayers Networking Forum include:

- replacement of aging fire trucks, money from ESL not spent on fleet replacement
- RediPlan workshop for disasters
- environmental policies, weeds
- cycles on Heritage Trail
- closure of Lake Leschenaultia during dangerous fire days (problem of egress)

Some motions will be put forward by various attendees on these issues:-

- Planning alert via email (similar to City of Swan) to advise of proposals and developments available to residents and ratepayers on a regular basis.
- R&R groups should be notified of any developments or Structure Plans by letter to Association Secretary
- All Shire of Mundaring reports including financial reporting- needs to be issued in plain English for ease of understanding and transparency.
ACTION Mount Helena TBC
- Shire website cost review. What would be required on upgrading the website.
It needs to be transparent, workable and easy to navigate.
- Traffic issues on Walker St/Stoneville Rd and Central Mundaring townsite.
- “Keep Robinson Road Open” endeavour. Main Roads are to do a total traffic modelling in the Midland/Bellevue area.
- Joint Development Assessment Panel process and procedures should be changed so that Council have a voice by assessing Responsible Authority Reports (RAR) prior to reports being sent to JDAP.
- Policy Reviews - That our Elected Members carry out an urgent root and branch review of the Council policy framework and supporting policies to ensure that they reflect current community expectations.
That such a review would be conducted by Elected Members with Community inputs and utilising other such external resources as may be required.
(This was formulated by John B and may be a work in progress. Rod Henderson, who is a Councillor at Swan stated that their Council is obliged to review all policies every two years)

f. October Community Event. Decided last Sunday in October, format of R&R event not decided, Whim no longer necessary so the timing and nature of event will be decided later.

g. auditor has been engaged.

h. Bank signatories – paperwork done

i. Separation of R&R and Billy Cart – discussed earlier

j. Facebook page – Mel Warwick will take over management of this

k. Skate Park opening event – after April 28th, format depends upon funding available. Opportunity to involve youth in the painting of surface, Narelle has contact who has been involved in community engagement in this area.

General Business

Web pages – social media needs to be separated. Billy Cart page is not functioning.

Billy Cart page will be released to new body when constitution is ready

New member – application from Simon Johnson to be ratified at next committee meeting.

Next Meeting March 23.