



## Meeting Minutes

7.30pm Thursday 20<sup>h</sup> April 2017  
Rokeby

Chair: David Mapleson

Minutes: Nicki Cann

### PREVIOUS MINUTES CONFORMATION

Confirmed Jeff, seconded Mary

### REPORTS

Correspondence – Damien

Two enquires received:

- Bike rider asking questions re the bridge, information provided.
- Baw Baw runners group – looking to run a trail event, Damien was happy to assist with organising a course, Damien responded but did not get a response – Damien will follow up again.

Nil correspondence out.

Financial – Bernard

#### Paid

\$125 crossover hall committee

\$50 Web hosting renewal DCSI

\$30 Domain name renewal

\$20 – sale of book at Noojee

#### Accounts to be paid

Operating account balance = \$1604.02

Moved Bernard, seconded Damien

### Activities

Noojee market – RCFG attended. Very quiet market.

### PROJECTS

Bridge Restoration Project

- Lorraine Huddle heritage advisor still working on heritage permit.
- Lorraine has finished draft and sent to Jane Clunig for review.
- Quote for bridge restoration – \$927,520 from John Sure.
- Quote is for passive use restoration to heritage standards

Bridge signs

Restoration project sign:

1900x900mm

copy of 3 new designs for sign presented – group agreed on preferred design/sign.

Sign at bridge: 485x328mm This was the sign that was vandalised that previously described the bridge.  
New design with content describing the cutting - group agreed this design/sign.

Action: Bernard to circulate text for feedback from group then proceed to organising manufacture.

Damaged sign - Carolyn has followed up again with Sure Contracts (Ryan Mure) regarding damaged sign to reinstall and move further from road

Action: Carolyn to follow up with them again

### Crossover Regional Park Project

Discussion re funding to upgrade Rokeby rail trail included Mouses track – quote \$8,800 for labour and new material including new crushed rock, trail grading and small amount of additional gravel – proposal to apply for shire community grant – Minor Capital Works grant – grant would be for 50%.  
RCFG would need to match grant, 50% of this can be in kind volunteer hours.

Repairs would be planned in the following sections:

- Rokeby carpark to Pilgrim Creek bridge - repair erosion, improve drainage and resurface steep section
- Mouses track/Rail trail junction - repair erosion and sink hole, improve drainage and resurface
- Rokeby to Crossover rail trail - improve surface of select sections of track

Applications will open mid May and close mid June.

Will need written permission from DELWP - David Vaskess, Shane Atkins - Parks.

Application to focus on safety perspective, number of user groups/diversification, increasing popularity of trail, health and wellbeing for community. Suggestion to confirm whether quote is fixed price contract.

Group agreed to complete application to shire for grant and to contribute \$2000 to match grant if successful – need to clarify GST with shire.

It was also noted that at the Crossover end of the trail vehicles going around the gate, big holes on access road.

Sign at forest seat: 485x328mm This sign has been blank since installation, moved from bridge when shire erected signs with the same content.

New design describing fauna was presented at the meeting - group agreed to design/sign – text to be circulated by Bernard for proofing then Bernard to organise manufacture.

Actions: Damien to complete application – Nicki and Carolyn happy to support.  
Obtain support in writing from DELWP and Parks.

### Neerim East - Crossover Forest - Recreation Issues

Proposed use area, many illegal 4WD tracks.

Seasonal closure – pilgrim creek track on list.

Proposal for rail trail through bush following light gage rail and existing tracks.

- Wealth of historical sites and interesting features.
- Mapo has spoken to Richard Wadsworth from DELWP – merit for community benefit
- Suggestion for RCFG to enter into MOU with 4WD Victoria.
- Discussion re entering key historical site data into DELP system to log sites – status of the sites then could effect what is able to be done in these areas eg burning, road works, track work.
- Choose robust sites to be signed on rail trail– other sites need to know basis.
- Tourism committee being developed in Baw Baw shire – an opportunity for rail trail proposal.

Action:

- Look at option for mapping historical sites

#### Actions:

Gunns Rd area - Identify easy to close tracks to motorized vehicles short term – on site meeting in 4 weeks to look at options for tracks – find date for this

Organise History weekend – Mapo had one recently for 4WD - very successful

Friends Group write to Lillian Ambrosia to request that the Gunns RD area be changed to passive use, Buln Buln East Community Association to write supporting letter - template letter – Mary and Cat to put some ideas together and circulate prior to next meeting.

Richard Wadsworth – David Vaskess to follow up with Richard Wadsworth regarding having the status of the Gunns Rd section of forest changed to Historical / Passive use area.

#### Neerim East Trail Bike Pilot Project.

Guests from Vic Roads and DELWP came to present on pilot project.

Brief summary as follows:

- Motor bike riders – vulnerable group
- Investment in motor cycle rode users
- Enquiry into motor cycle 2012 report – trail bike riders needed to have safety managed as well as riders on bitumen roads. Underreporting from trail bike rider accidents.
- Vic Roads – public consultation with landowners, surveys, interactive map, Shane Watts dirt bike rider very strong advocate – 3800 visits to website, 900 filled in surveys, 862 interactive page.
- Closing tracks not an option
- Rebuild, redesign, repair – 50% would participate in a working group, focus group
- Field visits noted good safety gear, compliance with license and registration, helmets and protective gear.
- Riding style – wanting adventurous and challenging riding.
- Discussion around Damage to environment, considering other user groups.
- Only in the planning stages, engaging engineers, isolate an area for trail bike users vs passive users,
- Aim for funding application mid year – pilot project – 3 years, large maintenance requirements for the facility, safer riding solution, dedicated narrow trails to bring down the riding speed to reduce injury/fatality.
- Change in the Bunyip state park has caused more problems in the Neerim East area.
- Discussion around behavioral component – sharing the forest with other users.
- Plan for signposted tracks that area classified in terms of difficulty.
- Map presented – Mary talking to horse rider groups about preferred horse riding tracks - Mary to have a login into interactive map. Keith to contribute to historical sites on map.
- Need to have a significant amount of tracks to cater for enough people and different people's riding experience
- Gunn road – goal is for passive use, gated seasonal closure.
- Vic police working in conjunction with Vic Roads – enforcement to play there part.
- Latrobe River Road unloading area – 125% capacity on many weekends – hence why pilot project has been chosen for this site, very popular area and close to Melbourne, high level of crashes,
- Discussion re mountain bike riders, appears to be double standard – money going into motorbike riding - lack of accountability, user pays mentality. Need for committee of management with motor bike riders, ownership of track work, draw on their own resources.
- Discussion around importance of education.
- Plan for Vic Roads and DELWP pilot project staff to attend RCFG when building business case

#### Fundraising

Quilt – need to discuss at next meeting and make a decision re best option for fundraising.

#### Facebook

Damien has attempted to claim a page that Facebook created based on information on the RCFG website. The page incorrectly states that RCFG is a religious organization. Facebook have not cooperated as Damien's phone number does not match the one on the website. Damien will continue to follow this up.

Walking train tours

Carry to next meeting due to time constraints.

Quote for insurance \$491.81 per year – for \$10,000,000 coverage – Group agreed to go ahead with insurance subject to proofing document by Mary who has a legal background.

Moved Bernard, seconded Paul.

Proposal of community forum

Carry to next meeting due to time constraints.

Clean up Australia Day

Date to be agreed upon in consultation with Mapo prior to next meeting.

RCFG Logo

Carry to next meeting due to time constraints.

GENERAL BUSINESS

No new business.

Meeting closed 10:30pm

Next meeting date **22nd June - Neerim South pub 7:00pm (dinner + meeting)**