

**Majors Creek Progress Association Inc**  
**C/O Post Office Majors Creek 2622**  
**General Meeting 2nd February 2016**  
**Minutes**

**Meeting opened at: 7:27pm**

**Attendance:** Chris James, Brian McDonald, Sandra McCarron, Sarah Waters, Rudi Stachow, John Spring, Kate Spring, Paul Story.

**Apologies:** Rebecca Bigg

**Presentation & Confirmation of Previous Meeting Minutes:**

Motion: That the minutes be accepted as true and accurate record of the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2015 meeting.

Moved: Sandra McCarron.

Seconded: Brian McDonald

Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Report tabled by Chris James in Donna Blowes' absence.

**Secretary's Report:** Email from Brian McDonald advising Alan Brace's violinist daughter that had offered a recital at St. Stephen's Church on 29<sup>th</sup> December had been postponed indefinitely, as the Church was concerned over insurance.

**Business Arising:**

1. Regarding the car parked on the nature strip on George Street that has been there for years: the Council has still not followed up with any action.
  - Sandy McCarron will approach the adjacent residents with the purpose of finding out who owns the vehicle.
  
2. Sarah Waters reported both the New Year's Eve function and the New Year's Day Picnic at the Recreation Hall were successful.
  - A significant amount of the people that attended the evening were not residents of Majors Creek.
  - \$10/adult was collected and the entire cost of the band was recovered.
  - At the last GM it was decided to make admission to the evening free – as a gift to the Majors Creek community, however, executives Donna Blowes, Sarah Waters, Lynda Vezgoff met between meetings and decided that \$10/adult and children free was a reasonable amount to charge – and folks wouldn't mind paying such a reasonable amount – so as to cover at least some of the cost of the band.
  - New Year's Eve/Day total profit: \$1215.35
  - Brian McDonald reminded MCPA that a \$50 fee for the use of the Hall was due. Brian says there is no fee for children's functions at the Hall, but, in fact, there was for adult functions.
  - Chris James and Sarah Waters admitted they had forgotten the requirement of such a fee, and they would revisit the list of fees on the website.
  
3. Bush dance.

4. Regarding the two park benches to be installed in the village:
  - Brian McDonald cleared/mowed the chosen site.
  - Sarah Waters, Brian James and Chris James met on the chosen site to decide/peg the position. Pegs were left for a period to give opportunity for community feedback.
  - Brian James has laid the concrete pads in readiness. Installation will be completed soon.
  - Sandy McCarron suggested MCPA install another courtesy bench outside her residence.
  - Paul Story expressed concern over liability should an accident occur, given that Council approval had not been sort for the suggested project.
  - Sarah Waters reminded the meeting of previous discussion regarding the future lodgement of a single DA combining several projects, i.e. information signs and additional courtesy benches, to save time and money.
  - Paul Story suggested MCPA make a list of future projects , obtain approval on a single DA, and each project could be completed separately over time.
  - Sandra McCarron informs us she and Marshall will install a courtesy bench for public use on their own property.
  - Rudi Stachow reminded us his land next to Steve Redden's (discussed previously at GM) will be a possible site for a park bench once he completes some fencing.
  
5. Chris James updated us on her work to date in developing a tourist information sign for village.
  - Chris asked the meeting whether she should continue her work, and it was generally agreed that she should.
  - After it has been agreed upon by MCPA would be included in a DA application to Council.
  
6. Regarding taking advantage of the Green Army as discussed previously at GM's:
  - There is still plenty of time to lodge an application for the next round of funding.
  - Sarah Waters suggested we contact the property owners, Matt Dickinson and Geoff Hassel to confirm permission in readiness for our application. It is noted Matt Dickinson has previously expressed his enthusiasm for the project.
  - Chris James will speak to Marcus Lyons, Property Manager for Geoff Hassal, about the possibilities.
  - Brian McDonald and Rudi Stachow expressed a degree of reservation over the value of the track, and its maintenance.
  - Sarah Waters reminded the meeting of the alternative/additional suggestion discussed previously, namely, the land we call the Common, as a possible Green Army project.
  - Paul Story suggested further research would be required, as ownership and boundary lines were unclear. Paul also suggested that, depending on ownership, additional funding could potentially be sourced, as there are old mine shafts on the land, and these may be the responsibility of the State Govt. (Primary Industries).
  
7. The Majors Creek Children's Christmas Party was a held on Sunday, 20<sup>th</sup> December, and was enjoyed by all.
  - Profit based on income from Friday pub raffle plus income on the day minus food and children's gifts: \$1098.42
  
8. Brian McDonald expressed deep concern over Treasurer Donna Blowes leaving on an extended holiday without tending her resignation.
  - Chris James informed the meeting that Donna, prior to leaving several days ago, left in Chris' care the books, including the cheque book, which are well-maintained and easy to

follow. Chris has filled the Treasurer's roll and produced the Treasurer's report in Donna's absence.

- Rudi Stachow reminded the meeting of the protocol stipulated by the Department of Fair Trading requiring a resignation to be tendered before the position can be re-elected.
  - Chris James suggested it would be a simple task to contact Donna and ask for her resignation.
  - Sarah Waters expressed her discomfort over the tension and animosity that persists at meetings, and agreed it would be a simple task to obtain Donna's resignation.
9. Chris James alerted us to our Term Deposit which is due to mature.

Motion: to roll over our Term Deposit for 6 months.

Moved: John Spring

Seconded: Kate Spring

Carried.

### **General Business:**

1. Rudi Stachow suggested building a path along Araluen Street to connect the two public places: the Hotel and the Recreation Reserve.
  - The suggestion was met with general approval.
  - Chris James will contact Council and ask questions about approval requirements for the path.
2. John Spring suggested that some of the white fence around the Recreation Reserve needs maintenance or replacing. John suggested that MCPA offers the Hall Trust financial assistance and volunteer labour.
  - Paul Story asked the age of the fence as it may fall under Heritage and funding potentially sourced.
  - Rudi Stachow said the Hall Trust are already looking at applying for funding.
  - Chris James suggested perhaps the Hall Trust could ask for assistance from MCPA following its next meeting.
3. Gordon Waters requested help from MCPA in distributing a petition attached to a community submission in relation to proposed council boundary changes.
  - Residents and rate payers may be interested in signing a community submission to John Rayner, Delegate, Council Boundary Review, requesting, "That all areas within the former Tallaganda Shire plus the northern rural parts of Palerang encompassing the localities of Taylors Creek, Currawang and areas east of Collector be merged with the Goulburn Mulwaree".
  - At least 10% of affected residents/rate payers must sign for it to be heard.
  - It was generally agreed that although MCPA has not formed a position on the proposed changes, it would service our community to distribute the information and the opportunity to sign the petition.
  - The petition could be located on the notice board at the pub, and the chalk board and Facebook page could draw attention to its presence.
4. Brian McDonald suggested we host an historical night to improve resident's local knowledge.

- Sarah Waters suggested that we do it in the form of a trivia night and incorporate local history trivia questions, and include two or three intervals featuring recitals of short historical anecdotes.
5. Rudi Stachow informs us he may not be at the next meeting so he is raising the subject of ANZAC Day now. Rudi said, normally, MCPA would organise the ANZAC Day commemorations, but these days the Hall Trust takes responsibility. Rudi asked if the MCPA could lend assistance on the day by helping to move chairs and tables from the hall to the church (and back?), and set up tea and coffee at 7:30am.
    - Sandy McCarron suggested forming a small choir to help with the hymns.
    - Sarah Waters asked Rudi to supply MCPA with a list of tasks and MCPA will provide assistance.
  6. Rudi Stachow informed us of a Norwegian Spruce tree donated to the Hall Trust that it has been planted in a particular location at the Rec with the idea that it could be one day used to decorate at Christmas time.

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> April 2016 7:00pm at the Recreation Hall.**

**Meeting Closed: 8:55 pm**

**Secretary:**

Sarah Waters

**Majors Creek Progress Association Inc.**