

**CASTLE HILL COMMUNITY
ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
10AM, 2 MARCH 2019**

Present:

Rob Murfitt, Jan Hann, Rick Hill, Fiona McDonald, Dick & Liz Moore, Sylvia Moreau, Lynda Hill, Anna Boggis, Ray & Maree Goldring, Colin Baillie, Alistair McKenzie, John Nicholson, Sonia & Pete Wakefield, Conor Boyd, Peter Montgomery, Carol Ferrier, James Baines, Denise Murfitt, Adrian & Carol Hunting, Mike Baddeley, Neil Egan, Anthony B?, Dick Brittan

Apologies:

Ildica Boyd, Ron & Liz Hay, Robyn & Alan Ogle, Jocelyn McNamara, Mary Smit, Wade O'Brien, Roger & Kim Read, Kay & Mark Nicholls

Maree / Sonia

Carried

Rob welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked all for attending.

Minutes:

The minutes of the AGM 11 March 2018 were taken as read **Rick / Ray**

Carried

Matters arising:

Entranceway – **Maree** stated that this issue has been put in abeyance for some years and really needs addressing. **Rob** replied that a sub-committee had been put in place to look at redevelopment of this, headed by Brita, but it is felt that the issue is better dealt with after the new subdivision has been completed. However, the committee is aware of the need to keep this on the agenda for future meetings.

Reports:

These were all circulated by email before the meeting and are attached to these minutes. The main points are highlighted as follows:

Chair

There are a lot more owners in the village, therefore more scope in including new people.

A special thank you to Rick Hill in his role of vice chair, who has often stepped in when Rob was away.

Huge thanks to James Baines also, for his work in the reserves area, including the village wide survey.

Good relations have been developed with Selwyn DC, with quarterly meetings. We were able to prevent the rubbish site from being situated beside the hall. Construction of new toilet block will enable us to utilize the space where the original public toilet is for the benefit of the hall.

Hopefully, the hall will be able to be extended in the future to accommodate the increase in size of the village.

It was disappointing that the new subdivision went ahead without any consultation with the village.

The playground audit by Selwyn District Council has been rather frustrating, with the slide and basketball hoop being deemed unsafe and the trampoline mat repairs occasioning some cost. However, the slide is being replaced, we will have a new site for the basketball hoop and the tramp mat has been repaired at minimal cost thanks to Ildica and Fiona.

Rob has enjoyed his time as chair and is available to help if needed.

Financial

The village finances are in good shape.

The operating surplus shown is a grant for the mountain bike tracks, which has not yet been spent.

There is around \$32,000 in members funds, which we need to look at spending. Some suggestions were:

- security camera
- New tennis court surface (hopefully this would be funded by SDC)
- Furniture for hall extension
- Heat pump for hall

The trails committee raise a substantial amount each year (around \$50,000). The Selwyn District Council is starting to recognize that this is a big tourist attraction for the district, not just for Castle Hill ratepayers. We would like to conduct a survey among users to determine where they come from and whether they use any local accommodation.

Rick / James

Carried

Reserves

James spoke about the Good Neighbour rule we are hoping to acquire with Ecan. This involves the village being allowed to keep significant / landmark trees of pest variety (not Pinus Contorta) and monitor the spread to neighbouring properties.

No more pest species will be planted.

Ray confirmed that removal of all Pinus Contorta on reserve land has been completed. There are a few left on private land.

Graham Densem has completed preliminary plans for reserve areas and these were displayed in the hall. The committee has not had chance to review them yet, but villagers were encouraged to make comments via use of sticky labels.. It is hoped these plans will be finalized by the committee, handed on to Selwyn District Council and adopted during 2019. There will still be a chance to comment via submissions to the SDC once they have plans in place.

Maree advised that some new planting had been done, with the plants being donated by WELRA.

It is hoped that villagers will be keen to adopt reserves near their property and be responsible for planting and watering once the plans have been finalized. Through meetings and discussions with Ecan, Rob and Rick thought that whilst the village may get an exemption at first, all larch and Douglas fir may be required to be removed within 10 years.

List of preferred plants has been updated on the website.

Ray spoke about the memorial area. Cameron Waugh from SDC has approved the plans. The developer of the new subdivision, Barbak, is prepared to donate \$900 from firewood sales to the project. Tim from Mitre 10 is also keen to donate. Ray is expecting to hear back from SDC within the month. The area chosen is by the Thomas river, with a seat and columns for plaques. The seat to be constructed using Gabian base with local stone and timber, to mitigate earthquake damage.

Anthony / Conor

Carried

Art weekend

This was a success and another is proposed for 2020. Surplus funds could be used towards this. Some further liaison with SDC re: funding is needed.

Thanks to Ildica for organizing this

Rob / Rick

Carried

Hall

This was presented by **Maree**.

The hall has been quite busy, with 9 member bookings, 11 non-member bookings, 11 village events and 3 non village events.

Cleaners have done a great job. There have been a few issues with booking through the website.

Pete and Sonia have suggested that a water tank be installed for emergency use to complement the 10 existing 20 litre containers. Maree suggested these be emptied and filled at each AGM.

There are already bookings for this month. Maree needs a list of time the hall is required for the rugby.

Emergency Response Team

Presented by **Ray**

The village is on high alert for the rupture of the Alpine Fault. Copies of the emergency response plan were available at the meeting.

Rob advised that Douglas Marshall from SDC has plans to commandeer all available helicopters to evacuate first tourists and travelers and then villagers.

Village needs to be able to cope for 3 – 7 days. 200 – 300 people could be accommodated using St. Andrews lodge, Flock Hill and Castle Hill station.

The Linden road could be the main escape route.

The seismic survey of the hall shows it is capable of sheltering people for a few days.

Thanks were given to Ray for his work in this area.

Trails

This was verbally presented by Anthony

It's been a busy year for trails with work and maintenance on the Hogs Back, Dracophyllum Flat and Thomas bush areas.

Pirate track building is a problem, with DOC taking a harsh view and dismantling any they find.

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Use of trails has been high this year, with some operators bringing tours in coaches and races being held on them. Craigieburn operate a shuttle up their road.

Fund raising has been good, but can always use more. The more the trails are used, the more maintenance is needed.

It is hoped to build 2 or 3 new trails in the future, all a similar ability range to the Hog's Back. DOC do not want steep trails.

Carol asked if something could be built on a permanent basis in the village for older children to practice their skills on. A good idea, however, current maintenance uses all available funds at present.

Rick advised that the committee are keen to approach Selwyn DC for funding given the high use of trails from people outside the village.

Anthony would like to see a WC facility at Texas flat. DOC ultimately have final approval of trails as they own the land.

A good idea to have a survey one weekend to present to Selwyn DC so they can see the usage. Perhaps have a roster of people to interview trail users (Easter weekend a possibility). Conor could maybe put a survey on the Castle Hill website too.

Bill Martin still keen to carry on as trails representative for the committee.

Election:

The four officers were elected unopposed:

Chair	Rick Hill	
Nominated	Ray Goldring	Seconded James Baines
Deputy chair	Fiona McDonald	
Nominated	Maree Goldring	Seconded James Baines
Treasurer	Sonia Wakefield	
Nominated	Denise Murfitt	Seconded Ray Goldring
Secretary	Jan Hann	
Nominated	Maree Goldring	Seconded Fiona McDonald

Four members of the committee were elected

James Baines	Nominated Jan Hann	Seconded Rick Hill
Colin Baillie	Nominated Fiona McDonald	Seconded Adrian Hunting
Carol Ferrier	Nominated Sonia Wakefield	Seconded Adrian Hunting
Anna Boggis	Nominated Rob Murfitt	Seconded Denise Murfitt

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Bill Martin was co-opted for trails. Others may be as needed.

Subscriptions

It was decided after some discussion that the subs remain as at present (\$60, reduced to \$50 if paid before the 31st May and \$20 for advertising on the rental house list on the website). That \$15 be donated to the track fund, out of which the track committee will pay Conor for hosting the track website.

Maree / Rick

Carried

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 12.03 pm