

ABN 43 850 150 304

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AGM – DRAFT MINUTES

3rd October 2023, Supper Room

Meeting started at 7.15 pm

1. Attendance

Howard Wilcockson, Denise Wilcockson, Elizabeth Haworth, John Diment, Sharon Ireland, Michael Garner, Liz Smith, Pat Synge, Réjane Belanger, Jim Duff

Apologies

Amalia Pantazis, Lisa Marriott, Alan Kemp

2. Minutes of previous AGM 01/09/2022– circulated. Rejane/Pat. *Carried.*

3. President's report (Howard Wilcockson)

Report read (*see below*).

To add to the list of what tCA did during the year:

- New notice boards which are nearly completed
- Lighting behind Town Hall all working now

4. Treasurer's report (John Diment)

Report circulated (*see below*). There is \$5,772.50 in the bank as of today. No money owed or owing. Pat/Rejane. *Carried.*

5. Election of new office bearers and committee

POSITION	NOMINEE	PROPOSER	SECONDER
President	Howard Wilcockson	Rejane	Pat
Vice-President	Denise Wilcockson	Jim	Rejane
Treasurer	John Diment	Elizabeth	Howard
Secretary	Rejane Belanger	Denise	Howard
Committee	Elizabeth Haworth	Rejane	Denise
Committee	Sharon Ireland	Liz S	Howard
Committee	Elizabeth Smith	Howard	Pat
Committee	Michael Garner	Rejane	Elizabeth
Committee	Pat Synge	Liz S	Howard
Committee	Lisa Marriott	Sharon	Rejane

As there was only one nominee for each position on the executive committee, they were duly appointed.

Action: Pat to contact Lukas and Alan K to see if they are interested to join the committee.

6. Appointment of Public Officer

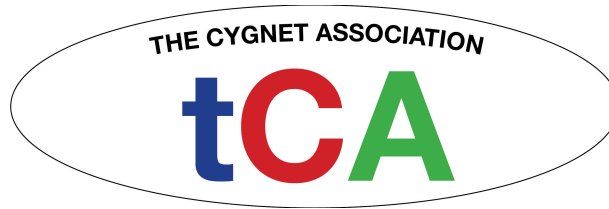
Michael Garner. *Carried.*

7. Audit

As the Association's assets are valued at less than \$250,000, an auditor is not required.

Meeting closed 7.45 pm

Date of next AGM - to be decided



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GENERAL MEETING - MINUTES

3rd October 2023 Supper Room

Meeting started at 7.45pm

1. Attendance

Howard Wilcockson, Denise Wilcockson, Elizabeth Haworth, John Diment, Sharon Ireland, Michael Garner, Liz Smith, Pat Synge, Réjane Belanger

2. Update on various current projects

- **Booklet of walks** is now printed. **Action: 1) booklets will be kept at the museum with a donation box asking for a gold coin donation. 2) Pat will make a poster (A4) to put in various places saying that the booklet of walks is available at the museum. 3) Howard will write a story about it for papers.**
- **New street** (access road) – is now back on the drawing board; council considering improving Mary Street instead, as the budget isn't enough for a new street.
- **Road corridor** – Pat presented a second submission at TPC hearing, following Shane Pritchard's. Rong Zheng (HVC project manager) was confused between the new (access) street and the road corridor. **Action: Howard and Pat to organise meeting with Rong to discuss the SAP.**
- **Banners.** The school competition for designs is postponed till the new year. **Action: Secretary to ask Michelle Churchill about lending us some of their old Christmas flags**
- **Lighting behind Town Hall** – **Action: Howard to write something about it for the news.**
- **Notice boards** – **Action: Liz, Sharon and Rejane will meet with Lisa tomorrow.**
- **Mental health week 7th to 14th Oct.** Sharon gave some orange Balinese flags (paint the town orange) from tCA. Should we have a tCA team for the Scenic Hill walk??
- **Art Trail 28th & 29th Oct.** Report from Sharon that it is growing. 40+ artists. There will be a lunch at the Kiln, with all the artists etc.
Decision: tCA will contribute \$100 towards it. Agreed.
- **Mary street trees in boxes** – are already wicking beds. They suffer from not enough water. Suggestion to have a roster to water them. John and Elizabeth to check with the businesses where the boxes are, asking if they are doing anything. **Action: on the agenda for next meeting.**
- **Weighbridge Cottage** - **Action: on the agenda for next meeting.**

3. New projects

- **Publicising tCA: Action: Michael will have a stall at the market.** Suggestion to have a business card/small paper to leave in places to invite people to tCA meetings.
- **Park Run** – suggestion to organise a Park Run next year. **Action: on the agenda for next meeting.**
- **Community Groups Expo** – the grant Pat applied for was declined. Maybe Bendigo or Council? **Action: on the agenda for next meeting.**
- **French Day** – suggestion to organise this next year. **Action: on the agenda for next meeting.**
- **Meetings for community** - suggestion tCA organise meetings for the community on various subjects. **Action: on the agenda for next meeting.**

4. Time of meetings

Suggestion to have meetings earlier. **Action: on the agenda for next meeting.**

5. Ambulance, emergencies

Additional ambulance didn't happen. Ambulances usually come from Kingston. There is now a team to assess mental health issues. And there is an emergency facility in Cygnet with a home visit car. **Action: ask Kerrie (director) to come and talk to us about it? Have a map on new notice boards of where the defibrillators are.**

Meeting ends 8.55pm.

The Cygnet Association

President's Annual Report 2023 AGM

Fellow members, if there is one thing that stands out from the year 22/23 it is that things don't happen at speed. In fact I think everyone would agree that frustration can easily dampen enthusiasm to get things done. Undoubtedly the key word is tenacity- you have to keep at it. We just have to be mindful that by keeping at our projects they may well eventually materialise in time, and the few projects that are achieved are items to be celebrated.

Changes to our constitution

The year began with some alterations made to our constitution at the Annual General Meeting. Primarily they entailed a minor alteration to the number required to make a meeting quorum and that the Association's objectives are to work in the interests of Cygnet and its immediate surrounds.

Cygnet Cycling Festival

One of the first events we were involved with after our 2022 AGM was the Cygnet Cycling Festival an event staged by Sofia Tsamassiros and committee that began at Burtons Reserve and finished at the Cannery. The event, a 60km handicapped race, a 32 km social ride and a 20km family ride was an undoubted success, although I have to say that the raffle we ran in conjunction with the event did not earn us as much in funds as was hoped.

Our Committee is strongly of the view that the event should be encouraged as the crowd at the finish and prize giving in the Cannery was highly enthusiastic.

Quarterly meetings with Council General Manager (GM)

A feature of the year was that we had quarterly meetings with the Council GM, Jason Browne which was also frequently attended by Mayor, Sally Doyle.

Whilst this an excellent concept as it develops a close relationship with Council representatives, and enables us to put our issues to them, I have to say the outcomes to date have been somewhat disappointing:

- **Weighbridge Cottage**

For example, we had a report that the Council's Director of Infrastructure had undertaken an assessment of Weighbridge Cottage and had come to the conclusion that it could not be used by the public despite offers to make the necessary upgrades. There have been a number of expressions of interest in using it (tCA included). End result: till now at least no outcome whatsoever.

- **Other issues raised with the GM**

That outcome has been typical of numerous issues we have raised such as the unsightly mess on Balfes Hill, the Strategic Master Plan for the Cygnet township and so on. When we asked about the progress of the new street project that the State Government offered \$5million towards we were told Council was not able to obtain a project manager to advance the project. Apparently a new concept plan is now being prepared so we await with anticipation.

Other issues raised with disappointing results so far include the need to upgrade the bus shelter behind the Town Hall and establishing a walkway between the Sailing Club and the new jetty. With respect to the latter it seems that though money was previously allocated for this project, it may not be nearly sufficient – hence no action.

Some of the issues we have raised with the General Manager such as the widening of Lymington Road between the roundabout and the Cannery and the reduction of the speed limit in the town from 50km/hour to 40km/ hour are not directly Council responsibilities and on advice, we are redirecting to various state government departments.

There is some positivity however, as I understand that key Council employees concerned with specific issues that we raise will attend some of the future meetings.

The St Marks Development

This has been somewhat of a disappointment as it appears very few of the suggestions made in the two public consultations have been taken into account, with the consequence that mature trees have come down, open spaces will be of poor quality and housing density will be less than desirable– all issues raised seem to have been ignored.

I think we could take a lesson from this project. We need to realise that developers can simply ignore community concerns if their projects are within the boundaries of planning regulations. Thought needs to be given as to how we can have a louder, more strident voice when needed. Do we need better connection with our members of parliament ? Do we need to obtain more qualified opinions to back our sentiments up? It is certainly something to think about.

Booklet of Cygnet Walks.

This somewhat lengthy project of describing attractive, interesting walks around town and nearby areas has been nurtured by Michael Garner and has reached its finale. Well done Michael!

HVC Community Vision

The Huon Valley Community Vision workshop held in February was an event a number of us contributed towards and hopefully it will be useful to Council.

Tas Water

An indication that the tCA does register with organisations was the attendance of a community engagement representative of Tas Water to our meeting to explain what their plans were for the current project of extending the outfall further into the bay. Judging by the amount of action taking place I suspect few of us had any idea as to how big this project was to be.

New Banner Track System

An interesting success driven by one of our most dynamic members, Sharon Ireland has been the upgrade of the current banner track system for the flag poles in Cygnet. The total cost was \$10,000 inclusive of one set of banners to which we contributed \$1,000. The remainder was paid by Council. This project will have definite long- term value as it gives the town more colour and will assist in publicising events such as the Folk Festival when the organisers of various events erect their banners.

Upgrade of Burton's Reserve Playground

Sharon's activities included pushing the upgrade of playground equipment in Burton's Reserve. Replacing the equipment for the playground still needs to be done – but it is most satisfying to see the level of activity that is taking place there.

The New Street Project

The project of a new street running behind the business sector to reduce the traffic flow on Mary St so that it in effect becomes more like a shopping precinct did receive \$5million funding from the State Government in 2021 but the Council GM reports it is difficult to find a Project Manager for such a big project and that the \$5million funding will be insufficient. No progress so far, and it is back to concept planning.

Strategic Master Plan for Cygnet township

Now that the Community Vision is finalised, Council is moving into Land Use & Development Strategy (LUDS) of which the town plan will be a part. Now that the draft general report has been approved by Council, more public consultation will happen before it is finalised. Each town within the Huon Valley shire will subsequently have its own strategic plan.

Art across the street project instead of zebra crossings

The concept is to have Aboriginal style art painted on the street instead of zebra crossings which are no longer in vogue.

SETAC has indicated that they support the project, and have an artist who could do the artwork. State Roads is now being contacted to see if this could materialise.

Widening of Lymington Road from the roundabout to the Cannery:

The need for this section to be widened is a priority as it desperately needs a white centre line and the verges bituminised to make it wider. We have lodged a petition, asking Council to engage with State Roads about this issue and this was agreed to at the August meeting of Council.

Tasmanian Planning Commission's Local Provisions Schedule (LPS)

In April a submission was made to the Tasmanian Planning Commission's with regards to the Old School Farm site and a potential road corridor between Charlton Street and Garfield Avenue. Our submission was that the two sites should have Special Area Plan designation. The SAP on the Old School Farm would require any development there to demonstrate a clear social and community benefit. The SAP on the 'road corridor' would make sure that any future developments on that area would consider the need for a future bypass..

The loss of a committee member

In April committee member Bronwyn Clarke sadly died, Bronwyn was a very active member of the community and a greatly appreciated member of the committee.

Watching the development proposal behind the Commercial hotel

April saw a meeting of members with a developer proposing to develop lots behind the Commercial Hotel which to some extent clashes with our proposal for an SAP for the future road corridor. We have some concerns regarding this development project with respect to potential for flooding and how the proposed roadway and the development are going to fit.

In conclusion

It has been a busy year with some projects having materialised quite well while others just need soldiering on.

I think the Cygnet Association remains somewhat of an unknown entity to the community and sometimes we're somewhat isolated. Certainly we need more publicity – having a presence in the local papers would help but in addition I think we need to have on our committee business people to ascertain what their issues are, and we need to canvas other organisations to ascertain their issues and so on.

Last but not least I must thank our stalwart Secretary, Rejane Belanger for having done such a great job during the course of the year. We thought we were going to be at a loss when we lost her predecessor, little did we know what dedication and a great talent Rejane has.

And finally, to the members of the Committee – well done – your perseverance is a credit to your commitment to Cygnet.

Howard Wilcockson, President 2022/23

The Cygnet Association
Treasurer's Report AGM 2022 to AGM 2023

Current Bendigo Account Balance \$5,772.50

This year summary:

Income

- Membership income and donations_ \$305 (includes 4 business memberships)
- Raffle profit \$402.00

Total income \$707.00

Expenditure

- Red Seal Planning \$176.00
- Council contribution for flagpoles \$1000
- Hall rental \$62.50
- Printing \$25.00
- Skills event \$100

Total expenditure \$1363.50

Excess of expenditure over income of \$656.50 for 2022-23.

John Diment, Treasurer