

**Minutes Michelago & Region Community Association
Meeting 4 March 2009**



Agenda Item	Background	Discussion	Decision	Action	Status
Meeting opened 7.15pm	<p>Present: Tony Robinson (President), Carmel Birch, Charles Gannon, Bronwyn Gattringer, Martin Hughes (Chairperson), Ines Pintos-Lopez, Gill Robinson, Mareeca Steer.</p> <p>Apologies: Jeremy Mears, Trish Grice, Paul Kennedy.</p>	<p>Discussion on the role of the Chairperson –Martin stated that he did not wish to act as Chair of the meetings (see Section 8(c)) and is happy to fulfill the role of Chairman as stated in Section 8(a) and to convey information to and from Cooma-Monaro Shire Council (C-MSC).</p> <p>Carmel was thanked with acclamation for her huge efforts on the MRCA as an untiring Vice-President.</p>			
1. Minutes 4 February 2009			<p>Motion: To accept the minutes of the meeting held on 4 February 2009.</p> <p>Moved: Ines Pintos-Lopez</p> <p>Seconded Charles Gannon.</p> <p>Carried.</p>		
2. Matters Arising					
2.1 Woody Weeds	Email from Elizabeth Price about the woody weeds opposite her house asking that this be brought to council. It is uncertain who owns the land. The fire brigade has	Martin advised that Elizabeth Price has contacted Roger Roach (Weeds' Officer CMSC).		No further action at this stage from MRCA	

	<p>been looking at ways to minimize the weeds – but nothing can be done during the hot weather. It will be looked at during winter. Mareeca will ask if land is owned by the railway society.</p>				
2.2 Monaro Rural Health Service	<p>Janine Robertson is asking the community to complete a survey on health issues and access to services.</p> <p>The Pit-stop is a travelling promotional stand on men's health – could be good to have at the May Fair.</p>			<p>Martin to email the survey to all on his email list.</p> <p>Tony to contact Janine and ask if not too late and suggest she could come to rubbish morning to hand out surveys and discuss with the community.</p> <p>Ask Cheryl if can leave surveys in shop.</p>	
2.3 Oval Exercise Track	<p>Council has allocated \$50,000 to the oval plan to put in a track. This money has to be spent – ie works have to be completed by September. Mark Cooper, Council staff member needs a copy of the oval plan with the exact location of the exercise track. Council has requested a meeting with Mareeca to discuss the issue. Mareeca and Paul Kennedy will meet with them and report back to</p>	<p>Martin advised the grant is yet to be signed off by Federal Government. Once it is approved, the money will be held by Council. If MRCA can make savings on the track work, the balance can be used for other purposes eg electric BBQ, seating etc</p> <p>In discussing the issue of some critical voices in the community, it was noted that the community was given the opportunity to comment on the oval plan</p>	<p><i>This item to be kept on the agenda.</i></p>		

	the committee. The committee would like to see a letter confirming the grant approval.	through: newsletter, emails, web site, the school etc., but that there was little interest shown.			
2.4 Heritage Brochure		Ines has some information but it seems that Michael Lees has not got anything to pass on to her.	<i>This item to be kept on the agenda.</i>	Ines to contact Caroline Fox and Heather Jauncey in Bredbo.	
2.5 Onsite sewage management.	Tony contacted all the community chairs and a joint submission was put in on 19 January 2009.	<p>Tony advised that the combined submission from all communities, with the exception of Bredbo, was discussed by Council, along with all submissions, on 9 February. Peter Smith sent a letter stating that the strategy will go ahead. He did not give an indication of the reasoning behind the decision or the rationale for fee-structure.</p> <p>MRCA is asking whether testing of systems is necessary – what is the evidence for failure, leakage etc? Also what is the basis for the suggested fees? Another issue is that of systems such as enviro-cycle which are inspected quarterly.</p> <p>Martin advised that the draft management strategy will explain fees. He said that Peter Smith is happy to send more information and that the cost can be justified. It appears that there is no legal requirement for Council to pursue this but that there could be sound public health and risk management</p>	<i>This item to be kept on the agenda.</i>	Tony and Martin to discuss the suggestion that Council amend the strategy and conduct initial inspections to assess the risk.	

		<p>rational behind the decision.</p> <p>He pointed out that enviro systems are only inspected to assess if they are working, not where the out-put from the drippers/sprinklers is distributed or if it is clear of contamination.</p>			
2.6 Management Plan	Tony presented the Michelago Management Plan at the Council meeting on 9 February.	He reported this to be a “useful exercise” and he recommended that MRCA look at expanding on the plan for Michelago and region.	<i>This item to be kept on the agenda.</i>		
2.7 Roads Submission	Martin (as Councillor) put in a submission to the Management Plan for an increase in the budget for rural roads.	Noted with thanks			
2.8 Pony Club		<p>There are two issues: 1) the DA approval and 2) the access from the highway. This second one is also important for cemetery access.</p> <p>Mareeca mentioned the South East Australia Transport Strategy. She will pursue her contact on this.</p>	<i>This item to be kept on the agenda.</i>	<p>Martin to talk to Graham Plath</p> <p>Mareeca to talk to her contact on SEATS</p>	
2.9 Village Plan		Tony reported no response from UNSW Planning. He will chase this up.	<i>This item to be kept on the agenda.</i>	Tony to contact Dean of Design & Planning at UNSW.	
2.10 Rural Broadband Connection	DRSD are putting out a funding program over 5 years, giving small communities the opportunity to put in an expression of interest for their	Mareeca advised we missed the deadline for the expression of interest but that there would be further opportunity. She explained the Mesh network			

	own community for a Mesh network.	system. Martin added that Country Energy is planning to bring in 3-phase power to the village.			
2.11 MRCA Newsletter	The aim is to publish quarterly.	Discussion on items to be included.	The April edition will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • President's column • May Fair • Police column • Pre-School feature with photos. 	Mareeca will contact Cathy Morrison and chase up people for content.	
3. Correspondence		(i) Peter Smith on combined submission to Sewage Management Plan (ii) Peter Smith thanking Tony on behalf of MRCA for attending the council meeting on 9 February.	Mareeca's address will continue to be the postal address for MRCA		
4. Treasurer's Report	Gill Robinson has taken over as Treasurer from Martin Hughes.	Gill reported she had a good handover from Martin and thanked him. The annual return to the Office of Fair Trading has been prepared and just needs the cheque for the fee prior to sending in. Martin reported that \$130 had been banked in membership subscriptions from the AGM.	Motion: To accept the verbal Treasurer's report. Moved: Gill Robinson Seconded: Charles Gannon. Carried Motion: That a cheque for \$45 be signed for the Office of Fair Trading. Moved: Charles Gannon Seconded: Carmel Birch. Carried It was agreed that the signatories on the account will be: Gill Robinson, Mareeca Steer and Jeremy Mears	Gill to organise forms for bank. Martin to send Gill spreadsheets Gill to send all membership data-base	
5. General Business					

5.1 Submission to Sport and Recreation		No response yet.	<i>This item to be kept on the agenda.</i>		
5.2 Publicity Officer/Committee Roles		During discussion on improving communication of MRCA's activities, and meetings, Bronwyn suggested a poster in the shop and on the fire community notice board advertising each meeting of the MRCA, and that all are welcome.			
5.3 Membership List		Membership list for 2009 to be prepared. This has been done.		Gill to email list to committee	.
5.4 Council Business	This will be a regular item when councilor Martin Hughes reports to the Committee on Council deliberations.	<p>Martin encouraged the MRCA to build on the links with other local community associations, developed recently. Mareeca suggested the chairs meet regularly.</p> <p>Martin pointed out that Council has a page in the Monaro Post every other week (1st and 3rd Wednesdays).</p>			
6. Other Business					
6.1 Harvey Norman BBQs	This is an essential a fund raiser.	<p>Bronwyn suggested MRCA runs one for the pre-school which can only continue if it either gets more children or pays the equivalent of three? children's fees each week.</p> <p>Mareeca suggested the Michelago Servo in the ski season for pre-school sausage-sizzle.</p>	Carmel will continue to coordinate them.	<p>Gill to send copy of insurance certificate and confirm dates for 2009.</p> <p>Carmel to ask if there is a cancellation at Harvey Norman.</p> <p>Bronwyn to ask</p>	

				Bunnings' Facilities Manager if there is a cancellation.	
6.2 May Fair	Fair to be held on Mothers Day, Sunday 10 May.	<p>Trish Grice will continue as coordinator and may call special meetings for organisation.</p> <p>Items mentioned:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rides • Music • Primary school involvement • Pre-school involvement • Fire brigade • Country Energy sponsorship/tents? • Trish has a list of stall-holders • Beer tent or champagne breakfast? General feeling was no alcohol to be sold as this is to be a family event focusing on Mothers Day. 	<i>It was agreed to defer this until all the MRCA can discuss ie next meeting.</i>		
6.3 Attendance at Council Meetings	Raised by Peter Bobroff to Tony that MRCA should keep a watching brief and attend Council meetings.		Tony will look at Council agenda for relevant issues; Martin will keep him informed also. Someone from the committee will attend meeting when necessary.		
6.4 Murrumbidgee River	Tony reported that the river is extremely muddy and that the UMCCC is coordinating investigations.	Noted			
6.5 Apples taken	Tony reported that apples have been taken (2 trees were stripped) from a property	Charles was interested to receive this information, and encouraged the reporting of any			

	down on the river.	other unusual activities.			
7. Next meeting		Next meeting is on 1st April 2009 (note Charles Gannon is an apology for that meeting).			

Meeting closed at 9.40pm