



MRCA Committee Meeting
Wednesday, May 10, 2023
Michelago Railway Station

MINUTES

Present: Di Fett (President), Sally Hughes, Sam Walton, Leanne Pattison (Secretary, minutes)

Chair: Sam Walton

The meeting commenced at 6.20pm.

Apologies: Kerry Rooney, Tony De Salis, Robbie Wood, Peter Holland.

1. **Minutes** of 12 April 2023 committee meeting.

Moved Di Fett, seconded Sally Hughes: 'That the minutes of 12 April 2023 be confirmed as an accurate record of that meeting.'

Carried

2. **Business arising** from previous minutes

- a) *Council's draft recreation & open space strategy*: see President's report (Attachment 1).
Given Council's 2021 Michelago Master Plan, which had community input, it was not considered relevant for the MRCA to make another submission. However, Di has again spoken with Council's Allanah about provision of a shade structure for an awning over the Oval's playground.
- b) *SMRC donations & sponsorship application*. Treasurer Kerry has submitted an application for \$3,000.00 to help cover estimated 2023 expenditure on the Railway Station -- see Treasurer's report and President's reports (Attachments 2 and 1 respectively).
- c) *Proposed publicity photos* by 'Justin's Photo Walks', Queanbeyan: Peter.
Postponed to the next meeting.
- d) *Home-printing of Magpies*: Sam printed a copy of the current *Magpie15*. The quality is comparable with that produced by Kwik Kopy, Phillip, ACT, so this is a feasible option when the BCRRF funding for the newsletter finishes at the end of the financial year.
- e) *Council skips* for rubbish (mainly re old chairs). Council neither provides skips nor collects hard rubbish, but provided Di with the names of two skip firms. A time for a cleanout of the storage shed at the Oval is still undecided.
- f) *Yless4U sponsorship for MRCA noticeboard*: despite the previous meeting's opinion favouring asking Jason Green for this, this meeting agreed it would be inappropriate, as Yless4U provides free internet for the Railway Station and the Community Hall.
- g) *Secretary's records 2020—2022*. Leanne gave Jo Jackson a requested USB (8GB) to download these documents. Jo did this and returned the USB to Leanne.

Moved Di Fett, seconded Leanne Pattison: 'That the MRCA Committee thanks Jo Jackson for her work as MRCA Secretary and is particularly grateful for Jo and Brendan's excellent management of MRCA barbecues.'

Carried

- h) *Car-boot sale* at St Patrick's Church: Leanne

1. date now Sunday 21 May
2. poster circulated
3. bbq roster & other organisation proceeding satisfactorily
4. 'square' tutorial postponed for a week, due to Belinda and Kerry's illness.

Discussion re viability of event, as only six car-sites were booked so far. Further promotions are planned and assessment will be made in another week (Wed. 17 May). Leanne proposed that we need about 20 cars to make this viable.

Agreed

- i) *Music event* proposal (Peter). Postponed to the next meeting.
- j) *MRCA noticeboard*

1. Reorganisation: Leanne & Kerry moved apparently permanent notices to the right-hand side and removed redundant ones, leaving the left free for people to stick on their own temporary notices. *Magpie15* notified readers of the change, which will (1) remove a regular job from the MRCA and (2) give the community more immediate access. Such noticeboard use to be assessed.
2. Opening tool #1: the previous Secretary still has this. It would be convenient for this to be kept at the Shop.
3. Opening tool #2: the current Secretary will hold this for the moment.

3. **Correspondence**

See President's report.

4. **President's & Treasurer's reports:** attached.

5. **Railway Station:**

- a) Sam will set up a gmail calendar for Railway Station bookings so all Committee members can click on the link to see them. The meeting agreed enthusiastically to this suggestion from Kerry.
- b) Sally suggested Sam contact the Cooma Correction Centre re window washing and other jobs, and possible regularity of visits.
- c) Di: the succulents growing around the septic tank need regular (bi-annual?) cutting back to maintain their attractiveness.

6. **Hall Committee:** Leanne

- a) Council to replace/repair grill & hotplates
- b) Solar panels quote & installation approved by SMRC
- c) Allan Lehepuu & Cath Cotter have applied for the two advertised vacancies. They attended the April meeting as observer-participants, as Council will not confirm new appointments until July.
- d) The new recommended hiring fees will also not be considered by Council until July. The Hall Committee has lowered some of these but raised the pre-school hire. The criteria were (a) to keep the Hall accessible to the community, and (b) cover costs.
- e) Cooma Correction Centre workers: report by Hall Secretary Jenny Wholohan is in *Magpie15*. Sam emphasised the great amount of work done and its excellence.
- f) Allan today (10 May) found and repaired a second leak in a backyard water pipe.
- g) Hall hire bookings: dedicated phone activated; Belinda & Leanne administering for now. The new number is 0493 638 878. This is a dedicated number just for Hall bookings. The email address remains the same: memorial.hall@michelagoregion.org.au Fuller details in *Magpie 15*.

7. **Other business**

- a) 20 copies of *Magpie15* are on the Shop counter. All 15 copies of #14 have gone.
- b) Proposition: use BCRRF newsletter funds to have Kwik Kopy print all *Magpies* in a booklet. This was tentatively agreed.
- c) Sally: Canberra & Region Heritage Festival. This was started c.40 years ago for just the ACT, but now includes Goulburn, Yass and Queanbeyan. Queanbeyan produces a brochure for its part of the event. Sally will ask the SMRC if Monaro Shire could be included or do its own. Discussion about historical sites followed. Di emailed CRHFF to ask about how to get involved. Action Sally

The meeting closed at 7.40pm.

[Attachments: 2]

Attachment 1

MRCA PRESIDENT'S REPORT 09 MAY 2023

Michelago Magpie 15

Is out and about. Michelago's own local rag is going from strength to strength. I'm so proud of it!

Anzac Day / Station

(See Magpie 15) What a great community turnout, organised by Gregg and Dee and the MRCA committee. There was a minor drama when we lost power (actually tripped a fuse) by plugging in the electric heater (don't!), but this was quickly sorted. Also our firewood supplies had been consumed but fortunately Tony turned up with some in the nick of time. Perhaps we should ask Station users to BYO firewood and to always make sure there is some left for the next user?

Shed cleanup

I called SMRC re quote for skip for the shed. They don't do skips for cleanups, only for events. Nor do they have hard waste collection days (although this is in the Waste Strategy it is not known when it might start). Council suggested we contact a private waste contractor (Burchells Transport 64523773, or J&M Waste 0407865061). Council says we can't take a skip quantity to Bredbo tip - would have to go to Cooma, but I've heard from people who regularly take a car load with no trouble and little cost. Jo G has offered to take a load when we do the cleanup.

J&M waste haven't returned my call.

Burchells: for a 15cm³ skip (6mx2.4m and about 1.5m high): \$600 plus tip fees - they drop it off and pick up in a week. Can't put tins of paint, drums with liquid, gas bottles. Pay by weight at tip. Need to give notice.

I still think a low-key community event with sausages ...? Can we take some of the chairs to the car boot sale and give away for free?

Donations and Sponsorships

Kerry took over this job and lodged an excellent application.

Draft Recreation and Open Space Strategy

We had only one suggestion from the community: Elizabeth had a great idea to use the railway siding space at the far end of Ryrie St up to the old bridge, and potentially to move the Pony Club there. Leanne and I met with Elizabeth, and Anna from the Pony Club, at the site. We discovered that it is not big enough for a pony club, and in any case it is on TfNSW land so this would not be an option unless Council purchased the land (no chance).

I also had a look at the creek area with Elizabeth. The Michelago Masterplan suggests a public walk along the creek. Query whether creekside residents would appreciate this.

I had a number of conversations with Allanna from Council, requesting further information about what land is Council owned, but have not received such information. Allanna said playground shelters are not the sort of thing this strategy is covering, but that Council would be looking at such details as a whole of LGA exercise.

Upshot: nothing to say beyond the Masterplan so no point lodging a submission on this.

Allanna did however give a helpful tip about improvement to tennis court infrastructure: NSW tennis is willing to help especially for clubs that are affiliated with them. Just need to get in touch with them and become affiliated. She thinks they offer a lot including insurance (query who pays?) She understands that some communities have asked council to pay. She said she would ask their governance team, so I have not received and do not expect to receive a reply. I suggest that we pass this idea on to the s355 committee.

Healthy Rivers grant

The work has been done along the river to combat box elder and willows. The next target is Michelago Creek - Markus and I, and Antia and Georgeanna, are planning a walk along it with Elizabeth to identify offending species.

The plan is to hold one or more 'live' training sessions along the creek for interested locals, targeting box elder and willows.

I understand that much of the infestation is on land upstream owned by Geocon. I've tried to contact Geocon to invite their participation but no luck to date.

Note that blackberries will not be covered by this grant but Antia and Georgeanna will be working on a future grant for this purpose. Landholders will need to map their infestations.

Presidential leave

I will be away for most of June and July - I won't be accessing emails and won't be able to action anything. Should someone stand in?

Attachment 2**TREASURER'S REPORT 05 MAY 2023**

MRCA is in a comfortable financial position at this point in time.

Our grant account has a balance of \$2,830. Our general account has a balance of \$10,473.

April general revenue:

- Two family membership renewals - \$30
- Hire fee for station - \$80
- Donations from the poets' group – \$43 (for two meetings at the station)
- Magpie advertising - \$30

April general expenditure:

- Purchase of the Square \$38

Square training will happen on Tuesday 9 May at 11 am at the shop. Thanks go to Belinda. Hopefully we'll be able to use it at the Car Boot Sale.

We submitted our application for the Council's 2023 Donations and Sponsorships round for \$3,000 for the railway station. Thanks to Di for preparing the first draft and getting a quote for solar lighting. Last year we received \$1000. The budget I prepared for the railway station for the application is below.

Since preparing the budget below we've had a request from Leah Oliver to book the station for six more basket weaving classes. If they all proceed they will generate additional revenue of \$480.

[2023 Budget follows.]

Budget for Michelago Railway Station 2023			
Estimated Expenditure for Station			\$
Annual Licence Fee			640
Annual Electricity			960
Insurance			800
Solar Lights			261
Mowing (max 4 per year)			600
Repairs & maintenance (estimate)			300
Total			3561
Estimated Revenue from Station			
Local Community Donations			500
Total			500
Net Deficit			-3061