



MRCA Committee Meeting

Railway Station, 6pm, Tuesday 14 May 2024

MINUTES (pp1–2), TREASURER’S REPORT (1–3), President’s correspondence (4).

1. **Present:** Di Fett (President), Kerry Rooney (Treasurer), Leanne Pattison (Secretary), Sally Hughes, Peter Holland.
2. **Apologies:** Robbie Wood, Tony De Salis, Tanya Higgins
3. **Previous minutes:** Moved Di, seconded Kerry ‘That the minutes of the MRCA Committee meeting of 9 April 2024 be accepted as a correct record of that meeting.’ CARRIED
4. **Heritage NSW grant for railway station:** a telephone conversation with Tim Ritchie today (14 May) means that the imminent proposal to cancel the whole project due to UGL’s ongoing failure to provide promised funding is now on hold. Tim has been on leave for four weeks after major surgery. Today he advised that the Ventia safety officer will be contacting Alistair and Myles for onboarding. He has received the agreement of UGL to then proceed and Ventia will bill UGL. If this all proceeds as Tim has explained, then MRCA will not need to take any additional action to pressure UGL to provide their promised funding. Kerry left voicemail messages with Alistair and Myles to warn them that Ventia will be in contact with them. (See Treasurer’s report Attachment 1.)
5. **SMRC proposed draft plan re reducing/cancelling maintenance of roads:** Council is planning to stop maintaining half its entire road network. Unsealed roads with less than 35 cars per day and sealed roads with less than 150 cars per day will not be maintained. This will affect many roads in the Michelago region.
6. **Business arising from previous minutes:**
 - a) Renaming the Oval – Kerry. The consultation period has ended. In the absence of any communication from Council, we must assume that the proposal to rename the Oval has been approved.
 - b) Boco Rock application – Kerry is applying for funding for the Oval’s new fence and a sign naming it the Dave Hanns fence, and the partial lining of the tennis clubhouse’s open room.
 - c) Cricket Club – Captain Matt Williams told Leanne that the club approves the proposal for the new fence on the creek side of the oval.
 - d) AGM – Magpie publicity for new Secretary, Treasurer, President, query rest of Committee – Leanne will list the basic jobs in the next issue. ACTION LEANNE
 - e) Monaro Highway issues:
 - i) A new road connection between St Patrick’s Church and the village, as set out in the Michelago Action Plan, adopted by the Snowy Monaro Council and approved by the NSW Government. *Given other issues, this was not discussed.*
 - ii) Reduced speed limit on the Monaro Highway near the village (north of the church to south of Micalago Road). It was agreed that lobbying for this be part of issue iii) below.
 - iii) A. Safety turn-in lanes for local roads off the Monaro Highway. Proposed that one person from each road organise signatures of that road’s residents for a

letter agitating for road-safe safe turning lanes (or 'laybys') to facilitate turning into that road from the Monaro Highway. Clearview Rd needs turning lanes, and better ones are needed for Mt Livingstone & Lawler, Rylie Hill, Baroona, Willows and Ryans Roads. Comparison was made with the adequate turnoff lane to Povey Rd.

It was proposed that letters from the roads' representatives be addressed to Steve Whan and to the NSW Minister for Regional Transport and Roads.

B. Road speed limit: the proposed community letters in A (above) should note that there is a 60km speed limit zone north and south of Bredbo and propose that an 80kph speed limit be applied to Michelago, north and south of the Rylie Street turnoff to the village, and to include the distance from Willows Road to Micalago Road.

Leanne to send website contact details for Steve Whan and NSW Minister for Regional Transport and Roads (Jenny Aitchison) and some points to address, particularly re A (above) to representatives of the roads off the Monaro Highway.

ACTION LEANNE

- f) Village road safety & CMRC Active Transport Plan – Kerry wrote to the CMRC contact and received the same response as Di (see Attachment 2).
- g) Donations & Sponsorships (CMRC) – Kerry understands that this scheme will end after the current round. This will make it difficult, if not impossible, for the MRCA to finance the Michelago Railway Station without significant fundraising activities.
- 7. **Uploading history material** to the new website – Committee members hope to continue this when they have time.
- 8. **SMRC Draft Active Transport Plan**: response to Di's personal submission. Attachment 2. Kerry also made a submission and received the same response, with which she was disappointed.
- 9. **Oral history** – Di is interested to initiate this project about the railway with Cheryl Kenyon when she has time.
- 10. **President's report** was included in the extensive discussion of 6iii (above) and 9. See also Attachment 2.
- 11. **Treasurer's report**: Attachment 1.
- 12. **Hall report** – Leanne. The hall's solar battery has been installed and the acoustic panels project acquitted by President Naomi, Council has promised to fund an emergency power inlet, the broken carpark bollard has been replaced by Council, some heater elements need to be replaced, and a cleaning fee for large events will be added to the hire fee for hall hire (this to be discussed at the May Hall Committee meeting).
- 13. **Magpie26** – Leanne. Thank you to Sam for printing 30 copies. The Committee is really appreciative, as we know there are quite a few of the older residents who need hard copies.
- 14. **Rylie St-Micalago Rd bridge**: preliminary work has commenced.
- 15. **Council community consultation** at the General Store 25 May. The proposal to stop maintaining 50% of the roads in the Council area (see 5 above) will certainly be discussed. This is likely to affect most of Michelago's regional roads.

The meeting closed at 7.20pm. Next meeting Tuesday 11 June, 6 pm, railway station.

MRCA Committee 2023—24

Di Fett (Pres.), Brent Wallis (Vice Pres.), Kerry Rooney (Treas.), Leanne Pattison (Sec.), Sam Walton (Railway Station co-ord.), Tony De Salis, Sally Hughes, Peter Holland, Robbie Wood, John Rooney. (Jess Kalthofen and Jo Jackson have taken indefinite leave). Public Officer: Ben Wickham.

Council rep: Cr Tanya Higgins

Attachment 1

TREASURER'S REPORT 14 May 2024

MRCA finances

Our grant account has a balance of \$8,208. There have been no transactions over the last five months. We are waiting upon UGL Regional Linx to honour their funding commitment.

As at 9 May, the general MRCA account had a balance of \$ 12,658.17. Transactions since my last report are:

- Credits of \$15 in members' fees and \$20 from Thai massage for railway station and \$48.53 transferred in from closure of Spring Fair Account.
- Debits of
 - \$225.65 from Red Energy
 - \$539 for the installation of the new sensor lights
 - \$160 for powerpoints and mounting (yet to be installed)
 - \$39.10 miscellaneous supplies for railway station etc
- MRCA members also donated \$515 toward the Hooley Fire Appeal BBQ.

Heritage Grants

On 10 August 2023 MRCA received a letter of offer from the Department of Environment and Planning (DEP) for a \$17,000 Caring for Heritage grant which we applied for in December 2022. UGL confirmed it would provide matching funding of \$16,390. We have received specialist heritage trades quotes of \$8,830 from Alistair Saunders (rendering) and \$16,940 from Myles Gostlelow (carpentry). We have accepted the quotes and forwarded to UGL suggesting they may like to onboard the tradies and pay them directly.

Following a deafening silence and after consulting our Ventia contact, Tim Ritchie, we invoiced UGL in full on 26 March for their funding. This was followed up by an email on 29 April advising that we will need to cancel the project if UGL does not provide its promised funding. **Today I spoke to Tim Ritchie who has been on leave for four weeks after major surgery. He has advised that the Ventia safety officer will be contacting Alistair and Myles for onboarding. He has received the agreement of UGL today to then proceed and Ventia will bill UGL.**

Boco Rock Grant

I am now in the process of applying for a Boco Rock grant for the fence at the oval, partial lining of the tennis clubhouse and a sign. **On 9 May, I submitted a formal request for Council support of the application, required for all council owned assets and land.**

Attachment 2: President's correspondence (Refer to Items 6f and 10. Treasurer Kerry received the same response from Council.)

From: Alannah Dickeson <Alannah.Dickeson@snowymonaro.nsw.gov.au>

Date: 10 May 2024 at 16:58:25 AEST

To: MRCA Di Fett <difett.mrca@gmail.com>

Subject: Draft Active Transport Plan- Michelago

Good afternoon Di,

Thank you for providing feedback on the Draft Active Transport Plan (ATP). Council will be presented with a summary of submissions and recommended changes to the Draft ATP at the June Council meeting. Council will also be given the option to adopt the ATP and proceed with the proposed action plan. We have provided a response to your submission below.

The Draft ATP proposes a shared path from Michelago Public School Michelago Oval (refer Michelago Project # 2).

The Michelago Masterplan 2021 was considered as part of the background documentation to the draft ATP. It is agreed that reference to the Masterplan provides important background / context in the formation of the draft ATP. It is intended a reference to the Michelago Masterplan 2021 be provided in the Section 7.9 of the Snowy Monaro Active Transport Plan.

The recommendations in the Michelago Masterplan 2021 remain valid for due consideration by Council, community groups and individuals into the future. Not all actions detailed in the Michelago Masterplan have been considered for inclusion in the draft ATP. This is because the draft ATP applies to the whole of the Snowy Monaro regional area and has a broader focus to identify priority projects according to the criteria listed in Section 10.

The provision of an active transport connection to the Michelago Cemetery adjoining the Monaro Highway was considered as part of the audit inspections. Such a pathway was discounted as a viable / safe option due to its separation from Michelago township (approximately 2km by road to the intersection of Michelago Community Hall) as well as the speed and volume of traffic along the Monaro Highway acting as a barrier to pedestrians and cyclists.

The need for crossing facilities at Michelago Public School and the Michelago General Store was considered as part of audit inspections. In particular, discussions were held with the School Principal to learn more about road conditions in school zone times. A school crossing of Ryrie Street was not considered necessary. Observations of road conditions in close proximity to the Michelago General Store did not identify any need for a road crossing point at this location in Ryrie Street.

Concerns about vehicle speed have been referred to the Snowy Monaro Local Traffic Committee and the Local Area Commander of the NSW Police Force.
