

MRCA Committee Meeting
Michelago Railway Station 6pm, Wednesday 14 August 2024
MINUTES

Present: Kerry Rooney (President), Leanne Pattison (Vice President), Graeme Plath (Treasurer), Sally Hughes (Secretary), Leanne Thurling, Peter Butler, John Rooney.

Apologies: Di Fett, Tony De Salis.

Previous Minutes: Moved Kerry, seconded Leanne P 'That the Minutes of the MRCA Committee meeting of 11 June 2024 be accepted as a correct record. CARRIED

Business arising from previous Minutes

- a) Heritage Grant: discussed below
- b) Railway station irises: discussed below
- c) Email distribution issues - carried forward.

President's report

This is the first meeting of the 2024-2025 MRCA Committee and as such the President has nothing to report.

Treasurer's report

Graeme will be added as a signatory to MRCA's Bendigo Bank accounts.

ACTION: KERRY, DI and GRAEME

Hall report

Leanne reported that the Hall Committee has done great work over the past year or so Many improvements have been made for the benefit of the community and Hall users.

Magpie

Leanne P continues to produce the *Magpie*, with appreciation from the Michelago community for the work that goes into it. Edition number 29 has recently been distributed with lots of news and photographs. Graeme's suggestion of including photos of some of the beautiful local gardens, was well received. Leanne welcomes content for each addition of the *Magpie*

Priorities for 2024-2025

Kerry outlined three priority areas for the Committee to consider and general discussion ensued.

a) Safety of the Monaro Highway in the Michelago region

Kerry volunteered to take the lead on lobbying for the safety of travellers using the Monaro Highway in the Michelago region and ways to improve the current situation. The Committee agreed this was a very high priority issue.

Suggestions included for the MRCA to work on a Michelago road safety proposal campaign that would canvas the relevant authorities and politicians

- for a reduction of the speed limit to 80kph on the Monaro Highway near Michelago.
 - Leah reminded the committee that an 80kph zone had applied in the recent past to the

Williamsdale service station and this sets a relevant precedent

- provision of turning lanes and layby areas from Willows Road to Ryrie Hill Road
- Peter mentioned MVAs near Michelago which may have been avoided if there were unbroken lines to prevent overtaking in the vicinity of the village, the bridge and Micalago Road intersection.

b) Michelago Master Plan (MMP)

Graeme volunteered to take the lead on ensuring Council properly oversees future development that is consistent with the MMP.

The question was raised querying whether the MMP is being complied with, in relation to the DA for 1 Ryrie Street:

- commercial land for the village and employment opportunities for an expanding population were discussed. These appear to be ignored in the DA and in the Cooma Monaro Development Control Plan (DCP) which incorporates many other components of the MMP.
- The DA does not include community space (note: this requirement does not originate from the MMP but from higher level planning regulations.)

Wider issues associated with the MMP were discussed:

- Leah noted that footpaths are urgently needed in the village for the safety of pedestrians of all ages
- A possible reduction in the speed limit to 40km within Michelago village.
- Kerry suggested Ryrie St should be treated like a shared pedestrian zone given children ride their bikes on the road and people walk on the road because there are no paved alternatives.
- John noted that the DCP and MMP are not set in concrete and we should lobby Council for additions that the community needs, eg footpaths.

c) Railway Station

In relation to the Heritage Grant, Ventia's onboarding of the two heritage tradesmen has stalled because the paperwork is too onerous for the tradesmen to complete. In response to a suggestion from Graeme, the committee agreed to writing to Ventia asking if MRCA can use the tradesmen that they have already onboarded for their maintenance work on other heritage stations.

ACTION: KERRY

It was suggested MRCA needs a Railway Committee to be responsible for ongoing maintenance. Leanne offered to coordinate this with some assistance offered from Leah.

This could include organising a working bee for the garden (eg lifting irises). However Sally suggested she could ask Cooma Correctional Centre (CCC) if they will consider assisting with work that needs to be done on the exterior of the Railway building and grounds. ACTION SALLY

Tony de Luca to be asked to fix external lights and to install a second powerpoint in the waiting room. The ceiling lightbulb in the kitchen needs replacing. ACTION LEANNE P

Role of Secretary

Sally has found that the Secretary's job is beyond her capabilities and available time to devote to the role, even temporarily. After the AGM Sally approached some possible people to take on the role but with no conclusive result. The MRCA Committee discussed how the work will be continued. In the immediate future, Graeme will take the Minutes at the next meeting but the formal role of Secretary must remain separate from that of other executive positions.

Bridge and Road

The bridge and road work have been completed linking Micalago Road with Michelago village. The

completion of this project is of great benefit to the Michelago community and sincere thanks are extended to Tanya Higgins and John Rooney for their persistence and determination to achieve this outcome.

Other business

Kerry applied to the Boco Rock Community Enhancement Fund and has successfully secured \$9,600.00 for the MRCA project 'Improving Michelago Oval Precinct - Fencing'. It includes the lining for the tennis clubhouse, plus signs for the Clive Kelly oval and the Dave Hann's fence. Many thanks to Kerry for making the application to further improve Michelago's infrastructure. Kerry moved that MRCA signs the funding agreement with Council for \$9,600.00. CARRIED

Peter proposed canvassing Micalago Road residents regarding kerbside pickup, and also the need to improve the condition of Micalago Road. Peter will keep the committee updated on progress.

Next meeting

6pm on Wednesday 11 September.