



The Cygnet Association Incorporated

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COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY 29 JUNE 2015 6.30 for 7.00pm
Cygnet Hotel (Top Pub) in the back Restaurant

1 **ATTENDING:**

John Diment (JD) CHAIR, Andrew Blaxland (AB), Kraig Carlstrom (KC), Roger Hart (RH), Pat Syngé (PS), Robin Winter (RW), Jack Synnott (JS), Judi Willoughby (JW), Martin Eaton (ME), Elizabeth Haworth (EH).

APOLOGIES: Trent Cowen, Steve Cumper (SC), Greg Coad (GC), Kevin Sawford (KS), Robin Winter.

ALSO ATTENDING: Jeremy and Patricia Wright (JW and PW), Posie Graeme-Evans (P G-E), Carolyn Mason (CM), Elaine Reeves (ER), Olita Dierckx (OD), Michael Rowe (MR).

2 **MINUTES** from meeting Mon 24 May 2015, circulated by email on 07.06.15 were accepted: (proposed by PS, seconded by JD).

| | |
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| 3 Treasurer's Report: Opening balance (31/03/15) | \$265.00 |
| End of financial year balance | \$221.09 |
| <u>Transactions:</u> | |
| Deposit anonymous donations (trees) JW 26/04/15 | +\$2700.00 |
| Payment of HVC invoice (additional trees costs) 30/06/15 | -\$2700.00 |
| Website registration (by PS) | -\$63.91 |
| New memberships x4+ | +\$20.00 |

There was discussion about the need to consider a different membership fee structure before the AGM in September, to improve the association's financial position and give it flexibility to do more things for the community.

Suggestions from Members are very welcome.

4 **Opinion Survey – further results**

A summary of results (attached) was presented to the meeting by EH

ACTION

To be used to inform future work of TCA

A short article to be submitted to Cygnet Classifieds

5 **TOWN BANNERS (and Annual Funds from Council):**

No response to a letter from AB to Council requesting clarification of annual fund allocations (a carry-over from the old Township Committee), confirmation of the total available for projects and specific allocations for individual

projects. AB reported a phone discussion on this meeting day with Hannah Matthews.

Council's goal posts on this seem to be changing. TCA has understood there was up to \$40k accumulated, plus an anticipated \$10 for 2015-16. Hannah advised however that no 2015-16 allocations were made to any townships. Council is planning a series of community consultations to invite public comment on projects that residents want funds allocated for (this has happened in the past).

Hannah confirmed only that some projects funds had been allocated: about \$10k for historic plaques, \$2k for town banners. The events board had been postponed in November because of HVC's Huon Valley Branding project – but (the big one) despite conflicting previous advice, Council's contribution for street planting was deducted from "Cygnet town funds" and not paid from separate Council budget areas as had been thought. On town banners, many of TCA's committee regard \$2000 per year as woefully small and unlikely to cover banners of good design or durability. Further discussion with HVC is needed on converting the banner poles to a tilt mechanism (like New Norfolk), which would remove the periodic cherry picker costs.

Hannah Matthews asked that she and Lisa Plohl attend the next TCA meeting to discuss future plans. RH recommended a proper business meeting with Simone Watson, the GM of HVC. TC drafted and sent (on 1 July) a formal email to Simone requesting such a meeting in the next fortnight, at council or in Cygnet, time and place to suit Simone, as a follow-up to the similar meeting in November 2014 at Kraig's house which was valuable for both parties. Simone may wish Hannah and Lisa to attend. TCA should have 3 or 4 representatives.

JW mentioned her discussion last weekend with Chrissie Anchor, head of planning at Kingborough Council about various known funding sources including council, available to local groups. Chrissie has agreed to meet with TCA. (*A meeting in Cygnet has now been arranged for Monday 13 July*). The need for a fund raising plan for TCA was again raised.

AB again raised the need to streamline monthly TCA committee meetings by delegating specific projects to sub-groups or sub-committees. The street planting group did this very effectively and now a French Day group has met once at AB's house, meets again at RH's house in a mid July.

ACTION

Council Liaison: AB to email Simone (*see above, done by TC*) requesting:

(a) A business meeting asap, to clarify and document financial position. Those to be included from TCA, TC if available, PS, JD, RH, AB.

(b) A separate meeting with Hannah and Lisa to explore future planning. This could be at beginning of next TCA meeting.

Fund Sourcing: JW to form a small subgroup and arrange meeting with Chrissie Anchor. Subgroup to report back to TCA's next meeting.

Member Fees: See above: All members are invited to make suggestions about restructuring the current one-type membership fee which was set at the first AGM at a very basic level and contributes only minimal income.

6 SHADY CYGNET (aka Street Planting)

JW clarified that some Robinias are to stay for the time being because the Council believes that Ash trees cannot be planted under power cables.

A solution is to bury the cables – Council did obtain state or federal funds some years ago for exactly this, then diverted those funds for another purpose. This is another topic for discussion with Chrissie Anchor.

ACTION

(a) Discussion with Chrissie Anchor (*13 July – see note above*). If feasible, TCA will lobby HVC to work on finding the funds to bury cables and enable further Ash tree planting.

(b) Once Council has clarified possibilities, sponsorships for further tree planting along Mary Street and around selected buildings (on private land, ie: St James Church) from Cygnet businesses and individual residents to be invited. Personal and family sponsor or memorial plaques or name-engraved bricks are options used in other towns and cities and can be considered here.

7 PIAZZA (La PLAZA) PROPOSAL

JD, KC, and EH reported the outcome of their recent meeting with Father Tate, at the Diments' house.

St James church has renewed its contract with HVC for the use of the 'town square' area (the car park) in front of St James Church, which is referred to as a "town square" in the Tasmanian Heritage guidelines for St James. The Church is dependent on that funding and though it would support the development of a piazza, Fr Tate would prefer it to be known by the Spanish, *La Plaza*, to suit the architecture of the church. Any future change to the council leasing would need to be offset by a form of compensation to the Church for loss of income. It should be possible for car parking to continue even if the appearance of the ground paving was changed to improve suitability for special community activities. Fr Tate would support the occasional use of the car park as a traffic free square and would support planting of more Ash trees along the road verge – but would welcome planting of cypresses on the bank near the church to replace those lost since 1941.

ACTION

To progress the idea there is work needed on alternative car parking and a concept plan. The tree subcommittee to work on tree planting plan and JD, EH to work with KC on concept plan over the next few months.

9 FRENCH MONUMENT

JD reported that a letter sent to Mayor Coad by the TCA Vice-Presidents obtained his support in principle and that he would refer the request for land and other possible support to the HVC GM and that 'the HVC would be in touch'. The land area required is at least 400m².

ACTION: JD and PS to

- (a) Consult Burton's Reserve Development Committee about a possible suitable space in Burton's Reserve.
- (b) Explore other possible council owned space in and around Cygnet.
- (c) Send a reminder letter to HVC GM to discuss possibilities and future maintenance of the monument.

10 TOWN FORUM

TC was at the meeting briefly but had to leave for family reasons, and will continue working on the Town Forum project over the next three months. By the next TCA meeting he will have fixed a date and program.

ACTION

AB to clarify progress to date and need for organizational help for TC.

11 FRECH DAY (Une journée Française à Cygnet !)

Following a successful and enjoyable expanded subcommittee meeting chez Posie et André (avec vins et fromages) progress reported included:

- (a) Date change – now to be held on weekend of 13-14 February 2016.
- (b) Telephone calls and emails by PG-E to the French consul to discuss the planning of French Day 2016 and to TMAG to clarify arrangements for the Baudin drawing exposition in 2017 and the possibility of linking that with the Cygnet French Day 2017.
- (c) Contact by JW with Shannons Insurance re French car rally.
- (d) PS suggested contacting French Car Care, Kingston.
- (e) Next meeting of Francaise group at RH's house, mid July.

The change of date and other new or finessed proposals mean we have a great event that is viable, we have time to prepare it well, it will be held in better weather when the new Ash trees are in full leaf and fun will be had.

FURTHER ACTION

- (c) PG-E to contact John Kelly at State Cinema re French film showing.
- (d) PS to contact French Car Care.
- (e) JD to contact Winsor Dobbin about wine tasting.

12 TCA WEBSITE (Beta version now up: go to "cygnet.org.au")

Congratulations to PS for creating this website in WordPress software. PS repeated that comments and suggestions are welcome (please email pat@boatstasmania.com.au). Expressions of interest are also now invited from local businesses and services providers who would like to place links to their own websites or FaceBook pages onto **cygnet.org.au**.

Discussions included the selling of advertising (and how these should be priced) and the need for a marketing person for this. PS kindly agreed to continue development of the website.

ACTION

We need a volunteer to look after marketing of the website - and to manage advertising on the site (ie: two different things). These could be handled by two or more people – by task dividing or job sharing – it doesn't have to be an onerous task for just one person . Please spread the word.

The TCA website is intended to benefit the whole Cygnet community, including clubs, pubs, restaurants and cafes, pubs, accommodation places, panel beaters, car repairers, farm gate providores, daffodil growers, people looking for livestock agistment, visitors from interstate, holiday makers, artists and musicians, sailing clubs, footy clubs, church groups, the CWA, garage sales, new events, annual festivals – everything about Cygnet.

13 PEDESTRIAN SAFETY:

As there has been no action by HVC there was nothing to discuss.

14 HISTORIC PLAQUES: decision time, and other good news

AB has been working very hard to finalise the artwork and narrative for plaques and draft artwork now exists for the remaining 13 buildings. Owner responses are awaited (and required) from several owners. Some further research and text editing needed for certain buildings. Production is the next step.

ACTION

AB to ask HVC to release the funds for this agreed project.

AB had requested clarification of the preferred ordering procedure in his letter to Simone Watson (noted above). Plaque production covers up to six separate suppliers (glass, printing, graphics and artwork, aluminium backing plates, fixings and installation), all coordinated by AB's small sub-committee, most paid for by HVC but three sponsored by building owners.

16 OTHER BUSINESS ?

EH reported that Cygnet Classifieds had suggested that the regular meeting of TCA be included in the 'What's on' page.

ACTION

EH to clarify that this is to be in addition to regular short reports in the Cygnet Classifieds.

17 NEXT MEETINGS: Last Monday of each month...

Monday 27th July Monday 31st August Monday 28th Sept

Monday 26th October Monday 30th Nov

→ and no meetings in December or January!