



## **TRRA Inc ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**Monday 14 October 2013, 7.pm.**

**Crows Nest Room, Nelson Bay Bowling Club**

### **MINUTES**

Meeting commenced at 7.15 pm

President Terry Wall welcomed everybody to both the Annual General Meeting and General Meeting and said how pleasing it was to see Cr John Nell in attendance following his recent vacation.

**ATTENDANCE:** 23 as per attendance book (plus others who missed signing).

**1. APOLOGIES:** Apologies were received from John James, Colin Howard, Margaret Wilkinson, David Gray, Peter Dundas-Smith, Bay Marshall, Brian Armstrong, Joy Heinze, Carol Series, John Digges, Pamela Mumford, Annie Howarth and Mark Penn.

Terry advised the meeting that in the absence of Secretary Margaret Wilkinson Jean Armstrong would be Acting Secretary.

**2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:** Moved Dick Appleby, seconded Peter Quirk that the AGM minutes of 8 October 2012 as posted on the website be accepted as a true and accurate record. Carried.

**3. MATTERS ARISING:** Nil

**4. TREASURER'S REPORT – Refer attachment ( 1)**

Treasurer Denis Pittorino's Financial Statement of Income and Expenditure for the period 1 July 2012 to 30 June 2013 was reported by PowerPoint presentation.

The balance at 30/6/2013 was a credit of \$1,146.62. Terry thanked Denis and asked that the Treasurer's report be accepted. Moved Geoffrey Washington, seconded Geoffrey Bassar. Carried.

**5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Refer "Presentation 2013" link attachment**

President Terry's report was also provided by Power Point Presentation. He said that this was the seventh year that TRRA would be representing the community's interests and went on to highlight the past year's events and involvement of the stalwart TRRA committee.

He thanked the members and general public for their attendance throughout the year and for their gold coin donations at special meetings.

Terry complimented the members of the outgoing Committee on their performance in their respective positions, especially Dick Appleby for his implementation of the website, Nigel Walters for his expertise in planning and Margaret Wilkinson for her dedicated work as Secretary.

**6. PRESENTATION BY COMMITTEE MEMBERS ON THE YEAR'S ISSUES - Refer "Presentation 2013" link attachment**

- Nigel Waters, TRRA Planning sub-committee, gave an extremely comprehensive report outlining TRRA objectives and involvement in development proposals.
- Peter Quirk, TRRA Committee, gave a brief summary on Council Finance and the continued TRRA scrutiny of Council expenditure.
- Dick Appleby, TRRA Webmaster, presented a Report Card on Port Stephens Council's somewhat controversial activities during 2012/2013.
- Geoffrey Washington, TRRA Tourism and Planning, outlined many areas of concern regarding planning policies.

**7. OTHER ISSUES:**

- The information night which included the Dog Review was well attended.
- John James initiated the proposal for a cycle way along the pathway created by Ausgrid beside Nelson Bay Road resulting in provision for the future for a shared pathway/cycle way into town.
- The Mackas Sand access route was originally approved via Lavis Lane but has now been modified. The new route, which has been approved by the NSW Planning Assessment Commission (PAC), will now enter a single lane section of Nelson Bay Road between the Richardson Road (Pauls Corner) and Medowie Road (RAAF base) roundabouts and TRRA raised concerns for public safety.
- Questions were raised regarding the proposed tourist bus to take people around the town. Geoff advised that a dedicated bus is recommended in a future plan for the town.
- Concern was voiced regarding Mayor Bruce Mackenzie's frequent refusal to allow Public Access at Council Meetings. This is of paramount importance since the web camera for Council Meetings has been 'unplugged.' The need for transparency is essential and continues to be a problem.
- Also of concern was Mayor Mackenzie's reported inappropriate comment at a public Council Meeting describing, for example, fire officials as "boof heads". TRRA Committee members were in attendance in the gallery.
- Again the disclosure of the accepted tender for sand mining on Council owned Cabbage Tree Road has come under scrutiny. Mayor MacKenzie was fully involved in decision making despite Mackas Sand Pty Ltd, of which he is a Director, having been one of the initial tenderers.

## **8. ELECTION OF MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 2013/2014**

President Terry stepped aside as President and Chairman as required by our Constitution and introduced Darrel Dawson as the Committee's recommendation for Returning Officer.

Darrel explained the requirements of the Constitution regarding the election process for the 2013/2014 Committee and read out a list of nominations received by 4<sup>th</sup> October as follows:

President	Terry Wall
Treasurer	Denis Pittorino
Committee Member:	(Webmaster) Dick Appleby
Committee Member	Geoffrey Basser
Committee Member	Colin Howard
Committee Member	(Research) John James
Committee Member	(Tourism) Geoffrey Washington
Committee Member	Margaret Wilkinson

The question of Vice President was discussed and Dick Appleby was approached by Geoffrey Washington and Terry Wall to accept the position.

Dick explained that he has an abundant workload within his present capacity as Webmaster, together with the organization of Presentations and sorting out the TRRA Information Technology issues, so therefore must decline. He would like to see another person nominate for the position of Vice

President. Geoffrey Washington said that the position would be left open.

The position of Secretary was left in abeyance.

As there were no further nominations from the floor, the nominees as recorded were duly elected to their respective positions unopposed.

President Terry thanked everybody for their attendance and said that he hoped in the future more members would become involved in the running of the organization in order to maintain its present level of services.

President Terry then closed the Annual General Meeting and invited all to stay for the General Meeting which immediately followed.

Annual General Meeting closed at 8.35 pm.