

MINUTES OF KAROONDA HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING

HELD IN KAROONDA EAST MURRAY DISTRICT COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON
JUNE 1 AT 7PM

PRESENT: D Roberts, R Drescher, M Terrell, Don Anderson, Mr and Mrs B Gowling, E Kerr, N Burdett, G Thiele, J Cooper, K Burdett, R Hood, D Cheriton.

APOLOGIES: D Paech, D Kerr

MINUTES: Read and confirmed. Moved D Cheriton, seconded G Thiele. CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

- Pamphlets are plentiful
- Justin Cooper has spoken to Caroline Phillips.
- Council maintains a budget line in their books-there may need to be a larger allocation to do necessary work at the park.

POSITION OF SECRETARY:

N.Burdett nominated E.Kerr as the next secretary, seconded M.Terrell. E.Kerr accepted the position. Chairman D.Roberts thanked Nancy for her efforts as Secretary.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Review of Constitution: an amended copy was not available and will be reviewed next meeting.

Discussion re rationalisation of the Park: J. Cooper reported on his inspection of the park and expressed concern for the sustainability of the park for a small town, and safety issues. See copy of report for details.

- Council has the ultimate say in what happens.
- Informed meeting of the scaling down of a museum in Cowra.
- Pointed out that some hard decisions will need to be made.
- Termite problem.
- Why two blacksmith shops? (Farm and garage)

D.Anderson explained the significance of the stump shed as an important exhibit. The stumps had come from Jeff Bolt's property. He emphasised the need to preserve our past and to keep the pioneering story alive. The importance of preserving the wagons was raised as well.

K.Burdett suggested that a regular termite/inspection/treatment should be budgeted for.

D.Cheriton moved that we approach council to take the responsibility for termite inspection and advise on control measures. Seconded R.Hood. CARRIED

J.Cooper reiterated the need for a serious look at the maintenance of the park with a much reduced workforce:

- It is a council asset which needs support from council as well.
- There are places for excess things to go – Loxton looking at a farm machinery museum.

- Need to make the park attractive to people passing through.

D.Roberts pointed out that we want to see the park preserved but have to be realistic about what a community of around 1300 people can do with little or no interest from younger people..

D.Cheriton put forward the view that:

- A smaller display of well-maintained things is preferable to a large display of run down things.
- A more attractive entrance area be developed.

K. Burdett will recommend to council the need for more sheds.

M.Terrell suggested a combined group of council and society members come together to assess what can be restored and kept.

It was resolved that the next society meeting be held on Sunday June 19 at 1pm at the park for any interested community members. To be followed up with a letter of suggestions to council.

Discussions re railway carriages:

- Expensive to maintain and these are in urgent need of repair.
- 98% of towns had railway carriages so not necessarily unique to us.
- Beyond the capabilities and will of this community to maintain.
- P.Smithson has had an expression of interest from Morgan.

Discussion re hazards and security:

- The well is a serious hazard in its present state.
- Need to secure old enamel signs. These are valuable and could be easily removed. J.Cooper asked for permission to store signs.
- Metal plough seats have disappeared recently.

R. Hood moved that we give the committee the authority to remove and secure valuable signs. Seconded M.Terrell. CARRIED

Di Callagher has kindly donated signs from a shearing shed at Sandalwood.

R.Hood suggested better signage from the main road.to the park.

Discussion re machines on loan:

- Old car (1924 Chev). No decision made as Don had left meeting.
- Old tractor (Fowler –Marshall crawler). Barry Gowling is going to take this back.

D.Roberts reiterated that what is offloaded can be displayed elsewhere –cameras, telephone exchange, carriages. The reality is that people nowadays just do not have the time to give anymore..

He thanked everyone for coming and closed meeting at 9pm.

