

MERRIJIG PUBLIC HALL AGENDA

Monday 2nd April 2007, 7pm

Merrijig Public Hall

NO	ITEM	COMMENT
1	Welcome	
2	Call for apologies	
3	Call for General Business: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bushfire recovery grant • 	
4	Confirm previous minutes	
5	Business arising from minutes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hall Upgrade, Subcommittee Report • Fire Photographic Exhibition Even. • Notice board • Trash & Treasure on 26/05/07 • Exterior Hall Sign • Hire of Equipment • Dance on the 21/04/07 	Labeling & pricing was to be completed after fire photographic exhibition
6	Correspondence <u>IN:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mansfield Shire; <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bushfire recovery celebration grant. 2. Council sponsorship of communities in control conference <u>OUT:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mansfield Shire, reply to item 2 in Correspondence 	
7	Financial Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • February MARCH • Accounts for payment 	
8	General Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bushfire recovery grant • 	
9	Next meeting	
10	Close meeting	

Minutes of Merrijig Hall Inc. Meeting Monday 5th March 2007

1. Open meeting: 7.05pm

Attendees: Chris Dunlop, Ted Lovick, Noel Willaton, Maz Dowling,
Jenny O'Brien, Pam Sumpter, Marie Selstrom, Dot Corcoran

2. Apologies: Kerrie Purcell

3. Call for General Business:

- Bushfire Recovery Grant
- Minute Reporting
- Trustees
- Communities in Control

4. Confirm previous minutes:

MOTION: That the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 5th March 2007 be accepted.

Moved: Sen Weir, **Seconded:** Noel Willaton **Carried**

5. Business arising from minutes:

- **Hall Upgrade:** Maz Dowling presented a 'Building Refurbishment Plan' report to committee, (see attached).

MOTION: Accept the "Building Refurbishment Plan" Report.

Moved: Ted Lovick, **Seconded:** Jenny O'Brien **Carried unanimously**

MOTION: A letter of support for the Hall Refurbishment from Merrijig Primary School be obtained.

Moved: Maz Dowling, **Seconded:** Sen Weir

ACTION: Dot Corcoran to follow up.

A discussion took place among the committee regarding relevant items & queries on the Hall Upgrade project. List below

1. The projected allocated money from various bodies to the hall is only hypothetical at the moment. Maz Dowling feels 99.9% confident that the promised funds will become a reality.
2. Maz Dowling stated strongly that nothing is set in concrete at the moment, be that the money, plans or exact kitchen appliances and fittings.
3. NEVACC have suggested that our upgrade include communication & emergency accommodation, such as shower, data ports etc. Therefore our projected \$250,000 would increase to \$310,000. Could it be possible to connect to the School's recently installed broadband cable? Dot Corcoran informed committee, this cable was an initiative from Federal Govt. that all schools have access to Broadband.
4. The Hall is expected to commit \$15,000 of it's own funds and \$15,000 of 'in kind' towards the refurbishment project. Financial grant investors are expecting \$2 for one from the hall. Maz Dowling informed the committee we have \$15,000 'in kind' established already. A strong emphasis on fundraising to achieve \$15,000 cash was discussed and agreed to by committee.

Business arising from Minutes continued...Hall Upgrade

5. The consensus was that we aim for as much money as possible and then scale down the project if needed, depending on committed funds.
6. Chris Dunlop tabled to the committee comments from community members at the recently held Merrijig Community meeting. Only one person felt the Hall upgrade was too extravagant, the remaining audience were in strong support of the project.
7. All works will be tendered and supervised by the Mansfield Shire Council. Invoices will be paid by Mansfield Shire Council.

- **Fire Photographic Exhibition:** The Photographic Exhibition was cancelled due to a number of reasons. Views were expressed by Maz Dowling regarding the negative process this exhibition went through since its initiation. Maz Dowling stated that an 'Extraordinary Meeting' should have been called to make any changes to the plans of this event.
The conclusion was that we could all learn from the unorthodox process and move on.
- **Noticeboard:** Hold over to next meeting
- **Trash & Treasure:** To be held on 26/05/07. Marie Selstrom reported that 13 stall holders were committed for the event. The old CFA shed may have to be cleaned out a bit to accommodate the Trash & Treasure in the event of bad weather. It is anticipated that perhaps some Mansfield Secondary College students could 'busk, play music' during the event.
An outside suggestion was made to Marie Selstrom that 2 weeks prior to the Trash & Treasure, advertisements could be run in both papers, detailing individual items for sale.

Hall Stalls:

Cake Stall	Jenny O'Brien and Pam Sumpter.
Devonshire Tea	Kerrie Purcell, Marie Selstrom and Barb Hayes.
Hall Goods	Bev McArthur and Lee Hamies.

The committee felt that it would be a good idea to conduct a hamper raffle on the day.

ACTION: Maz Dowling and Ted Lovick to arrange hamper goods.

- **Hall sign:** John Stedman requires soft wood, pine to create the sign. Sign size; 1200 x 600.
ACTION: Maz Dowling and Sen Weir to investigate availability of timber from different sources, ie: The Mill, Men's Shed.
- **Equipment Hire:** Hold over till next meeting
- **Dance on the 21/04/07** Marie Selstrom verbally gave the committee a report as follows.
Gaye Adamson has become heavily involved in the organizing of the event. Ed Adamson has offered to decorate the Hall. Dennis Tucker (musician) has offered his time for free, however \$100 from the door entry sales will be offered to Dennis Tucker for his traveling expenses. Proceeds from dance are to be split 50/50

between Hall and Merrijig CFA. Marie Selstrom has spoken to Merrijig CFA Captain, Ian Davies who is aware and appreciative of the event.

6. Correspondence:

IN:

Mansfield Shire Council: Bushfire Recovery Celebration Grant.
Council Sponsorship of Communities in Control

Merrijig CFA: Letter of support for Hall Refurbishment Plan

OUT:

Mansfield Shire Council: Reply to Communities in Control letter.

Sophie Mirrabella MP Fed: Request for support RE: Hall Refurbishment

Bill Skyes MP State: Request for support RE: Hall Refurbishment

MOTION: That the above inwards and outwards correspondence be accepted.

Moved: Maz Dowling, **Seconded:** Jenny O'Brien **Carried Unanimously**

7. Financial Report:

- MARCH: Sen Weir verbally reported the following:

Financial incomings: Nil

Financial outgoings: \$525.44, per Tru Energy, Courier, High Country Times, Stewarts Bus Lines.

Balance at 31/03/07 \$10,567.00

MOTION The March Financial report reflects a true and accurate record of the financial situation of the Merrijig Public Hall.

Moved: Maz Dowling, **Seconded:** Ted Lovick **Carried Unanimously**

8. General Business:

- **Bushfire Recovery Grant** A community meeting was held on 31st March to discuss this grant. Sen Weir gave a verbal report of the following:

Information was gathered at the community meeting from the present community members and e-mails Sen Weir had received. This was put to a vote and the outcome is as follows.

A Celebration is to be held on the afternoon of the Trash & Treasure 26/05/07 commencing at 1pm. This includes a BBQ with the emphasis on something for the kids to become involved with on the day. A pre fire season BBQ will also be held later on in the year. So the money is to be split between the two events.

Maz Dowling requested a written report from the person who chaired the Community Meeting (Poppe Davis) so Maz could send the report with an application for the money to the Shire.

ACTION: Sen weir to contact Poppe Davis requesting a written report be sent to the Hall Secretary.

- Minute Reporting:** Maz Dowling and Jenny O'Brien expressed disappointment in the reporting of the recent minutes. Minutes from the meetings of:
Monday 5th February
Monday 26th February
Monday 5th March,
do not contain enough information about what the committee discussed regarding the agenda item and too much emphasis on 'ACTIONS' The minutes also do not report 'Motions' to many relevant agenda items and decisions.
Maz Dowling also requested that the minutes are written according to our 'Incorporation Model Rules' and should contain the words, *Carried or Carried Unanimously*. Sen weir requested that the minutes should state quantity 'for' & 'against'. Yet the majority of members appeared to be satisfied with 'Carried' and 'Carried Unanimously'.
The Secretary: Dot Corcoran implied to the committee that an attempt would be made to rectify the situation in future and move on.
- Trustees:** During the process of grant application for hall upgrade, the ownership of the Hall requires clarification.
Currently we have two deceased Trustee members. Chris Dunlop informed the committee from his conversation with local solicitor: David Parsons whose advice was to transfer Trustees to the incorporated body.
Sen Weir proposed a query: Jack Lovick being original owner of the land has now deceased (5th November 2001) and does that have a bearing on the ownership of the Hall?
Mansfield Shire Council conducted a title search on 21/03/2007 which has confirmed that the ownership is with the Trustees.
Grant applying; a letter from the Trustees is required supporting the development of the hall.
MOTION: Maz Dowling is to meet with one of the Trustees: Peter Howarth to clarify the Trustees role and responsibility.
Moved: Jenny O'Brien, Seconded: Pam Sumpter *Carried Unanimously*
- Communities in Control:** The Mansfield Shire Council will sponsor a Merrijig community member to attend the 'Communities in Control' conference for the amount of \$500. The Community was required to submit a candidate within 5 days.
Maz Dowling expressed disappointment in the manner this was conducted. The procedure for selecting candidates was unsatisfactory. The process was unclear. In particular with regard to the E-Mail process. Telephone to contact all committee members would have been a more appropriate process. Also all items should be directed through the 'Chair' before they are broadcast to the committee and community.
Ted Lovick raised the point that everyone is exceptionally busy with work and the extremely short notice the Shire gave to us did not help the process.
The committee agreed that they could learn from the unorthodox manner in which the above item was executed and move on.
Jenny O'Brien is to attend this conference. Maz Dowling will also at her own cost.

9. Next Meeting: Monday 5th March 2007. 7.00pm

10. Close Meeting: 8.45pm

Attached Report from Maz Dowling

*BUILDING REFURBISHMENT REPORT
TABLED TO MERRIJIG PUBLIC HALL INC. COMMITTEE MEETING APRIL 2,
2007*

I can advise that Teddy Lovick has drawn up the electrical plan" which has been submitted to Carl Barton to include in the plans.

(AD) I have met with Graeme Stoney (past Member for Central Highlands) at the hall to seek his advice and suggested contacts to further support for the rebuilding of the hall. As a consequence, I attach a copy of correspondence sent to Sophie Mirabella, member for Indi, and a copy of an email sent to Bill Sykes, Member for Benalla. Neither Member has responded..-R date. I will follow up with phone calls.

Bill Skyes office phoned tonight. 6.00 pm – sending letter tomorrow.

Graeme also suggested contacting Kaye Darveniza, Member for Northern Province (Upper House) for support. I will be contacting her when I can find her!

On March 21 I met with Joan Ross, NEVACC, the Federal funding arm for community grants. I took Joan to the Hall, then a tour of Merrijig, Pinnacle Valley and Alpine Ridge. She was most impressed with the development of the area, having not been though the area for many years, and then only to drive through to Mt Buller.

She indicated that if would be reviewed very favourably in our submission if we had letters of support from the Merrijig CFA and the Merrijig primary School Committee.

Following lunch, I met with Joan Ross (NEVACC), Kym Chadband and Jason Webster (RDV), Kaylene Conrick and David Anderson (Shire) to discuss the Merrijig grant submission. NEVACC indicated that the Feds would only consider the grant in the light of the hall being able to measure up to emergency requirements - eg., shower, kitchen, water, data and phone communications. She recommended that we increase our submission to \$310,000 to allow for communications and landscaping.

RDV ensured that we were happy with the water capabilities, and that we had allowed for refitting the kitchen with crockery, etc.

The ownership of the Hall required clarification and subsequently a letter from the Trustees supporting the development of the hall and an undertaking by the trustees of the continued community use of the hall. I have since obtained and researched the Title, appointment of Trustees and the Trust Deed and have scheduled a meeting with Peter Howarth tomorrow (Tuesday 3rd April).

On asking the CFA for a letter of support for the Hall, I have obtained a copy of a letter forwarded to the Hall Committee on March 3.

On March 29th Noel has met with Colin Maple (I.T.) and Carl Barton at the Mansfield Shire to discuss communications requirements for the hall.

Building Refurbishment report Cont.

On Friday March 30, the State Government Fire Task Force announced \$1 million funding for community halls in the fire affected areas, and specifically mentioned Gaffneys Creek, Merrijig and Tolmie. Our Committee will be advised in due course by the Council of the amount of funding this represents to Merrijig.

Finally, NEVACC and RDV are extremely keen to proceed with this project and have offered to return to Mansfield and assist me with the preparation of the submission in the next 2 weeks. They have also indicated that the works could commence with months, and this needs to be considered for the availability of the hall in 2007.

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Marion Dowling
DOWLING

Secretary's Note: Sorry about the signature. I did not copy and paste too well!

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MARIAN DOWLING

About twenty people attended the community meeting at the Merrijig Hall on Saturday, held, so that those who wished to, could have a say in how the shire gift to the community (\$3,000) would be spent. Everyone present voiced their opinions and engaged in discussion, and there was also feedback from those unable to attend. The vote went to a barbeque with a sports picnic, with people adamant there was to be something for the kids. As we have a trash n treasure organized for Saturday 26th May it was decided to follow on with the picnic – from 1.00 pm. A pre fire preparation day also with a barbeque will probably be held in October.

Chris Dunlop (Merrijig Hall President) presented a cheque to Glenroy-Merrijig RFB captain Ian Davies. \$3,063.20 in donations was given by the community for the local brigade. Ian thanked those present and said the money will go towards a much needed "slip on" for Merrijig.

Chris was also able to answer questions on the proposed hall refurbishment. The need for the hall to have something for kids (eg a room in the hall where children could have a sleep, play equipment etc) was discussed.

The need for a group other than hall committee to represent individual concerns/ ideas and to be a lobby group with shire etc was discussed and facilitator Poppe Davis asked if anyone present would volunteer. Ed Adamson, Graham McArthur, John Hayes and Sen Weir did so. Is anyone else interested?

Gill Bruce from MACE was also at the meeting and spoke of MACE's need to update what training/activities the community wants from them. A survey form was distributed to all present.

I have attached it to this message from merrijig and it can be returned to:

Community Education & Training Needs Survey
MACE Inc.
145 High Street
MANSFIELD 3722
Victoria

As the survey is scanned you may have to copy and paste if you want to fill it in on the pc