



MINUTES of GENERAL MEETING

Held 12/09/2015 at Lower Beechmont Fire Shed, Beechmont Road, Lower Beechmont

ATTENDEES: Shane Mobbs, Janis Rossiter, Tom Blake, Tom Sharp, Greg Slater, Derek Friend, Matt Stapleton, Peter Clark, Ger Vloothuis, Alison Johnson, Beryl Blake, Richard Brand, Martin O'Donnell, Nic Morley, Chris Parsons, Sarah Browning, Greg and Dan McKenzie, Ray McKenzie.

APOLOGIES: Wal Cattermole, Kim Sami, Linda Munster, David Murphy, Lou and Phil Rankin, Michael Kenyon, Greg and Donna Cavanagh, Michelle Stapleton, Sally Sharp, Irene Zoubakin, Cr Virginia West, Cr Glen Tozer

Meeting opened by Greg Slater at 1405 hours

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Greg Slater welcomed all attendees to the meeting and gave a report on the achievements of BRASA since the election of the current Committee. Greg advised that it has been a very successful few months and that a lot of activity has taken place on the Mountain. With the success of a number of grant applications, BRASA has been able to purchase a defibrillator that is located in the storage container; a pizza oven has been purchased and pizzas will be available for members to sample after the meeting today; a trailer is being fitted to include the pizza oven, coffee and popcorn machines and the outdoor movie equipment; this equipment will be available for a small fee to cover running costs to all BRASA affiliated clubs and will be for hire at other non-BRASA events. BRASA is developing a social calendar of events, to include: movie nights, golf day, race day, state of origin, farm house lunch and art show; any other ideas are very welcome. BRASA thanks Mick Vievers for attending the State of Origin night at the Lower Beechmont Fire Shed and when the movie "Everest" is released for hire, Michael Groom has agreed to attend as a guest. The Beechmont Tennis Club has been re-invigorated and with the upgrade of Court #1 has set a benchmark that the Cricket Club is seeking to emulate. All in all a very good year.

The President vacated the Chair for the Secretary to conduct the rest of the meeting as he had a previous family commitment.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Janis Rossiter advised that a search for previous minutes revealed it appears there has not been another General Meeting (GM) since well before the election of the present Committee. It seems an original minute book is also missing and enquiries of previous secretaries have drawn a blank; if any member has a copy of the minutes of the previous GM, they are requested to send a copy to the BRASA Secretary.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Tom Blake displayed the financial report to 12/09/15 on the big screen and spoke to the financials. Currently \$355,823.70 at bank; Items of interest included: BRASA has advised SRRC that it will return the Public Hall grant (\$8,000.00 + GST over the past 4 years); the grant monies are provided to contribute to the running costs of public halls; as the old Beechmont Hall has been sold off and as Hall on Graceleigh is owned by the Department of Education, BRASA is no longer eligible to receive the grant. The Committee is preparing an asset register of the BRASA owned equipment located at Hall on Graceleigh; an agreement is needed for the hire of this equipment as it is separate to Department of Education property; any BRASA assets, such as the signs attached to the Hall on Graceleigh are the property of DET; that is why the defibrillator has been located in the BRASA owned storage container. The outdoor movies are not paying their way; BRASA pays approximately \$250 compliance fee each time a movie is shown; this is without costs for advertising; a formula is needed to ensure the movies at least

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break even, so admittance fees may need to rise from the current \$10 per family, \$5 per individual; our fees are much cheaper than movies downtown. Public Liability Insurance for Office Holders has risen and is expected to rise again in 2016. To date BRASA hasn't had to use funds in the term deposit accounts; Grants and Bunning BBQ's have funded expenditure. The Community Gambling Benefit Fund and Caring for Our Community grants have between them afforded nearly \$50,000.00. Until the pizza trailer is completed, BRASA will not be able to aquit the Gambling Community Benefit Fund grant. The annual BAS return is being prepared; BRASA can claim back GST on all purchases; this can be a saving, especially on grant monies. In an effort to support our local bank, the BRASA working account will be held at the new Canungra Bendigo Community Bank. Logan and Paradise Point Branches of the Bendigo Community Bank will each hold a term deposit account; both these branches are quite large and provide a number of community grants annually that BRASA will be able to take advantage of.

Motion: "That the Financial Report be adopted".

Moved Tom Blake, Second Shane Mobbs Carried All.

REPORTS FROM THE CLUBS: Not all Clubs were represented

Beechmont Tennis Club: Peter Clark advised that he was to deliver his President's Report re Beechmont Tennis Club the next day at the Club's AGM and hence declined to give the report at the BRASA General Meeting, saying that anybody could access the report by contacting the Club's Secretary. The recent grant application for funds to re-surface Court#1 was sponsored by Beechmont P&C thru the State Gambling Community Benefit Fund. Peter explained that BRASA was unable to sponsor the grant application because BRASA still had an outstanding grant acquittal thru the same fund. Peter drew attendees notice to the number of advices of Club days that have been published on the BRASA website; Club days have been well received and it is pleasing that the club has a number of new members and that Junior coaching is popular.

Beechmont Seniors Social Club: Derek Friend advised that the club has 22 members and is growing. The Club thanks BRASA for new equipment provided as a result of successful grant applications and is also very appreciative of the new indoor bowls equipment provided by Bribie Island Bowls Club. Indoor bowls and table tennis are both very popular pastimes.

ANZAC Committee: Ray McKenzie advised that the ANZAC Day Service with 600 attendees was the most successful of all ceremonies conducted to date; the Beechmont community had made 1000 poppies that were displayed as a field of poppies on the day. The Committee would also like help with producing many more poppies for 2016. SRRC had re-set the 10 plaques in time for the ceremony and continues to maintain the area to a very high standard. The Committee is in negotiations with SRRC to have the memorial restored in time for the 2016 ANZAC ceremony.

Beechmont Cricket Club: Greg Slater reported that the new astro turf has made a huge difference to the quality of the pitch. The social games between the Uppers and Loweres are continuing and training nights are well attended; social games with Tamborine Mountain and Fassifern have been very successful. With all the work that is being undertaken to Graceleigh Oval, it is anticipated that Beechmont will be able to host these clubs in the 2016 season. All Club members will soon be able to obtain shirts and caps with the club emblem. The club recently held a very successful BBQ fundraiser at Bunning's Nerang; the BBQ's are an excellent way for clubs to raise funds. Cricket Queensland has offered assistance with training and the Queensland Bulls have offered to do a promotion at Graceleigh Park. Beechmont Cricket is in good shape.

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BRASA Social Club Sub-committee: Martin O'Donnell reminded members that Beaudesert Race Club is conducting a Derby Day meet on 31/10/15; BRASA has hired a bus to take members; cost of the day is \$75, includes the bus, lunch, marquee and 2x free drinks; remember it is a dress up affair. The outdoor movie nights have been well received; unfortunately the weather hasn't been very kind, but we'll continue; the movies are family orientated; they are an opportunity to bring along a picnic and blankets, etc and enjoy a night out under the stars.

Lower Beechmont Park Project Sub-committee: Sarah Browning reported that on 27/8/15, Cr Glen Tozer advised that Gold Coast City Council (GCCC) had allocated \$30,000 in the 2015/2016 Budget for an upgrade of Syd Duncan Park; Stage 1 will be completed this year, comprising an all purpose court and nature play area; the first of its kind on the Gold Coast; Plans go to Council this month; GCCC has estimated that without volunteer input, costs of a project such as this would amount to \$250,000.00; GCCC undertakes similar agreements with the surf clubs and community tree planting days where local contractors are used. Neighbouring properties have been very supportive and to help raise funds for extra equipment, plants, etc, a stall will be held at Beechmont Market in September.

Walking Tracks Sub -committee: In the absence of Wal Cattermole, Tom Blake advised that the Beechmont community will need to do most of this work themselves; Scenic Rim Regional Council does not have the funds for such projects and the Tamborine Mountain community has recently been advised that there is no money available for footpaths. Wal and Tom have obtained maps of the gazetted roads on Beechmont from the Lands Department; these are roads that have been surveyed by the State, but not yet built; because they are State owned reserves, the law of adverse possession does not apply; adjoining land owners who have fenced off these areas have done so illegally. It is envisaged that tracks can be made at little cost to link the Beechmont estates to Beechmont School to allow children, parents and other community members to walk or ride pushbikes on Beechmont without needing to walk on the unsafe grass verges of Beechmont Road. In addition, eco-tourism is big business in the UK, bringing in \$650 million dollars annually; networks of walking trails are set up across the UK, serviced by B&B's, country towns, pubs etc; there could be similar business opportunities for Beechmont businesses.

OTHER REPORTS:

Beechmont Survey: Tom Blake reported that the Beechmont community had indicated a number of high priority areas such as, a shower block at the Cricket Club, netball/multi-purpose areas, walking paths/bike paths, camping areas for events, revenue raising initiatives run by volunteers, revenue raising to counter the loss of revenue from insurance costs, maintenance, etc and discussion about how to best manage BRASA funds. Work is progressing well on the priorities.

Strategic Plan: Tom Sharp advised that BRASA is working thru the planning and implementation stages; it is important that information is available regarding the assets and resources of BRASA, maintenance costs of Graceleigh Park and future development proposals; community engagement is vital as well as measures to ensure all assets are maintained and fully funded for generations to come and used for the purpose intended. Building inspections of the Tennis and Cricket Clubs have been completed and reports submitted to SRRC. Formal annual maintenance agreements are being prepared and annual budgets will be finalised, including the cost of maintaining the Oval; to do this, BRASA needs to understand the future requirements of the clubs, so that grants can be applied for wherever possible and monies set aside; examples are Seniors request to purchase a defribillator available for use by all clubs; paid for by a grant; the pads and batteries will require replacement after use; costs to be borne by BRASA. Other



costs are those for the running of the mower (service, blades, petrol, insurance, etc); these costs need to be factored into our operating budget. The Asset Register will track all equipment and ensure a sinking fund is available to replace assets as needed and to establish a depreciation schedule; this information will be available on the website.

Pizza/Movie Trailer: Tom Blake advised that the trailer is nearing completion; coolroom panels have been installed and the trailer roofed to house the equipment. A Business Plan is being prepared for hire of the trailer; anyone wanting to run the trailer as a small business is asked to contact BRASA; there will be a hiring fee and training is required as the equipment is too valuable to let untrained users operate. Advancetown Hotel has indicated interest in hiring the movie equipment for movie nights. The "Party Cave" is prepared to sub-hire the trailer and promote its use; the trailer will need to be picked up from the base in Coomera and returned after use. As grants are obtained a coffee machine, eskys and generator will be added to the trailer.

QUESTION TIME:

Q: When BRASA or affiliated clubs have events at Hall on Graceleigh (HOG) do we have to pay insurance?

A: As HOG is owned by Department of Education, the Beechmont School Principal is responsible for assessing hire fees, insurance, etc. BRASA has public liability insurance for all events conducted by BRASA.

Q: Who has the right to set BRASA membership fees?

A: The fee is decided by the members from time to time at a general meeting; and is payable when, and in the way, the management committee decides.

Q: When is the next BRASA event?

A: The Beechmont Carols by Candlelight on Saturday 12/12/15 at Graceleigh Park; if it rains, we will go into Hall on Graceleigh; there will not be fireworks; it will be low key, using local talent.

Meeting concluded at 1600 hours