



## Village of Hall and District Progress Association Inc.

VHDPA Inc.

PO Box 43

Hall ACT 2618

[www.hall.act.au](http://www.hall.act.au)

**President:** Peter Toet.

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## VHDPA General Meeting - Minutes.

<b>Meeting date</b>	7:00pm Wednesday, 20 February 2019
<b>Location</b>	Hall School Cottage
<b>Committee Members</b>	Peter Toet, John Starr, Tony Morris, Olga Minion, Margaret Monahan, Peter Howard, Ken Heffernan, George Southwell, Phil Robson, Juanita Caddy, John Burns
<b>Attendees</b>	Peter Toet, John Starr, Tony Morris, Olga Minion, John Burns, Phil Robson, Juanita Caddy, Graeme Bryce, Jo Hall, Robert Yallop, Bob Richardson, Alan Monahan, Dean Bell, Blake Foden
<b>Apologies</b>	Peter Howard, Ken Heffernan, George Southwell, Margaret Monahan

### **Attendance of Stephen Alegria (Director, City Presentation TCCS) and Alexander Soper (Senior Administrative Support Officer)**

At the meeting of December 2019, following e: mails to the VHDPA Committee, it was agreed to invite Ben McHugh to the meeting in February. As Ben was unable to attend, TCCS Director, Stephen Alegria attended in his place. He was accompanied by his support officer Alexander Soper.

Stephen provided a powerpoint presentation called "Hall Park Initiative". This presentation is attached. Stephen made it very clear that he was not at the meeting to advocate or support any position. He was at the meeting to represent the Government. He was keen to acknowledge the past and work to the future. This would be done by looking at how to go forward with an alternative proposition. Stephen provided a concept called "Nature Play" that has been put into place in a number of other Canberra suburbs. This would require community co-operation, and co-design with the Government.

The "Nature Play" concept would use the existing Hall playground, however it would no longer be a trail but a playground. As the playground would be still located in a heritage precinct it would require heritage approval. Stephen had already spoken to the proponents of the bike track who were not opposed to the new idea and were keen to get some tangible outcomes.

Whilst the Government was keen to work with the community on co-design, there would be no direct funding available. This would need to be a community funded project. They would provide support “in kind”. Stephen felt that this new project would meet a wider range of needs whilst not disturbing the heritage background. He provided examples and pictures of how these “Nature Parks” had been put into place in other suburbs.

The next steps were to open up the conversation to the community again. The committee was keen to do this. It would be necessary to have the proponents of the bike track come and talk to the committee and for the Government to communicate directly with the committee, so that it was not continually left out of the loop.

Stephen allowed time for questions and these were around why:

- VHDPA has never received:
  - a response on the Michael Pilbrow report
  - a formal response on the decision on the bike track
- Why other sites were not considered.

Stephen agreed to provide a report on why other sites were considered not fit for purpose.

There was discussion on who were the proponents of the bike track that the Government had been dealing with. John Burns identified himself as a leading proponent.

Stephen was asked if the Centennial trail bike upgrade could be incorporated as this was a more urgent issue as it posed a great danger to riders and as well as a maintenance problem. Stephen’s reply was that it was a Parks and Conservation Service (PCS) issue.

Since the Polocrosse ground was mentioned, John Starr asked Stephen who was responsible for weed control and fire hazard reduction on the polocrosse ground. Stephen agreed it fell into his area of responsibility and that he would go back and check on John’s issues.

The committee thanked Stephen for taking the time to address the meeting and agreed to work together to progress this matter.

## **Attendance of Dean Bell**

John Burns attended the meeting with a visitor – Dean Bell. Dean is an elder of the Ngunawal people. Dean told the meeting that the ruling of the Heritage Committee on the bike track could be disputed, and he could help the committee do that. He believed that any expected damage was not worth worrying about even though the creek is a proven heritage site.

The President of the VHDPA, Peter Toet, explained to Dean that a recent geoarchaeological study had been carried out and forwarded to the Heritage Commission. The report is expected to be tabled in the near future.

The committee thanked Dean for his contributions to the meeting.

## 1. Minutes of previous meeting.

1.1	Minutes of general meeting – 19 December 2018. Accepted by Peter Toet, seconded John Starr.
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## 2. Correspondence

2.1	<p>E:mail chain from John Burns and other committee members.</p> <p>Juanita put up a motion in relation to the number of unsolicited e:mails that have been exchanged between committee members out of session. She felt it was inappropriate for business to be carried out, outside of meetings. She stated that at the December meeting, and now at this one. there were a number of items of correspondence that should not be accepted. The committee agreed to this.</p> <p>Juanita moved a motion that the committee agree that there will be no correspondence by e:mail outside the committee unless it directly relates to the business of the committee. Seconded by Peter Toet. John Burns Against.</p>
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## 3. Presidents report

3.1	(Peter not sure if you did one)
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## 4. Treasurers report.

4.1	<p><b>Tabling of financial statements</b></p> <p>The treasurer tabled ,electronically, the following documents:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Transaction report for transactions since the last committee meeting.....All transactions Ratified. Seconded by Peter Toet.</li><li>2. P&amp;L FY 19 to date..... Noted</li><li>3. Balance sheet to date.....Approved</li></ol>
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## 5. Agenda Items

5.1	<p>Sheep Dog Trials – Upgrade to Yards</p> <p>There was a short discussion on the upgrade that had already been carried out on the grounds prior to the Sheep Dog Trials.</p>
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## 6. Sub-group reports.

6.1	<p><b>Hall School Museum and Heritage Centre</b></p> <p>1. The consultants have now completed the Centre's ACT Heritage Grant report, the <i>Halls Creek Aboriginal Sites Zone Geoarchaeological Assessment</i>. The final has been accepted by ACT Heritage and copies will be sent to the Representative Aboriginal Organisations for the ACT, to Transport Canberra and City Services and for tabling to the VHDPA. The Centre notes with sadness the passing of Uncle Carl Brown, Ngunnawal elder and Chair of the King Brown Tribal group, who was a regular Centre visitor and participated in the project from the start. Complete distribution of the report will be delayed until Mr Brown's family advise that they are ready. A future launch and distribution of the study is being considered and the Centre is preparing a related display for Heritage Week 2019.</p> <p>2. On 28 January 2019, the Centre had an extended visit from Ngambri-Ngunnawal elder, and former Canberra Citizen of the Year, Dr Matilda House. She visited the local Aboriginal heritage displays and Halls Creek, as well as providing valuable advice to volunteers on the Centre's heritage work. On 12 February, Dr House and her grandson Reuben (who played didgeridoo) formally welcomed the Prime Minister's Indigenous Advisory Council, comprising members from across Australia, to the Centre and introduced them to local Ngambri-Ngunnawal heritage.</p> <p>3. The Centre is again actively seeking intern students from University of Canberra. Nine intern projects are being promoted to students via the UC CareerHub.</p> <p>4. Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April will be a very big day for the Centre. In the morning (11.00 am) we will open two new displays as our contribution to the annual Heritage Festival, and at 1.00 will have the annual fund-raising concert with Canberra Brass.</p>
6.2	<p><b>Hall Mens Shed</b></p> <p>Nil Report</p>
6.3	<p><b>Rotary Club of Hall</b></p> <p>It is the 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Hall Rotary Farmers Market in March and there will be special events to celebrate this. The markets are great fundraisers and have raised over \$2 million that has been distributed locally, nationally and internationally.</p>

## 7. General business.

7.1	<p><b>Parking in Hall</b></p> <p>There was a discussion on the recent spate of parking tickets in Hall. There has not been a parking inspector in the village for 15 years. The parking signs were put up many years ago as a response to the parking issues around the Hall Markets.</p> <p>The parking situation had become unworkable as statistics showed that 20 of the 43 spots were constantly occupied by the same people. Other shopping precincts do not have the parking limitations of Hall. The Evatt shops for example only have signs for disabled parking. As it is also illegal to park on verges this could make it hard for local businesses.</p> <p>This issue is something that needs to be addressed by both the Progress Association and the Hall Traders Group as a joint effort, to come up with parking guidelines. George is the liaison between the two groups and is to organise a meeting. It was agreed that Peter T would write a letter to ACT Parking Operations requesting we go back to unregulated parking in Hall.</p>
7.2	<p><b>Tennis Court</b></p> <p>Following the e:mail received last meeting, Tony has gone ahead and repaired the net and Margaret has cleaned up the rubbish.</p> <p>John S has had signs made up stating that dogs are not allowed on the courts and that people are to pick up their rubbish and close the gate.</p> <p>Tony provided a statement of suggested rules that should be placed on signs in the tennis court. Committee agreed for Tony to go ahead and arrange for signs to be completed and erected.</p> <p>Olga, as the Secretary responded to the complainant advising them of the agreed changes and the steps that have already been taken.</p>
7.3	<p>Peter Toet, President of the VHDPA Committee, accepted the resignations of Dr Ken Heffernan on 24 Feb 2019 and Juanita Caddy on 22 Feb 2019 from the VHDPA Committee, effective immediately.</p>

**Next Meeting. 20 March 2019**

**VHDPA Sect. Olga Minion**

## VHDPA Action item register – Meeting 19 December 2018

No	Current Status	Next Action	Who	When
<b>1</b>	<b>Village Safety</b>			
1.1	<u>Traffic Calming in Victoria Street</u>	Need traffic lights during fixed period or buses moved to another location.  Phil to ask Rotary to send letter about this artificial interchange,	Phil	Feb Mtg
1.2	<u>Street Lighting</u>	Improved night time lighting  George to follow up. The issue is related to unlit parking area on Loftus/Victoria Streets. Additional light on each side of lampposts in that area directed onto the parked vehicles should work.	George	Feb Mtg
<b>2</b>	<b>Planning</b>			
2.1	<u>ACT Government submission</u>	Better suburbs call for submissions. Gavin wrote to ACT Government, out of session, listing the priorities for the development of Hall.  Deferred to next meeting. Need to obtain copies of any correspondence on the matter.	Peter T	Feb Mtg
2.2	<u>Extension of Centenary trail to Barton Highway</u>	The extension of the Centenary Trail down From Clarrie Hermes/ Barton Highway down Victoria Street to connect with the Hoskins/ Hall Street point is necessary for cyclists/ walkers safety  Received site plan for trail from Clarrie Hermes Drive to Bridge. Awaiting environmental reports	Peter H	Feb Mtg
2.3	<u>Hall Rugby Club Rooms</u>	Peter Howard to ring Nigel Page re article in RiotACT.  The Committee discussed the RiotACT article on the Hall showgrounds and possible Clubrooms/Grandstand. The VHDPA applauds the efforts of the Hall Rugby Club and wishes them every success in the future.  However the Committee agreed that to have additional Clubrooms/ Grandstand/ whatever erected at the Hall Showgrounds or adjacent sites would be totally out of character for Hall as a Heritage Village.	Peter H	Feb Mtg
<b>3</b>	<b>Strategic Planning</b>			
3.1	<u>Develop a VHDPA Strategic Plan</u>	Juanita has conducted an audit of the website and found a number of documents	Juanita	Feb Mtg

		<p>that she wasn't aware of.</p> <p>The committee agreed to a Planning Day one week prior to the Feb Meeting. Juanita to send out information that she has already collected.</p>		
<b>4</b>	<b>Heritage</b>			
<b>4.1</b>	<b><i>8 Palmer Street</i></b>	<p>A late e:mail was received from Jonathan Palmer offering comments on destruction of heritage property at 8 Palmer Street in 2017.</p> <p>Following discussion on the topic it was agreed that Jonathan be invited to draft a letter for consideration by the committee. However it was requested that the letter contain no inflammatory, emotive or contentious comments.</p> <p>Ken requested that he be allowed to stand aside on this topic given his role with the Heritage Council.</p>		