



Village of Hall and District Progress Association Inc.

VHDPA Inc.
PO Box 43
Hall ACT 2618
www.hall.act.au

President: Peter Toet.

VHDPA General Meeting - Minutes.

Meeting date	7:00pm Wednesday, 20 November, 2019
Location	Hall Pavilion
Committee Members	Peter Toet, John Starr, Tony Morris, Olga Minion, Margaret Monahan, Peter Howard, Ralph Southwell, Phil Robson, Heather Wilford, Robert Yallop, Yvonne Robson.
Attendees	Alastair Crombie, Graeme Bryce, Kym Bryce, John Burns, Greg Flowers, Dennis Greenwood, Jo Hall, Jan Klaver, Gavin Mansfield, Olga Minion, Margaret Monahan, Margaret Morris, Tony Morris, Jonathan Palmer, Teresa Pellegrino, Bob Richardson, Judy Roberts, Rod Roberts, John Starr, Ann Toet, Peter Toet, Alf Wilford, Heather Wilford, Robert Yallop
Apologies	Peter Howard, Phil Robson, Yvonne Robson, Ralph Southwell

A General Meeting of the VHDPA was held on 20 November, 2019.

Peter Toet welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained the purpose of the General Meetings. There will be three a year and they are designed to bring the community up to date on what is happening in the community and what is going ahead.

Agenda Items:

1. Bee Friendly Hall

A Handout on Hall as a Bee Friendly Village was provided to attendees.
Peter T allowed time for those present to read the document.

Jonathan Palmer addressed the meeting and explained that the Hall Honeys were an informal group who were working to promote the health of bees as pollinators and provide a good example to other communities about the importance of bees. They are referring to bees as pollinators not bee keeping as such. Hall is expected to be the first bee friendly community in Australia.

The bee friendly event in the Hall Park the previous weekend sponsored by Hall Rotary had registered 70 gardens in Hall. The next step is to secure funds for bee friendly gardens in the

main street by obtaining a government grant. The group has put in a bid for 15,000 through the VHDPA. They have been asked to provide more detail for the grant and hope to hear if they have been successful by the end of the year.

If successful the group will move ahead in consultation with the community and provide a plan that all can agree on.

Peter Toet agreed that the whole idea was a wonderful initiative.

2. Hall Park Upgrade

A handout on the Hall Park Upgrade was provided to attendees.

Peter T allowed time for those present to read the document and invited Graeme Bryce to bring people up to date on what has been happening.

Graeme mentioned that an e:mail had been received that day which provided approval for the upgrade with conditions. The only change to the proposed plan was that the bike trail would be built with geo tech meshing. There will be a meeting in the next week or so with the Park Upgrade Group to talk to Darren Palmer about a timeframe for starting construction.

3. Adopt-A-Park Grant

A handout on the Hall Park Upgrade was provided to attendees.

Peter Toet allowed time for those present to read the document and provided information on what the grant entailed. The VHDPA has applied for a grant to enable them to build a bush tucker garden as an addition to the Hall park upgrade. The association has missed the first cut and may go to the second round. They are currently awaiting a response to see if they have been successful. If unsuccessful the VHDPA committee will discuss how it may support the activity.

4. VHDPA Protocols

A handout on the Hall Park Upgrade was provided to attendees.

Peter Toet allowed time for those present to read the document.

Robert Yallop explained that during the preparation of the above grant it became clear that the association needed a process that was understood by everyone, that included specific timeframes and had an explanation of the process. The process that is suggested is closely aligned to that previously developed requesting financial support.

Robert explained that the VHDPA is not trying to put in roadblocks but is trying to help and support applicants in developing a successful application.

5. Extension to Centenary Bike Trail

A handout on the Centenary Bike Trail was provided to attendees.

Peter Toet allowed time for those present to read the document.

Tony Morris provided further information on this topic. He explained the great financial benefit the Bi-Centenary Trail had brought to the businesses in Hall. The VHDPA had lobbied strongly for the continuation of the trail from Gladstone Street to Clarrie Hermes Drive. The trail itself has been completed and the final stage is the installation of the bridge over the creek. The bridge has been completed and is awaiting installation.

John noted that the area had been sprayed for weed control

There was a question from an attendee about the track itself and the fact that it was not ideal for a road bike with skinny wheels and asked if there were any plans to bituminise it. Tony explained that the track was built for mountain bikes and not for road bikes. Others stated they were surprised that it was not sealed, as the initial plan had shown that it was to be hot mixed. Peter Toet stated that when completed we can ask for an upgrade, especially if there are a number of complaints.

There was a discussion on the requirement for signs in Hall Street to identify the shared zone.

6. Myna Birds

A handout on the Hall Park Upgrade was provided to attendees. Peter Toet allowed time for those present to read the document

Judy Roberts spoke about the local people who are working to eradicate myna birds in the district. It started with locals living on Wallaroo Road.

There has been a meeting organized for 4th December at 6pm which will feature two speakers who will discuss different measures to deal with the birds and discuss ideas and traps. VHDPA has provided funding to publicise the meeting.

The VHDPA will buy traps that will be available to the community for hire for 3 months free of charge

7. Other Business

An attendee at the meeting asked if the association had considered the threat of bushfires to Hall. She was concerned about the amount of dead wood in the paddocks surrounding Hall and requested that the VHDPA approach the government about having the dead wood cleaned up.

There was discussion about the fact that conservation laws make it illegal to remove dead wood in the ACT.

John Starr mentioned that he took Tony Hazelton from our local rural fire brigade on an inspection of the fire trail from Hall to the western edge of Casey. This inspection was timely as the ESA Commissioner was intending to meet with the Hall Rural Brigade at their next meeting when she will be informed of the situation. John also mentioned that he had drawn the issue of Fuel load to Rural Fire Service Chief officer Joe Murphy at a recent PCS rural forum and suggested that Joe be informed of the situation in Hall also.

All agreed that with the amount of dead wood around it is a disaster waiting to happen.

Bob Richardson said that the Volunteer Rural Fire Brigade in Hall has attracted lots of new members lately, there was an article on the front page of the last Rural Fringe and there is a facebook and web site to provide information to residents.