



## Village of Hall and District Progress Association Inc.

VHDP Inc.  
PO Box 43  
Hall ACT 2618  
[www.hall.act.au](http://www.hall.act.au)

**President:** Robert Yallop.

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2024/2025

### VHDP Committee Ordinary Meeting #3 – MINUTES

Meeting Date	19 February 2025 at 7pm
Location	Hall Cottage and via ZOOM
Office Holders and Committee Present	Robert Yallop, Lee-Ann Brodrick, Jan Klaver, Tony Morris, Aaron Whittaker, Jack McGrath, Margaret Monahan. By ZOOM: Ralph Southwell and Phil Robson
Apologies	Toni Makkai, Peter Toet

#### 1. Welcome and Introductions

The President opened the meeting and welcomed the Committee of the VHDP to the first meeting of 2025. The President acknowledged the Traditional Custodians of the Hall District, Ngunnawal and Ngambi Peoples, and paid respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

#### 2. Notice of any conflicts of interests re agenda items.

No conflicts of interest re agenda items.

#### 3. General Business

##### a. Approval of the previous Minutes

It was proposed that the minutes of the meeting of 11 December 2024 be accepted.

Moved – Jan Klaver

Seconded – Lee-Ann Brodrick

Passed unanimously

##### b. Treasurer's Report

This is the first financial report since December 2024. It has been an uneventful couple of months with all transactions being as expected. Funds have increased since the last report in December by approximately \$3000.

Phil Robson moved that the Financial reports be accepted by the Committee.

Seconded – Tony Morris

Passed unanimously

Phil Robson moved that financial transactions made for the period of the financial report be ratified by the Committee.

Seconded by Tony Morris

### **c. Actions**

1. Hall Pavilion Licence. 22/12/2024 Received signed interim 12month licence.
2. ATO to be notified to remove Alastair Crombie and Tony Morris and add Robert Yallop (as current President) - Phil Robson. Phil is unable to complete this task online and has asked Michael Sinclair to assist with this. This task is to remain on the actions list but will be progressed now that Michael Sinclair has returned to work.
3. Contact Gold Creek School Principal about maintenance of property on the old Hall School site. Robert met with the Principal, Daniel Breen. Gold Creek retains the Hall Preschool as an additional facility and does not plan to relinquish it. They will look at consistent and improved maintenance. Daniel Breen will visit early in 2025. It has subsequently become apparent that Dept of Education may be calling for tenants for this building.
4. Contact Yass Police re additional patrols in Wallaroo, Spring Range and Nanima regions.

Contact was made with Yass Police, Officer in Charge, through the Mayor of Yass and Goulburn MP. Robert will go back to ask what Police found regarding poor or criminal behaviours in these regions since his initial contact.

### **d. Correspondence**

The main items of correspondence this month:

1. Kerry Murray from ACT Cemeteries Trust was invited to this meeting. She has indicated that she will attend our March meeting to discuss options for Hall Cemetery.
2. Andrew Leigh and Katy Gallagher.  
It has been confirmed that Hall is included in the fibre to premises upgrade to the NBN, however Wallaroo, Spring Range and Nanima are not included in the programme at this stage.

## **4. Reports of VHDP Subcommittees**

### **a. Hall Museum and Heritage Centre**

There has been a recent visit to the Museum by a Probus Club which was well-received by visitors.

There will be a meeting of the Steering Committee of the Heritage Centre within next couple of days to discuss plans for the coming year.

The old school room has been rearranged and looks good.

There is to be a National Trust Walk on Sunday 23 February 2025 which will be led by Phil Robson and Rosemary Blemings.

The Heritage Grant that Phil Robson was administering has some funds remaining and the time has lapsed. There has been a request for an extension of time to expend the grant funds. These funds may perhaps be used to engage a person to assist with cataloguing.

## **b. Hall Men's Shed**

Members have been busy working on the installation of the dust extractor. The machine has been placed on the external verandah of their building and has been enclosed in cladding material.

There has been a clean-up under the shed and all rubbish has been disposed of.

There are currently 75 members.

Further to previous discussions by this Committee regarding the purchase of a lawn mower to maintain the grounds at the Hall School site, the Men's Shed is not in a financial position to purchase a mower. There is now storage available for a mower and there are potentially 10 workers who would be in a position to operate a mower. Robert asked Aaron Whittaker to investigate the costs associated with purchase of a mower.

## **c. Hall Facilities – Pavilion and Cottage**

There was an unfortunate double booking of the Pavilion on the February Hartley Market Sunday. John and Craig Starr kindly offered use of their facilities as an alternative, but the hirer declined. This disadvantaged hirer was paid the amount she asked to cover her costs of relocation and the matter was settled.

Bookings are continuing well for the Pavilion and costs are being covered. There have been a couple of bookings where the hirers have overstayed the curfew time of 11.00pm and created noise and disruption in the immediate area of the Pavilion. Jan has rewritten the Terms and Conditions for hire of the facility which includes an increase in the Bond Fee required for booking. It is proposed that these new Terms and Conditions be adopted and that a potential hirer must agree to these conditions through a "tick-box" method on the internet booking page before they can proceed to secure their booking. If this is possible it will require the attention of Duncan Crombie to assist with the modification of the website booking page.

Hirers who are operating under a commercial status are being asked to provide their relevant insurance documents.

Robert would like to contact the residents at 1 Hall Street, directly opposite the Pavilion to discuss any concerns and issues that they have with the Pavilion hire.

The Cottage continues to be popular for community uses and has been used very consistently during January and February.

## **5. Other Business**

### **a. Wallaroo and Spring Range Update**

The noticeboard on Spring Range Road has been updated. There will be Clean-Up Australia activity on 9 March on Spring Range Road.

There was a gathering for the Springfield Rural Fire Brigade's 85<sup>th</sup> anniversary which attracted more than 100 people to the Fire Shed. A book has been compiled documenting the history of the Springfield Rural Fire Brigade.

Dumped rubbish and oil in the Spring Range area has been picked up by the Council.

Regarding Wallaroo, recent rains have reduced fire risk. There are large areas of African Love Grass and other weeds appearing. Dumping of household goods including tyres and bedding continues to be a problem in the area.

ACT Government has done a good job of repairs and line-marking the ACT section of Wallaroo Road. Works beyond Southwell Road are continuing.

## **b. Hall Heritage Centre Management Plan**

In recent months the Heritage Centre has been trialing the implementation of a Steering Group to manage the Centre. This has proven to be highly effective. A team of four ex-officio members has been appointed to oversee four long-term management demands of the Heritage Centre. These positions are:

1. Meeting Chair – Honorary Curator - Alastair Crombie
2. Business Manager – Mardie Troth
3. Finance Manager – Peter Bowning
4. IT Manager – Paul Howarth

This group will oversee the documentation of the centre's operations and the implementation of long-term agreed policy matters.

It is a requirement of the VHDPa to endorse administrative leaders of each of the sub-groups of the association. It was proposed that the VHDPa Committee endorse the following leaders of sub-groups:

Hall Heritage Centre, Honorary Curator – Alastair Crombie

Hall Men's Shed, Foreman – Doug Anstess

Hall Rural Fringe, Editor – Jenny Whittaker

Moved by Robert Yallop

Seconded by Jan Klaver

## **c. 2023-24 Tax Filing and Changes to People named with the ATO**

Phil is working with Michael Sinclair on this matter.

## **d. 2025-26 ACT Budget Submission**

An email has been received from ACT Treasury Budget Office asking for submission for the 2025/26 Budget. For the past two years we have made a submission and this year we have been invited to do so. Robert will write a submission for this purpose and intends to include the Hall Stormwater project, the Cycle Path, and the Wallaroo Road/Barton Highway intersection in this document.

## **e. Hall Reserve Work Day**

Hall Reserve Work Day will be held on 23 March 2025. There are signs advertising the Work Day placed around the village and in the Rural Fringe. Aaron will contact Kat McGlip to arrange for plants to be supplied by Ginninderra Catchment Group.

## **f. Disability Ramp for Access to the School Site**

It is proposed to build a disability ramp to provide improved access to the top building on the school site. Approximate costs for this project are expected to be approximately \$20,000, Funding for this project is proposed to be divided as \$10,000 from the Hall Heritage Centre and \$10,000 from ACT Government Property Group.

A meeting and inspection of the site was held between Aaron Whittaker and Doug Anstess from the Men's Shed, Peter Browning from the Heritage Centre and Robert Yallop, Phil Robson and Peter Toet from VHDPA.

It was decided that the most direct access was from the carpark to the front door and that it was necessary to replace existing asphalt from the carpark to the wall to ensure that there was appropriate slope and adequate water flow. Asphalt would be graded to a wooden ramp 1800mm wide and extend to the portico to give greater protection from weather. Care must be taken to leave tree roots undisturbed.

When a contract for \$20,000 is in place, there will be a process to seek contractors for the works.

**g. Solar Panels for School Site/Possible Grant Application for Such**

There is a grant round open for environmental savings. Phil is to calculate annual electricity costs for the entire school site to determine the potential for an application. A VHDPA grant application for Pavilion air-conditioning was refused following a similar round last year.

**h. ACNC**

Michael Sinclair is willing to assist with an application for charitable status. Recent investigation by Robert has revealed that there are at least 50 other community Progress Associations who have achieved charitable status. Many of these are very similar in operation to VHDPA. The suggested course of action is for us to make contact with some of these Associations to ascertain how they went about their applications for charitable status and to ask if they would be willing to share rules and methods of operation.

Reasons for previous rejection of this status have included:

- . VHDPA has a mix of both charitable and non-charitable activities
- . VHDPA website has a list of businesses
- . The Rural Fringe is considered to be a community press.

On completion of investigation we should discuss with Michael Sinclair to work a way forward.

Next Meeting: Wednesday 19 March 2025