



## VHDPA Committee Ordinary Meeting #7 - MINUTES

2025/26

|                                      |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Meeting Date                         | 20 May 2026 at 7.00pm  |
| Location                             | Hall Cottage   |
| Office Holders and Committee Present | Robert Yallop, Lee-Ann Brodrick, Jack McGrath, Margaret Monahan, Tony Morris, Peter Toet, Mardie Troth, Aaron Whittaker,<br>Via Zoom: Toni Makkai, Phil Robson |
| Apologies                            | Jan Klaver   |

### 1. Welcome and Introductions

The President opened the meeting and welcomed the Committee of the VHDPA. The President acknowledged the Traditional Custodians of the Hall District, Ngunnawal and Ngambri 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 15 April 2026 be accepted.

Moved – Margaret Monahan

Seconded – Aaron Whittaker

Passed unanimously

#### b. Treasurer's Report – Review Financial Report and Dec/Jan/Feb Transactions

Treasurer Phil Robson reported that financial activity has been as expected, regular income from hire of facilities was noted. There was a payment of \$2000 from Rotary Club of Hall for use of buildings for the past two financial years. Funds held are \$8000 up on last month.

Phil moved that the financial report for this month be accepted by the Committee.

Seconded Tony Morris      Passed unanimously

Phil moved that financial transactions made for April/May be ratified by the Committee.

Seconded by Tony Morris      Passed unanimously

#### c. Actions From April Meeting – Schedule 1

1. Hall Heritage Centre – seepage in boys' toilets and leaking tap outside Cottage. Peter Toet has reported this problem and followed it up again on 14/8/2025. In August Robert Yallop again highlighted this issue to Property Group officers. Peter Toet will follow up with Infrastructure Canberra again. Tony Morris has identified the problem of seepage in the boys' toilets as coming from blocked guttering in the space between the boys' and girls' toilets. Work is now underway to determine how to

rectify this issue. **Ongoing but has been given a high priority due to the Education Program which will resume this week and involve many visiting children needing to use the facility.**

2. Waterproof Roof between the Cottage Building and the pergola – Peter Toet and Aaron Whittaker will do the necessary work when trades are available. Other issues – gutter cleaning, rabbit population on school grounds and mould in the Museum are all matters requiring attention.  
**Peter Toet/Aaron Whittaker - Ongoing**
3. Extension of the portico over the entry to the Museum. Grant money was obtained for this purpose and this needs to be acquitted. After difficulty identifying a builder will to do the work, a quote was received on 24 March and the contract signed on 26 March. Funds are in the Hall Heritage Centre Account. **Preparations have begun for construction works. Builders will begin soon and complete the works as soon as they are able to do so.**
4. Ask Gungahlin Rotary to remove container on the oval near bins at rear of Pavilion. The appropriate officer from Rotary is unsure of which Rotary Club is responsible for this and investigation is under way. **Robert Yallop has contacted Judy Ford, President of Gungahlin Rotary who advised that they had approval from Sport and Recreation to place the container on site. Robert Yallop will discuss with Chris Doyle to find where the approval came from.**
5. A new permanent sign be commissioned for fixing to the tennis court outlining rules for use. These rules would include no playing of loud music at the court, and that the court is not to be used for professional tennis coaching. **Draft text and quote for supply of sign provided. Margaret Monahan moved that approval be given to proceed with this work. Seconded Aaron Whittaker. Passed unanimously.**
6. Robert to email Ben Cranston to ask for updates on the Wallaroo Solar project. The website has not been updated since July 2024. **Ben Cranston has advised that objections have been received through the appeals process and therefore there will be no updates until this process has been completed. Ongoing**
7. Hall Cemetery proposed extension. Robert has written to Memorial Parks asking for current information. **Kerry McMurray has advised that there has been a large number of responses to the survey and his office is working through these.**
8. Working group to attend to small tasks needing attention. Jack is pursuing this idea with prospective volunteers. A name has been suggested for this group – *Hall Helping Hands*. Many small repair jobs and tidying could be completed by this group which would improve the general appearance of the village. Perhaps working bees could be undertaken on a regular monthly basis. Further information on this initiative will be advertised in future editions of the Rural Fringe. **Ongoing**
9. Jan seeking quotations for works on new heating/cooling units at the Pavilion in order to make a request to EPSDD. Jan is also working on ways consideration to progress the recommended maintenance and preservation of the old Sheep Pavilion. **A draft submission has been sent to the ESPDD seeking funding for sustainable upgrades to facilities – VHDP now awaiting advice. Ongoing.**
10. Robert/Mardie to contact Property Group/Tree Department asking for specifics regarding the condition of the Monterey Pines on the boundary of the school site. This is a follow-up after advice from Dr Kim Wells, Forestry and Ecology regarding the dangerous condition of these trees. **Mardie will prepare a draft email for Robert to send to iCBR based on Kim Wells notes. To be discussed at Item 5c of this 20 May meeting.**

#### **d) Correspondence (Schedule 2)**

Correspondence was primarily around Cycle Path along Victoria Street into the village from Clarrie Hermies/Barton Highway, NBN community consultation event, St John's Ambulance Public AED.

#### **4. Reports of VHDPA Subcommittees**

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

Mardie reported that the Museum and Heritage Centre continue to be very active. The group has cleaned up the old pre-school building and is now beginning to use the space for some archive storage. The Royal Canberra Show 100 Committee will be using some of the space to work on their special project.

Mardie asked about the future timeframe for use of the pre-school building. This is unknown as currently it is not certain who the "owning entity" of this building will be. Therefore the ongoing use of the building by any sub-committee or group is temporary and subject to change at short notice.

The Centre continues to host visitors from various groups. A Probus club is due to visit in the near future and school groups are scheduled to take part in the Education Programme. The Palmerville exhibition is still attracting good numbers.

Future exhibitions are being considered including and a joint project with ANU called Voices from the School House is to opened on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2026.

ACT Fire and Rescue recently conducted an assessment of the facility and have highlighted the need to concentrate on volunteer training. This training will be provided by Hall resident Graeme Bryce.

ACT Heritage Community Engagement staff attended the Museum recently and were impressed by the work being done in the facility.

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

Men's Shed activities continue and members are happy. The last monthly BBQ was enjoyed by all. The Shed is working on making the access to the broadcast box at the oval safer. Despite quite large membership there are only a few men who take part in building/repairing projects.

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

Regular bookings for the Pavilion continue and several bookings are scheduled for the next few weeks.

Regarding the Cottage, a new electric hot water service is due to be installed to replace the existing gas unit. A team from ACT Government recently laid a new concrete slab in preparation for this.

#### **5. Other Business**

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

Toni Makkai reported that the usual dumping of household items and cars continues in the Wallaroo region but perhaps not on the same scale as Spring Range. Toni noted that there had been no response from Yass Council regarding the VHDPA letter concerning weed control in the area. Robert will follow this up. It was also noted that in the recent Federal Budget funds for control of feral animals and weeds have been withdrawn. Otherwise all is quiet.

Jack McGrath reported that the usual issue of dumping and speeding continue. Over the past month two large collections of household goods including mattresses and washing machines have been left on Spring Range Road. Yass Council is usually fairly quick to remove these items. The surface of Spring Range Road has been steadily deteriorating and is now in a dreadful state.

##### **b. Communication and Engagement Plan**

Lee-Ann presented a document outlining an engagement plan for the VHDPA aimed at improving interaction with community and increasing awareness of the work of the VHDPA. It was agreed that more events such as the recent community pizza afternoon would be a useful way to showcase the ongoing work and achievements of the Progress Association. It was recommended that consideration be given to developing VHDPA social media presence. Committee members were asked to consider the document with a view to further discussion.

**c. Trees on Community Precinct**

Safety concerns around the old and dangerous trees on the school site are ongoing. Property Group are scheduled to conduct their annual inspection of the school site on 16<sup>th</sup> June and the matter will be drawn to their attention then. In the meantime Robert will write to Property Group regarding this issue and Aaron will explore suitable tree species as replacements.

**d. Cycle Path**

A successful meeting was held with ACT Government officer Richmond Henty and Meg Roberts-Graver regarding the cycle path from Hall Village to Barton Highway/Clarrie Hermes Drive. This project is a joint venture with ACT and Commonwealth Government funding. The track is designed to be hard surface, 3m wide except for constraints such as trees where it will be 2.5m width. Works include 500mm of graded surface to both sides of the track, water/drainage management with some culverts and solar motion sensor lighting. It is expected that contract documentation will be complete in approximately two months' time. Richmond is keen for community consultation on this project and this is planned for Monday 15 June.

**e. Community Meeting – 15 June 2026**

The purpose of this meeting is to provide information to community on two major projects for our district:

1. Cycle Path
2. NBN

The meeting is scheduled for Monday 15 June at the Pavilion, beginning at 7.00pm. The first hour will **be devoted to the cycle path and from 8.00 NBN.**

**f. St John's AED**

St John's Ambulance have plans to install a public AED in every suburb of Canberra. The model that is proposed is a modern device which has many features not present in previous machines. The organization has officers who will come out and give information to interested communities. It is proposed to investigate this opportunity with SJA and the SJA representative will attend the July Committee meeting.

**g. General Business**

Jack McGrath suggested that Hall have a large metal cut-out sheep dog at the entrance to the village and become part of the "big Australia" monuments like Big Merino.

**Next Meeting is Wednesday 17 June 2026 at 6pm.**