



East Gippsland Ratepayers and Residents Association Inc.

EGRRRA ABN 80960270283

Minutes of General meeting Wednesday FEBRUARY 7TH 2024.- Neighbourhood House Dalmahoy St Bairnsdale

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1.- **Welcome** Peter Jones- President took the Chair

Attendees Peter Jones(PJ)-President and Chair

John Butler-Cole -(JBC) Secretary

Cosette Murphy(CM) Treasurer and Media

Attendance record - 10 members (including 6 committee members recorded) + 1 visitor
Jacqui Sawyer – Thank you for your attendance

2. - **Apologies** were recorded from Mal Baker, David Eagleson and Lynette Treasure

3. **Recognition of Community Service** -inaugural President George Neophytou passed away in January 24– Jeanette Wagner and Neil Baraclough spoke to George's intelligence and multifaceted contribution to the community much appreciated by members of this organisation

4. **President's Report** - direction and planning PJ outlined our current media strategy to develop the profile of EGRRRA in the community and with EGSC

We have been working on content for a series of articles to run in Great Eastern Mail GEM. Two have gone to press 1.'Who is EGRRRA' 2.'Time of Change at East Gippsland Shire' to be followed fortnightly 3. Correspondence to mayor and deputy regarding draft 24/25 budget and community consultation. 4.Shire Rates, Budget and expenditure. 5. Project Financing and ratepayers risk on overspend.

Each article will be available on the website and facebook page one week after publishing in compliance with our verbal agreement with GEM

Radio access was denied by REgFM .Roz Seymour advised she would try to get access through her contacts -much appreciated We will contact ABC regional also.



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PJ and JBC had a meeting with Bruce Hurley and Boyd? of LEADA to determine the wishes and planning for Lakes Entrance capital projects that would be requested from council to demonstrate the need for cooperation between community groups in achieving our mutual goals

.PJ advised he would be away on overseas visit from 18th Feb to 22nd April and has passed the baton to the Secretary for this period-we wish him safe travels

5. **Treasurer's statement** Still an issue with Bendigo Bank not sending monthly statements . Expenditure for month was declared balance and statement is available for members only and will be confirmed at next meeting. **Action CM**

6. **Secretary's statement** – Minutes of previous meeting 6th Dec 23 proposed by CM and seconded by PJ

We are working on a critical path calendar leading up to the October 29th EGSC council election which will be posted on the website, facebook and updated for each meeting to ensure we meet critical dates for media releases and councillor candidate training and registration. **ACTION JBC Also See Below Councillor search**

The preparation and input into media releases and following through with correspondence is time consuming. I will be preparing a hard copy file of incoming and outgoing correspondence for viewing at each meeting.

7. **Councillor Search-** we ask again for member input to identify suitable potential candidates . All applicants are to be processed and assessed equally in public forums . EGRRRA recognizes that the selection process is by ballot on election day – 29th October 2024 and members preferences will be guided by each individual applicants demonstrated abilities.



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Elsa Hodge has put her hand up to work with JBC to identify the training and candidate information available through VEC and confirm critical dates for processing candidates **ACTION EH and JBC**

8. **Membership drive** – Pj expressed a wish for the membership drive to again consider an exhibit at the EG Field Days 5th /6th April. JBC to check cost and available assistance prior to end February **Action JBC**

9. **Current special interest group update reports – each Special Interest Group operates independently advising status regularly requesting assistance as required**

We are currently assisting

The Friends of Libraries Group Objecting to reduction in proposed Library and service centre provisions ‘

Sustainable forestry.

The Brookfield Residents objecting to inappropriate planning permit change from retirement village to temporary housing park

The Solar farms and Renewable Energy Group Raising concerns and objecting to unsuitable development of Solar farm

The Bossie Court Metung Group Residents objecting to inappropriate development

– Metung Residents – Raising concerns re Inappropriate Holiday development – Jacqui Sawyer -to discuss basic information on project and develop a residents group firstly for EGRRRA assistance with initial planning objection -developing a strategy based on other groups experience. **ACTION Jacqui and JBC**

Raymond Island Residents association- William Monfries to detail Raymond Island issues currently being addressed where EGRRRA might be able to help **ACTION William and JBC**

Meeting closed at 6.45pm. **Next General Meeting – 6th March 2024**

John Butler-Cole – Secretary 9th February 2024