# Image CHEWTON BUSHLANDS ASSOCIATION

( Reg No. A0056460X ) ABN 50 089 623 321

# Annual General Meeting: Saturday 23rd July 2022

Chewton Town Hall, 145 Main Road, Chewton

**Attendance**: Charles Affleck, Antoinette Birkenbeil, Wayne Hollis, Steve Charman, Scott Hall, Margot Ryan, Helen Bichard.

**Apologies**: Ken Savage, Rosemary Cannington, Rebecca Howell, Cat Howell, Karen and Elton Baker, Ian and Robyn Robinson, James Atherton, Grant Compton, Peter and Jillian Wright, Brendan Tobin, Ian Burchell and Bonnie Cassidy.

President opened the meeting at 3 pm with Welcome to Country:

We acknowledge that we are meeting on Dja Dja Warrung land and we pay our respects to their leaders, past, present and emerging.

**2021 AGM Minutes** have been circulated. Moved: Charles, Seconded: Margot. Passed

## President’s Report:

* Thanks to Antoinette and Karen for organising the AGM in October 2021 and to Margot for stepping in at such short notice to help run event this year. Although Karen was unable to participate personally due to Covid, the Treasurers Report was also supplied with the minutes by email to all members.
* Congratulations to the Field Guide Sub Committee for their work and to Karen for completing the first task of a short run of books to supply the most urgent requests for the book while the work to the fully updated edition will continue.
* Thanks to Margot and Antoinette for organising AGM 2022 July meeting and to Grist for their support.

Moved the report be accepted: Wayne Hollis, Seconded: Steve Charman Passed

**Treasurers Report** has been circulated:

Expenditure: AGM 2021 hall hire and food, miscellaneous Rewinding Project expenses, Field Guide Project. Final balance of ~ $ 3332.82

Moved the report be accepted: Scott Hall, Seconded: Steve Charman. Passed

**Election of office bearers and committee**: all current positions declared empty. Charles Affleck called for nominations.

President: Wayne Hollis. Moved: Antoinette Seconded: Charles

Vice President: Steve Charman. Moved by Wayne. Seconded by Scott. Treasurer: Karen Baker. Moved by Margot. Seconded by Steve Secretary: Antoinette Birkenbeil. Moved by Charles Seconded by Scott

General committee members: Charles Affleck, Bec Howell, Bonny Cassidy, Scott Hall All positions passed.

## General Business

1. Field Guide (Short Run) Book Report

NB: At the last General Meeting Kim asked what was about the cost of first print run – query to the Treasurer and Karen to action.

Subcommittee: Karen, Steve, Wayne, Antoinette and Bec.

A report to be circulated after a sub-committee meeting scheduled for the end of August.

1. Banter

Antoinette suggested that twice a year should be sufficient or possibly even a single Christmas issue to go out with the invitation to the Christmas Party - to be discussed.

Margot raised the issue of being kept informed separately to the Facebook CBA private site which is only active for the online CBA community on Facebook. Antoinette has agreed to improve communications for non- Facebook members.

1. Update on Donation to Nalderun project requested by Kylie. Individual members have donated to the Nalderun Project.
2. Environment

Rewilding Project Grant Report has been finalized to the Council. A final environment report to the Bushlands community is delayed until the Spring growing season. Scott Hall has pontoon business with Charles on behalf of a second party and Steve Charman proposed new projects including the raising of native local seedlings to distribute to Bushlanders for planting on their land.

1. CFA Community Based Bushfire Management report from Fireguard Representative Antoinette Birkenbeil:

## CFA Community Based Bushfire Management group for the North West Region - Evacuation planning for Chewton and the Chewton Bushlands.

“An interesting gathering took place at the Chewton CFA in Mount Street, on a very cold and overcast Friday 24th June, organised by Claire Collie (Community Based Bushfire Management Facilitator for the CFA North West Region) and Luke Ryan (Coordinator, Emergency Service, Mount Alexander Shire Council), to show two supervisors and a number of senior engineering students from RMIT some of the issues around the evacuation of people from Chewton township, the reservoir and the Chewton Bushlands during an emergency.

Also attending was Glenn Brown from MASC, CFA Community Liaison Rob Reid, Principal Research Fellow and Associate Professor Dhirendra Singh, other representatives from DELWP, Victoria Police and the community.

The opening talk by Cr. Christine Henderson inside the Fire Station gave some excellent background to the geology, history and past and present vegetation profiles. Travelling in five vehicles, the locations examined were the Moonlight Flat Pine Plantations, the Loddon and Middleton Prison, Chewton Primary School, the Dingo Farm Wildlife Reserve, Fryers Ridge Forest, **Chewton Bushlands from Kennedys Lane along Goldspeck Gully Road down Miners Hut Road to Sparks Road to the Pyrenees Highway and Golden Point Road to Expedition Pass Reservoir.**

Closing remarks were made at the DELWP office in Chewton by Les Vearing and John Hosking, gentlemen of considerable experience in the area of planned burns who were able to make good use of the large wall map indicating the history of this process in the area.” [At the next meeting where Principal Research Fellow and Associate Professor Dhirendra Singh gave presentation of the material gathered so far, considerable **concern was expressed and lengthy discussion took place about the misnaming of tracks and roads and lack of accuracy in the map representations of road positions.** Public meetings are planned to take place to continue to get feedback from residents about their concerns.]

1. Christmas Party

Discussion delayed until the next meeting in order for more members to attend as illness, work and travel had prevented so many from attending the AGM today in person. To all those people who are unwell, our best wishes for a strong recovery, all the holiday makers a safe return, and all the workers successful conclusions to their projects and a special thank you to everyone who worked on our projects this year!

