CHEWTON BUSHLANDS ASSOCIATION

( Reg No. A0056460X ) ABN 50 089 623 321

**Annual General Meeting: Saturday 2nd October 2021**

Senior Citizens Centre, 201 Main Road Chewton

**Attendance**: Charles Affleck, Antoinette Birkenbeil, Wayne Hollis, Kath Hollis, Elton Baker, Karen Baker, Mark Carter, Kim Windsor, Steve Charman, Bonny Cassidy, Scott Hall, Jeremy Ryan, Margot Ryan, Larry Sutcliffe, Greg Marginson, Tim Purdie, Hannah Nicholas.

**Attendance on Zoom**: James Atherton, Rebecca Jane Howell, Cat Howell, Mandy Huppert

**Apologies**: Ken Savage, Rosemary Cannington, Defah Dattner.

President opened the meeting at 3 pm with Welcome to Country: We acknowledge we are meeting on Dja Dja Warrung land and we pay our respects to their leaders, past, present and emerging.

**2020 AGM Minutes** and business arising have been circulated. Moved they be accepted: Karen, Seconded: Margot. Passed

**President’s Report** highlighted Community over the past year:

* Scott’s Re-wilding project which led to 2 planting days at Margot Ryan’s and the nestbox building workshop at Ken Savage’s.
* Farewelled Deb Fulton and Mandy Huppert, both of whom have been very active in the community and welcome Rosalie who will move into their house.
* Farewell to Susan Hellawell and welcome to Bec, James, Cat and Diego who have moved into her house.
* Sadly note that Paul Maher died yesterday and also Roland Moswick died a couple of months ago. Arrange to send a card to Joan Maher with deep regrets for the loss of such an influential and important person in the community.
* Antoinette, Wayne and Steve led a walk with the Field Nats through Kennedy Lane and up to Dishpan Gully Road which was greatly enjoyed.
* Thanks to Karen and Ant for organising this AGM meeting and to Duang for donated food, also to Grist.

Moved the report be accepted: Wayne Hollis, Seconded: Mark Carter. Passed

**Treasurer’s report**: Karen spoke to her report which has been circulated prior to the meeting.

* Income: membership up due to involvement in nest box offer, nest box deal from Latrobe Wildlife explained with payment in part from the grant and in part from individuals.
* Expenditure: almost entirely on Re-wilding Project (see attached financial statement) with

~$435 left.

* Final balance of ~$3,300. Nothing in the pipeline at the moment so ideas welcome…Flora and Fauna book? (see general business).

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: Charles Affleck Moved: Karen, Seconded: Margot. Vice President: Wayne Holllis Moved: Kim, Seconded: Hannah Treasurer: Karen Baker Moved: Antoinette, Seconded: Mandy Secretary: Antoinette Birkenbeil Moved: Scott, Seconded: Charles

General committee members: Bec Howell, Bonny Cassidy, Steve Charman, Scott Hall

All positions passed.

**General Business**:

1. Reprint Field Guide

Issues were raised about cost, updates and permissions relating to use of the photos on the condition of non-profit basis and free to bushlanders. The questions of linking to the website and adding a Facebook page were also raised and possible inclusion of weeds in response to requests. Kim asked what was about the cost of first print run – query to the Treasurer and Karen will look into this.

Subcommittee was formed to discuss ongoing action: Karen, Steve, Wayne, Greg and Bec with information to be sought from the community, many of whom would be interested.

1. Banter

Antoinette suggested that twice a year would be sufficient to keep up with the news unless a special issue arose. The success of the Facebook CBA private site seems to be meeting the needs of the CBA community but only for those members on Facebook. All, or any items, to be sent to Karen.

1. Donation to Nalderun project

This agenda item was requested by Kylie. She previously wrote:

*I am sure you are all aware that Nalderun Aboriginal community are currently raising funds to purchase their own block of land to call their own.*

*It's pretty exciting to think that the Nalderun land is a five-acre block here in Chewton and that we can see, visit and support the Nalderun project here in our little village!*

*I would like to call on our own Bushlands Association to make a decent donation back to the First Nations people and to support our local Aboriginal community in their self-determination to purchase back their land and create a Meeting Place for future generations to come.*

*I feel that a donation to this project fits in well with the ethos and values of the CBA - we can all be a part of Mamunya- especially as we all recognise the Dja Dja Wurrung as the original owners of this land and that sovereignty was never ceded.*

As the land purchase has now been finalised and time to donate to that has passed, discussion centred on the CBA making a donation towards a current project. Opinions differed: how much?;

were all members in support?; James: should not our fees be used to benefit our community?; Why this group and where do we stop?; perhaps at an event ask for a gold coin donation? Bonny suggested that members donate as individuals. General agreement to do more research, perhaps to target a project in line with our objectives. Greg Marginson raised the issue of the legality of a donation being from the CBA (an incorporated not-for-profit body) and Karen said she would check the Model Rules.

Mandy suggested we ask Kylie Groen for recommendations and email her ideas to Karen and Antoinette. Agreed.

Greg Marginson moved: We ask the committee to consider the idea of making a donation to a Nalderun Project and get back to the members. Seconded: Bonny. Passed.

1. Presentation by Scott Hall on Rewilding Project and Film by Tim Purdie

Scott Hall showed a Powerpoint presentation about the Rewilding Project including the nest box building day and thanked everyone concerned particularly Ken and Rosie. Margot presented Scott with 2 bottles of wine and thanked him for his excellent idea, his passion in bringing it to life, and for the work which will regenerate this part of the bushland.

Tim showed his short excellent film, taken live at our activities. It included shots of Damien’s presentation at the aquatic planting day as well as interviews with Scott, Jeremy and Antoinette. He was thanked for this with a bottle of wine, which he later donated to the festivities.

1. Christmas Party

Margot has offered to have the Christmas get together at her place and this was accepted with enthusiasm.

Date was set at 11th December from 5 onwards. The meeting closed at 4.30