

CHEWTON BUSHLANDS ASSOCIATION

(Reg No. A0056460X) ABN 50 089 623 321



CBA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:

Saturday 4 October 2025, 4pm Chewton Town Hall, 145 Main Road, Chewton

Attendance: Steve Charman, Mark Carter, Kim Windsor, Karen Baker, Charles Affleck, Antoinette Birkenbeil, Margot Ryan, Sam Drummond, Jo, Gwynne, Rosaleen Kehoe, Steve Bell and Brett Dunkley, Natalie Cosmas, Bonny Cassidy, Simon Couper.

Apologies: Ian and Robyn Robinson, Scott and Cheryl Holmes.

President Steve Charman opened the meeting at 3 pm:

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

President's Report:

After thanking everyone present for coming to the AGM, Mr. Charman expressed his concern about ongoing health issues of one of the association's most important members, Mr. Ken Savage and recognition of his valuable input to the creation of the CBA as an incorporated organisation in 2011 for the benefit of the local community and to support the environment. As a founding member of the CBA, Ken was actively involved in all CBA activities from encouraging newcomers to the organisation to hosting workshops related to environmental issues, such as the nestbox building, sharing his tools and skills to help locals assemble 80 nestboxes. His commitment to the Bushlands has been invaluable in building the community and continues today. *(Sadly, Ken passed away on October 10th just 6 days after this AGM. Some members of the CBA will be making the journey down to Melbourne to pay their respects at Ken's funeral)*

Steve talked about some of the year's events which involved CBA members:

- There were two successful Landscaping for Bushfire events organised by Antoinette Birkenbeil and CFA representatives Darren Tinker and Rob Reid, which included an information night at the Senior Citizens Centre in Chewton as well as an excursion to examine the landscaping of the property of Margot and Jeremy Ryan with their generous permission.
- New residents Cheryl and Scott Holmes were thanked for organising a gathering at their new home to meet local residents.
- In addition, Karen and Antoinette were thanked for their years of service as office-bearers and for their work in organising the 2025 AGM. Both Karen and Antoinette were given gifts of appreciation.

Steve finished by reminding those present why the Chewton Bushlands Association was formed in 2011. He illustrated the stated aims and objectives of the Association with examples of some of the projects that have been undertaken since it was formed.

Moved the President's Report to be accepted: Kim Windsor, Seconded: Margot Ryan. Passed

Secretary: 2024 AGM Minutes were circulated.

Moved they be accepted: Kim Windsor, Seconded: Mark Carter. Passed

Treasurers Report for 24/25 has been circulated and Karen discussed:

- Successful application for a Support Grant from Landcare for \$ 500
- Sale of Field Guide books - \$ 5

- Landcare membership/insurance cost \$ 380

Karen suggested that the balance (\$120) from the Landcare Support Grant be put towards environmental work.

Moved the report be accepted: Scott Holmes, Seconded: Antoinette Birkenbeil. Passed.

Election of office bearers and committee

All current positions were declared empty.

Nominations were called for:

- President: Steve Charman. Moved: Antoinette Birkenbeil; Seconded: Charles Affleck
- Vice President: Bonny Cassidy. Moved: Antoinette Birkenbeil; Seconded Karen Baker
- Treasurer: Simon Couper. Moved Karen Baker; Seconded Charles Affleck
- Secretary: Cheryl Holmes. Moved Kim Windsor (with permission in Cheryl's absence); Seconded Karen Baker
- General committee members:
Kim Windsor, Moved Steve Bell
Steve Bell, Moved Charles Affleck
Margot Ryan, Moved Bonny Cassidy
Karen Baker, Moved Steve Bell
Rosaleen Kehoe, Moved Bonny Cassidy
Charles Affleck, Moved Simon Couper
All positions passed.

Steve Charman resumed the Chair.

Membership subscription:

In line with the Treasurer's recommendation it was agreed that there should be no change to the membership subscription: \$20 per household; \$10 per individual.

AGM closed.

GENERAL BUSINESS

- Communications

Scott Holmes has requested the formation of a communications group to meet the requirements of all members of the CBA.

- Invasive weeds

Karen Baker requested that the re-emergence of weeds such as Bluebell Creeper and gorse needs to be brought to the attention of property owners and the reintroduction of weed eradication working bees to be available for all members to attend.

- Road Safety Issues

Bush Sanctuary Road was mentioned in relation to the lack of visibility of the signage and the issues relating to the seasonal problems relating to the steepness of the incline and unstable road surface. Steve Charman and Natalie Cosmas reported issues of speeding and tailgating on Commissioners Gully Road. Rosaleen suggested road conditions could be improved by more signs indicating slower speeds such as 'Less speed, less dust' signs.

- Date for the first meeting of the new committee

Sunday, November 9, 1 pm at the home of Karen Baker
101 Park Road (near McCay Reservoir)

Meeting closed at 5.10 pm