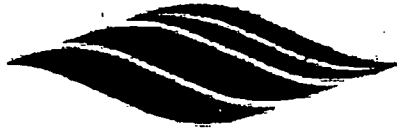


Mr Kelvin Thomson
3 Munroe Street
COBURG

3058



Moonee Ponds Creek
Association Incorporated

Moonee Ponds Creek Association, 22 Stratlinaver Avenue Strathmore, 3041

General meeting Minutes,

August 24, 2000, at 8.00 PM

3 Munro Street, Coburg

Present: Bob Steadman, James McConnell, Alex Smart, Terry Mundy, Kelvin Thomson

Apologies. Gavan O'Neil

Minutes of previous meeting and Annual General meeting: Accepted

Action Points from Previous Minutes

Public Art Strategy

Discussion is under way with Transurban to sponsor work associated with the Art Strategy. A site is being investigated to decorate sound walls near Hope Street.

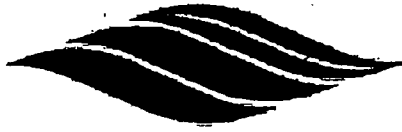
General Business

Monash University Creek Management Report

A report was recently released from students at Monash University, as part of a Masters Degree. The report is titled "The Moonee Ponds Creek: Challenge for a participatory process". The Aim of the report stated, "to develop a system that facilitates an inter-institutional, cohesive approach to rehabilitation of the Moonee Ponds Creek and its catchments". Gavan and Kelvin have studied and discussed issues in the report with the students. Kelvin noted that the report was interesting in its visualisation of the creek to 5 sections and the section on community engagement. The association will encourage Gavan to study the report and report back with any action points which should be implemented.

Moonee Ponds Creek Revegetation Guidelines

A seminar was held on 18/8/00 to discuss the Revegetation Guidelines. The document is in draft form and has been available for comments which are due by 1/9/00



Moonee Ponds Creek Association Incorporated

c/- Secretary Moonee Ponds Creek Association, 22 Strathnaver Avenue Strathmore, 3041

City Link Maintenance issues

Transurban has recently had another meeting with concerned groups regarding ongoing problems. There still appear to be lots of unresolved issues and little action by Transurban.

Port of Melbourne Re-alignment Plan

A realignment plan for the creek has been approved by the state Government planning Minister. Unfortunately the plan approved is "worst case scenario". Lobbying is being done to Candy Broad, "Minister for Ports" to try to gain amendments. The current alignment pushes the creek parallel to citylink and maximises the docklands land. It provides very little public open space and has no consideration to the environmental impact study which identified regionally significant salt marsh. The plan does not open up public access to the Yarra. Gavan has written letters addressing the problems.

Gowenbrae

Alex has raised issues that Gowenbrae is advertising a 6 stage residential development. The association came to a verbal agreement during initial approvals of Gowenbrae that appeals would not be continued if the developer only proceeded with stages 1-4. Kelvin will write to Moreland addressing the fact that Gowenbrae Stages 5 and 6 should have been taken off the drawing board by the developer, and that these stages are contentious if they are now resurfacing.

ABN

The GST startup office is running seminars on ABN's for non profit groups such as ours. Alex will attend one and weigh up the pros and cons. He was authorised to use his own judgement.

Vic roads and the Moonee Ponds creek E14 Freeway

In a discussion paper by Vic Roads named "Hume Freeway-Metropolitan Ring Road to Craigeburn", the E14 was raised as a future freeway to service Craigeburn, Roxburg Park and Mt. Ridley. The paper discussed the E14 as unsuitable as the Hume Link as it is to be used as a freeway in the Future and already had agreements with councils and developers to partially fund the freeway construction. The association does not agree that this freeway has been approved and there are other options existing, which can be upgraded to service these areas. Kelvin will write a letter to the appropriate State Minister addressing the issues relating to the lack of consultation on the proposal and forward copies to Gavan and Vic roads.

Correspondence

- City of Hume..... Social Justice Workshop
- Western Plains Flora Letter discussing the Poor Plant selection for City Link
- Monash University..... The summary report and the full report "The Moonee Ponds Creek: Challenge for a Participatory Process"
- Mpccc..... Invitation to Revegetation workshop
- Greening Australia..... Re: Revegetation Draft Report

Need to check if I've done this.

KT 23/9

RW/ Can you pls check whether I have written any letters to Vic Roads or State Govt (or anywhere) re "E14" since August 24?

KT 28/9.



**Moonee Ponds Creek
Association Incorporated**

c/- Secretary Moonee Ponds Creek Association, 22 Strathnaver Avenue Strathmore, 3041

Alex Smart Copy of personal letter to Melbourne water regarding the weirs at
..... Mitchell Parade. These issues will be raised at the MPCCC.
City of Moreland..... Application form for National community Link awards 2000
City of Hume..... Thank you response from Cr. Jungwirth for our appreciation of his efforts
City of Hume..... Application form for community awards 2000 and invitation to GAV
..... seminar

Meeting closed 9.45 PM

Next Meeting

Wednesday November 23rd at 7.30 PM

The meeting is at The Depot/office of Thiess Infracore in the conference room

Address Gate E, Footscray Rd, West Melbourne

(the office is in the railyards, 20 metres from the creek on the city side between Footscray and Dynon Roads)

I will attach a more detailed description of how to get to Gate E

Please Note: We will be guests of Thiess Infracore at a reasonably Industrial Site. For our safety and simple practicality, please be on time as we will have an escort (ie 7.30PM for the walk or 8PM for the meeting)

At 7.30 the group will inspect the creek and meet formally at 8 PM

Agenda for general meeting

Role call

Apologies

Matters arising from Minutes

Any Special Presentations

Coordinators report.

General Business

Treasurers Report

Correspondence

Next meeting

Planting Days

See attached planting schedule

**SPRING 2000 MOONEE PONDS CREEK COMMUNITY
GREENING PROJECT CALENDER OF EVENTS**

Date	Description Of Activity	Location & Time	Melway
25/7	The remnant escarpment vegetation at Union St is one of the few remaining patches that can show us what the Moonee Ponds Creek vegetation may have been like. The revegetation works to the south of this site (400 plants) will help with the long term health and value of this important remnant.	South of Union St Escarpment West Brunswick 9.30-3.00	29 B9
5/9	Revegetation in the Five Mile Creek area with 400 indigenous plants to supplement existing overstorey and provide habitat and refuge for our wildlife.	Five Mile Ck Reserve Essendon 9.30-3.00	28 K2
9/9	SPI Powernet, through Greening Australia's Spring Planting Festival, has provided funds for the planting of 800 shrubs and grasses. These plants will complement those planted earlier this year by Gladstone Views Primary and the local community.	Jacana Reserve Gladstone Park 9.00-3.30	6 A7
24/9 & 18/10	The planting of 400 indigenous trees, shrubs and grasses in this reserve will add another link to the 900+ plants put in the ground during the Autumn planting season.	Kingsford Smith Ulm Reserve Glenroy 10.00-1.00	16 D4
4/10	Revegetation works in this area were started by council in 1997. The addition of another 400 indigenous trees, shrubs and grasses will help support the variety of wildlife that visit and inhabit this area.	Strathnaver Reserve Strathmore 10.30-1.00	16 D5
7/10	Through the Ford Employee Charitable Contributions Scheme, staff at Ford have funded the planting of 500 plants in Broadmeadows Valley Park.	Broadmeadows Valley Park 10.00-3.00	6 E7
8/10	Another 200 plants will be installed on the south side of the Brunswick Rd bridge, building on those works done in late July.	Union St Escarpment West Brunswick 10.00-1.00	29 B9
26/10 & 29/10	Transurban has supplied a line of sponsorship that will see 1000 indigenous trees, shrubs and grasses be planted in this urban park. These plants will not only help the local environment but will also provide a sense of community for those living in the area.	Debney Park Flemington 9.00-3.30	29 B12



Moonee Ponds Creek
Association Incorporated

c/- Kelvin Thomson, Moonee Ponds Creek Association, 3 Munro St, Coburg, 3058

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Minutes, June 14, 2001, at 8pm

3 Munro Street, Coburg

Present: James McConnell, Alex Smart, Kelvin Thomson, Elaine Brogan,
Phillip Radstake, Patricia Woodwood

Apologies: Gavan O'Neil, Judy Maddigan

Correction from Minutes of March 22, Relevant to AGM

Date

The previous minutes were titled as March 22, 2000, at 8.00PM,
Broadmeadows Club, which should have been dated as year 2001.

Motion 1.

Should have read Friends of Moonee Ponds Creek and not Fiends of Moonee
Ponds Creek

Change of name to Friends of Moonee Ponds Creek

The Motion to change our name to Friends of Moonee Ponds Creek was
moved by James McConnell and seconded by Alex Smart, and was accepted
at the Annual General meeting. (noting the correction in the spelling of
Friends). Alex has investigated legally changing the associations name and
this will take a number of steps which will require coordination between the
Secretary and treasurer.

Election of Office Bearers

No nominations were received by the Secretary prior to the meeting.

President Kelvin Thomson



**Moonee Ponds Creek
Association Incorporated**

c/- Kelvin Thomson, Moonee Ponds Creek Association, 3 Munro St, Coburg, 3058

Vice President's.....Bob Steadman & Elaine Brogan
Treasurer.....Alex Smart
Secretary.....James McConnell

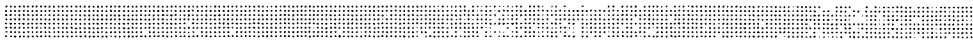
Moonee Ponds Creek Coordinating Committee Reps
.....Kelvin Thomson
.....Alex Smart
.....James McConnell
.....Andrew Gemmel
Standby MPCCC reps.....Elaine Brogan
.....Bob Steadman

As in previous years, it was decided to continue to the practice of conceding the 5th position on the MPCCC to Julie Law representing The Friends of the Upper Moonee Ponds Creek.

Treasurers Report and Statement of Income and Expenditure

Copies of the Statement of income and Expenditure were distributed to Members at the meeting. The Statement has been Audited and the Total Assets of the Association total \$15033.08 at 8-6-2001

Meeting Closed 8.30pm



10/10/2001 14:30:00



Moonee Ponds Creek
Association Incorporated

c/- Kelvin Thomson, Moonee Ponds Creek Association, 3 Munro St, Coburg, 3058

General meeting Minutes,

June 14, 2001, at 8.30 PM

Kelvin Thomson's Office, 3 Munro St, Coburg

Present: Phillip Radstake, James McConnell, Alex Smart, Elaine Brogan, Kelvin Thomson, Patricia Woodwood

Apologies. Gavan O'Neil, Judy Maddigan

Minutes of previous meeting: Accepted

Action Points from Previous Minutes

ABN

Alex believes he has discovered how to apply for an ABN for a not for profit organization but has decided not to continue with the application until the name change is finalised.

Trial Rock Weirs

Kelvin and Judy Maddigan are continuing to Lobby Melbourne water regarding the success of the trial rock weirs. Melbourne water has suggested that the concrete can be cored and sedges planted to hide the concrete and provide Habitat. The meeting discussed the proposal and general consensus was that sedges, cored in the concrete surrounding the weirs would be great, and that efforts should be made to have Melbourne Water trial the technique.

Replacement of Pump

Bob is yet to finalise the purchase of a new pump.

General Business

Bass Street

Moreland Council is proposing a community housing project on land zoned public open space at Bass St. Committee Members have had site visits and discussed the proposal with Moreland councilors and office staff. A motion was accepted, which was moved by James McConnell and Seconded by Alex Smart stating " The Moonee Ponds Creek Association do not support, Bass Street as the site for the Community Housing Project..

Correspondence

City of Moreland Invitation to Stormwater Management information session
City of Moreland Draft Moreland Stormwater Management Plan, Vol. 1, The Strategy
and Vol. 2, Background information
Natural Heritage Journal 9 from Natural Heritage Trust
MPCCC Autumn Planting Calendar
City of Moreland Community Database update
City of Hume Autumn and Winter Planting Calendar
City of Hume Bushcare Magazine
Greening Australia Victoria Short Course Invitations
Dept of Justice Letter Requesting Community Service Projects
RMIT Catchment Management Course information
Meeting closed 9.45 PM

Next Meeting

Thursday, September 13th at 8:00 PM

The Meeting is being held at The Office of Kelvin Thomson, 3 Munro St, Coburg

Agenda for general meeting

Role call
Apologies
Matters arising from Minutes
Any Special Presentations
Coordinators report.
General Business
Treasurers Report
Correspondence
Next meeting

Mailing Address

Please note that until Further notice Mail should be Addressed as

Moonee Ponds Creek Association
C/O The office of Kelvin Thomson
3 Munro St
Coburg 3058

Friends of the Moonee Ponds Creek

Meeting Minutes

Thursday 10th June 2004

1. Present: Kelvin Thomson (chair), Andrew Gemmell (minutes), Melanie Taube, Bob Steadman, Madeleine Bisits, Frank Kinnersley, Lyndsey Burton.
2. Apologies: Patricia Woodward, Alex Smart, Vince Aitkin, Tom Baker.
3. Confirmation of previous minutes accepted on a motion from Melanie seconded by Lyndsey
4. Business Arising - None
5. Correspondence
 - a. We were invited by Melbourne Water to comment on the revised waterway activity plan for the creek. Kelvin suggested that we point out the deficiencies and lack of activity from the current plan. Melanie will write on our behalf expressing these concerns. Andrew will sign the letter on our behalf.
 - b. We have received notice of a successful Melbourne Water community grant application for creek plantings. More details to follow.
6. Reports
 - a. President - nothing urgent to report
 - b. Treasurer - Alex tabled a report via email which is attached
 - c. Coordinator of MPCCC Melanie answered questions and reported on a number of on going works:
 - i. She is applying for a federal Envirofund grant to support ground-works, education programs and web site development (Kelvin mentioned that weed control of recent plantings is becoming very pressing and wondered if this activity could be incorporated into the application)

40

- ii. There have been some recent plantings from an unknown source near Lebanon Reserve that may encroach onto the shared path. Melanie will contact the Parks Department of MVCC about this.
- iii. Members are asked to contact Melanie with suggestions of areas suitable for planting and or weeding in the upcoming season.
- iv. The Jacana Wetlands Plan is almost finalized. It will be endorsed soon and maddie and Melanie will produce an implementation plan (for further details of this and other issues please see the MPCCC web-site www.mpccc.org)
- v. The website also has details of plans for our Interpretations Strategy which is supported by a grant from the Tullamarine Landfill Authority
- vi. Another Envirofund application may be made to kick-start an Upper Catchment LandCare Group
- vii. The autumn planting season has been the most successful yet. Please refer to "Ponderings", newsletter of the MPCCC for details.
- viii. National Tree Day is on Sunday 25th July. The very popular Tranceplant will be held again at a site on Wright Street in Westmeadows from 10am til 10pm!!

The reports were adopted on a motion from Lyndsey seconded by Bob.

7. General Business

- a. There was general discussion led by Bob about some of the difficulties of revegetation and watering along the creek including the extensive spitfire caterpillar attacks on some of the new eucalypts.

- b. Frank reported that Transurban is reconstructing the retaining wall at the Bell St and Pascoe Vale Rd junction with the Freeway and the shared path is being temporarily rerouted.
- c. Friends Network - their recent newsletter was tabled. If you would like to be on the mailing list please contact hayburn@bigpond.com
- d. People suggested ideas to increase turn out at the meetings. Some were:
 - i. Publicise all meeting dates for the following year at the end of the previous year
 - ii. Produce fridge magnets to publicise the group and the meetings
 - iii. Have the meeting at different venues
 - iv. Have guest speakers on relevant topics
 - v. Advertise meetings through articles in local papers
 - vi. Advertise meetings in "Ponderings"

Thanks for these ideas. Melanie and Andrew will meet to discuss them and make some changes.

Meeting closed at 9.30pm

Next Meeting: Thursday October 21 at 8pm at a venue to be advised.

Friends of the Moonee Ponds Creek

Meeting Minutes

Thursday 10th June 2004

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Thanks for these ideas. Melanie and Andrew will meet to discuss them and make some changes.

Meeting closed at 9.30pm

Next Meeting: Thursday October 21 at 8pm at a venue to be advised.

**FRIENDS OF MOONEE PONDS CREEK
MINUTES OF MEETINGS
HELD AT KELVIN THOMSON'S OFFICE
3 MUNRO STREET, COBURG
DECEMBER 7, 2007**

COMMITTEE MEETING, 6 p.m.

Present: Kelvin Thomson (KT) (chairman), Vince Aitkin (VA), Joe Ficarra (JF), Frank Kinnersley (FK), Terry Mundy (TM), Alex Smart, (AS) Stephanie Spathis (SS), Bob Steadman (RS)

Apologies: Clive Judd,(CJ) Julie Law (JL)

Treasurer VA reported that he was having the bank signatories updated, and that there was a balance of \$6,859. The meeting accepted the report. The group had sent FK and VA to the Sept. 7-9 meeting of the Environmental Friends Network, to which 247 groups are affiliated. They submitted a copy of the *Brief Summary of Selected Sections of the Conference*.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 2006

KT reported on a successful year.

VA reported that assets were \$16,859, including a loan of \$10,000 to the MPC Coordinating Committee. VA and JF would prepare a formal memorandum of understanding about the loan. A motion of VA and FK was accepted. Minutes of the previous meeting on Aug. 24 were accepted on the motion of TM and RS. To formalise the name change from MPC Association, VA would notify the Attorney-General's Department.

Treasurer VA reported annual income of \$6 and expenditure of \$153. Assets were \$16,713.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 2007

Present: As above, and Don Isdale and Ivan Repak, of SW Brunswick Planters

KT mentioned that the Friends' 20th anniversary was approaching next year, and the group would have a celebration to mark it. The meeting accepted a membership fee of \$5, effective at the start of 2008, and a form would be prepared for registering new members. VA proposed, and the meeting accepted, transfer of funds to a new account at Bendigo Bank. KT said he would be stepping down from the President's role once a suitable replacement was found. The Moonee Valley Festival of next Feb.2008 had invited participation. SS mentioned that MPCCC would again be taking part, and the meeting agreed to support them.

The following positions were filled by acclamation:

President: Kelvin Thomson, pro tem. only

Vice-President: Terry Mundy

Secretary: Frank Kinnersley

Treasurer and Public Officer: Vince Aitkin

Delegates to MPCCC: Julie Law, Vince Aitkin, Joe Ficarra, Frank Kinnersley, Terry Mundy

The next meeting was set for Friday Feb. 8, 2008

Robert Steadman

**GENERAL MEETING OF FRIENDS OF MOONEE PONDS CREEK
HELD AT KELVIN THOMSON'S OFFICE
3 MUNRO STREET, COBURG on THURSDAY APRIL 3, 2008
5:30PM TO 6:40PM**

PRESENT: K Thomson (Chair), Vince Aitkin, Frank Kinnersley, Mark Bolitho, Judy Maddigan, Tony Smith, Terry Mundy, Sandra Simpson, Bob Steadman.

Minutes of February, 2008 meeting approved with correction of postal address to:
PO Box 2127, Oak Park Vic 3046

Moved: Vince Aitkin Seconded: Terry Mundy CARRIED

Correspondence:

M.V. Draft Stormwater Management Plan

M.V. and Moreland Council replies to problem of dogs off leads in Jacana Wetlands.

MPCCC – loan of 2004

Melbourne Water, grant acknowledged

Glenroy Festival of August 20 – F Kinnersley would check with MPCCC.

K Thomson reported on Port Phillip and Westernport strategy 2004-2009

Treasurer's Report

Insurance now paid up. It taken \$3.80 of each \$2 membership. Landcare (insurance) has requested names and addresses of members for supply of its periodical to members. V. Aitkin proposes to contact members for permission to provide this info.

With \$5000, half of the loan to MPCCC, to be repaid soon, we can give some thought to action. This may be related to the uncertain status of the depot site.

Approved: V. Aitkin and T Mundy.

V. Aitkin proposed an approach to Melbourne Water for a pumping licence.

V. Aitkin referred to constitution, urged changes to make us a tax-deductible gift recipient.

NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY JUNE 12 AT 5:30PM

Minute taker: R G Steadman

**FRIENDS OF MOONEE PONDS CREEK
MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING
Held at offices of Kelvin Thomson, June 12, 2008, 5:30 to 6:20 p.m.**

Present: Kelvin Thomson (KT) chairman, Judy Allen (JA), Geoff Hart, Clive Judd (CJ), Frank Kinnersley (FK), Terry Mundy (TM), Ivan Repak, Bob Steadman (RS)

Apology from Vince Aitkin

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved. Copies of the treasurer's report were circulated. It was approved on the motion of FK and TM.

FK reported that membership applications were being received.

JA spoke on behalf of Friends of Westbreen Creek. She felt that the MPCCC was not independent enough of Melbourne Water (MW). Nobody had done any site preparation for them before their last planting. KT asked for this to be raised at the next MPCCC meeting.

TM, the sole representative on the MPCCC Committee, reported that Heather Holder was resigning as director, and a sub-committee was interviewing applicants. There had been several delegate changes, MW was taking a more active interest, they were financially sound, and were seeking sponsorship. He would send a copy of the latest minutes to KT.

Friends had been active in plantings along the creek. RS referred to two recent plantings, by MW and Citylink, at Essendon.

There was discussion about the proposed air outlet at Bass St., Pascoe Vale.

Also discussed were the annual Hume State of the Environment report in May and the approaching MV Mid Year Gathering of community groups.

CJ referred to exotic trees, including a peppercorn at Boeing Reserve that was spreading seed.

FK was asked to write to MV Council.

Tentative date of the next GM was set for August 7.

Bob Steadman,
Minutes Secretary

**FRIENDS OF MOONEE PONDS CREEK
MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING
Held at the office of Kelvin Thomson, August 14, 2008
From 5:40 to 6:30 p.m.**

Present: Kelvin Thomson (KT) chairman, Vince Aitkin (VA), Frank Kinnersley (FK), Michelle Gooding (MG) of Moonee Valley, Bob Steadman (RS)
Apology from Tony Smith

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved, but some related matters arose. MG was secretary of MPCCC since January, and reported that finding a replacement for Heather Holder (HH) had encountered a few difficulties, but that they were interviewing another applicant on Aug. 19. She outlined site management, environmental issues including weed strategies, Green Corps liaison for 2009, and a proposed community education event. She would collaborate with City West Water, friends groups and Water Watch. The old Broadmeadows nursery site was discussed inconclusively.

Copies of the treasurer's report were circulated. VA mentioned the need for an honorary auditor. KT promised to make inquiries.

RS drew attention to the Hume State of the Environment report, some invitations to apply for grants, and the VEFN Sept. seminar on Working with Children Check. The Hume multicultural planting day was on Aug. 17.

VA reported that insurance payment had been made to VFF. The National Tree Day planting at Westmeadows was well attended despite wet weather. FK believed that National Tree Day should be moved to autumn to avoid rain. RS later did some homework and looked up the following climate and weather data, in millimetres.

Month:	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.
2008:	71	16	42	14	44		
Normal:	51	58	57	50	48	50	59

FK again referred to peppercorn trees at Boeing Reserve and near Red Rooster, Pascoe Vale, and the spreading seed downstream. The meeting believed that older peppercorns would be spared the chainsaw. Also discussed were willows, and weed infestations. MG mentioned MV's work on weed identification and treatments.

The meeting spoke in favour of a function, arranged jointly with MPCCC, to farewell HH and welcome her successor. We hoped to find a central venue, and to provide some funds.

Tentative date of the AGM was set for October 9.

Bob Steadman,
Minutes Secretary

FRIENDS OF MOONEE PONDS CREEK MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING

Held at office of Kelvin Thomson, October 8, 2008, 5:50 to 6:20 p.m.

Present: Kelvin Thomson (KT) chairman, Vince Aitkin (VA), Mark Bolitho, Frank Kinnersley (FK), Michelle Gooding (MG), Bronwyn Riddell (BR), Tony Smith (AS), Bob Steadman

Apologies: Christine Campbell, Julie Law, Joe Ficarra, Peter Flanagan, Nicola Hamilton, Judy Maddigan, Megan Rankin

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved (VA and AS).
Correspondence was limited to apologies.

VA and KT reported that the search for an honorary auditor was continuing.

KT forwarded a complimentary note from former treasurer Alex Smart to the present treasurer VA.

VA presented a detailed financial report, showing a total equity of \$16,970. He distributed copies to the meeting. Subject to the change of *Association* to *Coordinating Committee* in Para. 4, it was accepted on the motion of AS and RS.

MG and FK reported on the meeting of Moonee Ponds Creek Coordinating Committee (MPCCC) at 7.30 that morning. Our delegates had been excluded, and it functioned as a "staff meeting", but with Council delegates present. That meeting appointed MG as acting coordinator of MPCCC.

BR gave a wide-ranging report on MPCCC and related organisations, and distributed copies of Issue 23 of *Ponderings*.

The meeting requested a joint end-of-year function with MPCCC. They were asked to propose a date and place. VA mentioned that we might provide financial help. This would also be the occasion for our next general meeting.

Bob Steadman,
Minutes Secretary

**FRIENDS OF MOONEE PONDS CREEK
MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2008-09
Held at office of Kelvin Thomson, October 8, 2008, 5:30 to 6:20 p.m.**

Present: Kelvin Thomson (KT) chairman, Vince Aitkin (VA), Mark Bolitho (MB), Frank Kinnersley (FK), Michelle Gooding (MG), Bronwyn Riddell (BR), Tony Smith (AS), Bob Steadman (RS).

Apologies: Christine Campbell, Julie Law, Joe Ficarra, Peter Flanagan, Nicola Hamilton, Judy Maddigan, Megan Rankin

Minutes of the previous AGM were approved (VA and FK).
Correspondence was limited to the apologies.

KT forwarded a complimentary note from former treasurer Alex Smart to the present treasurer VA.

There was only one candidate for each position for the coming year, and all were declared elected.

POSITION	CANDIDATE	PROPOSER	SECONDER
President	Kelvin Thomson	FK	RS
Vice-President	Tony Smith	KT	MB
Secretary	Frank Kinnersley	KT	VA
Treasurer	Vince Aitkin	KT	FK
Publicity Officer	VA	KT	FK
Delegates to Moonee Ponds Creek Coordinating Committee	VA Joe Ficarra FK Julie Law Terry Mundy AS and RS (alternates)		

Bob Steadman.
Minutes Secretary

FRIENDS OF MOONEE PONDS CREEK (FMPC) MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING

Held at The Depot, Woodlands Fri., Dec. 19, 2008, 4.40 to 5.10 p.m.

Present: Kelvin Thomson (KT) chairman, Joe Ficarra (JF), Clive Judd, Terry Mundy, Tony Smith (AS), Bob Steadman (RS). Some others were preparing for, or attending, the MPCCC year-end barbecue at the same place.

Apologies: Vince Aitkin (VA), Michelle Gooding, Frank Kinnersley (FK), Julie Law, Judy Maddigan

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved (AS & RS).

A meeting of KT, VA and FK had offered MPCC \$500 toward the cost of the year-end barbecue. The meeting endorsed this action on the motion of TM and JF.

KT announced that the 20th anniversary of MPCA/FMPC was approaching, and suggested a celebration to coincide with a planting in the new year. Members suggested the Boeing Reserve or J.P. Fawkner Reserve as locations.

KT introduced correspondence from John Hughes, a teacher at Oak Park Primary, with responsibilities on the environment and sustainability. Pupils hoped to do some planting along the creek. The meeting mentioned that our reply should stress both planting and maintenance – ground preparation, watering and weeding.

TM referred to earlier discussions with Melbourne Water about buying permission to water plants from the creek, and to plans to replace weed trees. The meeting would like to have these matters on the next agenda.

Bob Steadman,
Minutes Secretary

FRIENDS OF MOONEE PONDS CREEK (FMPC)
MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING
Held at the home of Kelvin Thomson, Fri Feb. 27, 2009

Present: Kelvin Thomson (KT) chairman, Vince Aitkin (VA), Audrey Biggs, Stella Blay (SB), Mark Bolitho, Roger Exell (RE), Joe Ficarra (JF), Frank Kinnersley (FK), Carolyn Layton (CL), Julie Law (JL), Donna & Emma Matthews, Kaye Oddie (KO), Bronwyn Riddell (BR), Elissa Simmons (ES), Tony Smith (AS), Stephanie Spathis (SS), Bob Steadman (RS), Sue Wright (SW)

Apologies: Christine Campbell, Judy Maddigan, Terry Mundy

Minutes of the previous meeting, on Dec. 19, were approved.

The only correspondence was a letter from Ian Wheatland of Ecology Partners. It was approved on the motion of VA and FK.

Treasurer VA reported a balance of \$17,129. He advocated the adoption of a database, Filemaker Pro. With the help of a consultant, it could be obtained for no more than \$500. Purchase was approved on the motion of VA and RS. He announced that the membership year would coincide with the financial year, and collected fees from some new members.

The Moonee Ponds Creek Coordinating Committee (MPCCC) Crisis. This occupied the rest of the meeting. The current *Ponderings* outlines some of the differences from MPCCC staff's viewpoint. KT gave an explanatory description of the relationship between MPCCC, FMPC, councils, etc. and neighbourhood friends groups, who were sometimes represented at FMPC meetings. FK later added information about insurance. AS mentioned residual insurance protection under FMPC. KT read from the minutes of an extraordinary meeting of Feb. 18 and thanked Gary Jungwirth of Hume. As they had not found a replacement for Heather Holder, the last coordinator, and as SS was leaving on Feb. 28, they urged resolved on the termination of BR and SB, and the transfer of an EPA grant to the Merri Creek Management Committee. They offered KT the interim chairmanship of a reorganised group. Council staff would take over the publication of *Ponderings*. (Hume Council already produces the periodical *EcoTracks*, which encompasses the catchments of Jackson's Creek/Maribyrnong River, MP Creek and Merri Creek.) That meeting also raised concerns about perceived OH&S problems in the Depot (where the Christmas party had been held). The meeting did not include some other stakeholders, including Melb. Water, CityLink, Parks Victoria, and the Port Philip and Westernport Management Authority (PPWMA). RS asked about the track record of council staff in working with volunteers at weekends. SB stated there had been no communication from council officers, only dismissal notices. KO and SW expressed concern about the abruptness of the changes which council representatives had taken on themselves to make. JL mentioned possible effects on neighbourhood groups. BR quoted some extracts of MV Council's *Creating a Healthy City*, and argued that they had not been implemented. She also provided a copy of PPWMA's *Calendar of Grants and Incentives*. In view of Clean-up Aust. Day on March 1, departing staff would continue to serve until March 2.

There is to be a daylong meeting on Fri., March 20 at Moonee Valley (MC) Council, in which we were invited to participate. (Agenda not yet available.) Meanwhile SS had prepared a planting calendar, published in *Ponderings*, to serve for the next 3 months after her departure. RS asked for our meeting's consensus to direct our delegates. AS wanted another meeting for this before March 20; it was fixed for March 13. (See below.)

KT outlined a number of options for dealing with the crisis. He also urged us to increase the number of our alternate delegates from 2 to 6; the names CL, KO, ES and KT were put forward.

JF believed that councils felt that the Creek was part of their bailiwick, and they felt little need for a coordinating committee.

A vote of thanks was offered to departing staff, especially SS, on the motion of RE and RS.

Next Meeting: Fri., March 13, same time and place. KT asks that any new names be cleared with his office before being invited. FK has prepared a meeting notice.

Bob Steadman, Minutes Secretary.

FRIENDS OF MOONEE PONDS CREEK (FMPC) GENERAL MEETING Held at the home of Kelvin Thomson, Fri., March 13, 2009

Present: Kelvin Thomson (KT) chairman, Vince Aitkin (VA), Dushy A., Audrey Biggs, Stella Blay (SB), Joe Ficarra (JF), Carolyn Layton (CL), Julie Law (JL), Jen Moylan (JM), Kaye Oddie (KO), Bronwyn Riddell (BR), Ivan R., Elissa Simmons (ES), Tony Smith (AS), Bob Steadman (RS)

Apologies: Frank Kinnersley, Terry Mundy

The chief purpose was to develop a strategy for the all-day meeting that Moonee Valley Council (MVC) had called for March 20 about the future of the Moonee Ponds Creek Coordination Committee (MPCCC). JL, VA, JF and AS expected to attend all day, with ES at 9 a.m. and KT from 11. KT stressed the need to avoid perception of over-representation. Observers were asked to let KT or Michelle Gooding know if they planned to attend. Members requested that the planning meeting clarify the role of community participation.

KT reported on some outside discussions. Sue Wright had talked with Parks Victoria about the Depot. There was little chance of using it beyond April. Talks with Michelle Gooding (MVC) about MPCCC property stored at the Depot, such as the car and trailer, suggested that some would go to Merri Creek Management Committee. BR added that other inventory had to be resolved. AS made some contacts with other river groups to east and west. He spoke about the Maribyrnong with Peter Somerville (Blackbird). He mentioned the Living Museum of the West, and the Water Watch program; the group would meet on March 28.

KO and others referred to the many planning documents that had been drawn up for Moonee Ponds Creek. She showed the constitution of 2000, would make an e-file and distribute copies. JL and RS mentioned a high ratio of planning to implementation. VA and KO stressed the big picture of the creek, with our objectives in mind. KO said the Royal Park Committee had been disbanded. BR mentioned the planned shared pathway from the airport to the existing path (in the 5-year plan), the metropolitan trail network and weedy crown land. KT mentioned previous conducted tours of the creek by bus and bicycle, and the potential for tourism at places like Woodlands. He referred to cooperating business such as Victrack and Excel Printing. VA urged the building of separate paths for joggers and cyclists. RS reminded that a difficult part of the creek just below the junction of Five Mile Creek has no path. JF mentioned the low returns to councils. KT also mentioned other creek associations and their relations with councils, as well as non-council sources of funding. He stressed the role of MPCCC as a referral body. CL mentioned Water Keepers (Yarra River). VA stressed the value of not confronting councils. A memorandum of understanding between MVC and MPCCC was mentioned. As for the appointment of a new greening officer, resistance from councils was reported, though funding for all positions except coordinator came from within MPCCC.

There was a need for new premises. BR had examined possibilities. DO mentioned *Ponderings*, with reference to quality and frequency. She mentioned the role of businesses. In matters such as a coordinator, there were compliance standards, which KT said were based on City of Hume, with appropriate modifications. AS referred to the high ratio of committee members, about 13, to the staff, about 4, including part-timers. BR referred to a timeline, a business plan, and to other creek committees. AS argued that a layer of 8 council officers is not the environment we work in. DO would speak to councillors, and urged us to seek grants and examine documents having old facts about the creek.

VA volunteered to develop a FMPC website in collaboration with AS, and urged us to use this and other methods to contact new residents in our higher-density developments.

KT noted approx. 16 points that the meeting had made, read them out, and would circulate them.

Notes from MPCCC Strategic Planning Workshop Friday 20 March 2009

Present: TM (Vice Pres), Joe Ficarra (Treasurer), VA (FMPC), JL (FMPC), KO (FMPC), AS (FMPC), ES (FMPC), Karen Wilson (Hume), Elizabeth Donaghue (ED, Public Officer, Hume), David Dunstan (DD, Moreland) Sam Niedra (SM, Moreland), Nigel Higgins (Secretary, MVC), MG (Acting coordinator, MVC) and for the morning only Rose Iser (MV Councillor) and David Keenan (Hume)

The facilitators were Terry Maher and Neil D. Armstrong.

Terry worked in council for 20 years in the cities of Melbourne, Ringwood, Essendon, Croydon, Monash & Knox. Among many things, Terry chaired the 2001 Commonwealth Games advisory Comm., and acts as a mentor for senior local govt. managers. Neil has worked in the private sector and in local Government. He has been seconded to work on a number of national emergency projects and events including Cyclone Tracey & Ash Wed. fires in Vic. He also served as Councillor in Mornington and as director on many community bodies. The cost of their services was over \$9,000 (just under the \$10,000 budget).

Evaluation of MPCCC over the 2006 – 2009 period.

This was done in small groups, with each group contributing to the white board. Unfortunately I didn't get all the words down. ED wanted people to be clear that during her 9 months on MPCCC she feels that nothing was done well – our small group could not convince her otherwise

What have we done well?

Planting days	Community engagement	Catchment projects
Clean up days	Ponderings	Partnerships with business
Tax deductibility status	CityLink project	

What could have been done better?

I didn't take notes here, but it was along the lines of accountability, Occupational health and safety. The feeling from some council officers was that MPCCC as an organisation was being too ambitious, and did not have the appropriate organisational structure, policy, insurance, etc. to support its operations. SM said that weed maintenance on the revegetation sites in Moreland was not adequate.

Governance and the obligations of Committee members were discussed. The facilitators referred to: Rules of MPCCC, Associations Incorporation Act 1981, and Local Government Act 1989 (section 193). It was highlighted that the MPCCC rules were legally binding. It was explained that community expectation of organisations is that members will act lawfully and within a framework of good governance principles.

The facilitators indicated that the MPCCC Rules could put off potential new committee members. (Michelle questioned whether these rules were ever officially accepted by the committee – perhaps we need to ask why is she seeking to discredit the rules?)

Vision for creek

No concrete	Improved water quality (health)	Wildlife corridor	Ecology
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Preservation Custodial/stewardship Conservation Enhancement Integrated parkland
Community partnership Advocate Facilitate
Coordinated environmental activities of the stakeholders
Caring for social, recreational, environmental values
Eamonn Fennessy from Melbourne CC did not feel that a linear park was possible.

Values:

Transparent Community Reporting/accountability Commitment
Empowerment Respect Environmental sensitivity
Communication – between stakeholders, includes active listening
(It was noted here that ‘induction of committee members’ be included in objectives)

Mission for MPCCC

“To engage with and coordinate community and key stakeholders to ensure an integrated and enhanced Moonee Ponds Creek environment”

Cooperative approach Advocacy Galvanising community
Management of funding & resources Cross pollination between groups
Engage stakeholders (including community) to embrace creek enhancement activities

We then looked at the priorities for 2009/10:

- MPCCC strategy (Tony Faithfull or Context were suggested strategy agents. It was highlighted that Tony Faithfull developed MCMC’s strategy which involved a month of community workshops)
- Melbourne and Moreland will stick to current funding commitment
- Funding from Hume and Moonee Valley are unclear.
- Melbourne and Moreland will run community plantings as an interim step only.
- Hume and Moonee Valley view the coordination of friends groups as a council role
- MPCC will retain services of current book keeper

The question of whether MPCCC should continue was raised three times. All participants seemed to indicate that they wished for MPCCC to continue.

It was raised that MPCCC staff (recently made redundant) be contracted to keep MPCCC programs running, and not lose partnerships such as City Link. The council officers did not support this idea using the last edition of Ponderings as an excuse calling it a “sackable offence” to send out Ponderings without committee’s permission. Unfortunately it seems our MPCCC ex-staff members are seen as a threat by council officers, and not the assets that they truly are.

The facilitators picked up on today’s tension. Although they acknowledged that there was robust discussion during the day, they warned that if committee members fought, this would act as a cancer to the organisation, filtering down to staff and volunteers resulting in lack of motivation, commitment and unrest. They indicated that if members on the committee (including council staff) were not supportive of MPCCC, then they should be removed.

MPCCC impromptu meeting

The facilitators will provide a summary of the planning day decisions in a week’s time

The facilitators will draft a governance advice

MPCCC committee will meet on Thursday 2nd April at 6pm to discuss the following agenda items:

- Interim coordinator (Moonee Valley council wants to relinquish this role)
- Work out a budget for this financial year.
Moreland CC and Melb CC are happy to continue with current funding agreement. Hume CC and Moonee Valley CC will reassess their funding. These two councils have decided that ongoing commitment to funding needs to be justified; Nigel predicts that Moonee Valley CC funding will most likely be halved.)
In response to MV & HCC's funding changes it was suggested that MPCCC should first determine budget requirements for this oncoming financial year. This could then be presented to MV & HCC.
- Engagement of a short term Administration contractor for MPCCC to undertake committee minutes etc. Nina Eason was suggested. MG said she will contact Nina. Other possible administration agencies to be discussed at the next meeting.
- A media release re: MPCCC's current situation
Terry had brought in a clipping (see final page) from the opinion section of Moonee Valley Leader March 16 2009. (It's worth noting that the editor's note read "Moonee Valley Mayor Paul Giuliano said the committee was operating and was being reviewed. He said no changes to funding had been made." So where is the directive to halve MVC's funding coming from?)

Elissa – my impression is that Moonee Valley and Hume officers feel that MPCCC has been overly ambitious in what they have been delivering, and that MPCCC's liability and Occupational Health and Safety has not been adequately developed. And that to review all these policies is just too hard. Disturbingly Moonee Valley's Michelle, and Hume's Elizabeth also think that MPCCC should not coordinate and facilitate Friends group plantings along the creek anymore. Other community style planting days (ie: schools, NESB community) were not discussed.
As for Moreland and Melbourne, they expect MPCCC to carry on, and that council will only be coordinating Friends groups for the interim. These two councils seem happy to hand this responsibility back to MPCCC once the strategy and staff structure are in place.

Further Updates

Elissa spoke to Doug Evans (on Monday 23/3/09), Community Engagement Manager from Port Phillip & Westernport CMA re: MPCCC. Doug would be interested in receiving the minutes from the FO Moonee Ponds Creek, and MPCCC by email. The CMA will be recruiting an Urban Catchment Care officer in the next three months (This position has not been advertised yet). Basically the role of the Urban Catchment Care officer will be to assist volunteer organisations recruit more volunteers and to be strategic.
Doug's advice was to identify MPCCC's unique contribution and role. What can MPCCC deliver that other land managers (council) cannot? Then be clear on what is needed to establish MPCCC. Doug Evans' email is doug.evans@ppwcma.vic.gov.au and his phone number in Box Hill is 9296 4662.

Elissa spoke to MG on the planning day to see if MG (as acting MPCCC coordinator) was submitting the creek's remnants to the Victorian Environmental Assessment Council's Metropolitan Melbourne Investigation. Michelle is not going to do a submission on behalf of MPCCC, and is under the impression that the separate councils will do them. She is not sure who. The submission period will close on Monday, 4 May 2009.

Bronwyn Durst has advised us that the Caring for Country Grant project proposals are due April 3rd. Also the \$5,000 grant to develop a new poster map of Moonee Ponds Creek has been passed onto MCMC.

Elissa Simmons

FRIENDS OF MOONEE PONDS CREEK (FMPC)
MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING
Held at the home of Kelvin Thomson, Fri., April 3, 2009

Note from Minutes Secretary. Although the planning meeting where we were well represented on April 20 was significant, it formed only a small direct part of the minutes. Fortunately ES took notes. To honour the many members who gave up the day to face salaried council workers and paid consultants, I have appended, with Elisa's permission, a copy of her minutes, lightly edited to save space. By accurately reflecting what was said, the notes contain clichés and weasel words. They are not the language of minutes secretaries. Therefore, please do not shoot the messengers.

Present: Kelvin Thomson (KT) chairman, Dushy A., Audrey Biggs, Stella Blay (SB), Carolyn Layton (CL), Julie Law (JL), Gen Moylan (GM), Terry Mundy (TM), Kaye Oddie (KO), Bronwyn Riddell (BR), Ivan R. (IR), Elissa Simmons (ES), Tony Smith (AS), Bob Steadman (RS)
Apologies: Vince Aitkin (VA), Frank Kinnersley

KT reported on the meeting at Moreland on April 2 with councillors from Moreland (D.Dunstan) and Hume (E.Donaghue). Neil Armstrong discussed winding up MPCCC's cttee. of management. The consultant recommended the appointment of a new rec. officer. They would meet with Michelle Gooding (MG) and one of us. There would be a meeting to draw up a strategic plan. KT's view was that MPCCC was seen as dysfunctional and would split from councils. FMPC would not accept this level of council control. There was no hope of appointing a coordinator. The inevitable split should be as amicable as possible. But we should not abandon other options. He has negotiated for our material assets to be moved from the Depot to a Hume Council site at Sunbury.

His discussions with CityLink indicated the possibility of maintaining BR's educational function. He also spoke with R. Larocca about the expansion of CERES, and its many links to environmental groups. Access for us might be possible. KT and AS both mentioned *nervousness* of council officials.

AS, who had attended both meetings, March 20 and April 2, detected a difference between them. Councils saw MPCCC's function as their prerogative, feeling they could do the coordinator's work. It was hard for us to fit into their model. TM and JL also felt more comfortable with the MV meeting on March 20 than the April 2 meeting, which made "no progress".

Other matters raised:

- CL: our relationships with major stakeholders other than councils
- KO: governance and our dependence on KT's leadership
- AS: requested, and received, authority to select and register a suitable domain name
- BR: the Creek Crusader
- AS: a delegate to the Living Museum of the West
- KO: a MPCCC strategy book for FMPC by mid-year
- JL: Tullamarine land rehabilitation action cttee. The meeting nominated JL and BR.
- ES: support was granted for her request on behalf of a Glenroy kindergarten group.
- BR distributed 7 copies of the CD version of the book that she had shown earlier

KT reminded that FMPC would celebrate our 20th anniversary in June. We formed a sub-committee of SB, JL, GM and BR to organise a celebration on June 13.

TM mentioned knowledge turnover that follows from frequent replacement of council officials, and a “coalition of differences”. He argued that it was better for MPCCC not to close, but it needs an “administrator”. There was a need for councils to provide better delegates, with some continuity. Instructions to council delegates had been changed in 10 years. FMPC should apply for funding, and act independently of MPCCC and councils. We should attend meetings of any new group. MPCCC was to meet on April 30.

SB referred to asset stripping and transfer to MCMC, the \$5000 Qantas grant, and removal of books valued at \$600 from the Parks Vic. Depot. Some new council staffers are “less dedicated”. The planning meeting of April 20 made unwelcome remarks about MPCCC staff. BR offered storage space for our assets in a trailer. Our remaining financial assets in grants, etc. amounted to about \$30,000. MG had provided a financial statement. CL mentioned an APA grant for MP Creek, now being administered by Merri Creek Management Cttee. (MCMC).

IR has grey box seedlings in tubes, and took orders to give some to members at the next meeting.

The meeting discussed an organised bus trip of the creek. AS and supporters would plan an itinerary, seek access to all areas, and try to have something by May. BR and CL have bus licences. A bike ride was also mentioned.

Next Meeting: Fri., May 15, same time and place.

Bob Steadman,
Minutes Secretary

FRIENDS OF MOONEE PONDS CREEK (FMPC)
MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING
Held at the home of Kelvin Thomson, Fri., May 15, 2009

Present: Kelvin Thomson (KT) and Terry Mundy (TM) chairmen, Dushy Abeysekera, Vince Aitkin (VA), Stella Blay (SB), Joe Ficarra (JF), Frank Kinnersley (FK), Carolyn Layton (CL), Michael McNabb (MM), Kaye Oddie (KO), Bronwyn Riddell (BR), Ivan R. (IR), Elissa Simmons (ES), Tony Smith (AS), Bob Steadman (RS)

Apologies: Julie Law (JL), Judy Maddigan

The 20th anniversary would be celebrated with a barbecue (noon-2 p.m.) after the planting (10 a.m. – noon) at Jacana Lakes on Sat., June 13. ES reported an unspent grant from 2005 that could meet costs. KT would work with the committee in contacting former members and helpers, publicity and getting before- and after-pictures of the site. JF referred to funding by MPCCC.

MM, of Gowanbrae, attended the meeting to solicit opposition to a proposal to develop housing lots on former Victrack land at Glenroy, arguing that bike paths would have to be “realigned”, there would be more traffic on Outlook Drive, etc. On the motion of AS and TM, the meeting directed the secretary to lodge an objection with Moreland Council.

KT would meet with VicRoads to discuss the upgrade of the Western Ring Road. He had met with CityLink and discussed BR’s role in continuing the educational program.

The meeting discussed the Qantas grant to make a new map of Moonee Ponds Creek (MPC). RS circulated the present map, the work of MPCCC. Michelle Gooding (MG) would be working with Merri Creek Management Committee (MCMC) to prepare something similar to the Merri Creek map. AS stressed the need for computer-readable documents. BR would describe our requirements and report back. As MCMC had added four aboriginal names to their map, the meeting mentioned that procedures must be followed; Tarnuk was an example. VA pointed out that the funds for this project were under the control of MPCCC, not us.

The MPCCC meeting of April 30. Recommendations included hiring a consultant, forming a steering group, an annual general meeting in Oct. and a letter to councils seeking participation. Jo Connellan (JC) would convene a working committee. Assets would be available for our use for next year. Subsequent meetings had shown little progress, a brief would be circulated by Aug., and there were different views in the minds of those preparing job specifications on whether they needed a co-ordinator or a project manager. KT had discussions with councillors, who “supported their officers”.

JF met with JC, MG, the Moonee Valley Council (MVC) mayor, and representatives of Hume and Moreland, but some results were negative. Municipalities were each allowed 2 reps. at meetings, but some (supposedly 5 from Hume) had exceeded. This led to a view that we too should use members to stack meetings, but KT advocated calm and conformity with by-laws. JF complained of little or no notice of MPCCC meetings, and of their failure to see the need for a co-ordinator. There was a need for a plan to guide us long-term. Official confusion prevailed over the choice between a *catchment* and an *organisational* strategy.

The meeting recognised that the consultant’s final report would be derived from briefs that we and others supplied. KO urged that we prepare our brief before May 27. A group consisting of AS, TM

and KO was formed; other relevant stakeholders were invited to contribute ideas. They would meet at TM's on Sat., May 23, at 2 p.m. RS asked that the work of Tony Faithfull, in a previous interval between co-ordinators, be recognised and incorporated, so that the consultant would not waste time reinventing wheels.

BR mentioned discussions with TransPacific about delays on the landfill site, but needed more info. from Parks Vic.

BR claimed that the winter issue of *Ponderings* had been distributed only by e-mail. KO requested circulation to all members and asked JF to inquire. She also asked about an update on council plantings.

BR referred to a surplus of strategic plans. She and SB undertook to supply the consultant with earlier and updated strategic plans.

AS and CL mentioned the proposal for bus and bike tours of the creek. They had aroused little interest from MPCCC, which was pre-occupied with the induction of a new consultant to prepare another strategic plan. TM said we would be preaching to the converted.

VA confirmed the treasurer's report, sent by e-mail. The meeting agreed to his request to raise the annual membership fee to \$10, as insurance may increase beyond its present \$3.60.

Controversy remained over whether MPCCC still existed. KO would draft a letter to MPCCC.

RS reported on the Landcare Expo at Caulfield on April 12, and distributed handouts, including Melbourne Water's CD *Planting for Success in the West*. He told the three persons who asked that he was from Moonee Ponds Creek. They seemed informed, and all three responded with remarks about our demise or our takeover by council.

Correspondence:

FK had received correspondence from two students – about Jacana Wetlands and lower MPC.

3 notices had been returned to sender; the meeting resolved to take the names off our list.

Email from Phil Nolan, via AS clearing MPCCC coordinator emails, requesting info on developments around the creek affecting the creek and water flow to it. AS would respond and refer to MW.

RS wrote to MG with thanks for the first 3 pages of the winter *Ponderings*.

Later: MVC sent a brochure *Survival Skills for Community ... Groups in MV*. They invite us to attend evening meetings on June 15 and 22, and morning meetings on July 14 and 21. Details from Anne Callinan at 9243-8802 or acallanan@mvcc.vic.gov.au.

Other matters raised:

- AS: had registered for us a domain name, mooneeponds.org
- SB: would apply for Bank grant
- BR: is to receive from Parks Vic. The Kookaburra Multicultural Award. She would represent us in the Dandenongs May 16.
- JF: would receive FMPC property from the depot and pass it on
- AS: had been clearing our property from the depot.
- TM: now had our pump, from the depot, and would leave it with RS for storage
- KO: degradation and the need for revegetation in the Docklands area
- ES asked about access to legal advice, mentioning mail to JL and e-mails to AS.
- BR distributed 7 copies of the CD version of the book that she had shown earlier

IR distributed 40-cm grey box seedlings in tubes.

Bob Steadman, Minutes Secretary

**FRIENDS OF MOONEE PONDS CREEK (FMPC)
MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING**

Held at the home of Kelvin Thomson, Fri., June 19, 2009, 5.30 to 7.10 p.m.

The hosts provided dinner and refreshments.

Present: Kelvin Thomson (KT) chairman, Vince Aitkin (VA), Stella Blay (SB), Joe Ficarra (JF), Clive Judd (CJ), Frank Kinnersley (FK), Julie Law (JL), Carolyn Layton (CL), Michael McNabb (MM), Kaye Oddie (KO), Elissa Simmons (ES), Tony Smith (AS), Bob Steadman (RS)

Apologies: Terry Mundy, Judy Maddigan, Bronwyn Riddell (BR)

Amendments to minutes of May 15 meeting:

- SB had contact with Bendigo Bank, but not a grant application
- KO wrote, not to MPCCC, but to the Port of Melb. Corporation, and had received a reply. They would perform revegetation in the lower reaches.

Chairman's Report.

- Despite rainy weather, the 20th birthday celebration on June 13, together with the tree planting, had been successful. Thanks were due to Glenroy Lions for the barbecue and Kerry for the cake.
- KT circulated a copy of the minutes of the inaugural meeting of July 1989.
- Early photos had been brought to the birthday barbecue, and the meeting discussed the pros and cons of reproducing them.
- Negotiations continued with BR and CityLink. Any contract would be outside FMPC's jurisdiction.
- Tullamarine Residents Committee met on June 9 to discuss the landfill.
- Of the \$46,000 committed by MVC to MPCCC, \$20,000 was on next year's budget, to be put toward the consultant's strategic plan. The plan would not address governance issues.
- MPCCC had not taken up an unrestricted federal grant of \$1500. KT was negotiating for it to be provided to FMPC.
- Coming planting sessions announced

KO urged the production of a special issue of *Ponderings* to explain changes. She referred to the website on Waterways, and the survey monkey.

MM reported on activity by Gowanbrae residents to oppose housing on Outlook Drive.

VA issued a brief treasurer's report. Members formed a queue to renew their memberships before the fee doubled on July 1. He referred to changes to the Corporations Act, would examine them, and report to the next meeting on their implications for us. He also mentioned that the previous weekend had seen over 600 trees planted.

ES and CJ referred to the destruction of trees on the west side of Strathnaver Grassland. Views were varied about the identity of the agent, whether the trees were indigenous, planted by volunteers, or harmful to the grasses that had been planted there in 2006.

Some members had attended the MPCCC meeting on May 27. TM provided a report, and saw advantage in "walking away". As secretarial performance was declining, we might prepare to nominate someone. KT offered the service of a staffer. We could not tell clearly if appointment of a temporary coordinator was likely. Most funds would be for the consultant's report. We would resolve plans by the next meeting. AS offered predictions.

ES invited members to the Anselm Grove Park planting on June 28. She mentioned that Tony Faithfull, who had previously been interim coordinator, had declined to tender for the consultant's position to draw up a new strategic plan.

FMPC's property, previously at the Depot, was now scattered, with some at Evans St., Sunbury. RS had one pump, which had been damaged, and VA had the other, in good condition.

In preparation for the MPCCC meeting at Coburg Town Hall on June 24, we nominated JF as chairman; and VA, FK, JL, KO and AS. Cr. Jo Connellan had urged MPCCC to reserve funds to employ a coordinator. The meeting resented the rating of FMPC's priority as *medium* and wanted a higher level of consultation for friends groups.

The next meeting was planned for Fri., Aug. 14, same time and place.

Bob Steadman,
Minutes Secretary

**FRIENDS OF MOONEE PONDS CREEK (FMPC)
MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING**

Held at the home of Kelvin Thomson, Fri., August 14, 2009, 5.30 to 7.20 p.m.

Present: Kelvin Thomson (KT) chairman, Vince Aitkin (VA), Stella Blay (SB), Joe Ficarra (JF), Clive Judd, Frank Kinnersley (FK), Michael McNabb (MM), Mark O'Brien (MO), Kaye Oddie (KO), Tony Smith (AS), Bob Steadman (RS)

Apologies: Julie Law, Carolyn Layton (CL), Terry Mundy, Bronwyn Riddell (BR), Elissa Simmons

Amendment to minutes of June 18 meeting: SB had applied to Bendigo Bank, but had not had news about the grant application

Chairman's Report.

- Moreland's recent tree planting at Gavin Park had been successful. He was following up with Sam Niedra, with special reference to Westbreen Creek.
- A request from an architecture student about a list of suitable plantings; KT and BR had acted on this
- A plan to sub-divide a strip beside the creek off the Mitchell Parade escarpment

MM reported in detail on activity by Gowanbrae residents to oppose housing on Outlook Drive. He had attended two meetings, and hoped to restrict the development from 33 houses to six, with no back fences facing Gowanbrae. He expects Victrack to go back to drawing board and submit a new proposal. The alternative proposal preserved pedestrian access. VA suggested that MPCCC offer to do plantings in the open space. KO stressed the need for a "buffer zone".

AS reported on his work in organising a bike tour of the whole creek on August 15. He circulated a detailed itinerary that he had previously e-mailed. Arrangements were being made for transport and refreshments. Attempts were made to contact Michelle Gooding about coordinating with a possible lunch that would follow the morning planting at Boeing Reserve. The group would probably assemble for lunch at Primrose St., Essendon. AS proposed discussions with the consultants about our plans for the creek; FK urged members not to "push agenda". KT advocated making this excursion also a "dry run" for a future FMPC tour.

KO referred to plans to restore mangroves in the estuarine part of the creek.

MO mentioned the proposal for the MPCCC "strategic plan".

There was discussion about a Parks Vic. water spill near the depot at Oaklands.

Correspondence:

- Planting proposals of the Ports authority
- Tulla. Landfill Residents Action Cttee.
- Inquiry from Verity Fife
- Merri Creek Mgt. Cttee. will soon be celebrating its 20th anniversary
- Notice from MV Council about community grants; MO also mentioned it.
- VicWater online survey
- Planting at Dynon Road on August 16, 10 to 12.

- Request from Gabby Stannus of Friends of Royal Park to “auspice” their grant application. FK and VA said that incorporating would make them independent of us, but that we could help them to incorporate.
- Sam Niedra, on coordinating friends’ groups
- MV Council circulated a page about improving Debney’s Park
- RS read an extract from Bernie Fox’s latest Environmental Friends newsletter and mentioned the Network’s next biennial conference at Grantville on Sep. 11-13. There will be a presentation about *sustainability* of bush plantings and creating wildlife corridors, at which the speaker believes most of us are failing. Mr Murphy, a nurseryman, will present a 10-point design plan to address these problems. The meeting felt we should be represented again, and offered to pay expenses for SB.

VA issued a brief treasurer’s report. He was about to pay our annual public liability insurance bill of \$394. VA also provided information on the complicated regulations governing incorporation of organisations such as ours.

The next meeting, the A.G.M. was planned for Fri., Oct. 2, same time and place.

Bob Steadman,
Minutes Secretary

FRIENDS OF MOONEE PONDS CREEK (FoMPC)
MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING
Held at the home of Kelvin Thomson, Fri., October 2, 2009

Present: Kelvin Thomson (KT) chairman, Vince Aitkin (VA), Stella Blay (SB), Joe Ficarra (JF), Clive Judd (CJ), Frank Kinnersley (FK), Carolyn Layton (CL), Gin. Moylan (VM), Mark O'Brien (MO), Bronwyn Riddell (BR), Ivan R., Tony Smith (AS), Bob Steadman (RS)

Apologies: Christine Campbell, Peter Flanagan, Julie Law, Terry Mundy, Kaye Oddie (KO), Elissa Simmons

Chairman's Report.

- The bike ride on Aug. 15.
- Vic Track land at Jacana
- Correspondence about providing indigenous plants

Correspondence:

- Marcia Harkins of Vic Urban contacted us about cleaning the lower part of creek. BR said Melbourne Water (MW) provided no funds for cleaning. FK would refer Vic Urban to BR, who is active in that part and would coordinate with KT by e-mail and phone. They might hire friends groups to do paid work.
- Tulla. Landfill Residents Action Cttee had met, with limited consensus. BR referred to reconciling disparate groups, pollution, the spread of exotic grass and slow progress on the toxic waste dump.
- Inquiries from students
- The Water Alliance announced temporary paths around the area where the water line would pass under the creek, at the confluence of Westbreen Creek.. AS argued that the corresponding work across Merri Creek was poor, and urged them to combine temporary and permanent paths as far as possible. JF saw this as the way to provide access cost-effectively, and sought permission for two paths.
- The Tulla Sydney alliance was involved with authorities in upgrading the M80 ring road, and would meet at 11 a.m. on Oct. 15 at 122 Melrose Drive, Tullamarine. Some members expected to attend, partly to advocate against any harm to the Jacana Wetlands. We are concerned at non-repair of the flood-damaged pedestrian/cycle bridge. FK had circulated maps by e-mail.
- Justice Department mentioned the possible supply of workers (trusties?) to do plantings, etc.
- Some properties had been illegally moving boundaries into the creek reserve, esp. at MP and Essendon, near Cameron Road; and north of the ring road. FK would chase this up, requesting cooperation between councils and MW.
- Moreland Scouts with a special interest in the environment.
- From AS: There would be a meeting with a working party at 8 a.m. on Oct. 22. He was eager for us to meet with the consultants.
- Michelle Gooding was planning a planting event for the next day, Oct. 3.

Correspondence accepted on the motion of FK and VA.

MO said their grant application was too late to be considered.

AS wished to meet with MW and for Les Mitchell to brief us on projects.

BR was working with Citylink to select sites for Green-up in the lower part of the creek. They were requesting 100 kl of water tanks and proposing suitable plants.

FK referred to limited success in persuading councils not to plant within 1 metre of paths. AS was concerned with recording the history of the creek, esp. the former whippet-racing course. He requested historical info. KT offered to seek previous photos and would provide history. BR reported on proposed development in and near Debney's Park school, and circulated plans. There would be a meeting at MV council on Oct. 5. She felt that much of the playground surface was inappropriate. FK urged that continuing provision be made for pedestrians who pass through.

Bob Steadman,
Minutes Secretary

**FRIENDS OF MOONEE PONDS CREEK (FoMPC)
MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)
Held at the home of Kelvin Thomson, Fri., October 2, 2009**

Present: Kelvin Thomson (KT) chairman, Vince Aitkin (VA), Stella Blay (SB), Joe Ficarra (JF), Clive Judd (CJ), Frank Kinnersley (FK), Carolyn Layton (CL), Gin. Moylan (VM), Mark O'Brien (MO), Bronwyn Riddell (BR), Ivan R., Tony Smith (AS), Bob Steadman (RS)

Apologies: Christine Campbell, Peter Flanagan, Julie Law, Terry Mundy, Kaye Oddie (KO), Elissa Simmons

Minutes of last year's AGM were accepted, with the correction of *Publicity* to *Public Officer*.

Treasurer's report: VA had already e-mailed a full report. For the year, income was \$1145, expenditure \$569. Most funds were on term deposit, earning interest at about 4.5%. Report was accepted on the motion of RS and CJ.

The meeting congratulated FK on the environmental award from City of MV.

BR offered thanks to VA on representing us with the MP Creek Coordinating Committee (MPCCC).

Nominations for delegates to the MPCCC exceeded the vacancies. The meeting had an open discussion, in which some nominees became alternates. Results were:

POSITION	OFFICERS FOR 2009-2010	ALTERNATES	NOMINATOR	SECONDER
President	KT		FK	BR
Vice President	AS	TM	VA	FK
Secretary	FK		JF	CL
Treasurer	VA		AS	BR
Public Officer	VA		JF	SB
Minute Secretary	RS		VA	SB
Committee	VM		SB	KO
Delegates to MPCCC	TM	JF	AS	FK
	AS	FK	VA	FK
	SB	BR	KO	CL
	JL	CL	FK	VA
	KO	VM	FK	RS

Bob Steadman,
Minutes Secretary

FRIENDS OF MOONEE PONDS CREEK (FMPC)
MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING
Held at the home of Kelvin Thomson, Thu., Dec. 3, 2009, 5.35 to 6.35 p.m.
The hosts provided an end-of-year barbecue.

Present: Kelvin Thomson (KT) chairman, Stella Blay (SB), Joe Ficarra (JF), Clive Judd (CJ), Frank Kinnersley (FK), Julie Law (JL), Carolyn Layton (CL), Gin Moylan (VM), Mark O'Brien (MO), Kaye Oddie (KO), Ivan Rebak (IR), Bronwyn Riddell (BR), Tony Smith (AS), Bob Steadman (RS)
Apologies: Vince Aitkin, E. Brogan, Nina Eason, Michael McNabb, Elissa Simmons, W. Watson

Amendment to minutes of Oct. 2 meeting: AS corrected the spelling of Lee Mitchell. With minor changes, the meeting accepted the minutes.

The treasurer's report was accepted on the motion of CJ and KO.

Chairman's Report and Correspondence.

- FK had received the Moonee Valley Environmental Award (previous minutes), and donated the \$250 to FMPC.
- Jan Flack sent a letter with photos of tractor-mower destruction of planted trees by mowing employees or contractors in the area near Hope St. which Brunswick Southwest Planters cared for. IR brought some ruined trees to the meeting. VM reported similar damage near Five Mile Creek and mentioned damage to the creek path and a retaining wall near Moreland Road. She mentioned contacts with Dave Ryan and Lee Mitchell of Melbourne Water. KT had had discussions with Sam Niedra.
- Sam Niedra invited us to a Christmas function at Gavin Park on Dec. 6 at 10.30.
- Contact from Merri Creek Management Committee about a possible collaborative project

AS reported on progress at MPCCC after the councils withdrew subsidies, though Moreland is still supportive. Our delegates have been active as office bearers, with quarterly meetings. Councils have limited their administrative help. While diverting their previous MPCCC subsidies to direct improvements to the creek area, they drastically restrict out-of-hours work. He mentioned that KT had inspired more enthusiasm than MPCCC had.

Property that had been at the depot was mentioned. SB urged us to compile an assets list. BR repeated her offer to provide a container for free storage at her place. JF referred to a cost of \$345 per month for commercial storage.

KO asked about publicising the latest strategy plan, when published. She said it should appear on MPCCC and FMPC websites, and the word would get around if every council library received a copy. With copies distributed at councils' discretion, good relationships with councils were important. The friends' network should also be supplied. RS asked about learning from publicity procedures of the previous strategy plans.

BR advised us to apply for grants, as we are incorporated. She mentioned her application to CityLink, and the TELRAC website. She announced the availability of a CD on seed collection.

CL stressed the demarcations with councils, and communication about what they and we are doing for the creek.

VM referred to receiving a council grant, but the cheque was excluded in the absence of incorporation. The meeting urged her to re-apply, using us as an incorporated agent.

JL mentioned that Hume Council had arranged 3 planting days for the New Year.

BR mentioned Clean Up Australia Day on March 7. They were again organising an ethnic lunch at Debney Park School.

KO described EPA's draft framework for *Drain Labelling*. She mentioned regeneration of the lower creek and the problem of rubbish there. The Docklands community forum would meet on Dec. 7.

KO proposed a vote of thanks to Kelvin and Kerry, pointing out how this year's meetings have enhanced enthusiasm. The motion was carried by acclamation.

Bob Steadman,
Minutes Secretary