

Chillagoe Caving Club AGM

2019

Members Present:-

Winfried Weiss, Max Emeny, Joy Burton, Paul Osborne, Sue Jenkins, Peter Bannink, Robert Zmeskal, Goy Vayurat, Lana Little, Lars Nauheimer, Van Christensen, Alan Cummins, Chrissie Cummins, John Watson (F), Laura Currey (I), Laura Johnson, Wuttipong (Boy) Pramaree, Sheralyn Alford (N).

Quorum obtained (11 needed)

Member's Apologies: -

Mike Tarburton, Michael Cummins, David Cummins, Peter Cummins, Mark Beattie, Catherine Cummins;

Meeting opened at 19:03hrs

Minutes of Previous meeting (2017 AGM)

President gave a brief overview of the minutes of previous AGM. President moved they be accepted as read. Lars seconded. All in favour – minutes were accepted.

Reports

President's Report

I am pleased to report that the year has passed with the Club in good shape. In fact, the future is looking better and better thanks to some membership growth and DEFINITELY thanks to the efforts of life member Paul Osborne who obtained a grant to reroof the Clubhouse! This is going to ensure that our facilities remain viable for years to come.

The grant involves \$35,000 plus club contributions which will be used to reroof, repaint and generally fix up the Clubhouse. This should take place within the next few months and anyone who wishes to assist the builders is welcome to let the management committee know.

I would also like to thank the many Club members who have put their own effort and time into maintaining the grounds and facilities. Water pipe replacements, mowing, general clean ups, building maintenance and tree trimming are just a few of the unremarked jobs that keep things going.

Club members might notice that we have had to remove the large tree at the front of the Clubhouse that was used for SRT practice. Unfortunately, it had started to split at the top and was dangerous. Cutting it down involved the use of lots of ropes and rigging (Thanks Alan C) and an entire morning of cutting things up with a chainsaw. We now have firewood for about five years. Once cut, it was ascertained that the tree was in fact filled with dirt and that the wood around the circumference was about two inches thick! Amazing that it lasted so long.

In terms of governance:-

- We need to continue to work collaboratively with national parks and ensure that members abide by the conditions of our Park permit;
- Consideration will need to be given to a proposal by the ASF to amend the due date for annual membership fee payments so that they are due on the 31st of July each year. As President I have indicated in principle agreement with this proposal.
- The Club's policy on trip leaders is up for discussion (please see Training Co-Ordinator's report).
- The movement of novice members to full members has been in abeyance for some time and will be considered by the new management committee. The requirements for becoming a full member and the application process also need to be reviewed and disseminated.

That's about it for the year. I would like to thank everyone for their efforts, particularly the members who have held positions this year. The Club's work needs to be shared around to ensure we continue into the future and I would encourage everyone to consider putting their hand up.

Treasurer's Report

Verbal report only as per Annual General Meeting. For financial details please refer to 2019 Annual Report.

Survey and Records Keeper

No written report submitted.

Tagging officer

No tagging reports submitted.

Tackle Keeper

My last trip to Chillagoe was in October last year. Up until then our tackle stocktake showed we had not lost any gear and it was generally in good condition. We do need to keep an eye on the 9mm Sterling Ropes, they were starting to show some signs of wear/damage to the outer sheath.

Many of the old red helmets were sold.

I will carry out a stocktake when I come out for the AGM and we can add it to the minutes.

Safety Co-ordinator

Nil report for the year.

Training Co-ordinator

See written report, verbal overview of rescue weekend. Very good practical weekend which was a bit overwhelming at first, but with the practice TC is now confident that we could extract someone well from cave.

Slowdown in intake last year re members. One reason so trip leaders not sticking their hand up as much to take new people caving every weekend. It has been a more club feel year. Some members have complained re comms to members and lack of trips. Again this is due to a lack of responses from trip leaders etc.

Raised issue of people expecting to be led by tour guides on every trip. The current trip leader system is not working in terms of new members and caving trips. TC raises the fact that do we actually need a trip leader as there is no formal requirement from the ASF. There is from National Parks but there is no definition. A trip leader should be able to lead a cave effectively within their limits and to be safe. Proposal is to wind back trip leader qual to a full member taking responsibility and being trip leader for a trip. This would not apply SRT. We need to rethink what we are doing here. (See expanded reasoning in written report).

Lana mentioned a) getting people out safely, and b) not damaging the cave is equally important. Membership agreed that this is a valid point.

Paul noted that at this point his idea excludes national parks caves.

Motion: That the executive committee redefine trip leaders and the leading of trips with club members. Full motion see written report....

Proposed: Paul

Seconded: Chris

Motion: All in favour.

Membership Co-ordinator/ Events manager

Has been organising club weekends and putting it out on social media. In general, this year the trip leaders vs participants has not been a big issue. Lars also approves of relaxing trip conditions.

As for next year – might send out events right away instead of asking trip leaders first. The see how many people come. If there is a problem then they can still negotiate with people who have show interest.

Discussion as to email vs facebook and that some people are not on social media. The weekends are still 2nd weekend of every month and they are brought out early, but this can be emailed through as well.

Webmaster/Photo librarian

This job has been dealt with by a number of management positions during the year. Each club officer occasionally has an issue with a particular function and has directly addressed this with Kim, the website manager who has been very helpful whenever there has been an issue.

The website and Facebook pages have been working well and provide reasonable communication between members for organising trips and other events.

Possibly the biggest problem is that when some glitch happens with the website and email system, we don't know about it until someone complains. This sometimes takes quite a while.

If members become aware of a problem accessing documents or part of the website please let the webmaster or Management Committee know about it immediately at info@chillagoecavingclub.org.au or by personal email/phone. Similarly, double check that the Management Committee has received your communication if you don't get a reasonably prompt response.

The Facebook page is a tool for organising trips. I encourage members to use it to let people know that they are interested in doing a particular trip which doesn't have to be a club weekend or weekend.

I would also encourage that people respond to emails and posts to let the organisers know that you are or are not available to make a particular trip.

Environment and Conservation Officer

There is nothing to report on the Environment and Conservation front. I did not go caving at all in the 2018/2019 caving period and did not get any issues highlighted through club correspondence!

President moves that all reports be accepted as presented, seconded by Van Christensen. All in favour – all reports accepted.

Management Committee actions to be ratified

Motion: The decisions of the Management Committee made during 2018/19 to be accepted by the membership.

Moved: President (W Weiss), Seconded: Alan Cummins.

All in favour – management committee decisions approved.

Election of Office Bearers

Winfried has vacated the President's role. Alan has agreed to chair the meeting in the meantime.

President

Nominations: Robert Z nominates Winfried W, seconded Lars N. No other nominations.
President: Winfried accepts.

Vice President

Nominations: Joy B nominates Paul O, seconded Van C.
Vice President: Paul accepts.

Treasurer

Nominations: Winfried W nominates Joy B, seconded Peter B.
Treasurer: Joy accepts.

Vice Treasurer

Nominations: Winfried W nominates Peter B, seconded Joy B.
Vice Treasurer: Peter accepts.

Secretary

Nominations: Max E declines a nomination due to other business, Lars N also declines due to extra work, Van C nominated by Sue J, seconded by Alan C.
Secretary: Van accepts.

Other non-executive Positions

Tagging Officer:

Max Emeny

Tackle Keeper:

Lars Nauheimer

Safety Co-ordinator:	Paul Osborne
Training Co-ordinator:	Paul Osborne
Membership Co-ordinator:	Joy Burton
Social Media and Activities:	Lars Nauheimer
Webmaster:	Lars Nauheimer
WH & S:	Management Committee
Photo Librarian:	Peter Bannink
Environment & Conservation:	Peter Bannink
Survey and Records:	Peter Bannink

All positions have now been filled.

General Business

1. Joy nominates Paul for the Einstein Award for dropping keys and a phone – in two separate caves. Mark dropped phone down hole in cave. Paul went to look, dropped his car keys down after. Awarded to Mark and Paul conjointly.
2. Roll Bendigo bank acc into Comm bank acc. \$500 been sitting there for 8 years. Motion for this by Peter B, seconded Joy B. All in favour.
3. Left over Chillicon stuff (including caps, mugs, stickers, shirts) is to be given away to Club members.

Meeting closed at 20:25pm.