

Chillagoe Caving Club AGM

2018

Members Present:-

Paul Osborne, Winfried Weiss, Peter Bannink, Max Emeny, Sue Emeny, Mark Beattie, Grant and Deanne, Lars Neuheimer, Joy Burton, Robert Zemeskal, Tull Scott,

Quorum obtained (11 needed)

Member's Apologies: -

Phil Harrison, Alan Cummins, David Cummins, Cherie Alford, Catherine Beattie,

Meeting opened at 19:30hrs

Initial discussion in relation to application of quorum at General Meetings vs Annual General Meetings. Further enquiries to be made as to whether the quorum applies to AGMs and whether Clause 7 of the Constitution needs to be tightened up or amended to further safeguard the Club. (Winfried to follow up).

Minutes of Previous meeting (2017 AGM)

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

Reports

President's Report

- UIS conference – both field trips went very well;
- SRT gear obtained – number of sets for the Club;
- Insurance issues and decision of management committee;
- Roofing project – in hiatus as not quite enough in donations;
- See written report submitted prior to meeting;
- President will be retiring this time around;

Treasurer's Report

- Please see written report;
- Joy has spent the year familiarising herself with the role;
- Bank balances are positive – about \$9,000;
- Membership a bit down on last year, but camping was up;

- Currently not paying the building insurance fee as it has now risen to twice what it was last year. \$5,000 plus is not feasible. To be discussed in general business;
- Discussion in relation to bank account access and security. Also discussed transparency and who should be able to check account status. Treasurers to organise internet banking and access;
- Bendigo Savings (approx \$500) to be merged into Commonwealth bank account;
- These issues to be sorted out by the next Management Committee.

Survey and Records Keeper

- Slow year and not much activity on this front;

Tagging officer

- Nil reports of new caves from 2017 /18;
- A folder with information from Chillagoe Karst is now in pdf format so you can search the cave number vs the name. Still need the karst book to look up the details though;
- Karst book needs another edition;
- Tagging book has been redone as well;

Tackle Keeper

- Tidied up in the tackle room;
- Stocktakes completed – 1 x red helmet is missing;
- There are some helmets that are deemed out of date and some gear will need to be disposed of at some point;
- Possibly need a couple of new Club ladders;
- SRT kits are an ongoing project. They are to be fitted with a permanent lanyard for added safety;
- In general gear is good and stocktakes will continue to be done to ensure we keep it all in order;

Safety Co-ordinator

- No official safety issues reported this year;
- However there have been a few issues throughout the year. We need to be vigilant with people we do not know regardless of whether they say they are experienced;
- Must load a descender before the safety is taken off;
- SRT procedures review is still a work in progress. It is a big project and needs to be right, so Max will keep working on it;

Training Co-ordinator

- Training has been fairly hit and miss with how it has been done. Max and Paul are the only active SRT tripleaders. This makes it time consuming for them. It is also a difficult time on Club weekends finding enough trip leaders to take new people;

- Would like to see a focus on SRT training weekends specifically for this year. This shouldn't be a 'tourist' thing. SRT should be for members of the Club and not one timers. People need to show a little bit of commitment to the Club before they do SRT training;

Membership Co-ordinator

- Membership spreadsheets are going to be updated by Joy to make them easier to navigate;
- ASF is willing to give a discount for Clubs that are up to date with their fees. Monthly payment will attract some sort of discount;

Social media and activity

- Members Facebook group always has people who want to become members. Lars isn't sure who these people are. Question as to whether to allow them to be members. Joy suggested that once membership list is updated then someone can go through and accept or deny;
- Lars has tried to ensure trip leaders are coming before putting up event in order to organise numbers etc. Generally this is working well.
- Also going to update the photographs on the website etc. Photos to be forwarded to Lars and Paul.

Webmaster/Photo librarian

- This is now Paul Osborne, after the website was updated;
- Old disc hard drive has died, but there was a backup. Request for further photos if anyone wants to give them to the Club. Perhaps a hard drive can be left at the Clubhouse for members to contribute the photos;

Environment and Conservation Officer

- Wallace Creek caves were saved. Long, drawn out process but there was sufficient evidence that mine would be too detrimental;
- Couple of other mining applications – sent to Peter for review;

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

Management Committee actions to be ratified

The primary discussion to be ratified is that the Management Committee decided not to insure the buildings, as the costs have doubled. The cost now is \$5,500 for building and contents. We do keep the public liability insurance current, and this costs about \$1,500.

At this time the membership seems content to follow the MCs direction on this matter. Discussion was had in relation to creating a sinking fund for building replacement. Other way of doing it is to make a group decision to set aside a certain amount of money as a reserve, then to take that into account with spending.

Discussion as to opening a sinking fund bank account that is interest bearing.

Motion: The decisions of the Management Committee made during 2017/18 to be accepted by the membership.

Moved: President (Paul Osborne), Seconded: Robert Zemeskal

All in favour – management committee decisions approved.

Election of Office Bearers

Paul has vacated the President's role. Grant has agreed to chair the meeting in the meantime.

President

Nominations: Paul Osborne was nominated, but declined. Winfried was nominated and accepted. Max Emeny was nominated but declined. Winfried elected President with all in favour.

President: Winfried Weiss

Vice President

Nominations: Paul Osborne nominated by Winfried Weiss, seconded Sue Emeny, and accepted. Nil other nominations.

Vice President: Paul Osborne

Treasurer

Nominations: Joy Burton nominated by Peter Bannink, seconded by Grant Polomka, and accepted. Nil other nominations.

Treasurer: Joy Burton

Vice Treasurer

Nominations: Peter Bannink nominated by Joy Burton, seconded by Paul Osborne, and accepted.

Vice Treasurer: Peter Bannink

Secretary

Nominations: Max nominated by Robert Zemeskal, seconded by Sue Emeny, and accepted. All in favour.

Secretary: Max Emeny

Other non-executive Positions

Vice Secretary:	Mark Beattie
Tagging Officer:	Max Emeny
Tackle Keeper:	Max Emeny
Safety Co-ordinator:	Mark Beattie
Training Co-ordinator:	Paul Osborne
Membership Co-ordinator:	Joy Burton
Social Media and Activities:	Lars Neuheimer
Webmaster:	Paul Osborne
WH & S:	Jeff Cotter
Photo Librarian:	Peter Bannink
Environment & Conservation:	Peter Bannink
Survey and Records:	Peter Bannink

All positions have now been filled.

General Business

1. Clubhouse Protocol

The protocol has been significantly redrafted and needs to be ratified. Paul has updated it to include included a dog policy and group behaviour policy in the protocol.

Dogs – bringing dogs to the Clubhouse is restricted and requires consent from the caretaker, as well as keeping them on a leash.

Groups – need to book via email, confirm with caretaker 2 weeks prior, are limited to old school house and ablutions block unless specifically arranged. They must also remove all their rubbish as the tip now has limited hours. Premises must be cleaned to same standard as pre-arrival. See updated document for full details.

NOTE – put up rubbish tip hours in the Club house somewhere.

Motion: That the updated Clubhouse Protocol be accepted as amended. (moved Paul Osborne, seconded Sue Emeny). All in favour – motion carried.

2. Inform membership of rope and pulley purchases – purchase for upcoming training exercise

MC voted to buy rope and pulleys. This has been ordered. Updating the membership on progress. Nil issues raised by the membership about this.

3. Short term membership options

Paul is to report back to ASF Council on what we want for membership options. Peter and Paul argued that we need a short-term option. The introductory \$55 option is only available to someone once. Then you are required to pay \$98. Perhaps the membership forms need updating to reflect this – rewording.

Discussion in relation to a one off weekend fee? People don't complain about the \$55 fee at present though. It was mentioned that the teenage to 20 year old group is often short of money... so maybe the week membership is worth looking at. This may be a difficult proposition as it would require agreement from ASF.

Should also be clear to differentiate that club members can run non-club trips, and still utilise the Club for facilities, as long as the camping fees are paid.

There must be a strong differentiation between private trips and Club trips.

It is reiterated that only Club members can use the Club gear. Helmets can be used by others, but only with specific permission of the MC.

Lengthy discussion – Paul to do some more researching and thinking about this and come back to MC.

4. Internet banking

A decision was made to move in this direction, for ease of use and for transparency. Management Committee to follow up.

5. Management Committee communication

Info@chillagoecavingclub.org.au to be expanded a bit to the extended MC committee. It is important to cc others on the email list into the meetings. This will provide a better decision making process in the long run.

Possibly run MC committee meetings via Skype, or primarily by email. Or teleconferences – Winni to check up.

People with positions to be included into the MC committee meetings, with final decisions to continue to be made by the MC as defined in the Constitution.

6. Membership cards

Do we need to continue with this card? It is a bit of an anachronism these days that costs money and time. No one is keen to do them. Decided that this is no longer necessary, and the meeting has decided not to print membership cards in the future.

Maybe a keyring item or something similar to market it?? No appetite for marketing stuff.

We still have stickers.... Maybe the old merchandise from Chillicon can be written off to be giveaways.

Motion: That we write off all old merchandise from Chillicon 2011 (stickers, hats, cups, some shirts) and they are open to members and then to others. (Moved Winfried Weiss, seconded Robert Zemeskal. All in favour – motion carried.

7. ACKMA membership

National meeting in Chillagoe next year. Club has been asked to participate. Club would be happy to take people for trips, but we must join again. It is about \$50.

Motion: That we re-join ACKMA and support the ACKMA conference in Chillagoe next year. (Moved Winfried Weiss, seconded Max Emeny). All in favour – motion carried.

8. Newsletters

Need updated email lists of current members. This will be updated with the membership list. There is a group set up that Peter has.

There will be some newsletters, but not anything regular.

9. Gender Associations in toilet block

This has been put up by schools to direct students – does not apply to club members. The chalk directions can easily be wiped off the wall.

10. Clubhouse maintenance goals

Roof is an issue that needs to be addressed. We did not quite make the co-contribution threshold required to apply for a grant to do the lot. We will have to consider what to do in the future.

11. Future Caving expeditions

Canvassed interest for:-

Germany
PNG
Kyrgystan

Possibly in 2020.

12. Einstein Award

Only two nominations this year:-

Tegan – losing Presidents coffee and not taking lunch caving

Winfried – decanted lots of water, then left it behind, whinged bitterly about being nominated for this.

Winfried wins the award for 2018. ☹.

Meeting closed at 10:45pm.