



Minutes of FOCIS Inc. General Meeting 13 May, 2023, 1.30pm

David Maunders opened the meeting with acknowledgement of country and welcomed those attending.

1 Attendance: David Maunders, Cecily Woodberry, David Woodberry, Pauline Taylor, Terry Holman, Bonnie Taylor, Tom O'Dea, Ruth O'Dea, Di Scukovic, Sue Trist, Juneen Schulz and Jack Schulz.

2 Apologies: Jeff Cole, Don Johnstone and Robyn Holman.

3 Minutes of Meeting held on 11 February 2023 were circulated. Proposal to accept the minutes:

Proposed: Ruth O'Dea

Seconded: Terry Holman.

4 Significant correspondence: We received a delightful letter from Lynn sending thanks for the flowers she received.

5 President's Report: David reported that Charlie & Pete (new farm assistant) were settling in well.

The large wagon is currently undergoing some maintenance and repairs. We should be able to offer wagon rides by September using Charlie & Nellie.

In March members of the Nature Parks (NP) board and management enjoyed a tour of CI which went well and was well received.

The piano is now installed and tuned.

The touch screen is in the 2023/24 budget for NP but yet to be approved by the board.

Terry Holman is involved with children from Newhaven Primary school in a Kids as Catalyst program. They plan to provide a tour of CI and morning tea for residents of an aged care facility in Cowes.

Community day will be held on 10th September.

First Nations: David will attend the Reconciliation Day at Inverloch on 2/6/23.

6 Treasurer's Report: Tom reported that we have had a small increase in membership. He said most new members had been recommended by staff, volunteers or a friend. Please see website for detailed report.

Motion to accept the treasurer's report:

Proposed: Tom O'Dea

Seconded: Pauline Taylor

7 Restoration report: Current projects include: the canon, the Coolgardie safe and the scullery cupboard. The dray has been finished.

New project: to restore a newly acquired 100yo cedar. Please see Newsletter for full report.

8 Farm Manager's report: Pete has a new assistant called Pete. The assistant Pete has 20 years' experience working with Clydesdales.

9 Curator's report: Andrea reported that the new signs on the cottage have been completed.

Andrea is stabilising the images from the Minnie Lawrence sketch book and is sourcing a grant application to fund this.

The sketch book is a collection of work by Minnie Lawrence (granddaughter of Amess) which records her time here on CI.

At present the sketch book is held in the Public Record Office to keep it from deteriorating. We thanked Kate Wills (Gardener) who is retiring.

10 Matters arising from previous meeting:

Disability access: Pauline is working with NP who are currently reviewing access for those with mobility issues. Gravel paths and grass make it difficult for walking frames and wheelchairs, etc. NP may be able to provide a motorised vehicle.

Heritage Restoration Grant – no further to add at present.

11 Any Other business:

Ruth O'Dea enquired about the wooden horse statue and asked when it would be reinstalled. **Action:** to be explored.

The gate/ticketing system is still in the process of being fixed.

Guest Speakers: Juneen & Jack Schulz presented a delightful and interesting account of Carroll & Amy Schulz (Jack's parents) who lived and worked on CI and also their son and daughter's memories of their time on the island.

13. Next Meeting: AGM 12th August, 2023.

14. Launch of piano donated by Lois Wenham. A short recital was given on the Dining room of Amess House.

Friends of Churchill Island Society Inc.

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