

Minutes for IAFC Meeting: Wed. 28th February at 5.20 pm, 20 Wood St. Beechworth

Welcome to 2018 and a special thanks and welcome to Greg Pinkerton

Apologies: L. Hosking, F. Walsh

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Moved: Peter Croucher

Seconded: Mark Verbaken

Business Arising from the Minutes of the December meeting:

See detail in the notes circulated prior to the meeting.

- Contract to be sent to Marcelo Soares
- Draft revised agreement about managing the scholarship students is currently with Alola
- Who's Who: Jess has sent this around to the committee for feedback – Irene to send a correction re: Pedros' name

Correspondence:

1. Nick Oats's note on Indigo/Atauro draft for Friendship Group publication. Thanks to Frances and Mark for corrections and additions/

2. Macedon Ranges newsletter circulated.

3. Letter from Kiewa/Tangambalanga Lions club donating \$700 for another Composting Toilet

Moved :Rob Porter

Seconded: Lesley Milne

Finance:

Treasurer's report: Balance: \$13, 420. 34 Moved Irene Seconded Mark Verbaken

Fundraising: Excellent result for the Garage sale in Beechworth

Fantastic effort across the month in Rutherglen

Raffle winners were: Bernie Mullavey, Rex Humphreys, Chris Buscall

Future: Devonshire tea at Easter Time in Beechworth and Triathlon catering

Curry Night: June 16th 2018

Obed's placement fee has not been paid – Alola has no money – so money sent to Alola Australia and will then be sent onto Alola in Dili. This takes a little longer but allows tax deductability. Irene to transfer more money for Ricardo into the ANZ account by telegraphic transfer. Peter Croucher raised the point that we need to be careful about setting a precedent and ensure that Obed understands this is a one off extra donation.

Moved: Irene Cracknell

Seconded: Mark Verbaken

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Scholarship student project:

Lauriana has had a baby - , Leopoldina also

Shire of Indigo has now sponsored two graduating students :Anani(IT) and Marcelina (Econ.Management)

2017 Graduates: Gedeao(Engineering),Leopoldina (Tourism/Hospitality) and Marcelina (Econ. Management)

2018: Charles (IT/DIT),Lauriana(Sci.ED/UNTL),Obed(Nursing /Cristal),Germano(Pet.Engineering/UNTL), Asminar(Hospitality/DIT),Martinho(Agriculture/UNTL),Hermina (Hospitality/Tibar)

Sponsorship: It is recommended that the Turnbull family sponsor Martinho, Indigo Shire sponsor Obed and that the Porter family support Hermina.

Ricardo(Petroleum Engineering):Thanks to the generosity of Frances ,Mark, Peter and the Lucky Ladies of Chiltern Ricardo will have his back fees and 2018 fees paid.

Action: Irene to send draft Student Contracts to Nuni at Alola and Marcelo at Roman Luan for consideration.

Construction of composting toilets

Current toilets in construction are at Pala, Uaruana and Don (all in around Bikeli)

New toilet donor – The Meyer Family (John). The toilet to be constructed in memory of Ally Price.

So far no response about Gabrielle’s ventilation concerns or the alternative use of the Beloi toilet.

*NB. A late email from Marcelo indicated that he was aware of Gabrielle’s concerns about ventilation . He would attempt to remodel older toilets ensure correct construction in future toilets.

Thank you notes and photos have been issued to most 2017 donors. Awaiting some photos.

Action: Rob to review Kiewa/Tangambalanga photo and try and improve image

*Added following meeting

General Business:

Committee Review discussion with Greg Pinkerton

Welcome to Greg Pinkerton

Committee review – Indigo shire have had 25 or so committees and Council wanted to review their roles.

Greg Pinkerton recommends in the Review that this committee has outgrown the format of the of a section 86 committee. S86 committees have power delegated by council. This refers to the S86

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committee to do the work of council, particularly operational activities. E.g. A committee that runs the Chiltern Memorial Hall run by a group of locals who manage it on behalf Council. Indigo/Atauro committee has a much larger budget and turnover – this committee is different in this regard.

When a S86 makes any decision it is making decisions for the Council. There are real issues around procurement or transfer moneys to foreign banks or charities. We do not follow procurement rules for payments or e.g. tender processes, expressions of interest. Rules apply to S86 committees re audits of finances by the Victorian Auditor General. Clearly this means that many of the financial practices of this committee are not compliant with the rules. Many reasons why the Atauro committee can fit with these rules. Council contribute 10% of our budget but everything afterwards is funded by donations.

Council Governance structure doesn't align well with the work of this committee.

This is not about Council stepping back from its commitments to the Friendship or our relationship with local government at a state level.

What is the alternative?

Greg Pinkerton recommends that we become an Incorporated Association – an independent association that is governed by set of rules

Jenny O'Connor can move that the Council guarantee the ongoing support of this committee. The fact that the Council has signed two memorandums of understanding with Atauro administration and Timor Leste government is an indicator of their commitment.

VARGO is going to do an independent audit and we need to know the S86 committees are all compliant.

Rob Porter reminded us that here are a number of Friendship groups are remaining as S86 e.g. Wangaratta

There is a Memorandum of Understanding with VLGA to be considered. Many Shires have a much bigger commitment to their Friendship groups. Rob would like to see an increased involvement of Council with the Timor Leste Local government network.

Jenny O'Connor made the point that our position as a Friendship Group is vulnerable if Council membership changes. She would need to put in place measures that ensure council representation, administrative and financial support

Peter Croucher and Jenny have advocated for us but after another election we may be vulnerable to negative changes in the future.

Greg Pinkerton explained that Council cannot truthfully say they can account for every action and financial transaction and process of this committee.

The details of Incorporation are outlined [here](#).

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Irene Cracknell asked if we are incorporated, would we still run events with public liability insurance sponsored by Council?

Any community group can approach the Council for Public Liability whether it's one off events or global annual coverage for events. The council can provide a "community package".

Lesley Milne asked for confirmation that Council would support us with the transfer of governance. Greg was happy to provide the assistance necessary to move to an alternative organisation format and guaranteed on-going support.

There can then be a final agreement put to council about the closure of the S86 committee which would acknowledge Councils involvement in the future.

Action : Rob will do some further research into what other friendship committees do and report back at the April meeting.

This is a process and we are aiming to have a resolution by the end of the year.

Committee's role in Shire's revised youth program – Jess Johnson

Proposal to have a full day of workshopping with the youths – focus on student/youth voice

Invite committee members to visit during the workshop day and do a short presentation about what the Friendship group is about and give the students opportunities to brainstorm and planning for when they return to school and have ownership over their fundraising. Mid-year, late term two or early term three – talking about them being change makers. Council would still have a commitment to Atauro communities. Giving them a project that they can see through to the end. Building ownership.

Need a lively presentation with photographs and information to help fire their enthusiasm and spark imagination. More information to come next month from Jess.

Lesley offered to come and help with the presentation .Peter ,Rob and Frances have provided presentations and guidance in the past.

Action: Jess to advise the committee of dates/time /format and assistance required for youth workshop.

New member

8 Committee members is the maximum. Frances has spoken to Rabela Punef from Springhurst about joining the committee.

Action: Rob to contact Rabela with details.

Rubbish bins at Beloi

IAFC funded the purchase of clean-up bins especially around Beloi during January.

Frances Walsh organised the donation of wheelie bins from Indigo/Atauro Friendship.

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Lesley Milne expressed dismay that a member of the committee paid money from our ANZ bank without contacting the committee and requested that this be discussed at the next meeting.

Mark expressed a desire to talk through the proposal so that we don't add to the plastic pollution on Atauro.

Action: To be discussed at April meeting

Planned visits to Atauro in 2018

To be discussed .

Meeting closed at 7.00pm

Next Meeting: Thursday April 26th, Rob's place 9 Glasgow St. Rutherglen at 5.00pm