

## MINUTES of Meeting held

Thursday 15 June 2023

Astronomy Centre Tamworth

Meeting commenced at 3:35pm

1. **Chairperson** – welcomed all to the meeting
2. **Present:** Martin O'Rourke, Bernard McNamara, Garry Copper, Geoff Allen, David Scott, Sonya Hardin and Geoff Hall  
**Guests:** Hugh Leckie, Kay Burnes, Sam Eriksson, Anton Logan, Lisa Hannaford & Paul Kelly (all TRC)
3. **Apologies:** Mark Smith, Doreen Goddard, Jodie Archer
4. **Membership:** Nil.
5. **Guest Speaker-**Botanic Gardens Master Plan presented by Sam Eriksson. Hugh and Sam will be key contacts for this project. Council will organise meetings with user groups in the coming future to discuss further, and understand what the criteria is for the masterplan.
6. **Minutes of previous meeting:** Held 20 April 2023. Moved Geoff Allen Seconded Garry Copper. **Motion Carried.**
7. **Business arising from the previous meetings:**
  - 7.1 Sunday 17 September 2023 Open Day. TRC (Jodie Archer) to assist with Risk Assessment and assist with marketing and promotional material. Discussion on where stands and Marquees should be sited. Potential to place marquees next to the bollards. Potential to invite other groups such as the Tamworth birdwatcher's group etc. Men's shed to have open day and sell off old items. Discussion on getting events team involved for event support. **Jodie Archer to action.**
  - 7.2 Discussion on carparking after funeral service held at the Botanic gardens. TRC spoke with the funeral director in regards to this prior to approval being granted. Discussion held on whether better option to have car parking attendants.
8. **Reports from User Groups:**
  - 8.1 **Tamworth and District Model Engineers**  
Tabled report to be sent to Jodie Archer
  - 8.2 **Threatened Species**  
Tabled
  - 8.3 **Friends of Tamworth Regional Botanic Garden Inc**  
Tabled

Paul Kelly spoke on the changes in community organisations and risk, so the model in which it was previously run has now changed and this will be addressed as part of the masterplan which will be done in consultation with the Victoria Park user groups and the wider community. Recognition will be given to the Friends of the Botanic Gardens for their massive contribution to the gardens.

#### **8.4 Tamworth Community Men's Shed**

The men's shed pulled down wall between the two sheds. There has been a lot of landscaping completed down at the front. Site preparation done for the repositioning of the water tanks. Concern about the sign with the writing in different directions when viewed from either side. There was a mess left in the area by the contractor. Rocks have since been thrown. The committee helped Steve tidy up the area.

Paul Kelly explained the reason behind the writing on the signage in different directions. **No further action required.**

#### **8.5 Tamworth Regional Astronomy Club Inc (TRAC)**

Had a number of schools through, various groups through for viewing nights. Australian Mineral Society went through. RV Club went through, Inner wheel. Surveying school to be held around the grounds over 2 days. Stage 6 of storage is almost complete. CCTV going in tomorrow. Furniture donated from the Council. Thanks for the signs.

#### **8.6 Tamworth Community Garden Group**

No report.

### **9. General Business:**

9.1 Future of the S355 Committee- Martin O'Rourke addressed the Committee on his support to dissolve the S355 Committee and move the user groups to be an Advisory Committee under Council. Martin moved a motion to have the S355 committee dissolved. 5 for 1 against- **Motion carried.**

Kay Burnes read through notes on committee structure.

Discussion held on advisory and management committees


9.2 Name of proposed new committee structure -Victoria Park Precinct Advisory group, Botanic Gardens Precinct Advisory group. Paul Kelly suggested that a suitable name could be discussed/decided at the next meeting.

9.3 Frequency of meetings- Meet in 2 months to decide

9.4 It was noted that the Tamworth Local Aboriginal Land Council Ranger Group (Ecologist Sam Deforge) utilising a room at the Botanic Gardens for a couple of hours a week with an understanding to do some work as part of their agreement. Tamworth LALC Ranger Program

### **10. Business Without Notice:**

10.1 Pathway- works have not commenced. Fence will need to be realigned and make the gateway straighter around the same time of the path.

- 
11. **Next Meeting:** Thursday 17 August 2023 at 3:30pm to formally establish a user working group under Council, to work with Council on the development and improvements at the precinct.

Meeting Closed at 4:55pm. (Minutes taken and prepared by Lisa Hannaford TRC)

.....  
Signature of Chairperson

.....  
Signature of Secretary