



Minutes from General Meeting 13th January 2015

7.15pm Meeting open

Present: Nick Tierney, Susy Goldner, Jonathon Schwartz, Daniel Gordon, Elizabeth Cuskelly, Gordon Baudino, David Reeve, & Glen Jones

Apologies: Adam Gibson, Ria Zoeller

Motion: to accept previous meetings minutes

Proposed, Nick Tierney

2nd, Daniel Gordon

Carried

Correspondence:

Further back and forth correspondence with BCC re KP North. Archived under items #5, and #8 at <http://www.qldclimb.org.au/kangaroo-point/>

Costing estimate from BCC re our RTI request

Crag Reports: None received

President's Report: Dave Reeve

This quarter seems to have been exceptionally busy with KP North taking centre stage.

KP North – the ongoing battle with BCC: If you want to look at the actual correspondence, the reference numbers below are links to our public KPN archive to be found [here](#).

Those of you who have been following us on Face Book will already know that Council have been shutting us down on the pretext of safety concerns re the stability of the cliffs. We challenged this position by pointing to their own geotechnical survey that indicated public money was spent on stabilising the cliffs specifically for the purpose of recreational climbing. The response from the Manager of Parks Management Natural Environment, Water & Sustainability Branch was to deny that the remedial works were ever carried out and to indicate that further geotechnical work was necessary. See references #4, #5 and #8.

It is hard to know whether to interpret the above response as arrogance or ignorance or its combination. How could climbers not know whether the stabilisation works were carried out or not? Check out the images on the archive to see examples of "recommended works not being carried out".

We decided it would be interesting to RTI Council to see if we could discover the real source of their nonsensical stance. The details of the RTI request can be found [here](#).

Early in November, Council gave permission for the Broncos to suspend a promotional sign over a large section of the main cliffs without consulting the climbing community. There was an immediate storm of protest which we directed back to Council via their Facebook page. We wrote to Cr Bourke pointing out that this incident was part and parcel of the same disrespect for the climbing community that was holding up the re-opening of KPN. Councillor Helen Abrahams, whose ward includes the KP Parklands, and is a long-time supporter of climbing at KP, wrote to Cr Bourke in support of our email. I got a sizeable slot on 4BC radio to put our position. See references #6 and #7 and the links to the 4BC interview on the archive page.

Councillor Bourke was non-responsive, so Adam Gibson asked the Office of the Ombudsman to take up our grievance with Council. He specifically hit on the point that Council might well be out with their responsibilities as Trustees under the Land Act 1994. After a few missteps this proved effective, and with the Ombudsman's prodding, Council's CEO undertook in writing to consult with ACAQ should such future events be planned. He also asked the Council legal department for clarification of their legal position. We are glad of the former, disagree with the latter, but will defer that battle for another day.

Opening of the West Track (tourist track) on Tibrogargan: Last November, I was invited to attend the official reopening of the West Track on Tibro. I had a chance to talk with Steve Dickson, the Minister for NPRSR, once again about various issues in the area, and his ongoing support for the opening of Mt Coonowrin. It is a measure of the rising importance of recreational climbing and scrambling in the Glasshouse Mountains that the Minister attended along with local television for something that was once considered a fringe activity.

Treasurer's Report: Ruth Reeve

Ruth had to travel overseas and was unable to submit a financial report.

General Business:

1. Nick Tierney raised the notion of undertaking some analysis of climber numbers in Qld for use in future ACAQ issues. Agreed in principle.
2. Susy Goldner talked about membership and how to drive the process forward. She asked all present members to think of 3 ideas each to help generate greater member involvement, and to increase our membership base in general.

No further business

Bolting. If you are about to bolt a new route in SEQ, please contact the ACAQ regarding QPWS Operational Policy on bolting. All correspondence should be directed to Secretary@climb.org.au

Next Meeting:

Monday 27th April 2015 at 8.00pm.

Location; Urban Climb,
2/220 Montague Road, West End
Qld 4101.

No further business.

8.45pm Meeting closed