



Minutes from General Meeting 27th April 2015

7.15pm Meeting open

Present; Nick Tierney, Adam Gibson, Lauren Roy, Alexandra Pascoe, Blake Stringer, Byron Burgess-Gallop, Ellen Derbyshire, Louis Oreim, Bernie Walsh, Jeffrey Lockett, Antoine Moussette, Eric Straw, David Reeve, & Glen Jones

Apologies; Phil Box, Dan Gordon, Ruth Reeve & Ria Zoeller

Motion; to accept previous meetings minutes

Proposed, Nick Tierney

2nd, Bernie Walsh

Carried

Correspondence

Response to our RTI (right to information) request regarding KP North: Nothing of real interest was recovered by the search. The search failed to recover even those emails we already had in our possession, indicating a decided lack of thoroughness. We have the right to appeal, but have decided not to do so given there are more profitable avenues for us to explore. The information recovered is archived [here](#).

Letter from Council re placing the Bronco's jersey on KP: We are happy the system for consultation we established earlier last year has worked as intended, and we are satisfied with the limit imposed on climbing activities whilst the jersey was up. We made it clear that we considered the placement of the jersey a particular impost whilst Council disallowed climbing at KP North.

Response to our email querying the sign recently erected at Brooyar stating the need for permits to climb: Apparently this is an old sign, placed by QPWS in error. **You do not need a permit to climb at Brooyar.**

Crag Reports

Coolum Cave (received after the meeting) - Climber numbers have dropped with the cooler weather as other crags become more climber friendly.

There are some very hard projects on the go at the moment as well as attempts to repeat some of the hardest climbs.

Tom O'Halloran paid a visit to his old training ground and gave us a great display of his style and strength with some great ascents.

John O'Brien sent the extension of Weapon of Choice and is working on the extension of Caught by the Fuzz to the same anchors on the lip of the cave making these 2 of the longest routes at Coolum. Grade about 29.

The perma-draws on Weapon have been serviced as some were almost seized up. The redundant 4th bolt on Fruit Bat is out about 10 mm and resists attempts to tighten it. I will attempt to replace it soon.

The falcons have been evident lately, flying around the mountain. I hope we can find where they nest this year.

Ian Elliott.

Frog Butress (received after the meeting) - *This quarter the main points to report for frog butress were the initial consultation between parks, the climbing community and the ACAQ have begun for looking at replacing carrot bolts in light of the recent bolt failure at Frog. All parties are interested in a long term approach to addressing the hardware maintenance. At this stage a register of hardware installed at the cliff is being established. No further actions have been undertaken.*

Also the issue of replacing some of the tree anchors with bolted anchors is being addressed with the same consultation and documentation process being undertaken.

A working bee was conducted in early March with 14 people attending. During this time 6 people were engaged in the removal of mother of millions an invasive weed species from the cliff line. 6 large bags were removed and national parks were very pleased with this effort. The other 8 people were engaged in documenting the existing hardware at the cliff.
Steve Kloske.

Brooyar – *Adon Taylor attended a local meeting in Gympie with QPWS and QORF. Questions with respect to recreational climbing came up during which he was able to put the ACAQ view on the matter. Great that we have people on the ground to represent us.*

President's Report – *Dave Reeve*

It has been a busy quarter for us with a lot of effort being diverted to advocacy activities at KP North. In spite of this we have managed to keep a number of other projects running. The main issues to report are –

KP North –

We used the hanging of the Bronco's Jersey to secure an interview with Ben Davis on 4BC Drive. Ben has given us radio time on his show in the past, and this time 4BC were able to entice Cr Bourke to appear on the show to answer

our complaints re KPN access. As was to be expected, Cr Bourke played the “safety” card, but given the need to appear reasonable, he agreed to meet with us, something he had been refusing to do up to this point. He told the listeners that “Mr Reeve was well known in the Lord Mayor’s Office”, a backhander I found encouraging.

Adam Gibson attended the meeting where he was stonewalled with the now familiar fall-back of insisting the original geo-tech survey is out of date, a new one is required, and there is no allocation for such in this year’s budget.

Adam went on to ambush the Lord Mayor on talk-back radio on ABC on the 2nd Feb, where the LM promised to give the matter consideration and get back to him. The LM’s response eventually arrived after some prodding, and seemed to indicate that budget allocation for the cliffs was by no means assured - “However, I cannot give commitment to prioritising funding of works at Kangaroo Point Cliffs for additional climbing facilities over other projects of similar recreational benefit in other parts of the City at this time”. The full letter is archived [here](#).

I am by no means dispirited by progress to date. It is a matter of keeping pressure on Council as we explore other avenues. As I have said many times before, Council is but an oyster, irritate it for long enough and we’ll make a pearl.

Glasshouse –

At the end of January, we had a very positive meeting with Nat Smith from QPWS with respect to developments at Glasshouse. It was exciting to see the scope of the plans under the Glasshouse Outdoor Recreation Initiative. In particular, we spent some time discussing the technicalities of managing access at Coonowrin once it was opened to the public. However, there was some uncertainty hanging over events given it was the day of the State election, and there was no guarantee that if the government changed, the proposed developments would continue to be funded.

As things turned out, the government did change, and much of the Glasshouse Outdoor Recreation Initiative was defunded. In particular, the funds for the geo-technical survey of Coonowrin were withdrawn, and our plans to have the mountain open this year were dashed. However, the strength of the case to open the mountain remains unchanged. We have argued our way past a lot of the earlier perceived barriers, and all that remains is to elevate the priority of the project given the new regime of restricted funding. We will take our case to the new Minister for the National Parks, Steven Miles.

Scenic Rim – As part of our long term aim to be proactive rather than reactive, we are putting together a survey of the climbing resources within the Scenic Rim district. We anticipate there will be growing conflict with land managers and land owners as a new generation of climbers start to explore the many small crags within this region. The idea is to start a conversation

with SRRC with a view to having Council onside and supportive of recreational climbing before any conflict hotspots can arise over land access.

New Membership System – *Our new system is up and running, and hopefully will make a massive difference to our ability to engage our members. Thanks are due to Susy Goldner for driving this change, and Dave Fletcher and Jin Chan for the implementation via Finger Comps.*

Treasurer's Report – Ruth Reeve

Ruth was snowed under with family matters and was unable to spare the time to prepare quarterly accounts. Annual accounts will be presented at the AGM.

General Business

1. Nick Tierney mentioned that UQMC is close to linking their associate membership with the ACAQ database. He also mentioned their intention to re-start UQMC's climbing magazine, likely to be one per semester & available online. Contact UQMC for more details.

2. Dave Fletcher sent a message asking everyone at the meeting to share the link to the ACAQ Facebook sign up page on their own profiles, which everyone then did. Nice one Dave.

3. Antoine Moussette announced the formation of Cliff Bolting in Queensland. Intended as a bolting workgroup focussing on technical issues, and to act as a networking tool for everyone who wants to bolt, or learn how to bolt in Qld. The main aim is to raise awareness in the community by discussing, debating and understanding the correct methods and equipment to use for safe and ethically sensitive bolting.

4. Eric Straw: Q. Can we expect to see Beerwah tourist track reopening soon? A. We know QPWS are actively working on this and we expect to see the track open before long.

5. Nick Tierney Q. Are the tree anchors at Frog are likely to be replaced with bolts? A. Yes, Steve and Phil are working on it. See crag report above.

6. Adon Taylor has volunteered to act at Brooyar Crag Rep. Everyone agreed to this proposal. Thanks Adon.

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 . You should also join Cliff Bolting Qld on Facebook!*

Next Meeting is the AGM

Thursday 16th July at 7.00pm.

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

No further business.

8.50pm Meeting closed