



Minutes from General Meeting 27th Oct 2016

7.05pm Meeting open

Present: Marisa Stewart, David Reeve, Ruth Reeve, Chris Williams, Neil Jenman, Alex Turnbull, Lucy Stirling, Mark Gamble, Alex Stevens, Robert Hardgrove

Apologies: Ian Elliott, Sasha Vaynberg, Damien Rua, Dan Gordon, Aaron Simpson-Woods

Motion: to accept previous meetings minutes

Proposed: Chris Williams

2nd, Alex Turnbull

Carried

Correspondence

KP Storage Box: permit renewal paperwork with BCC

Crag Reports

Coolum Cave – Ian Elliott

Coolum Cave is still getting good numbers of climbers.

I hope the issues regarding night climbing have been addressed. I contacted Darren Meredith who climbs on Wednesday nights and asked him to relay the concerns to the climbers and when I was there last Wednesday afternoon/ evening, there was no behaviour which would elicit a complaint.

The falcons are nesting if we go by their behaviour but we haven't sighted the chicks yet. They should be ready to fly in about 10 days so I will be checking on them to see if I can get a confirmed sighting

Trail Care

No activity last quarter, but Damo is expecting to run two sessions the coming quarter, one for the Caves Route access track on Tibro, and one for Flinders.

President's Report – Dave Reeve

The ICC call for tenders– suitability investigation for rock climbing, bouldering and abseiling.

ICC are seeking tenders from commercial, third-parties to provide a comprehensive report on the suitability of various locations within the ICC managed public estate for rock climbing, bouldering and abseiling. The requirements capture such a range of expertise that it seems unlikely that the firm exists that can provide the service

envisaged. However, it is heartening to see a local government recognizing the growing importance of cliff-based activities in the outdoor recreation mix, and it is even more encouraging to see them grasp the nettle of managing what was once thought of as an extreme sport. Yes, it's trivially easy for us to dismiss this call for tender as a variant of the old 'cover arses first, manage the estate second' evasion, but such is to deny the extreme, liability-shy nature of the administration. It is all very well to shout 'Public liability? Just suck it up', but we need to be doing our bit to show that we have a handle on the risks associated with bolted infra-structure, and that our activities do not expose the land manager to a level of liability claims more than would, say, the provision of a skate board park. In this regard, I see that the provision of a detailed risk assessment for the Flinders Cave, analogous to the one we produced for KP North, to be important. Education and enlightenment is the key.

QORF Rock Climbing Forum

As we anticipated, the level of attendance at the QORF Rock Climbing Forum has been steadily falling, and the decision was made last meeting to change focus to a project with a tangible outcome. All credit goes to Dom and Mark from QORF for saving us all from yet another interminable talk-shop. The intention is to focus, now, on the drafting of a climbing development plan for Glasshouse complete with public consultation phase. The ideas are all kicking about out there, but will continue to do no more than just that, unless some framework is provided to support them, a framework that can withstand argument from within the public policy space. This is the right thing to do on so many levels, not the least of which is to attract budget to projects that work for future resilience of our parks rather than fund mere Band-Aids to cover past hurts.

HQ Plantations

HQ Plantations are licenced to operate a timber extraction business within designated regions of our State Forests. With respect to such regions, the duties and responsibilities of the State executive are delegated to the CEO of HQ Plantations, and thus the land manager is HQP, rather than QPWS, as would otherwise be the case. The Forestry Act provides the statutory authority for the issue of the licence, and makes clear that whilst HQP are not obliged to promote recreation on the estate they manage, they should not obstruct public access, except where, from time to time, timber harvesting operations pose a danger to the public.

To date, we have had no contact with HQP for the simple reason we don't have any significant climbing resources located on plantation licence areas. However, the growing popularity of the boulder fields at Passchendaele is something that will change that. We understand that management in HQP have only recently become aware of the bouldering activities there, and are expressing a desire to manage access. There will be meetings, and there will be misunderstandings, but the legislative basis of access is clear, and I'm confident we will build an effective working relationship.

Treasurer's Report – Chris Williams

Details are available on request, but in summary –

Income for Qtr: \$816.05
Expenditure for Qtr: \$361.14
Closing Balance: \$20,040.41

Submitted Agenda Items:

None tabled

General Business

None

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

To be announced

No further business.

8:30pm Meeting closed