

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Date: Saturday 21st of January 2023
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Venue: Guilderton Community Hall, Wedge Street, Guilderton
Chair: Kerry Enright as outgoing president

1. Attendees (including members, non-members and new members):

Wil Cuperus, Elaine McCartin, Julie Rouse, Linda Buxton, Kerry Enright, Bruce Maguire, Madelaine Henshaw, Kerry Jones, Bob Johnson, Linda Johnson, Maggie Schmeidte, Ranger 3 Rachel (Shire of Gingin), Erik Sorenson (Shire of Gingin), Philip Eaton, Elizabeth Eaton, Jo Baum, Julie Reynolds, Stephen Jones, Allan McLeay and Sue McLeay.

2. Apologies were accepted from:

Sam Collard, Sharyn Staude, Rona Prince, Paul Trainor, Anne Gilkes, Phil Smeeton, Linda Balcombe and Frank Johnson.

3. Previous AGM minutes

The minutes of 22nd of January 2022 were read out by the Chairperson, and accepted as true and correct as proposed by Linda Johnson & seconded by Bruce Maguire.

4. Matters arising from previous AGM

(i) Eric Sorensen noted that the Shire has met with Belgravia Consortium noting that the café performance has not been up to expectation, and that the lease will be up in three years should it not improve. He also reported that the Caravan Park's decision to demand full site payment in advanced has been reversed.

(ii) Guilderton roads (& pathway) have improved since follow up from last year's AGM.

(iii) Guilderton foreshore plan – deferred to the following report made by Bob Johnson.

5. GCA Reports (copies appended)

The President's report was presented by Kerry Enright who deferred the year's highlights to the following report presentations.

The Treasurer's report was presented by Maggie Schmeidte.

The Environmental report was presented by Linda Johnson.

The Visitors Centre report was presented by Linda Johnson for Sharon Staude.

The Moore Arts Committee report was presented by Kerry Jones.

The Community Library report was presented by Madeleine Henshaw.

Reports were moved as accepted by Elizabeth Eaton and seconded by Bob Johnson.

6. Election of Office Bearers and Committee for 2022, chaired by out-going President Kerry Enright.

All previous positions were declared vacant and Kerry Enright was thanked for her service as she will not be re-standing for the position of president. There being no nominations received, Linda Johnson, Maggie Schmeidte, Bruce Maguire, Linda Buxton and Kerry Jones agreed to continue in their roles. There were no nominations for the position of president, however Wil Cuperus agreed to be a committee member. Office Bearers for 2023 are:

President	Vacant
Vice President	Linda Johnson
Treasurer	Maggie Schmeidte
Secretary	Bruce Maguire
Committee members	Linda Buxton, Kerry Jones and Wil Cuperus.

7. General Business

The Guilderton Visitor's Centre kindly offered \$500 for the defibrillator this year which will be used to secure a new battery when required.

The Guilderton foreshore working party progress was presented by Bob Johnson who noted the Committee has met to determine the parameters of its business, noting the boardwalk and Silver Creek area had been added despite community representative opposition. Discussed was a need to see the GGSC safety report on the Stephens Street boardwalk which determined its closure and future demolition. Eric Sorenson will secure a copy of the report and bring it to the next GCA meeting to discuss. Feedback from those present who still use the boardwalk (at their own risk) was that it was not perfectly level but not deemed unsafe enough to merit closure or demolition.

A meeting of the Guilderton Visitor Centre volunteers came up with an idea for the foreshore development, presented by Linda Johnson for consideration. This was put forward to acknowledge that piecemeal tackling of unfixable problems with the caravan park could be permanently fixed by relocating the caravan park to Mullins Street just south of the Roadhouse and occupying a larger land area all the way to the cricket pitch. It was suggested the caravan park shower/toilet, the villa accommodation and tent areas could remain in their current location but all caravans would relocate. This would allow the council to have an area which would be available to the public who clearly struggle to find any room to enjoy the insufficient foreshore area as it currently stands. It would also allow the demolition of the current public toilet block as the remaining caravan park toilet block would suit admirably. It was agreed by those present this plan was an excellent one which would resolve the current lack of space for public use, given it was believed there was no reason for a majority of the foreshore to be used only for private business. It was agreed that the plan would be put in writing to the Guilderton foreshore working party to recommend this outcome for Shire

consideration. Eric Sorenson noted however that money for caravan park refurbishment had recently been okayed by the council.

The poor service delivery of the Guilderton Café was discussed in the above context of freeing up foreshore space, with Kerry Enright noting her experience was that the café in any of its incarnations has never and will never be a financial success. It was suggested that the Guilderton Visitor's Centre could relocate to the inside space occupied by the Café, and that coffee could still be sold at the front counter.

Various issues/ideas raised by those present included air conditioning for the Community Hall (again), footpaths needed for Mortimer Road and Whitfield Street, street lighting needed for the corner of Mortimer Road and Guilderton Road (where there is an unlit steep drop down to the golf course area), the need for seating outside the tennis courts under the trees where people can watch friends/family play tennis, and comments on the sterling and tireless service of Tracy Hagan meriting a GCA letter to the Council.

The suggestion to replace the downstream wooden fish sculpture with a metal one was declined by Moore Arts as the original was deliberately designed to be biodegradable and not for replacement.

The removal of the children's play equipment adjacent to the tennis courts and on the foreshore due to safety concerns was discussed and disappointment expressed at its loss. It appears to be happening regularly in the Shire.

8. Closure

The President thanked the Council representatives and all those present for their attendance, and the meeting was closed at 12.10 pm.

Environmental Report to GCA AGM 22nd January 2023

Guilderton has again been affected, like everyone else, by restrictions put in place to control Covid19.

Volunteers in Guilderton still achieved a lot.

In early March we participated in Clean Up Australia, as we do each year.

In 2022 the Gingin Scouts were a big help.

At 8am, 3 boats took to the riverbanks and cleaned up past Woodridge while another team meets at the Country Club and cleans up the road into town from the highway, with Kerry Jones leading the way.

From the Visitor Centre 'anyone willing' signs on and goes along the foreshore, coast and groyne area to remove the rubbish wherever they find it. We had no 4WD team this time but over 60 volunteers in all. It's a fabulous effort, rewarded by the Country Club who provide a sausage sizzle, drinks and watermelon at noon. Thanks to all involved. This year I am unavailable to organise the day so please consider 'stepping up' to take this task on and I'll help you with the logistics. Clean Up Australia day is on Sunday March 5th.

The past 8 years have seen the fencing and revegetation of 22ha of the dunes west of the lighthouse. Much of it was done with plants grown from seed we collected 6 years ago, and now 'that job' is done. Thanks to Moore Catchment Council (MCC) who made it possible and everyone who helped!

We collected more seed in 2020 which was grown on by APACE and in 2021 the first of those plants were used to revegetate the dunes on the corner of Mortimer Rd and the track to the groyne.

2022 saw a very wet planting day in June and we thank the 20 brave volunteers who made the day a success. The plants are doing amazingly well too.

These free events are open to everyone and advertised in GCA newsletters and MRN.

MCC also has a pyp grass control spraying programme in place and this planting complements that plan of keeping Guilderton dune areas as natural and healthy as we can.

Friends of Moore River Estuary continue to watch for any signs of movement to urbanise Moore River South. The 2099 ha have been for sale for over 7 years and remains a poor plan.

Our main aim now is a proposal for a Regional Park between the city limit at Two Rocks, the estuary, the ocean and IOD.

Wilbinga Regional Park would allow for lots of recreational use with 4WD tracks, camping and possibly windmills, etc, but all controlled and with the aim of protecting this rich banksia woodland, home to many valuable species like the Carnaby's black cockatoos, listed tuart trees and various insects.

FOMRE are part of the Turquoise Coast Management Group who are working on coastal issues with other interested groups and the governing Shires, DBCA, etc. They now have a grant and are looking for a paid co-ordinator to work on a Plan for the coast between the Perth city limit at Two Rocks and Dongara.

FOMRE continues to work with the Dept of Water to do water quality testing at the 5 sites on the estuary every quarter. We are pleased to report good oxygen levels and other signs of a healthy waterway.

2022 was an astonishing year in that the sandbar opened on July 27th, went far south, a kilometre at it's furthest, and didn't close until Dec 21st. The underground springs saw the estuary levels stay high throughout and the water has never tasted fresher! At the November testing, the salinity was low and steady all the way up past Woodridge, and the oxygen levels were good too, with very little algae.

Thankfully this year has seen little sandbar disturbance (until last week), as this behaviour prevents proper flushing of the estuary and results in silting up of the deeper holes which are fish refuges.

The natural ocean processes see the sandbar built up from the ocean waves in summer, while the winter pattern scours the sandbar, allowing for the frequent

breaks over winter, whenever it rains inland. Consequently, it is normal for high estuary water levels and the water tracking to the south, as we see in summer. The sandbar never needs to be cut artificially!!

Moore River estuary remains a beautiful, natural haven for birds, fish, animals the bush and people to enjoy. Thanks for respecting this very special place.

More information is on our website at guildertonwa.com.au

Linda Johnson (0414 631 273)

Guilderton Visitor Centre Report 2022

For the Guilderton Community Association AGM Sat 21st January 2023

The sub-committee for 2022 consisted of:

Chair - Sharon Staude

Coordinator – Linda Johnson

Treasurer – Linda Buxton with Gillian Lamont reviewing the financials.

Business coordinator – Kerry Jones

Wendy Nottle

Administrative Details

Opening hours are 9.30am until 12.30pm. We aim to be open on all weekends, public holidays and school holidays, on the rare day here and there, if we are unable to find a volunteer, we may be unable to open. We were open for 142 days during 2022 which is up on 2021 figures and only down by 8 days on pre-covid 2019 opening days.

In general, the year has been reasonably quiet because of changes to the caravan park, the café, and the General Store. The General Store does seem to be building up, attracting customers and servicing the community by managing their stock well and keeping prices reasonable. I believe they will bring up the catalogue specials for individuals if requested in advance.

Many of those who call in do so to complain about the paid parking or the condition of the caravan park, or the toilets.

The re-development of the foreshore is eagerly awaited and long overdue.

We had 2,243 visitors in total, a little down on 2021 figures despite being open more days, this reduced the average number of visitors each day from 19 to 16. Our busiest months by daily average this year were: October, November and April.

We have had at least 15 fabulous volunteers functioning in 2022 (including the committee). These generous people staff the centre on a roster basis; a handful of the volunteers cover the bulk of the rosters, and we sincerely appreciate their dedication. We welcome new volunteers to come forward and help in the very enjoyable task of sharing information about our special town, river and the area in general. We currently miss Roma Prince and June and Ken Cruickshank in our ranks and wish them all well.

The Guilderton Visitor Centre supplies both visitors and locals with current and relevant travel information and brochures. We distribute a large range of general tourist literature as well as specific information from the Shire of Gingin, environmental groups, the Department of Fisheries and the Department of Transport.

Businesses are given free advertising in the upgraded Guilderton Visitor Information Bay by providing a 'Car Door Magnet' advertisement. Local businesses and services are also encouraged to list on the website we share with the GCA and FOMRE:

www.guildertonwa.com.au

We are always on the lookout for new merchandise that has specific local relevance as well as giftware and 'pocket money' children's items. Local produce is popular and we keep a stock of jams, chutney, honey and olive oil as well as local art and calendars. It is through the sale of merchandise that we maintain a reasonable cash flow.

Advertising local events and contact details of local tourist facilities is still a priority and is updated regularly on our notice boards. Our brochures, maps and 'walking quizzes' are still proving very popular with visitors, while the notice boards and the waterproof brochure holders next to the door provide maps and information to visitors when we are not open.

Financial Report

Please see the attached financial report prepared by the treasurer.

EFTPOS

We are now able to take payments with a proper EFTPOS machine, many people are now taking the opportunity to pay with their cards.

Information Bay

In the information bay the Visitor Centre has 5 advertisers for accommodation and 5 other businesses while there are a total of only 4 on the GCA website. This form of advertising seems to be less popular at the moment.

Shire of Gingin

We did not apply for any community grants this year however it is likely that we will need to do so in 2023 for signage and brochures.

Moore Men's Shed

Thank you again to the MMS who continue to be of support to the Visitor Centre. Their sand boards (now in 3 versions) are well made and popular while the other novelties and items they make are added interest to the stock we carry.

2023 sub-committee

The following sub committee is presented for approval to the GCA for 2023:

Chair - Sharon Staude

Coordinator – Linda Johnson

Treasurer – Linda Buxton, with Gillian Lamont reviewing the financials.

Web and Business coordinator – Kerry Jones

Wendy Nottle

My sincere thanks to the hardworking committee and volunteers who help visitors enjoy and look after Guilderton and the Moore River Estuary.

We look forward to continuing our work in 2023.

Sharon Staude

Chair

Guilderton Visitor Centre

21/1/2023

Moore Arts Council Report 2022

For the Guilderton Community Association AGM Sat 21st January 2023

The sub-committee for 2022 consisted of:

Coordinator – Kerry Jones

Arts Team – Anne Gilkes, Joel Collins, Bruce Maguire, Hal Schmiedte,

Markets Team - Julie Polette, Helen Thorne, Jacki Burt

Art Exhibition

Another successful Art Exhibition was held on Easter Saturday with 10 exhibitors filling up the area with some wonderful items. There was a steady flow of people through considering we were still in COVID restrictions back then. Great feedback was received for the artists present and some sales made. Anne, Joel and Bruce were of great assistance in helping to set up and Hal fine tuning the displays to a very professional standard. We plan on continuing this annual event in the future.

Art Installation

Another art installation called "the whimsical fish" is now in place on the foreshore thanks to the efforts of Anne Gilkes. Created and installed by Adrian Toomey of Ocean Gallery, the shining example of creativity was finalized with the on-the-ground help of the Gingin Shire Council. Funding for this project was provided with the assistance of the Gingin Shire Community Funding and the Commonwealth Stronger Communities Program. We are proud of this latest addition to our ongoing commitment to Guilderton Art. We are especially grateful to Anne for whom this is the conclusion of her long and wonderful community service with Moore Arts. We will miss her wonderful input and creative energy but wish her all the best in all her future endeavours. There are still funds set aside for an art trail brochure to be completed in 2023.

Markets

We have successfully completed two Art Craft Markets in Gabbadah Park. One in December to catch Christmas shoppers and one in January to catch the holiday makers in town. This is a great avenue for local art and craft makers to sell some of their wonderful creations. With assistance from the Gingin Shire, we have been able to hold these

markets in Gabbadah Park. Local community organizations such as Redfield Park and Sovereign Hill have been able to fundraise by providing the mandatory sausage sizzle. We have planned at least two more events. 5th March and Easter Monday 10th April

Workshops

Another weekend photography workshop was planned for November 2022 but unfortunately, we did not gain sufficient interest to hold the event. We will try again this year or perhaps a different workshop.

Financial Report

Please see the attached financial report prepared by the treasurer.

My sincere thanks to the hardworking volunteers who have helped me throughout the year and I look forward to continuing our work in 2023.

Kerry Jones

Arts Co-Ordinator

13/1/2023