

**THE BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE INAUGURAL MEETING OF THE BERRI CENTENARY 2011 COMMITTEE HELD ON
THURSDAY 5th AUGUST COMMENCING AT 6.30 P.M. IN THE BERRI LIBRARY AND INFORMATION
CENTRE, KAY AVENUE, BERRI**

1: PRESENT:

Council: Crs Jim Rolfe, Vicki Beech, and Rhonda Centofanti. Andrew Haigh, Peter Ison, Jacque Zagotsis,
Community: Margaret Jennings (Chairperson), Geoff Stidiford, John Doecke, Des Philp, Ps Phil Comins, Kay Kubank, Fiona Davis, Kathy Caddick, Alma Whimpress, Nancy Powell, Warren Wade, Judy Roberts, Graham Gates, Olivia Allen, June Plush, Dalma Cooper.

2: APOLOGIES:

Council: Mayor Peter Hunt, Cr Geoff Higgs, Merridy Rady,
Community: Peg Mortimer, Joy Stoeckel, John Heward, Sue Crossing, Dudley Materne, Kathleen Materne, Allayne Frankel, Jenny Lyons, Renaye Karpany, Danyon DeBuell.

3: CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: Minutes of meeting held 24th June 2010

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL: That the minutes of the Berri Centenary Committee held on 24th June 2010 be taken as read and confirmed, and referred to Council for adoption.

D. Philp/P. Ison? CARRIED

4: NEW MEMBERS*: - Alma Whimpress, Marg Jennings, John Doecke, Graham Gates, Phil Comins.

**The meeting of the 24th June 2010 confirmed the Berri Centenary Committee as an official Section 41 committee of the Berri Barmera Council. As a result, all new attendees at subsequent meetings will be asked if they would like to become Committee members.*

5: REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE: -

- Berri Water Ski Club Event proposal correspondence, to be discussed under Council Centenary Update (6.2)
- Monash and Lone Gum Letter to be discussed under Council Centenary Update (6.2)

Correspondence Attached

6: BUSINESS:

6.1 Berri History Book Update

- 21 of 27 Interview transcriptions completed. Remainder are being worked on.
- Rob Linn will be coming to Berri each month for several days to write the book. Chapter one (European Settlement) draft has been completed, and is able to be looked at by committee.
- Berri War Memorial Community Centre Vignette has also been completed and was distributed at meeting.
- Once work is underway, each chapter will have an approximate 3 day turn around; these chapters must be checked by members of the Publication committee.

Action: Peter Ison to call Publications Committee in to discuss options for proof reading facts in book

- A preface and a forward must be written for the Book. Suggested that Margaret Evans be approached to write the Foreword for the book, and Mayor Peter Hunt be approached to write the Preface, to be discussed in Other Matters (6.6)

6.2 Council Centenary Activities

- Events have been added to website, and a list distributed

Event List Attached

- Media Launch of Book - Noted that the 24th November is the Berri Senior Citizens Christmas Party and as such, Council staff may be busy, may be better to hold launch on 23rd.
- February 9th small civic reception on proclamation date, with committee members invited to have a small ceremony to celebrate the Berri Centenary itself.
- March 8th has been confirmed for International Women's Dinner
- Easter carnival has received support from Berri Traders and so will go ahead as planned.
- Noted that the Probus Club Birthday Dinner is listed incorrectly as the 1st of June, the correct date is the 6th of June.

Action: Peter and Andrew to alter on calendars.

- October 8th has been booked at the Berri Hotel for Centenary Dinner, with the weekend before being the October Long Weekend, and the weekend after having other Events such as the Food and Wine Festival.
- History Exhibition in town hall hoped to be the 8th – 15th of October.
- Multicultural Festival provisionally set for the 5th November.
- A number of other community events throughout the year hoped to be Centenary themed, as per attached list.
- Berri Centenary Ballroom Dancing Ball to be held at Bonney Theatre, Barmera on 2nd April.

Action: Peter Ison and Andrew Haigh to add to calendars.

- Noted that there are some events not currently listed (Such as picnic on riverfront) due to there being no driving agent for the events yet. Local organisations (Such as Berri Rotary Club) may take events such as this on, and once confirmed will be listed on website.
- Berri Water Ski Club has been approached by Des Philp to hold a Centenary themed event. It was suggested that some of the events such as a picnic may be able to be tied into a ski event at Martin's bend.

Action: Des Philp to pass on existing event list to Ski Club, and ask Ski Club to confirm date and details

- Monash Lone Gum has submitted the theme "Hidden secrets exposed" of their static display of Horticultural and agricultural equipment at the Monash Oval on the same date at the Monash Mammoth Market (29th May 2011).

**RECOMMENDATION: That the events and dates listed be endorsed by the committee
A .Haigh/K. Caddick CARRIED**

- Merchandise proposal with an expense of approx. \$8500 and return of approx \$10 500 consisting of:
 - Giveaway items: balloons, bookmarks, stickers, magnets and pencils
 - Sale items: wine glass, stubby holder, coaster set, postcard series
- There are also some items that the Berri Visitor Information Centre purchase that will be badged with Centenary logo also. Support for this proposal was unanimous.

6.3 Multicultural Event Update

- Multicultural Festival event committee has been formed, chaired by Rosalyn Kambouris
- The committee are going to partner with the Riverland Multicultural forum, with their support to hold an event.
- The next meeting is to be held on September 22nd in the council chambers at 6.00pm, with members of the public with a cultural background invited to attend.
- At this stage the event is hoped to consist of a parade, food, crafts, and entertainment etc on Saturday November 5th.
- A competition will be held for the design of the Multicultural Festival logo.

6.4 Berri Centenary History Project Update

- Historical photographs continue to be donated/loaned to the project, transcriptions of interviews are close to completed, and previous council minutes are also still being worked on.
- Rob Linn will be using these resources while writing the book.
- Centenary website is being regularly updated, with old Monash Playground video recently uploaded.
- Noted that the book will be made available for pre-sales on the website.

6.5 Community Involvement Update

- Pastor Phil Comins noted that there is a Combined Church Service hoped to be held in the start of the year as well as the end of the year, with no confirmed dates as yet.
- Events such as require a Community Involvement form to be filled in by organisers in order to take to next Centenary Meeting. Forms are available from the Centenary website.
- Suggested that the list of 2011 events be forwarded to the Riverland Tourism Association to add to their event database.

Action: Andrew Haigh to forward calendar to RTA

6.6 Other matters:

- Preface and Foreword discussed, noted that Margaret Evans would be a good person to invite to write a foreword.
- Suggested that descendants of original settlers may be an option to write the Foreword or Preface in book, however also noted that this may cause other families to feel "left out", but that they may be able to be involved in the project in other ways, such as on ABC Radio or as part of Newspaper articles happening throughout the year.

RECOMMENDATION: That Margaret Evans is invited to write the Foreword and Mayor Peter Hunt is invited to write the Preface for the Book.

P. Ison/ K Kubank CARRIED

Action: Committee to invite Margaret Evans and Peter Hunt to write foreword and preface respectively

- Olivia Allan advised that Riverland Youth Theatre are undertaking a project currently called "Letter Banks", during which an older member of the community exchanges letters with a younger person, eventually constructing a letter wall, displaying letters as well as playing audio filed of the letters. Noted that members willing to share their stories for Centenary may also be willing to be a part of this project.

- A regular feature in the Murray Pioneer and on the ABC Radio has been organised for the Centenary year. Members of the community will be encouraged to participate and share their knowledge.

Action: Des Philp to contact Jacque Zagotsis to express his interest in sharing his story

- Suggested that copies of old news stories can be arranged in a newspaper style format which could then be sold. This could allow information that isn't included in the book to still be made use of. Volunteers would be required to collate the information. Any members of the community willing to be a part of this are to contact Jacque Zagotsis at the Berri Library.
- Noted that as the War Memorial Community Centre were involved in the original community news, there is a strong possibility that they would be involved in a historical edition.

Action: Jacque to speak with Berri War Memorial Community Centre about Community News

- Noted that it is important for the information in the Book be factually correct. This issue is hoped to be reduced by the Publication Committee, but also acknowledged how difficult it is to get every detail correct.
- Rob Linn will be in Berri at the time of the next Berri Centenary Meeting and may be available to attend and update members on the status of the book.

Action: Jacque to contact Rob Linn and invite him to attend the September meeting

Next meeting – Thursday September 23rd August 2010, 6:30pm at Berri Library and Information Centre, Kay Ave, Berri.

7: **CLOSURE**: Meeting closed at 8.00pm

Confirmed:

DATE: , 2010 **CHAIRPERSON:** **MARGARET COLBY**