

INFORMAL MEETING DISCUSSION NOTES FROM THE BALRANALD SHIRE COUNCIL CULTURAL COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF BALRANALD ON MONDAY FEBRUARY 13th 2017 COMMENCING AT 5.08PM.

PRESENT: Jan Lawler (Chair), Margaret Butler, Bella Mannix, Cr Steve O'Halloran, Charmaine Murfet and Cherie Murphy (minute taker).

APOLOGIES: Doreen Greenham, Rev. Robyn Davis

As there was no quorum for this meeting, a discussion amongst those attending was held.

**Moved
Seconded**

DISCUSSION POINTS:

1. Code of Conduct Training

Cr. O'Halloran queried Code of Conduct training for new and existing members. DCCD advised the committee that Council advertised for new members and results will be provided to Council for consideration. Training will be provided to successful applicants.

2. Donation of Piano

Margaret reported that Graeme and Wendy Dalton previously had very kindly donated their piano to the Theatre Royal after discussions with Cr Trevor Jolliffe.

Margaret has since been notified that the piano is no longer available.

Margaret contacted Mrs Helen Ellis who has previously allowed Council to borrow her Yamaha upright piano. Mrs Ellis generously offered to continue to lend the piano to Council as needed.

3. Use of Funds Raised to Date

Margaret had previous discussions with the General Manager requesting that the money already donated for the purchase of a piano be used for removal and relocation of the Dalton's donated piano – now that this is not an option, Margaret would like to use this money to maintain the stage and the possible purchase of curtains.

Cr. O'Halloran advised the committee that they would need to work through the DCCD and Council regarding completing maintenance and acquiring costings for the works.

Cr O'Halloran suggested to the committee to consider keeping the current money in reserve, build on it and also ask Council to consider funding maintenance works.

The committee agreed that they ask Council to consider providing funds for sanding and other maintenance works as necessary.

Margaret said that the whole area (on the stage) needs cleaning up, and the “Friends of the Theatre Royal group – if approved, would assist with things such as cleaning up, washing or painting on a volunteer basis.

DCCD advised that this would need to be approved by Council for insurance reasons.

4. Current funds and donations

Margaret advised the committee that four cake stalls and variety concert held have amassed \$3266.90. Margaret is continuing to fundraise to assist with maintenance on the Theatre Royal; specifically the stage flooring and double fly assembly curtains.

Margaret has been in contact with Mr Leonard Dalton regarding his generous donation in previous years to contribute to the construction of a town clock. Now that the clock isn't going ahead, Margaret informed the committee that Mr Dalton is happy for that money to be transferred to the Theatre Royal account to assist with purchase of a Grand Piano. Margaret advised Mr Dalton that he would need to write to Council to transfer clock funds to the Grand Piano fund.

Margaret put to the committee to approach Council and request it include \$5,000 each year for four years in its annual budget, which with fundraising by the Cultural Committee, could possibly purchase a new Grand Piano.

5. Variety Concert

Margaret advised the committee that she would like to hold the variety concert in early May (still working on a date at this stage). Margaret will contact the principals at Balranald Central and St. Joseph's School's, John Curran (to hopefully entice him back for the concert) and also other artists involved in the event. Margaret advised that she approached Bronwyn Brougham (Balranald Netball Club) to once again provide refreshments.

Cr O'Halloran indicated that the General Manager advised Councillors via email (last year) that the hall would be made available for the next concert and he has waived the costs.

Cr O'Halloran commented on the bands that came to Balranald last year; the Kapooka Army band and the Scottish band and said it would be great to have them back performing in Balranald again if it was a possibility.

The Chair thanked Margaret and Cr O'Halloran for their input.

6. The Gallery

- The Gallery has a busy year ahead with South West Arts (SWA) Military History Project and Arts trail (SWA are liaising with the Balranald RSL regarding the military trail.
- Balranald Inc. grant opportunity of 4 workshops “Recollections Past and Present”. The first workshop will be on April 9, presented by the curator at the Pioneer Settlement in Swan Hill.

The second set of workshops “Preserving Our History” will be held on April 30 and May 1 and hosted by David Eastburn.

- June Spinks has commenced a “drop in day” at The Gallery. This once a month happening will include a theme.
- Kids corner at The Gallery starts off again in February and kids this February. It was good to see our kids get recognised for their fibre art.
- 5 Rivers Outback Festival date has changed to the following week to involve the Red Bull event. The Gallery are running a Balranald Archibald competition “the Bal-Archies” and will include painting, photography, sculpture and collage.
- A “feeling fine felting” workshop will be held on April 23 & 24.
- Anne Evason, Indigenous artist from Broken Hill is holding a two-day workshop in September, teaching weaving techniques with different materials, such as natural grasses, wire, bones etc.
- It seems busy and we are at The Gallery – currently planning our timetable for the year.

Chairperson thanked all for attending today.

NEXT MEETING: The next Cultural Committee meeting will be held on Monday 10th April 2017 at 5pm.

CLOSURE: There being no further business the informal meeting was closed at 5.50pm.

Recommendation: That the informal meeting notes received and noted.