

Site meeting prior to ordinary meeting at Burn Rd Car Park

Present : Janice Preston, Geoff Preston, Marlene Robb, Keith Law, May, Gus, John Bremner, Sue, Michael

Various points made;

- Crown Land, not part of rail trail easement
- With new extension into Orbost this car park may not be as important, however car parking in Orbost trail not very good so this area will remain important for users driving to the trail
- What is needed, shelter, seat, shade, rest view area, bike stand/support, information
- Need plan to enable Men's shed to construct any concept
- Keep it simple

What was decided;

-use bus shelter as basic plan with seat inside. This should be located with solid back to west, close to west corner of exiting car park in an elevated location. Some fill would be required for the concrete base.

- near this location make a path to lead to the old rail way and put in a seat – this provides a great view of the Snowy River flood plain

-revegetate area to west of carpark with local vegetation, provide some boundary between carpark and proposed vegetation

Plan:

Contact Bill Storer to inform of plan	Sue
Sketch site plan	Michael
Draw up 'bus shelter' plan	Michael
Take to Men's Shed for construction	Eddie
Estimate costs and how to gather funds	FEGRT
Prepare planting plan, blackwood, pittosporum ?	Sue, Norm

When these elements are completed can start to implement

### **Weed Control on trail at Orbost end**

Needs immediate action – to spray and try brush cutting the woody weeds which are just about reducing the track to a single lane.

Contact Bill Storer to see if this area is on the weed spray list, but organise working bee in case this is not going to happen in the next few week before these weeds seed. Mon Feb 25<sup>th</sup> TBC [Sue]

## Meeting adjourned to Commonwealth Hotel Orbost

1. **Present;** Janice, Geoff, Keith, Marlene, Gus, Andrew, Michael, Mick, Maria, Sue

Apologies; Eddie Slatter, Lynne Walters and Norman Broad

2. Minutes of informal meeting held at Nowa Nowa on Nov 25 not available, however all matters arise in this meeting

Correspondence out: to EGCMA – Report 3 of revegetation project at Nicholson Bridge

3. **Treasurer's report** no activity balance is \$4168.65
4. **Committee of Management report** – Andrew made following points
  - DOTA funding being completed with chicanes and gates between Bairnsdale and Bruthen, Nicholson Bridge decking to be concreted
  - Bairnsdale field Day April 19 and 20, DSE will have stand, friends invited to participate
  - DSE has completed weed control Bairnsdale to Wairewa – not sure why this stopped here
  - Flood damage funding was used to repair damage to trail at Lees rd, gravel under tunnel at Bruthen and various other locations - Work to be done at Drivers' Break and Stony Creek
  - House at Mossiface to be demolished- tidying up will start on Sat
  - Discussed and agreed to put in additional signs at Nowa Nowa and Orbost for rail trail users. Noted the water tap in Nowa Nowa had been removed – write to EG Council to suggest re-instatement.
  - Noted that new concrete path at Nowa Nowa is below standard width of 2.4m it is 2.1m Michael to bring up at State Bicycle Advisory committee. Also a zig zag path is in the final plan and not as wanted by locals -
  - COM suggested that Friends pay \$365 insurance for Friends to be covered when working on the trail. This was rejected by Friends group – on the basis that the activities of the group provide much input to trail maintenance and should be supported by COM.
5. **2008 New Projects**
  1. Orbost car park
  2. Kilometre sign posts
  3. Lees Rd revegetation project in blow outs on side of cutting repaired after June floods. This is not the large site nr Lees rd where vegetation was destroyed during the removal of ballast to effect repair on the trail nr Lees rd
  4. Drivers' break some planting to hold erosion
6. **Membership** current ly 59members financial.
7. **Nicholson Bridge project** – plants are doing well. Total of plants 280. On going weed control – blackberry and grassy weeds. Expenditure to date \$727 for fencing and \$605 for plants, protective sleeves and stakes. Herbicide and Pindone provided by Nicholson River Landcare and EGCMA.  
Volunteer hrs to date 120.
8. **Activities**

Meetings  
April 14<sup>th</sup> Nowa Nowa

July 27<sup>th</sup> AGM Bruthen Sunday

Sept 15<sup>th</sup> Bairnsdale

Nov 10<sup>th</sup> Nowa Nowa

Rides – none scheduled, need to review this aspect of activities. Discussion of survey of members – could be useful but not doing at the present.

Next meeting revisit the original aims of the Friends and review.

Working bees seem to be best organised by phone around when specifics are known.

Next working bee – weeds at Orbost Mon Feb 25<sup>th</sup> to be confirmed.

9. **Website** – facility for on line payment now available. Not actually been used yet. Website activity remains about 40-50 hits per day.

10. **Newsletter** – need to get articles to Marlene by end of Feb for next edition. Comments that photos in some editions hard to see

**11. Other items**

-Damage done by Alinta contractors when removing vegetation over gas pipe line – Bill Storer is following up on behalf COM. FEGRT to also write to Alinta.

- Orbost – Marlo trail ongoing activity – hope that ad for feasibility study will be soon be placed

- Orbost extension of Rail trail having cow underpass constructed today – write to shire thanking for this effort, try to get article in local paper. Will there be formal opening?

Marlene may bring up at community meeting in Orbost soon.

12. meeting closed 9.00pm

**Next meeting April 14<sup>th</sup> Nowa Nowa-at Mingling Waters**

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