

Friends of East Gippsland Rail Trail

Ordinary meeting held at Orbost Feb 11th 2007

1. Attendance:

Janice Preston	Sue Peirce
Keith Law	Michael Oxe
Marlene Robb	Eddie Slatter
Mick Brady	Gary Squires
Andrew Sharpe	Jim Douthat

Apologies :

Lynne Walters	Geoff Preston	Alex Hadjkowicz
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2. Minutes of previous meeting (4/06) held at Bruthen Aug 14, 2006 accepted

2.1 Business arising:

Ride Bairnsdale to Orbost– only complaint – lunch, not good value and should use brown bread.

At Nowa Nowa, concern expressed that not much trade for Recreation reserve, however Janice reported that happy to do again.

Surplus: \$1100

Should we do again? Sue not prepared to do again – concern at state of trail after fire measures.

Look at other events that could use the trail– rather than do a separate ride.

2.2. Re-veg near Nicholson – application to East Catchment Management Authority for fencing and rabbit control and weed control resubmitted after consultation.

2.2 Burn Rd to Orbost – tender been let – but no action yet. Trail head need some kind of structure – similar shelter as at Bumberrah. Andrew suggested looking at existing shelter and that he had information board. Eddie and Marlene to look at, get costings and think about how to fund. Sue has put this into Council Community Small Grants without success. Marlene also spoke to Greening Australia – send a letter to come to speak to us re revegetation end of trail. Neil Baker, 24 Alfred St Maffra 3860. Andrew warned that this is a complex area due to due weed burden.

3. Treasurer's report – not available

4. 4. Membership –total of 79, maybe reminder next newsletter

5. Committee of Management

5.1 Tenders called for trail extension into Orbost

5.2 New brochure coming along, map is ready, 13 responses to invitation to advertise. Bicycle Victoria want 20,000 copies. Andrew to drop in some of old maps to Information Centre at Bruthen.

5.3 Licensing – all grazing licences now expire on same date, this will assist administration

5.4 Replaced damaged gates at Simpson Creek and Fairweather track – wires cut here 24hrs later. Rocks had been placed behind fence at Simpsons Creek to deter vehicles even if fence removed. Thought this may look rather aggressive, but may be effective.

5.5 Trail watch – police numbers listed. Andrew contacted police re trail bikes.

6. Website – Keith reported going OK. 849 unique visits av 20- 40/day.

7. Trail mail –Next edition to come out early in 2007 with dates for activities as determined at next meeting. Janice will send contact for Craig's office for photocopying Newsletter. Marlene is encouraged to add more of the history – needs to access some information regarding the rail opening.

Rides

Suggested to hold quarterly events as attendance is low

Date	Location	Contact
March 18	Orbost to Young Creek	Marlene 5154 1232
May 20/21	Orbost to Buchan 60km Sat and 65k on Sunday Organise own everything	Keith Law 5154 1232
Aug 26	Around Nicholson	Sue 5156 8228
Oct 14	Bruthen to Nowa Nowa	Sue 5156 8228
Dec	Tostaree to Lake Tyers	Details later

Working bees

Feb 24 th	Burn Rd slasher and tractor, rakes pruning saws Janice to pick up from Michael's	Eddie: 10am at Burns Rd Will take knap sacks
April tba	Nicholson	Sue 5156 8228
Aug 26	Nicholson	Sue 5156 8228

Meetings

May 14	Bairnsdale, Grand Terminus Hotel 7pm
July 15th	Bruthen AGM, Bruthen Inn 7pm
Sept 10th	Nowa Nowa, 7pm
Nov 12th	Nicholson Hotel 7pm

9. Other business

9.1 Fencing off too close to trail near Orbost. Entrance off

9.2 Fire access work on trail –considerable damage was caused by a bulldozer scraping the edges of the trail. The reasons given for this work by CFA was for access for fire trucks (not necessary) and fuel reduction (not achieved). It is believed there will be funds available to make good the trail surface. Andrew said will be rehabilitated – DSE will be responsible for work.

9.1 More magnetic signs needed for vehicles on trail business – for Eddie, Clive and Janice, Michael to follow up with Bob

9.2 Bridge and roadworks at Nowa Nowa - has started, will be 12mths before completed.

9.3 Discussion re trail manager – perhaps the three area shire officers could include in their duties.

9.4 Marlene working on trail notes

10.Meeting closed at 8.30pm. Next meeting May 14th at Bairnsdale at 7pm.

AGENDA Monday Dec 11th – Orbost at 7 pm.

1. Attendance
2. Follow up last meeting (Oct 10th)
3. Rides for 2007
4. Working bees for 2007
5. Meeting dates for 2007
6. Trail in a Day ride – review
7. COM
8. Newsletter
9. Website
10. Membership
11. Other items