

Friends of East Gippsland Rail Trail

Meeting 3/08 Bruthen Inn on July 27th 2008

1. Attendance: Janice Preston, Geoff Preston, Michael Oxer, Norm Broad, Lynne Walters, Sue Peirce,

Apologies: Marlene Robb, Keith Law

2. Minutes of previous meeting held at Nowa Nowa April 27th accepted
3. Business arising:
 - 3.1 Membership- letter written to members who had not renewed describing the achievements of 07/08 and the value of the membership to continue to obtain improvements. Response was positive.
 - 3.2 Sue called Bill Storer re damage caused by Alinta – he is trying to get agreement on future clearing – no suggestion of recompense for damage to trail.
 - 3.3 Kilometre posts – timber has been ordered, Frank has done work on locations and the km markers required.
 - 3.4 Letter from EGSC supporting improvements to Burn Rd and offer to assist to value of \$5000.
4. Burn Rd car park improvements:

Marlene, Keith, Sue and Michael met with Gary Watts, from EGSC and Pete, contractor at the Burn rd car park. The concept of shelter, information board, some revegetation, bike parking and seat up on the rail easement to enjoy the view was discussed and met with approval. Marlene liaising with Gary to move this project along.
5. Weed control grant:

We were successful in obtaining \$1560 from DSE for 'Bush Guardians' grant. The objectives of this grant are:

 - Spot spraying of exotic grasses in grassy woodland area at Bumberrah station
 - Repair fencing at Bumberrah station grounds and put signs to inform trail users of significance of vegetation and actions taken to preserve grassland Removal of boxthorn at Bosses swamp
 - Removal of hawthorn and cotoneaster along Nicholson to Bairnsdale section

The funds are to purchase 2 backpack sprays, fencing and herbicide. Work will be done in consultation with DSE. Sue to contact 'Trust for Nature' on advice from Andrew, for grassland weed control program.

6. Treasurers report: as presented to AGM balance is \$3783.60
7. COM report: new concrete pathway where trail meets highway just before Bruthen, new gates at Harman's Rd, improvements to track to Nicholson jetty from railtrail (by EGSC), Trying to recruit new members for COM. Reponse to draft regulations for Crown Land – this will describe penalties and assist in maintaining law and order on the trail.
8. Newsletter: Marlene put together July 08 edition and this was distributed to all members.
9. Meeting closed at 2.45pm

