

Minutes of the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of FRIENDS OF THE BENALLA LIBRARY INC. (FOBL) held at 11:30am at the Benalla Golf Club on Thursday 2nd November 2023 followed by lunch.

1. Apologies:

Priscilla Shanks, Claire Rudolph, Patsy Bollard, Jenny Siewwright, Alana Johnson, Andi Stevenson, Deb Saunders, Gwen Turner

2. Present:

Dawn Stephens, Bev Thornell, Margaret Richards, Amanda Edgar, Dorothy Webber, Kay Johnson, Ashley Merbach, Anne Nelson, Geraldine McCorkell, Corrie Witlox,  
Phyllis Doxey, Bett Lindsay, Christine Glynn, Selma Orton, Karen Mulholland. Kay Blore, David Blore, Jackie Brennan, Margaret Richards, Marilyn Bourke,  
Robyn McLean, Ashley Merbach, Shirley Robertson

3. Minutes of the previous AGM meeting 3rd November 2022 were read

Received: Christine Glynn      Seconded: Phyllis Doxey      Passed

Business Arising:

Brief discussion held on the cost of Benalla City Council Rates for RedB4 Bookshop

4. Correspondence:

In: Consumer Affairs Victoria reporting

Out:

Moved that correspondence be accepted:

Accepted: Bev Thornell      Seconded: Selma Orton      Passed

REPORTS:

Treasurer's Report tabled

Total Income

Income 1/7/22 – 30/6/23      \$ 22,137.48

Total Expenditure 1/7/22 – 30/6/23      \$ 25,373.92      Surplus  
\$9401.08

Term Deposit maturing 11/4/24      \$ 10,667.10

Bendigo Bank cheque account      \$9,401.08

Total Funds 30/6/23      \$ 20,068.18

Moved: Corrie Witlox      Seconded: Robyn Maclean      Passed

Membership Report Robyn

General members      124

Life Members      39

Total Members      124

Comparison December AGM 2021 General members 117

2022 General members 113

2023 General members 124

Librarian's Report - Ashley Merbach (attached)

Thanked the Friends of the Library for their support. The Projector/AV system is great for events such as Science Week and the office supplies particularly the pencil sharpener and paper shredder are appreciated by staff. Ashley also noted the staff changes over the past 12 months. The Library hosted author talks including the Voices for Indi book launch. Book Week and Science week were successful. Staff completed training courses and scanned over 21,000 items across a weekend. The new children's corner is a great success. The staff look forward to working with FOBL over 2024.

Presidents Report – Geraldine McCorkell (tabled)

Geraldine thanked the committee members and volunteers for their ongoing support during 2023.

The Redb4 Bookshop celebrated 10 years in October, many thanks to the volunteers without you the bookshop would not be successful.

We have supplied the Library financially over the past 12 months and look forward to doing the same in 2024.

Bookshop Report

The Bookshop has flourished during 2023 with many donated books that are sorted and cleaned by our volunteers.

Celebrating 10 years is a great achievement. So many volunteers have made this possible.

Over the year problems with the roof have been solved, various carpentry repairs have been attended to and hundreds of books sold.

Moved Reports be accepted:

Moved: Geraldine McCorkell    Seconded: Shirley Robertson                      Passed

ELECTIONS OF OFFICE BEARERS:

Ashley Merbach (Library) took the chair for the election of office bearers for 2023/2024

All positions on the committee were declared vacant.

Nominations received as at 1/11/23

President: Geraldine McCorkell

Nominated: Robyn Maclean                      Seconded: Amanda Edgar

Accepted and Passed

Vice President: Christine Glynn

Nominated by: Kay Johnson    Seconded: Corrie Witlox

Accepted and Passed:

Treasurer: Corrie Witlox

Nominated by: Geraldine McCorkell    Seconded: Christine Glynn

Accepted and Passed

Secretary: Deb Saunders

Nominated by: Corrie Witlox                      Seconded: Phyllis Doxey

Accepted and Passed

Assistant Secretary: Bev Thornell

Nominated by: Kay Johnson    Seconded: Phyllis Doxey

Accepted and Passed

Membership Officer: Robyn Maclean

Nominated by: Amanda Edgar                      Seconded: Bev Thornell

Accepted and Passed

Election of General Committee members:

General Committee members to stand for Election from the FOBL members present:

The following Friends of the Benalla Library form the Committee members for 2023/2024.

Betty Lindsay, Phyllis Doxey, Andy Stevens, Heather Rogers, Kay Johnson (Roster), Anne Nelson

Accepted and Passed

President Geraldine McCorkell took the chair for the remainder of the meeting

General Business:

Motion:

Treasurer Corrie Witlox moved that the accounts of the Friends of the Benalla Library be reviewed by Sue Hutchins R.A. at the end of the next financial year.

Seconded: Robyn Maclean Passed.

Moved the membership fees stay the same for 2023 – 2024

\$5 per person, \$3 Concession, \$ 10 per family concession, \$100 Individual life member”

Moved: Phyllis Doxey Seconded: Margaret Richards Passed

Bank Signatories:

As there was no change in office bearers the bank signatories remain the same.

Meetings for 2024

Motion

That the FOBL for 2023 have bi-monthly meetings, they are February, March, May, July, September, November.

The AGM will be in November

The meetings are the 1st Thursday of the month at 9.45 a.m. at the Library.

Extra meetings can be held when necessary.

Next Committee meeting Thursday 1st February at 9.45 a.m.

Next General Meeting March 7 2024 at the Library.

Moved: Christine Glynn Seconded: Bev Thornell Passed

- Geraldine presented a framed poster of a fundraising event held in 1963 to raise funds for a public library in Benalla, donated by Margaret Doring whose parents were responsible for running the event. This will be displayed in the shop.

- Discussion held on catering for author talks. Library staff to arrange and ask committee for assistance when needed.

Ashley Merback (Library Coordinator ) asked that the author talks be circulated through the various book groups.

- Coffee vouchers will again be provided to volunteers as a thankyou for their work in the Redb4 bookshop. This will be funded by the Council per favour Jackie Brennan.

The meeting concluded with lunch at the Golf Club.