

Merricks Beach Residents' Association Inc.

## Minutes of the 2025 Annual General Meeting

Held at the Merricks Yacht Club – 4<sup>th</sup> January 2026

### 1. Welcome

There being a quorum, the meeting commenced at 10.10am with a welcome from the President, Peter Cash, as chairman of the meeting in accordance with rule 37(1) and an acknowledgement of country.

### 2. Apologies

Richard Anderson, George Arapoglou, Mary Daley, Peter Drake, Lindsay Duffield, Judy Hanan, George King, Dianne O'Neill, Ian Jeffrey, Keith Lawrence, Joanne Milton, Penny Roberts, Tony Roberts, Ken Rowe, Richard Walls and Celia Weston.

#### Attendees

Bernard Barrett, Alan Bell, Janet Bell, Michael Bennett, Ian Breadon, Andre Calder, Alec Campbell, Glythyn Campbell, Peter Cash, Kathy Clarke (online) Helen Cohen, Fiona Cornwall, Martin Delatycki, Tim Dickinson, Hilary Dixon, Pam Drake, Dee Edgar, Grattan Fitzgerald, Lucille Fitzgerald, Garry Fowler, Robert Fry, Joan Garnham, Jenny Glennon, Stephen Grover, Di Hall, Alan Hildebrand, Barbara Hogarth, John Hollander, Trevor James, Simon Jaski, Ian Johnson, Andrew Kelly, Perry Larsson, Sarah Lawrence, Joyce Lawrence, Elizabeth Levin, Charlotte Limb, Rosalie Machlin, Andrew Menzies, Kimberly Menzies, Carole Milton, Robyn Mitchell Sidra Moshinsky, Leigh Padbury (online) Roseanne Pittard, Alison Rechner, Angela Richards, Sandy Richards, Caroline Roberts, Tim Roberts, Peter Rose, Sue Rutley, Leigh Ryrie, John Schuringa, Damian Sierakowski, Warren Stokes, Deidre Stokes, Kriston Symons, Derek Trussler, Joan Trussler, Brad Vann, Sue Varey, Geoff Webster, Nick Williams, James Wilson, Jane Wilson, Nicole Wilson and Tom Wilson.

In attendance by invitation- Cr. David Gill, Coolart Ward

### 3. Minutes of the 2025 Annual General Meeting

Motion- The minutes be approved-

Proposed- Peter Cash

Seconded- Brad Vann

The majority agreed and the motion was passed.

#### 4. Business arising from the Minutes

- The President noted that the work to give effect to the reduction of the speed limit on Frankston-Flinders Road had been undertaken and, during 2025, the Committee resolved not to proceed with the proposal for a basketball ring at this time.

#### 5. Correspondence

- Balnarring Historical Society- regarding storage of records & thanks for donation received
- Members and Residents- including:
  - Proposed basketball ring
  - Excessive dog barking
  - Privacy breach
  - Traffic speed and dust
  - Merricks Beach Road revegetation (on hold while drainage strategy is considered)
  - Fishermen leaving rubbish and/or lighting fires on beach

#### 6. Committee's report and questions

The report was distributed to members with the Agenda and Notice of Meeting.

Peter Cash noted the renovation of the tennis courts as a highlight during his 10 years as the President of the MBRA and observed that preservation of the local character of the village in the context of relaxation of planning rules is an ongoing issue. He also noted the solid financial position of the MBRA and the encouraging support of residents for its work.

There were no questions, however, Hilary Dixon thanked Peter for his contribution over the years and Glythyn Campbell commented on the challenge of the roads.

#### 7. Treasurer's report

The papers were distributed to members with the Agenda and Notice of Meeting.

Motion to propose the financial report for 2024/25 be accepted

Proposed- Ian Breadon

Seconded- Pam Drake

The majority agreed and the motion was passed.

Motion to accept that the maximum amount that subscriptions can be set for 2026/27 be \$140.

Proposed - Peter Cash

Seconded – Hilary Dixon

The majority agreed and the motion was passed.

## 8. Infrastructure Report

Verbal report provided by Bernard Barrett including:

- Roads, whilst mourning the passing of the brown gravel, the new grey gravel seems to perform better in terms of holding together and resistance to run-off and potholing.
- Generally, a dry year, although Spring was wetter than usual
- After much lobbying from local residents' associations, the speed limit on Frankston Flinders Road has been reduced to 80km/ph. Would still like to see double lines, but at this stage has been rejected
- Removed the lip from Merricks Beach Road to assist drainage
- Reinstatement of the drain on the south of Wave Street, more work will be required to the easement at the rear to alleviate flooding
- The drain from Minto Street that runs past the tennis courts is receiving a much-needed makeover
- The first full year with the road's contractor Fulton Hogan and despite our pleas Palmers Hill Road has been widened in some sections. A solution has been proposed that involves landscaping and drain works that will narrow the road surface to an acceptable width.
- In an effort to raise awareness, speed limit signs have been deployed
- Dust- my observation is that the new surface kicks up as much as the old one. The committee will discuss the option of dust suppression and weigh up the pros and cons. There are a number of factors to consider: cost is \$9.77 per lineal metre, so Palmers Hill Road at 700m would cost \$6839 and given around 60 properties would cost each resident about \$114 and the product information and ingredients in the mix etc
- If residents notice a problem in the area, please use the App-Snap, Send and Solve, it works effectively and the Council respond in a timely manner
- Trees at the tennis courts have had a tidy up by the arborist used by the Foreshore Committee
- In the coming year- easements in Wave and Foam Streets will be looked at and what can be done to improve the chicanes as repeated grading seems to have largely obliterated them

## 9. Stormwater Strategy Update

Verbal report provided by Kriston Symons on behalf of the Stormwater Working Group (including Joyce Lawrence, Robyn Mitchell and Chris Chesterfield):

- Update on activities completed in year including some single driveway crossovers in village as well as Wave St Driveway South Crossovers and removal of side vegetation "lip" on Merricks Beach Road.
- Big milestone was the completion of the Stormwater Strategy Report with final endorsed report issued to residents and loaded onto website. Thanks, and acknowledgement were given to Melbourne Water and Balnarring District Community Bank for their grant support to \$25K to make this consultancy report happen.
- Stormwater strategy categorises actions under responsibility
  - Shire
  - Shire/residents
  - Jointly or individual residents.
- MBRA also acknowledges the supports and engagement of shire groups - including open drain maintenance, road maintenance, stormwater strategy and water sensitive urban design.
- MBRA thanks residents for their engagement in the electronic survey, community consultation sessions and separate feedback on report ensuring final report outcomes meet the varying needs and situation of residents and their stormwater across the village.
- Next steps are to implement some of the recommendations in a staged manner including, initially:
  - Initial audit and report pilot of 10 individual residents for individual plot initiatives, such as rainwater tanks, legal point of discharge identification, driveway runoff mitigation, vegetation planting and infiltration basins to capture, absorb and slow down water runoff from houses/plots to the roads/drains.
- Identify a stretch of road in the village with support of adjacent residents for a pilot "double swale" solution.

## 10. Other Business

- The motion of the donation to the CFA of \$1000 was proposed by Peter Cash  
Moved by Angela Richards   Seconded by Joyce Lawrence  
The majority agreed and the motion was passed.
  
- Election of Office bearers and committee members:  
One nomination only was received for each of the positions and so the following were elected:

President- Kriston Symons

Vice President- Peter Cash

Secretary- Di Hall

Treasurer- Ian Johnson

The committee comprises of:

Bernard Barrett, Hilary Dixon, Pam Drake, David Guthrie, Joyce Lawrence, Sarah Lawrence, Tim Roberts, Angela Richards and Brad Vann

Peter Cash thanked the retiring members, Kathy Clarke (Secretary), Ian Breadon (Treasurer) Peter Drake and Sue Rutley for their volunteer time and contribution.

- Motion to advise bank of changes to signing authority  
Proposed- Peter Cash    Seconded- Alan Bell

## 11. Friends of Bill Carroll Reserve

Verbal update by Barbara Hogarth

The AGM was held in November and the following people have been elected:

President- Vacant

Secretary- Pip Ransome

Treasurer- Michael Bennett

- Barbara thanked the MBRA for funding the upgrade of the bird hide
- 18<sup>th</sup> January at 9.30am is a working bee
- 25<sup>th</sup> January at 5pm is the annual picnic. Please BYO drinks and nibbles
- Very sad news to hear of the passing of David Stewart who for many years has assisted with whipper snipping, mowing and removal of fallen branches at the Reserve. He will be sadly missed, condolences to his family.

## 12. Merricks Beach Foreshore Committee

Verbal update by Nick Williams

- Working bees have been well attended during the year
- A lot of work has been done in the area surrounding the tennis courts with funds provided from the MBRA, planting, weeding etc
- Some of the old trees on the foreshore have been retained and motion sensor cameras and nesting boxes installed

- Works at the bottom of the Pine Slide where erosion has occurred will be commencing this year in conjunction with the Balnarring Residents' Association
- Fishermen have been causing problems with anti-social behaviour, leaving rubbish and starting fires. Please report this if you see it happening
- Grants received of \$34,000, thanks to Richard Walls
- Nature Walk scheduled for Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> January, please meet at the Surfies Lookout at 10.00am
- Further information about us can be found on Facebook and Instagram
- Cans can be recycled by placing them in a box at the beach end of Merricks Beach Road
- At the local supermarket Ritchies, you can nominate the Foreshore Committee to receive a donation

### 13. Cr. David Gill- Coolart Ward, Mornington Peninsula Shire Council

- Attends many residents' groups meetings on the peninsula and MBRA is by far the best attended.
- The council no longer fund basketball rings due to a number of deaths and serious injuries that have occurred from young people swinging on the ring
- Community grants are available through the Council
- Davy Smith, acting CEO, could be a good time to approach him about concerns with Palmers Hill Road
- Suggested a light at the end of the Merricks Beach Road and Frankston Flinders Road may be helpful
- MBRA far ahead of other communities with drainage and stormwater issues

Following questions from residents, some discussion about the following:

- Koalas on French Island (unable to be relocated to this side)
- Weed removal (limited Council funds)

### 13. Other Business

- Angela Richards thanked the community for supporting the purchase of two defibrillators (a third is located in the beach driveway of the MYC) and also thanked the MBRA for funding the information sessions to be held at the MYC on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December at 10.00am. Charlotte Limb thanked

Angela for her work in organising and arranging this support within our community.

- Sandy Richards bought up the supply of water to Merricks Beach by South East Water, rather than private lines.
- Cr. Gill drew the winning entrant from the “early payment of subscription” entries and presented the voucher to Derek Trussler.

The meeting closed at 11.53am.

*Post AGM Note- The MBRA thanks the MYC for the use of their facilities through the year for meetings, the Sand Modelling day and the AGM.*