

**CRVA AGM and General Meeting August 18th 2020**

Venue: Online via Zoom

Meeting opened 7pm

Acknowledgement of Country: Jennifer Newman

Attendance: A. Leahy, C. Shanley, R. Evas, J. Newman, P. Munro, S. Burton, J. Kent, Jamie Honan, M. Puchert, J. Murn, J. Langford, G. Wreford, Catarina Fraga-Matos, M. Aldridge, J. Seaburn, N. Wheatley, Jan Rajnoch, Russell Caill, J. Corkery (minutes)

Apologies: John Butcher, Barney Solomon, Colin Hesse

**Sue Bishop Tribute:** Nadia Wheatley paid tribute to long time member and campaigner, Sue Bishop, who passed away on 11<sup>th</sup> August 2020. Sue was fondly remembered for her active participation in events and campaigns to improve the Cooks River and its environs. Sue was the co-ordinator Ewen Park Bushcare site until shortly before her death and will be sadly missed by all who knew her.

**Guest Speaker: Sue Burton from Cooks River Alliance** Many thanks to Sue for her informative presentation entitled, **“River Dreams 2020 and Beyond”**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**Adoption of minutes from 2019 AGM:** Moved Jennifer Newman; Seconded ;Chris Shanley. Carried

**Adoption of CRVA Annual Report** Moved: Jennifer Kent; Seconded: P.Munro. Carried

Many thanks to Ann Leahy for such a good job compiling the Annual Report

**Adoption of Financial Report:** Moved: J.Corkery; Seconded: G.Wreford. Thanks to Chris Shanley for his work as Treasurer. Chris spoke to the report and stated that xxxxxxxxxxxx

**Current financial statement:** CBA: \$xxxx; ING Direct: \$xxxx Total funds: \$xxxxx

**Election of Officers for 2020-2021**

John Murn acted as Returning Officer and declared all positions vacant. Nominations were called for and all members were encouraged to nominate for any roles that interested them. Election results are as follows:

**President: Ann Leahy** (nominated by Jennifer Newman and seconded by Ranjith Evas)

**Vice President: Jennifer Newman** (nominated by Ann Leahy and seconded by Justine Langford)

**Secretary: Julie Corkery** (nominated by Jennifer Newman and seconded by Justine Langford)

**Treasurer and Public Officer: Chris Shanley** (nominated by Ann Leahy and seconded by Jennifer Newman) Ann Leahy thanked Chris for continuing in the role.

The following members were elected to the **Executive Committee: Ranjith Evas** (Julie Corkery; Justine Langford) **Gareth Wreford** (Jennifer Newman; Justine Langford) **Martin Puchert** (Ann Leahy; Jennifer Kent) **Justine Langford** (Peter Munro; Jennifer Kent) **Jamie Honan** (Ann Leahy; Martin Puchert)

Thanks once again to John Murn for officiating as returning officer in his own unique style.

Ann Leahy commended Barney Solomon who has stepped down as a committee member but will continue to be proactively involved with the CRVA.

CRVA General Meeting August 2020

Adoption of minutes from February General Meeting: moved Ann Leahy, seconded Jennifer Newman

Three main environmental objectives of CRVA

Discussion resulted in a consensus with the following objectives being identified:

1. To improve the health of the Cooks River, its water quality, the state of the riverbed and its flora and fauna.
2. To improve the safety, attractiveness and amenity of open space in the Cooks River Valley.
3. To engage local residents of all ages from all social groups in enhancing the natural environment and demonstrating respect and appreciation of the Aboriginal heritage of the river.

Cooks River Community Collective – Justine Langford has been contacting local environmental and community groups in regards to forming a collective to further improve outcomes for the Cooks River. A tentative date of 17<sup>th</sup> September 2020 has been set for the first meeting.

Mudcrabs – Peter Munro met with Inner West Council in regards to caring for the Wave Rocks site. Canterbury-Bankstown Council has demonstrated that it believes the Mudcrabs will function in the best interest of the environment.

Mudlarks reported that they have fifteen people who regularly attend the monthly birdwatching excursion which departs from Lang Road bridge and heads north one month and south on the alternate month. The group includes two experienced scientists, Doug Benson and David Hare; and the photographer, David Noble who shares his photos on social media. Contact Jennifer Kent or Peter Munro for more information.

Crabwalkers –Martin Puchert confirmed that there is a good level of interest and participation.

Treasurer's Report – **Chris Shanley reported that the Canterbury-Bankstown Council Grant came through on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2020. An additional \$22,000 in grant money has been added to our accounts.**

Meeting ended 8.45pm

J.Corkery

(minutes)