



Minutes of the General Meeting
Wednesday 6th December 2017 at 7.30 pm
Oberon RSL Club

1. **Present:** Greg Bourne, Tim Arnison, Geoff Smith, Ian & Victoria Theyers, David, McMurray, Col & Glenda Bembrick, Arthur Robinson, Barry Webb, Martyn Salmon, Elaine Boxer.
2. **Apologies:** Graham Priddle Richard & Marjorie Webb, Graham Williams, Peter Culley, Ian Davis, Ken Lingabala.

3. **Minutes from the previous meeting:**

The Minutes from the meeting of the 4th October 2017 were accepted as a true and accurate record;

Moved M. Salmon; Seconded: D McMurray..... Carried.

No Business arising. There was some discussion regarding the large funding grant given to Kandos Museum, It was given to offset the job losses as a result of the closure of the cement factory.

4. **Safety Management**

No safety issues identified.

5. **Committee Reports.**

President: The report was tabled for the members. The President raised a concern regarding the budget in so far as we are not generating any income at the moment. He will be discussing the budget with the Treasurer in the near future. The Committee and members need to identify suitable fund raising ventures.

There have been a number of highlights since the last meeting. In particular the successful move of the locomotives to the rolling stock shed. After all the hard work that was put into the track in the station yard, by a wide range of members led by Graham Williams it was very pleasing to get a "Pass" from the track inspection conducted by staff from Lycopodium (a Rail Infrastructure Management Company). There have been numerous meetings with the Oberon Council and other Government Agencies in which new opportunities for grants have been explored. The first of a few meetings with Council took place so that the HOL for the track North of Albion Street can be implemented. We also received confirmation that the application to Stronger Communities Grant for Painting the Station was successful.

6. **General Business.**

6.1. M Salmon reported on various points of progress recently achieved. David met with Alvaro Marques form NSW Government regarding obtaining large funding grants. The suggestion was to apply for larger projects, rather than small ones.

Some Committee members met with Oberon Council and John Holland Rail regarding the outstanding land swap to be resolved. Permission to maintain the line to Tarana was sought, a result is pending.

The Committee also met with Oberon Council and a representative of Office of Environment and Heritage regarding replacing the coping on the station platform. An expression of interest to Heritage Near Me will be prepared.

Painting on the carriages has commenced and has resulted in some improvement.

The track in the station precinct has been assessed by an independent body and certification will be forthcoming. There were 3 track defects identified, one has been rectified.

6.2. 2018 Roster for open days.

Jan 6 th	Tim Arnison
Feb 3 rd	Arthur Robinson
March 10 & 11 Vintage Transport Rally	The station will not open on 3 rd March
April 7 th	Greg Bourne
May 5 th	Col & Glenda Bembrick
June 2 nd	Elaine Boxer
July 7 th	Arthur Robinson

The Remainder of the dates for 2018 will be allocated later.

6.3 Col Bembrick - Pc1 building. Col has been investigating ways that OTHR might be able to procure a Pc1 building for Hazelgrove or Carlwood. There is one in private ownership that he is currently pursuing.

7. Other Business.

7.1. Victoria Theyers, one of our new members has a background in events planning, fundraising and catering. She offered some thoughts on the future of OTHR.

- Increase awareness of what OTHR is doing within the community, there is a perceived lack of presence about the railway in town.
- The existing carriage could be used for dining events, Devonshire teas etc.
- Murder Mystery evenings, possibly as a piggy-back to a dining event could be held.
- At the Vintage Transport Rally have a waffle and icecream stall to help attract people through the gate. Invite the Bathurst Historic Car Club and Lithgow club.
- Conduct Primary and Preschool visits to the railway focussing on the history.

7.2 Martyn suggested attracting bus tours to the station. Develop stories related to Oberon Station, ghost stories are a good drawcard.

7.3 Tim noted that the tractor has had some repair and maintenance done on it so it is now in better working order.

The meeting closed: 8.30pm . Next meeting Wednesday February 7th 2018.