

Essendon Bushwalking Club Inc. A0005559B

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting Wednesday 13th June 2018, 1930 Hrs

St John's Uniting Church, Mt Alexander Rd, Essendon

1. **Declaration of opening:**

The meeting was declared open by the President Kevin Egan at 19:35 hrs

2. **Apologies:**

Andrew Child, Ron Bell, Gail Greenwood, Sue Baxter, Molly Butcher, Ian Yarde, Michelle Turski.

3. **Confirmation of Minutes of the 2017 AGM:**

Minutes of the 2017 Annual General Meeting held on June 14, 2017 had been circulated and were accepted on motion. Proposed by Marek Turski, seconded Col Purchase, carried.

4. **Business arising from the Minutes of the 2017 AGM:**

Nil

5. **Correspondence pertaining to the AGM:**

Nil

6. **President's Report:**

Kevin Egan gave a verbal review of the highlights of the year:

It is now two years since I was first elected to be president of the Essendon Bushwalking Club and under s.17(3) of our constitution I cannot stand again to be president in the coming year. Tonight, we elect a new president.

The club continues to flourish with around 200 members and a strong walks program. In 2017-18 we have done about 62 weekend walks, 53 midweek walks, 3 pack walks, one bike trip, 12 base camps, 6 twilight walks, one very long marathon, as well as other activities, and we've been to restaurants 11 times. We also attended the Federation Walks weekend and the Howman's Gap base camp. Curiously we didn't have any guest speakers at our meetings this last year which is in contrast to the previous year when we had quite a few.

Whilst our walks program was quite healthy in 2017-18 I would caution that a comparison with the previous year shows we are walking less – in 2017-18 we did 14 fewer walks compared to 2016-17. We are getting older, our average age increasing from about 62.5 to 64.1, and whilst our membership increased a little in 2018, the number of walks dropped by 10 percent. This is further illustrated by looking at the decrease in weekend walks compared to midweek walks and basecamps. In the last year we did nine fewer weekend walks than in 2016-17. If we accept the proposition that younger members mostly walk on weekends, these figures also show how we are aging and that in the medium term we need to recruit more young people to flourish. Nevertheless, for now we are certainly maintaining an excellent list of walks of varying standards and there is certainly no crisis.

None of our walks could happen but for the efforts of our leaders who continue to put on great walks. Thank you to all of you who made that possible and will continue to do so into the future. Thank you to Hilary for your walk summaries at our monthly meetings.

Nor would the club function without the considerable effort of the committee and many others in the club who did so much work. They have all made my job so much easier. Thank you to Bob Hamilton who is leaving the committee after several years, and to Anna Denham, Ian Yarde, Linda Good, Marek Turski, Ron Bell, Col Purchase and Michael Howes. In my time as president the committee members have worked very hard for no reward and people have often congratulated us as a group for doing a great job. Thank you to all of you.

Michael Howes has been nominated for life membership. He has been a club member for over 30 years and has spent much of that time either on the committee or doing other jobs such as walks coordinator.

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He currently manages our technical equipment and systems and without his work our club meetings would not run smoothly.

Many other people also have assisted in running the club over the last year. Gail Greenwood took on the catering duties at our meetings and does a great job whilst coping with the restrictions we've put on her budget. Also thank you to Chris Jarvis who is our contact at BS&R and who has been of assistance regarding the proposed Australian Activity Adventure Standards, and to Bill Casey who puts together both the Marathon & our website, and Brian Smith for another whimsical Christmas quiz, plus Inge Lingham, Gina Casalbuono, Helen Coleman, Ron Pearce and others who helped out in various ways. Also, thank you to Howard Stokes for making the Upper Plenty Conference Centre available for our Christmas party.

7. **Treasurer's Report:**

Statements in accordance with section 30 (3) of Associations Incorporations Act 1981 were distributed, read and discussed by Kevin Egan, in the absence of the Treasurer. Membership fees have been increased to \$40 this year. Insurance is still our major expense. Otherwise, there were no big expenses as in the previous year. The bank balance as at 20 May 2018 is \$5,348.82. The Treasurer's report was accepted on a motion proposed by Michael Howes and seconded by David Bass. Carried.

8. **Proposal for Life Membership:**

Michael Howes was nominated by Ron Bell (prior to the AGM), seconded by Sylvia McLean. Carried on a show of hands.

9. **Election of Office Bearers and Committee Members:**

The President, Kevin Egan called for nominations for the position of the new President;

President: **Marek Turski** nominated by Ian McLean, seconded Brian Smith. There being no other nominations Marek was declared elected.

Marek took the chair to conduct the election of the remaining office bearers and committee members with all positions declared vacant. The following nominations were forwarded:

Vice President:

Kevin Egan, nominated by Hilary May, seconded Linda Good. There being no other nominations Kevin was declared elected.

Secretary:

Linda Good, nominated by Kevin Egan, seconded Brian Smith. There being no other nominations Linda was elected unopposed.

Treasurer:

Ian Yarde, nominated by Marek Turski, seconded Michael Howes. There being no other nominations Ian was elected unopposed.

5 Ordinary Committee Members:

Ron Bell, nominated Anna Denham, seconded Sylvia McLean. Accepted nomination.

Michael Howes, nominated Inge Lingham, seconded Darren McClelland. Accepted nomination.

Anna Denham, nominated Nicole Lowe, seconded Gina Casalbuono. Accepted nomination.

Col Purchase, nominated Margaret Whipp, seconded Ron Pearce. Accepted nomination.

There being no other nominations Ron Bell, Michael Howes, Anna Denham, and Col Purchase were declared elected as 4 of the ordinary members.

Nicole Lowe proposed that the Committee have the option to co opt a 5th committee member before the next AGM. Carried on a show of hands.

10. **Meeting declared Closed.**

There being no other business the meeting was declared closed at 20.00 hrs.