

Save the Mary River Co-ordinating Group  
Meeting Minutes

Date: 12th February 2007

Location: Kandanga Information Centre

Members: Kevin Ingersole (Chairperson), Keith Gall, John Porter, Jan Porter, Kaili Parker-Price, Steve Dennis, Amanda Warren, Victor Hill, Helga Hill, Alan Sheridan, David Sims, Glenda Pickersgill, Lyndal Ensbey, Iain Watt, John Woodley

Apologies: Lars Hedberg, Sue Smith, Lin Dillon, Wayne Dillon, Tamielle Andreassen, Sharon Ingersole, Tony Smith, Tony Hawkyard, Steve Burgess, Beryl Spencer, David Kruetz, June Blyton, Garry Blyton, Jo O'Shanesy, Tricia Roth

Agenda: As per Agenda received at meeting

Glossary of Terms:

Committee The Management Committee, Save the Mary River Co-ordinating Group, and its members.

Chairperson Committee Chairperson or President

Member/s Individual/s of Ordinary Members of the Save the Mary River Co-ordinating Group

Guest/s Meeting attendees not classed as Ordinary Members

#### OPENING OF MEETING

Meeting was called to order by the Chairperson at 7.00pm at Kandanga Information Centre.

#### MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Motion: Minutes be accepted as a true and accurate record.

Moved By: John Porter. Seconded By: Alan Sheridan.

#### BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

No business arising from minutes.

#### FUNDRAISING STANDING COMMITTEE

Nothing to report.

#### TECHNICAL STANDING COMMITTEE

Alan advised the Members that the Technical Study arranged by the Mary River Council of Mayors would be released to the public after the Premier and Deputy Premier have been briefed by the study's author, Professor Stuart White, and therefore he is unsure as to a final release date. Keith asked Alan if there would be an official media release regarding the Technical Study which Alan said could be organized, however, he believed that the original media release for the Executive Summary was intended to be the official release.

Alan also asked for volunteers to contact national and international groups and request assistance in lobbying the Federal Government and in particular, the Federal Environment Minister. Alan advised the Members to contact him if they would like to participate or know anyone who would be interested in participating. Once a small group had been formed Alan advised that he would arrange with the Environmental Consultant to conduct a workshop with the group and help formulate a plan.

#### MEDIA STANDING COMMITTEE

Nothing to report.

#### MEMBERSHIP STANDING COMMITTEE

John informed the Members that they had received a good response from the attendees at the Gympie Rally on the 4th February 2007. Amanda advised the Members the current total membership count was approximately 160 - 170 members including the membership applications received at the Gympie Rally.

John informed that the newly constructed membership stall has already been operated 3 times and has had good support. John added that believed it was important that the public downstream of the Mary Valley be approached for their support via membership and that at the next event to be held in the downstream area Members should be present to promote and collect Membership.

John also informed the Members that the membership stall has been booked for Mary St in Gympie on Friday, 16th February 2007.

#### SIGNAGE STANDING COMMITTEE

Keith informed the Members that he has recently been working on the idea of a billboard for the Group and has put together a few ideas. Keith added that Members are welcome to send him their suggestions to assist in the process. Keith also asked the Members if anyone would be willing to study the billboard contract please advise him. Kevin suggested to Keith that some local organisations, particularly tourist groups, could be approached to provide funding assistance for the billboard. Victor added that some local residents may also be willing to provide financial assistance for the project.

#### MERCHANDISE STANDING COMMITTEE

Lyndal advised the Members that merchandise sales in January had been good.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT

Lyndal advised the members that the current Bank Account balance was \$36,500. Lyndal added that she had recently been contacted by a local

resident to donate \$10,000 to the fund.

Lyndal advised that she was currently in the process of arranging for quotation from Auditors as an Auditor was required to be appointed for the group and when she had received some quotations they would be presented to the group for consideration.

Helga asked Lyndal about credit card payments. Lyndal informed the Members that she was currently taking credit card payments for membership etc however an online credit card payment process was still being arranged by Tricia.

Alan informed Lyndal that he may be able to seek some funding for the Environmental Consultant from the Burnett Mary River Regional Group.  
Motion: All payments are approved and the Treasurers Report is as a true and accurate record.

Moved By: Lyndal Ensbey. Seconded By: Keith Gall.

## GENERAL BUSINESS

### Submissions for TOR for EIS Process and Progress

Glenda advised the Members that Steve Burgess had formulated a good submission for the TOR and added that a few key people should be used to build on Steve's submission. Glenda also added that they were trying to include the downstream effects as part of the submission. Glenda advised the Members that she intended to collate all of the information collected before submitting the document. John Woodley suggested that we encourage members of the public to send in their own submissions as the social impact is more evident to Senators by the expression of interest from the public.

### Media Release of "plain speak" version of STMRCG TOR Submissions with Reasons

Kevin advised the Members that he wanted to look at formulating a "plain speak" version of the TOR submission for use in future media releases.

### Process and Preparation for Senate Enquiry

Glenda informed the Members that after the proposed Senate Enquiry is approved there will only be a couple of weeks to the deadline for public submissions. Glenda asked John Woodley what we could do to prepare for this event. John Woodley advised that he would try to organize an action plan for the group by the next meeting. Alan suggested that Professor Stuart White may testify. John Woodley advised the Members that there a Senate Enquiry provides Parliamentary Privilege to people who testify and that it is important to inform people of this point. Jan asked if anyone knew people who would be prepared to testify. Steve advised that he was aware of at

least one person. Steve also suggested that we informed Ms Anna Bligh of these cases before they are presented at the Senate Enquiry so the Government can not claim they were not informed.

Kevin advised the Members that the onus was with the group to present the facts to the enquiry and that a working party should be formed to organise a plan for the enquiry.

#### DEH Visit in early March

Glenda advised the Members that DEH assessors have agreed to visit the area on the 1st March 2007. Exact details of visit are yet to be finalised.

#### Briefing Team and Topics

Kevin advised the Members that a briefing team should be available for the visit from the DEH assessors.

#### Photo Competition Update

Glenda advised the Members that she has been unable to contact Ian who is organising the competition and an update could not be provided at this point.

#### Downstream Committee Representatives and Rally

Glenda informed the Members that she had spoken with Daryl Stewart at the Gympie Rally and Mr Stewart had suggested that representatives from downstream of the Mary Valley be encouraged to join the group to which Glenda agreed that this idea should be promoted.

#### Publications and Presentations

Glenda advised that she was aware working on some science papers at the moment. One particular paper has been accepted for presentation at a conference in May. The Burnett Mary River Regional Group has also invited Glenda to speak about endangered species in Hervey Bay on the 19th February. Glenda advised that she would attempt to use these opportunities to present information on the effect of the Traveston Dam.

#### SMR Website Forum Update

Helga advised that there are plenty of comments on the forum regarding media releases however in general it is fairly quiet.

#### Ron Boswell's visit

Kevin advised the Members that Mr Ron Boswell's visit to the Kandanga Information Centre was good and that Mr Boswell spoke well. Mr Boswell, however, reminded the group that they should not 'get their hopes up' as the

Queensland Government can not be forced by the Senate to provide testimony or information to the enquiry.

#### Appreciation Letter to Cooloola Shire Council

David Sims suggested that the group send a letter of appreciation to the Council for allowing the use of the Gympie Pavilion. John agreed to arrange a letter.

#### Community Futures Taskforce Response

Kevin advised that he had written to the Community Futures Taskforce requesting a report of their progress in the community and had received an unsatisfactory reply from the Taskforce. Kevin asked if anyone was prepared to respond to contact him to arrange.

#### CMC Response to Request for Information

Kevin advised that the CMC does not appear to want to provide information regarding the assessment on property valuations in the area. Kevin advised the Members that he had requested that the solicitors assisting on this task respond to the CMC to advise them that the CMC's response was unsatisfactory.

#### Sisters of Mary

Glenda informed the Members that the Sisters of Mary have applied to attend the Woodford Folk Festival. They have also applied to appear on the Sunrise television program. Glenda also added that the Sisters of Mary Climate Change Roadshow is to begin on the 29th March 2007.

#### Art Auction

Kevin informed the Members that any donations for the Art Auction needed to be received as soon as possible.

#### NEXT MEETING

Next meeting was announced for 26th February 2007 at 7pm, Kandanga Information Centre.

#### CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting was closed at 8.55pm.

#### ISSUES REQUIRING ATTENTION

Issue Person Responsible Required By

Appreciation Letter to Council John Porter ASAP

Approach Burnett Mary River Regional Group for funding Alan Sheridan ASAP

Preparation list for Senate Enquiry John Woodley Next Meeting 26th  
Feb 07