

# Progressing Cobden Inc A0033175Y

ABN 77 963 102 154

All correspondence to:  
P.O. Box 37  
COBDEN Vic 3266

Chair: Ron Greagen  
Secretary: Kelvin White  
Treasurer: Frank Martin

## MINUTES – Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November, 2023, Heytesbury Room, 7pm

**PRESENT:** Adam Higham, Ron Greagen, Milton Parlour, Jennifer Kripp, Judith Gribble, Barb Cowley, Cath Jenkins, Chelsea Hatherall, Kelvin White

**APOLOGIES:** Heather Walsh, Joanne Heard, Wendy Matheson, Willoughby Perriss, Jo Beard, Frank Martin

- 1 **CONFIRMATION OF OCTOBER MINUTES:** Moved B Cowley/J Kripp CARRIED  
Cath Jenkins noted a post-meeting conversation regarding a Christmas-in-Cobden event should not have been included in the minutes. Secretary Kelvin White explained the fact that the CBN leadership group was not going to organise events like Christmas-in-Cobden was already well-understood by Progressing Cobden. He said the additional information was included in the minutes to provide background for any individual or group outside PC that might be interested in organising the event. He also said support from Cobden businesses will still be needed – for sponsorship, prize donations and to encourage customers to enter the traditional Christmas competition. The reason for holding the Christmas event has always been to enable businesses to thank their customers for their patronage during the previous 12 months. Rightly or wrongly, additional notes are often included in PC minutes to keep members and followers up-to-date.
- 2 **CORRESPONDENCE (from/to PC, CBN or any PC committee)**
  - 2.1 **Inward correspondence: From . . .**
    - Cobden Primary School re graduation award and presenter for Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December at 1.30pm (Civic Hall).
    - Cobden Technical School re presentation event on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December. No request for presenter.
    - Offer of Community Emergency Resilience Workshop for Cobden. Lismore event took place on October 10<sup>th</sup>.
    - Clarification re the CBN's policy towards running community events eg Cobden Christmas (Cath Jenkins)
    - CBN: Tradies breakfast on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov at GreenCon. Warren Davies to speak. Thurs evening event cancelled.
    - Deakin Digital Innovation event: Camperdown Golf Club – November 9<sup>th</sup> (Kellie Duynhoven)
    - Corangamite Shire E-News
    - Great Ocean Road Regional Tourism (September)
    - Cobden Story: Much input for boards
    - Rotary Club Newsletters
    - Dan Tehan MP: Newsletter
    - Jarrod Woff (Racecourse Reserve): Minutes of meeting on September 27<sup>th</sup>
    - Neighbourhood Watch letter (Natalie Pekin): For information.
  - 2.2 **Outward correspondence: To . . .**
    - PC distribution list: October minutes
    - Bendigo Bank Community Investment application for Cobden Township Security Cameras project. PC is auspice organisation for Team Community Safety
    - Publicity regarding Cobden's RV Friendly status – print, radio . . . Grey Nomads still to do.
    - Cobden Story: Much output for storyboards

Receipt of inward/endorsement of outward correspondence: Moved C Jenkins/C Hatherall CARRIED
- 3 **BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**  
(See Reports/Business/General Business next pages)
- 4 **TREASURER'S REPORT (F Martin):** Balances at end of these minutes. Mention of the CBN looking to set-up a separate bank account was referred to the PC treasurer for action with endorsement (or otherwise) to be provided at the December meeting. Moved M Parlour/K White CARRIED

## 5 OTHER REPORTS

- 5.1 **CTS Students (W Perriss):** "Promotion for student representation from CTS hasn't gained a lot of interest but I'm working on phase 2."
- 5.2 **Racecourse Reserve (R Greagen):** No meeting but the racecourse reserve groups will 'light-up' on the third Sunday of November . . .
- 5.3 **Pioneer Park (H Walsh):** Last minute details to be ironed out for Sunday Funday on November 19<sup>th</sup> – Market stalls are coming in thick and fast; Advertising this week in local papers; Radio advertising; Many vehicles for a Motor Show; Music; Food; Boot Toss; Pet Parade; Hard to believe it's been four years since we did this. Need to find the Bus Stop signs and organise the bin trailer from the shire. An update – an ecumenical church service is being held in the Restoration Group chapel at 2.30pm
- 5.4 **Mini-Festivals & Events:** No planning for a **Cobden Christmas** event has been initiated yet. After discussion, it was decided to convene a meeting to try to pull people together at 4pm this Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November to get something underway . . . venue to be confirmed. Carol-singing is happening on Sunday night, December 17<sup>th</sup> so it again makes sense that a Christmas event on Apex Park links with this traditional occasion.  
It was also mentioned at the meeting and confirmed later that several Cobden shops are opening late on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November to create a **Christmas Extravaganza** – up to 8pm.
- 5.5 **Cobden & District Historical Society (J Gribble/J Kripp):** We have been busy cataloguing and sorting photos from our archives. We changed the old Cobden newsagency window to a vintage kitchen display. Queries for family history research and Cobden shop history have taken a good deal of our time. Our online page is bringing in donations of articles and photos. The alcove to house the Cobden pipe band leader in a glass case will be finished this week. Thankyou to the Bendigo Bank for the grant. Very pleased to hear we were granted money to have our Orton collection of glass sides preserved and digitised. At present, we are arranging a vintage book display for the Sunday Funday event and will be working with the Pioneer Park to make the day a success. The flags will be flying on Remembrance Day – November 11th.

### 5.6 TWENTY 20 VISION ACTION GROUPS:

#### 5.6.1 **Tourism/Grand Tourism Plan:**

- **Free camp on Golf Club land:** Positive feedback. Need for signage on Bond St corner?
- **Dump Point (K White):** Two texts plus phone call advising current grate is not satisfactory and reporting stolen hose and messed-up pit.
- **Cobden V.I.C. 3266 (J Dwyer):** Book exchange has shifted successfully to the Arcade.
- **Building Cobden's Tourism Capacity (K White):** Meeting Cobden Story deadline is a priority for people involved. Required permits not obtained yet due to key planning person away until November 12<sup>th</sup>. Probably ten to complete before we say that's it for Stage 2. Many thanks to Barb Cowley, the Historical Society and many others who are helping.

#### 5.6.2 **Town Appearance**

- **Streetscape:** Outstands in Curdie Street replanting is beginning. Designated gopher parking to be line marked and signed in coming weeks. New bin surrounds have been installed, look great. Awaiting input from local manufacturer on possible design and construction ability for feature seats. Awaiting costings.
- **Lake Cobden (M Parlour):** The Connie sculpture area is looking shabby – it was wondered if an approach to the scouting groups would produce a positive response? Yes, J Beard and leader Lauren Wiseman have consulted, and the scouts are prepared to take it on as a project. Technical School's Hands-on Learning crew's offer to garden at the lake has not eventuated yet. Plan for working bee next Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November at 10am.

#### 5.6.3 **Facilities, Infrastructure and Services (FIS)**

- > **Cobden Aerodrome Community Asset Committee (J Beard/E Dawe):** AGM took place during October. TARGA Car Club has requested use of airstrip on Wednesday 24th March 2024, (along with Kart track) for 'accuracy' driving, car display etc, (no racing, or burnouts!). Great opportunity for the town. Avdata aircraft monitoring system installed to collect data regarding traffic using the airstrip.

- > **Tandarook Park (J Beard):** Funding allocated in current budget to help kick start Stage 1 projects. Jarrod Woff and team at shire are working through those line items and getting designs and costings together to prioritise the projects.
- > **Tandarook House (J Beard):** Contractors have begun site works. Exciting to finally see progress.
- > **Cobden Community Safety Team (J Beard):** Township security cameras project \$25,000 funding application has been submitted with Bendigo Bank. If unsuccessful, we will look for other funding alternatives. Cobden Police will be bolstered with a further two new members, bringing the team up to five. This is a significant boost after many years of advocacy and inability to attract staff to rural areas.
- > **Cobden Structure Plan (J Beard):** Drum roll please . . . Corangamite Planning Scheme Amendment C59 was officially Government-approved on October 25th 2023. A few weeks before being formalised. This was the final step in a significant project for our community that placed a strong focus on enabling and facilitating the delivery of available, market-ready land to cater for new housing and population growth. It also incorporates the Cobden Aerodrome Masterplan 2022 which sets out the long-term vision and operations of that facility, specifically protection of the aerodrome.

**5.6.4 Volunteers and Organisations (VO):** Congratulations to the local recipients of Dan Tehan MP community etc awards –



**5.6.5 Economic Sustainability/Education and Training:**  
**Cobden Business Network (Cath Jenkins):**

- 1/ Deakin University and Corangamite Shire held a successful business networking evening last month with the topic of discussion being digital innovation. Was well attended by Cobden-based businesses.
- 2/ successful Tradie breakfast held last Friday at GreenCon with a great turnout from a mix of local businesses. We heard from Warren Davies the Unbreakable Farmer who spoke about the importance of looking after your mental health.

3/ CBN welcomes Dennis Delaney to the leadership team.

4/ We will be looking to hold a business networking event in mid-December. More details to follow.

**6 Digital Media Group/Marketing:**

- (i) Podcast production (Cobden – Now We’re Talking): NA
- (ii) Cobden Media Opportunities sub-committee: No report

**7 Corangamite Shire (J Beard):**

- Free domestic **green waste** disposal at landfill ended Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November.
- Free social media workshop ‘Christmas Online’ 9th Nov 10am-12pm Killara Centre, bookings online.
- Reminder to register any **community events** with shire so it makes the public events calendar.
- Fire prevention **property inspections** have been completed and notices in mail. Still awaiting confirmation of official **fire restriction period**, but looking like later this month.
- **Swimming Pool** season: The Cobden season starts Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2023 and ends Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2024. More details on council website. Follow Facebook page for program and activity information. Assistance with promotion would be appreciated.
- **Library** is open Wednesday, Friday Saturday. The first year of operations have been a success in partnership with Moyne Shire with all key measures passing last year’s. More members, more visits, more loans, more program participants, more wifi sessions. Join if you are not already a member.

**8 Phoenix Project (C Hatherall):** Flier to be distributed with minutes celebrating the five year ‘life’ of Phoenix – 86 events, 17 community group collaborations, 41 artists, 15 local suppliers and businesses plus impressive survey statistics. The not-for-profit organisation, formerly known as the Phoenix Project, will become the not-for-profit Alderwood Manor.

Moved C Jenkins/M Parlour that Progressing Cobden and the community owe a massive debt of gratitude to both Chelsea and Scott for coordinating the Phoenix Project over the five years since the St Patrick’s Day fires. CARRIED with applause and acclamation

**9 Cobden’s Indigenous Heritage (K White):** Awaiting opportunity to take completed draft of storyboard to Eastern Maar people in Warrnambool.

All reports were received on the motion of C Jenkins/B Cowley CARRIED

**10 GENERAL BUSINESS:**

**(a) Men’s Shed Christmas trees:** Kelvin White has followed up with Murray Ibbs. Men’s Shed members are working on early orders with pallets provided by Reid Stockfeeds. The feedmills are probably the prime source of required timber. Must be pine pallets, other types are too heavy. Murray will let us know when more pallets are needed or they have trees to be stored. We will advertise with the distribution of these minutes – no orders after November 28th. Doing different sizes again.

**(b) Neighbourhood Watch:** Correspondence from Natalie Pekin explained the reach of Cobden’s Neighbourhood Watch program – Simpson, Princetown, Scotts Creek, Glenfyne, Ecklin, Cobrico, Elingamite and surrounding areas. To be circulated with minutes.

**(c) The Uniting Church Op Shop** has volunteered to decorate two median strip trees and one driveway tree for Christmas. Other businesses are invited to do similar up and down Curdie St.

**(d) Neville Robertson and Milton Parlour** working with others to modify flags so they can be utilised on our new **median strip poles** – ready for Christmas.

**11 CLOSE MEETING:** 8.50pm

**12 Next monthly meeting:** 7pm, Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December

Continued 5/

**APPENDIX 1: Bank balances as supplied by Treasurer Frank Martin . . .**

**PROGRESSING  
COBDEN INC**

**FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 5th NOVEMBER 2023**

**CASH SUMMARY**

	<b>Accounts</b>	<b>Total</b>	
<b>Progressing Cobden/CBN</b>	\$57,857.20		Savings account
	\$945.87		Debit card account
	\$7,295.97		Investment account
	\$30,000.00		Term deposit
		<b>\$96,099.04</b>	
<b>Pioneer Park</b>	\$5,665.54		Savings account
		<b>\$5,665.54</b>	
<b>Historical Society</b>	\$12,465.32		Savings account
	\$2,113.30		Investment account
		<b>\$14,578.62</b>	
<b>VIC 3266</b>	\$131.92		Savings account
	\$3,815.67		Tyro EFTPOS account
		<b>\$3,947.59</b>	
<b>TOTAL CASH POSITION</b>		<b>\$120,290.79</b>	