

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 4th March, 2024, Heytesbury Room, 7pm

INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME:

Suspension of STANDING ORDERS

Tammy Young and Samantha Fox (Corangamite Shire) outlined the proposal regarding a Shire-led Cobden festival on some part of the weekend of May 18-19 involving many district groups, businesses and activities. Feedback and ideas were taken from nearly 30 people present. Details about a 'Star' theme, and who and what was already booked were shared. Further consultation with various organisations and council staff will take place before final decisions are made.

Return to STANDING ORDERS

WELCOME SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVES:

Lennie Dobbins, Ewen Robbins (CTS), Dana Wood, Aregawi Chivell (CC).

PRESENT: Sandra Timmins, Milton Parlour, Barb Cowley, Frank Martin, Ron Greagen, Ewen Robbins, Lennie Dobbins, Suzanne Marshall, Jennifer Kripp, Judith Gribble, Bec Huth, Cath Jenkins, Helen Smith, Dana Wood, Aregawi Chivell, Jo Beard, Kelvin White

APOLOGIES: Wendy Matheson, Heather Walsh, Eunice Dawe, Cobden PS, Fonterra

1. **CONFIRMATION OF FEBRUARY MINUTES:** Moved B Cowley/F Martin CARRIED

2 FOR ACTION (from previous meeting, correspondence and reports)

- A. Tiny Towns grants program.** This RDV program is for community infrastructure projects in towns with a population up to 5000 people. Grants between \$5000 and \$50,000 were available with applicants making a co-contribution to the project. Applications closed on **25 February 2024**. Last meeting's resolution to investigate applying for a Tiny Town grant to produce a significant mural with a Cobden historical theme had to be modified with insufficient time available to get a design and mural artist organised. It was decided to still apply for funding – only using historical photographs under the 'Welcome to the Cobden Story' theme. The deadline was met with eight minutes to spare.
- B. Cobden community projects**
Geocaches – Some have been positioned around Cobden.
Starlight Superswim fundraiser – Unsure about progress at this point.
- C Christmas on Apex (2023 Committee)**
ACTION: When the full financial result of Christmas-on-Apex 2023 is known (if a reasonable profit is forthcoming), a committee will be sought to embark on work on celebrating Cobden's festive season.
- D Lake Cobden (Committee)**
It was decided the resolution passed at the February meeting needed more consideration. A positive response from GreenCon was received and Barb Cowley had an opportunity to discuss the lake with the Heytesbury District Landcare Network. However it was decided the first step should be to contact

the Corangamire Shire with whom we already have a MoU about the lake's maintenance. A meeting with the Acting Director Works and Services Jarrod Woff has been arranged for Tuesday 5th February at 1.15pm. Interested people welcome.

E Free Camp (Reference Group)

ACTION: Cr Jo Beard wrote to PC explaining she has the Shire's works department scoping up the task of sealing Bond St through to Grayland St – and that she will work further on a business case to put up a budget bid. **A request from Progressing Cobden for the sealing of Bond St to be considered was suggested.**

F Friends of . . .

In preparation for our AGM in August that PC considers setting up additional membership groups eg Friends of Lake Cobden, Friends of the Pioneer Park, Friends of the Historical Society . . . to be decided next meeting. Minimal fees of \$10 per friend.

3. CORRESPONDENCE (from/to PC, CBN or any PC committee)

3.1 Inward correspondence: From . . .

- Ashley Ryan (new Shire Municipal Emergency Management Officer) Attending April meeting
- School awards: Thankyou from schools
- Corangamite Shire E-News
- Great Ocean Road Regional Tourism (January/February): Do you want this forwarded to you?
- Cobden Story: Input for boards and communications with Shire, Public Records Office, Star Printing, GreenCon
- Rotary Club Newsletters
- Dan Tehan MP: Newsletter
- GrantConnect: Festival opportunity. Closes March 18th
- James Green: Photo of Clarkes' Pies historically-themed wall for reference
- Jarrod Woff (Corangamite Shire): Re upcoming Lake Cobden meeting

3.2 Outward correspondence: To . . .

- PC distribution list: February minutes
- Jarrod Woff (Corangamite Shire): Re upcoming Lake Cobden meeting
- Cath Jenkins (CBN): Small amount of funding available for business event
- Cobden Story: To Public Records Office, Corangamite Shire, GreenCon and Star Printing
- Groups and individuals re Shire's proposal for May 18th festival in Cobden

Receipt of inward/endorsement of outward correspondence: Moved E Robbins/D Wood CARRIED

4. TREASURER'S REPORT (F Martin):

FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 4 MARCH 2024

CASH SUMMARY

	Accounts	Total	
Progressing Cobden/CBN	\$29,451.43		Savings account
	\$104.15		Debit card account
	\$7,315.32		Investment account
	\$30,000.00		Term deposit
		\$66,870.90	
 Pioneer Park	 \$8,235.49		 Savings account
		\$8,235.49	

Historical Society	\$5,718.00	Savings acc
	\$0.00	Investment account - CLOSED
	\$5,718.00	
VIC 3266	\$1,100.80	Savings account
	\$4,471.80	Tyro EFTPOS account
	\$5,572.60	
TOTAL CASH POSITION	\$86,396.99	Moved F Martin/M Parlour CARRIED

5 OTHER REPORTS

5.1 Cobden Technical School students (E Robbins, L Dobbins):

School captains: Lillyanna Mahoney and Brodie Foster
 School council: Lillyanna Mahoney and Phoebe Harris
 Student Voice Committee supporting Senior Citizens' lunch catering and RCH appeal
 New Assistant Principal: Sarah Cook
 Swimming sports won by Glenfyne, Athletics tomorrow, Tuesday 5th March
 Hampden SS using four CTS rooms during upgrade, CTS planning new admin wing
 Anzac flag-raising day on April 24th

Camperdown College students (D Wood, A Chivell):

Six Year 9 students are attending an eight-week School for Student Leadership at Marlo
 Ebony Pearce and Riley Stephenson competed in the Lions Youth of Year with Ebony participating in the regional final.
 We conducted our leadership induction assembly – prep students were introduced to the P-12 community and our senior leaders received badges
 43 Year 7 students attended a camp at Sunnystones near Bacchus Marsh in February
 Rehearsals for Moana have begun after successful auditions. Performances in late term 2.

5.2 Racecourse Reserve (R Greagen): Next meeting May 3rd

5.3 Pioneer Park (H Walsh): Been quiet but some patrons through. Still getting machinery donated. Email address to be added to distribution list - cobdenpioneerpark@gmail.com. Open Easter Sunday

5.4 Mini-Festivals & Events: Funding for Kidding Around'? With \$500 already available and other possible sources, F Martin/R Greagen moved that Progressing Cobden underwrites the program to be conducted on April 10th.

5.5 Cobden & District Historical Society (J Kripp/J Gribble):

Pop-up display in hall of ladies' memorabilia proving popular. Many family history queries keeping us busy. Pleased to report have a telephone exchange given to us by Heytesbury Historical Society. Pipe band cabinet set up and donations acknowledged. Letters of support being sought as we are applying for a grant to digitise and index our microfilm reels of the Heytesbury Reformer and Cobden Times which cover the era from the late 1800s up to 2014.

5.6 TWENTY 20 VISION ACTION GROUPS:

5.6.1 Tourism/Grand Tourism Plan:

- **Free camp on Golf Club land:** New concern – dust created by traffic – see recommendation E on page 2. Also concern about ways vehicles park – some direction needed? Refer to Reference Group
- **Dump Point (K White):** Another unsightly blockage since last meeting saw the grate removed from the dump point. Signs on A-frame with heavy messages re wipes and use of water are now in place.

- **Cobden V.I.C. 3266 (J Dwyer):** Bit quieter but working bees getting maintenance done
- **Building Cobden's Tourism Capacity (K White):** Awaiting permits from Shire. Cycle map of town should be seen as a priority – should link in with Cobden Story walks when established.
- **Jo Beard's gig on 1134 3CS:** Every second Thursday morning at 7.40-ish. Please contact her with anything you would like promoted.

5.6.2 Town Appearance

- > **Streetscape (J Beard):** Replanting of out-stands waiting for appropriate planting conditions. Still awaiting to hear back in relation to design and build capabilities of feature seats, directional signage at roundabout being reviewed (declutter) and gopher line marking still to be completed. Jo to follow up on bike stand re-installation.
- **Lake Cobden (K White):** See Action D on page 1.
Cobden Scouts, via Secretary Lauren Wiseman have requested to plant low-maintenance natives on the top garden edge of 'Connie'. Funding will be available through Council's Parks and Gardens budget.
Signage: Discussion between Cr Beard and Fonterra about possible sign to be placed on south-facing wall of bbq shelter acknowledging Fonterra's contribution. Frank Martin to meet with Cr Beard regarding background behind the shelter and the wall added later-on – costings and works. No action

5.6.3 Facilities, Infrastructure and Services (FIS)

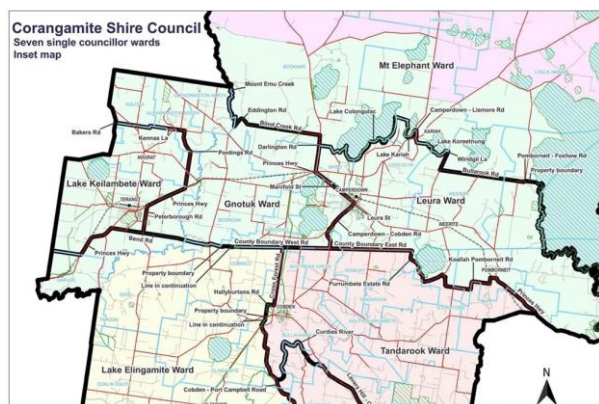
- > **Cobden Aerodrome Community Asset Committee (J Beard/E Dawe):** No report
- > **Tandarook Park (J Beard):** Designs for the existing shelter to be upgraded and extended have been completed, quotes for furniture, painting, and BBQ have also been quoted and just awaiting a final costing for concrete. Replacement of front park entrance sign has been provided and will be completed – like for like, or new wording. Start works later in the financial year. Funding submission has been put forward for the path through Tiny Towns (2024/2025 financial year).
- > **Tandarook House (J Beard):** No further updates. Contractors are on-site
- > **Cobden Community Safety Team (J Beard):** Awaiting next meeting. Neighbourhood Watch passed on an inquiry as to whether the new organisation had a role in this group.

5.6.4 Volunteers and Organisations (VO): No report

5.6.5 Cobden Business Network (Cath Jenkins): Meeting on Monday afternoon discussed monthly network dinner meetings happening on Tuesday evenings, a member survey being done, a new member Multicomm joining, sourcing new grants and a business event coming up in Colac.

6 Corangamite Shire (J Beard):

- Boundary Road will now be getting full sealing done, rather than just gravel shoulders. Query: No further than 55 or 57 Boundary Road though? Confirmed.
- New Business Assistance Scheme -BAS, launched successfully on Thursday 15th February. Year-long rolling grants available to help support local businesses.



[New Corangamite wards for October election
corangamite.vic.gov.au](https://corangamite.vic.gov.au)

'Tandarook' will be replacing the name of South Central Ward at the next Local Government election this October, along with slight changes to ward boundary which was in line with the shire submission to the review. Thanks to all, including PC, for making solid submissions which helped us retain the Ward structure as advocated for.

- > New Glass recycling bin to begin roll out (purple lid bin) this month. Further details to be found at <https://www.corangamite.vic.gov.au/Property/Rubbish-and-Recycling/Glass>
- > Two FREE youth art sessions at Alderwood Manor this month.
- > Upcoming FREE Social Media for events workshop 14/3/2024
- > Feedback wanted on DRAFT Environment and Sustainability Strategy
<https://www.corangamite.vic.gov.au/Council/News-and-Media/Latest-News/Feedback-wanted-on-10-year-Environment-Strategy>

7 GENERAL BUSINESS:

Neighbourhood Watch group held a community event yesterday at Tandarook Park. Sandra Timmins and Suzanne Marshall reported that the organisers were happy with the roll-up and that more than \$800 was raised towards purchase of number plate safety screws. Disappointed that no police members attended though.

8 CLOSE MEETING: 9pm

9 Next monthly meeting: 7pm, Monday 8th April 2024 – due to Easter weekend