



*POST OFFICE BOX 89
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MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING
HELD ON THE 20TH OF FEBRUARY 2008

ATTENDANCE

John Hall, Dale Pearce, Tony Wright, Dennis Bennett, Graeme Elphinstone, Vonda Hall

APOLOGIES

Chris Peterson, Denis Bignold, Ben Quin, Kathy Freeman, Jane Wing, Geoff Whitton.
Mick Fama.

PREVIOUS MINUTES

It was moved by John Hall, seconded by Dale Pearce that the minutes of the December 17 Meeting be accepted. Carried.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Ferry Service to Maria Island.

At present Seawings Eco Tours are providing the transport for tourists and PWS staff to the Island. The current situation has attracted media attention and Tony and Dale have provided some information to the ABC from the Chamber's perspective. It was made clear the Chamber fully supports the current operator and without their service the tourist problems we are facing, with reducing numbers this summer statewide, would be greatly exacerbated

Jetty facilities.

This issue resulted in considerable discussion, as the safety and presentation of this facility is inadequate. It was noted that Cr. Harris has been investigating alternatives for the Council, including a pontoon option.

Prosser River mouth.

This continues to be a significant issue, with continued sand drift changing the location of the river mouth and river course. It was agreed that the Executive members would contact PWS with a reminder that there was an agreement that dredging and maintenance would be provided. Dennis Bennett provided advice about the feasibility of maintaining the river opening based upon local knowledge.

TREASURERS REPORT

As Chris is not present due to work commitments this has been postponed to the next meeting.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Payment for Troy- D promotional clothing.

This was briefly discussed but as the Treasurer was not present it will be followed up in the interim.

Membership.

The low level of business participation was discussed. It was agreed that as there is obviously an economic downturn occurring, both nationally and locally, that a more concerted local effort together was needed. Vonda spoke about the success of 'shop locally' campaigns as one way to maintain business viability.

It was agreed to hold the next meeting at Orford (probably th Blue waters Hotel) to hopefully engage Orford members.

Chamber achievements.

It was agreed that the Chamber has achieved many resources and projects in our community. This is not always appreciated, and perhaps better marketing of our actions and outcomes is needed.

Water supply.

Following previous information provided by the Council to the Chamber, it was noted that the current supply is fairly critical, and this could be a major concern unless significant rainfall occurs. Having a clean and available water/ sewerage system significantly impacts upon visitor numbers etc.

NEXT MEETING

23rd of April (bi-monthly)

7.30 p,m,

Blue Waters Hotel

Orford.