# GIPPSLAND VEHICLE COLLECTION

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING
Tuesday 18th February 2025

**Present** Vanessa Noble Sue Lawrence, Justin Robson, Leigh Shields, Paul Kurts, Eijnar Tuben, Lynette Hume, Bruce Allen, Nick Elliott

**Apologies** Chris Henry, Ross Foster, Rachel Dawkins, Terry King.

Ness, as Chair, welcomed everyone and declared the meeting open at 1929hrs.

**Agenda Item 1. Minutes of the previous meeting were circulated**

Ness asked if there were any amendments, if not then she proposed that they be accepted.
Moved: Sue Seconded: Paul CARRIED

**Business Arising from previous meeting.**

a. **Model Train permanent covering options** – Ness reported that Mike and Darren were meeting to consider the options. WIP

b. **Tree Pruning** – The committee discussed the quotation from Agile Tree Works and noted the following:

   i. The sap dropping from the trees onto vehicles is caused by a honey-dew secretion from sap supping insects and is extensive throughout two to three larger trees.

   ii. The trees are healthy and have experienced vigorous growth over the past three years creating a potential for limb loss during high wind events.

   iii. The quotation proposed selected end weight reduction of limbs and overall minor canopy reduction of larger Ash trees. The uplift of low areas of canopy to permit vehicle traffic and RV and caravan access.

The committee discussed the removal of trees in total and AGREED to accept the quotation and revisit options for further tree management after the completion of the roof project. ACTION Paul

Mr Dean Johnson, a GVC member, has offered his time and equipment to grind the large stump at the Sale-Maffra Road entrance. The committee AGREED that the stumps behind the BBQ shed were a priority with the front entrance stump a nice to have if possible.

c. **Marketing Video** - Ness to follow up. ACTION

d. **Kids Game** – Sue stated that this was a WIP and could be dropped from the agenda in the interim.

e. **Roof restoration major raffle** – The committee discussed the uniqueness of the items donated by Davies Craig to raffle and that they would appeal to a certain minority of restorers. Options discussed included:

   i. Silent auction on the Display Day of the proposed hot rod and custom display.

   ii. Offer them for sale through the GVC sponsored site at the upcoming swap meet.

   The committee AGREED that there would possibly be little interest in a raffle for these items at the swap meet but would have a greater audience with the hot rod and custom groups. GVC to revisit options at the April 2025 committee meeting. ACTION

f. **Potential sale of GAM owned motorcycles.** The owner of the Honda 350SL is happy for the motorcycle to be sold. The owner of the other motorcycle was proving difficult to track down. It was subsequently found to be gifted to GVC. The committee AGREED to proceed with the sales of both machines.

g. **Fox classic car collection rally.** Ness reported that she has a contact email address to arrange this activity as a potential social event and fund raiser in early spring. Ness to report back to the committee. ACTION

h. **Concreting of fire hydrant surrounds to aid mowing.** Nick reported that this has been incorporated in the scope of works with the BBQ shed extension.

i. **Potholes at the Maffco end of Railway Place.** Leigh reported that he was looking at options including entering into discussions with the Wellington Shire Council for the provision of gravel. ACTION

j. **Mural on the adjacent car wash wall.** This would be progressed post the roof restoration or on the successful application for a grant.

k. **Free waste disposal vouchers.** Justin reported that he had submitted a request by email and would advise of the progress. WIP

**Agenda Item 2 Correspondence.**

**Correspondence in:**

a. Letter from Mr Jim Ballard – management of hazards by volunteer staff during occupation of the museum by volunteers and visitors.

**Background:**

On the 2nd of February during a rostered duty at the museum a visitor informed Jim that one of the lights in the main display area was emitting smoke and that flames were visible. This was confirmed and the main museum lights were switched off, an electrician contacted and the light replaced. The issues Jim raised are: an absence of remote emergency warning, an absence of training and familiarisation of evacuation procedures and location and operation of firefighting equipment.

The committee discussed the issue and AGREED on the following outcomes:

a. The purchase of quantity three aerosol horns for use by front counter staff. ACTION Ness

b. Update the fire plan to include the use of the audible alarm. ACTION Ness

c. An email to all counter and red plate staff advising of the changes and requiring them to respond as having read. ACTION Sue and Paul

d. A written response to Mr Jim Ballard thanking him for his initiative and prompt actions and advising of the above actions. ACTION Sue and Paul

**Correspondence out:**

a. Nil

b. **Agenda Item 3 - Finance Report**

Justin presented the finance report and for January 2025. He stated that earnings for the month were on budget however, admissions were down on budget. The income was offset by increases in retail sales, new and renewal red plate fees and new memberships. With regards to expenses there was nothing of note for the month and they were below budget. There is a surplus for the month and an overall surplus year to date.

Justin has continued to transfer donations for the roof restoration to GAM accounts. Leigh and Justin stated that there has been a limited response to the Facebook entry for donations.

Justin moved that the financial report be accepted: Seconded Ness. CARRIED

**Agenda Item 4 – Other Reports**

**Swap Meet**

The committee discussed the proposal of a Car Club offer to run a show and shine at the swap meet. The committee AGREED to adopt this. ACTION Sue

The committee AGREED to the proposal that a charge of $100.00 be levied for the Shannons site at the swap meet.

Leigh reported that he had been approached by a company who restores car wheels to hold a site on the Display Day on 02 March 2025 for the opening of the Ford v Holden display. Leigh stated that the vendor has his own public liability insurance. The committee AGREED to the proposal. Leigh to advise the vendor.

The committee discuss the option for GVC to provide greater exposure for small businesses selling into the car maintenance and restoration industry. Paul suggested that GVC consider this for Display Day in July for the Hot Rod and Custom display using the area between the BBQ shed and the entry to the museum annex. The committee AGREED to this proposal. ACTION Paul

Justin stated that he was obtaining a quote for public liability insurance for the swap meet.

Sue stated that the swap meet subcommittee was scheduled to meet on Friday 21st February.

The secretary presented a summary of the traffic management points raised in a letter from the vice president at the January 2025 meeting. The committee discussed the points raised and AGREED on the following comments:

1. On swap meet days a dedicated entrance for site holders only. Bendigo swap meet has three separate entrances dedicated to site holders, commercial vendors and public all enter through separate entry points.

   There is a dedicated entry point for site holders on Railway Place and this has been used for all previous swap meets – initially for sellers only but after 8.00 is used for buyers only.

2. Illuminated signage on Johnson Street prior to the roundabout and on the westbound lane of Maffra Sale Road. This would inform people of entry points and traffic flow.

   The committee AGREED to fund a trial of illuminated signage at the swap meet. The swap meet subcommittee to determine the location and number. The committee AGREED to provide additional static signage in the form of no parking signs for 30 metres either side of where Merrydale Street meets the Sale Maffra Road.

3. Still use Railway Place as an entry and leaving point.

   This has been used in previous years

4. Maybe this same side gate area needs to be widened and opened to accept two lanes of traffic. Entering vehicles would turn left into the grounds, exiting vehicles would turn left on leaving heading south down Railway Place to the Murray Goulburn factory.

   A wider gate has been fitted to this entry point.

5. There are professional traffic management firms, or VicRoads who would do an assessment, and give the GVC clear guidelines. There would be an expectation that the report would be acted upon, taking more time and funds to implement.

The committee AGREED not pursue this option.

The discussion on these points was robust with the understanding that the GVC committee has the responsibility to do what is reasonably practicable to reduce risk associated with traffic movement and public access and egress when events are held at the museum.

**Roof Restoration.**

Nothing significant to report at this meeting. No issues were raised by the committee.

**Display Report**.

The display changeover is in process and the museum should be empty by Thursday 20th February, with new display vehicles confirmed for the following Saturday. Leigh reported that a vehicle, driven by its owner, had sustained a dent when exiting the display area of the museum and where possible vehicles are to be chaperoned by volunteers when moving around. Leigh stated that over the years his preference remains for a changeover planned for one day with volunteers to assist to increase their sense of involvement.

Ness asked if it was worth sending an email to the members to generate a greater interest in the Working Bee. Sue stated that historically, texting members yielded better results. Sue stated that she is now starting to contact the newest members of GVC to follow up with those who had ticked the box that they are interested in helping out.

**Model Train**.

Sue stated that the model train team had reviewed a recent donation of a working rail diorama and rolling stock and did not foresee any use for it and it can be offered up for sale as it is a gift and may be sold. Sue reported that a volunteer had offered $100.00 for it. There was a counteroffer made by a committee member of $150.00. The committee AGREED that the volunteer who offered the original amount should be made aware of a counteroffer.

**Small Projects**

**BBQ Shed**

Nick reported that work was progressing on the slab and should be finalised by the end of the week. Nick stated that future projects of this nature should be undertaken by contractors who could offer a turnkey solution. This would include the acquiring of all permits and the management of all works and coordination of individual contractors. The BBQ shed did not conform to this model and was consuming large amounts of volunteer time to source architects, engineers and building inspectors as well as contractors to conduct the work.

Nick reported back on an issue raised at the January 2025 meeting on offers of help from volunteers or volunteer family members with the roof restoration work. Nick had discussed this with Duncan Malcolm from GAM. There are coordination and scheduling issues with integrating contractors from our volunteer base with the prime contractor. The prime contractor would increase their management fees to do this coordination and scheduling, or extra volunteer time would be required to manage this. The committee AGREED not to pursue offers from volunteers or volunteer family members for the roof restoration but would look at other opportunities to avail themselves of these offers.

**Maintenance**

The committee thanked Eijnar for his work in replacing the rotting timber in the entry walkway to the museum. It was brighter and fresher for his efforts.

The proposed Working Bee would address, as a minimum, the following items: platform clean up; Installation of more bird spikes; cobwebs and a dripping sink pipe.

**GAM.**

Justin presented a draft of letter seeking donations from corporate bodies. The letter would need to go to GAM for approval. The committee discussed the draft and offered the following suggestions:

1. Develop a catchy, passionate first paragraph, starting with a question and continue on a positive note.

2. Include a snapshot view of who we are and our beginnings.

3. Delete references to leaks, potential risks and asbestos, replace with positive statements of community service, what we add to the community and local trader benefits with the visitors we attract.

Justin stated that he would consider the input from the committee and redraft. Sue would send the final version to Lyn for her to present the letter to corporations in Ballarat.

**Club Plates.**

Ness stated that she would visit VIC ROADS to discuss the specific requirements for completing online red plate renewal forms. Sue would follow up and draft guidance from this visit for Red Plate volunteers.

**Retail**.

Ness reported that it had been a slow month and she had made additional purchases of Ford, Holden and Valiant model cars that are collectables. This would support the upcoming display theme of Ford v Holden.

**AOMC.** As Chris was an apology, no report was table for this meeting. No issues were raised by the committee.

**Large Train.** Leigh reported that work was continuing at a steady pace on the platform crane. Planning was in place to relocate the tanker to the museum grounds by the end of March.

**Promotion and Marketing.**

Sue reported that she had sent out the flyers for the new display. Sue had received an email from Steve Churches as his business card was no longer included in the latest edition of Shed Chatter. This anomaly was explained by Leigh who stated that the committee AGREED at the January 2025 meeting that only corporate members of the GVC would have their business cards displayed.

Leigh asked regarding boosting the Ford v Holden display advertising on Facebook. This would be a cost of $100.00. Sue stated that advertising on 3TR cost $600.00 for the swap meet last year and she would be switching to Facebook this year.

Paul offered to donate the $100.00 required to boost the Facebook advertising. The committee thanked Paul and AGREED to the boost.

**Agenda Item 5: New memberships.**

The committee reviewed the list of proposed new members and did not identify any objections. Ness moved that the list of proposed new members be accepted, seconded Eijnar. CARRIED.

**Agenda Item 6: Other Business**

**Availability of Shed Chatter**

Sue reported that for the newsletter Shed Chatter to be available there would need to be a link on the GVC web page and that it would have to be kept in the members area to prevent access by non-members. The committee discussed the options and asked Sue to talk with the GVC webmaster, David, about the viability of hosting Shed Chatter on the web and sending a link to members rather than the document. The committee AGREED to pursue this option. ACTION Sue.

**Small train diorama donation.**

Sue stated that this item had already been covered in the meeting.

**Other**

Ness outlined availability constraints for herself for the remainder of the year. If the GVC vice president was not present, Sue would chair meeting in Ness's absence.

Leigh asked about the codes for the recyclables at the depot in Sale. Ness stated that she was required to write on a GVC letterhead to arrange this.

There being no further items Ness declared the meeting closed at 2145hrs.