

**MINUTES OF THE 25th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
OF THE BIBBULMUN TRACK FOUNDATION Inc**

Held at The Universal Bar, 221 William Street, Northbridge
On Thursday 27th October 2022 at 5.00pm



1. Attendees and apologies:

Present:

Name	Position	Attendance
Bruce Manning	Board member	In Person
Stephen King	DBCA	Videoconference
Mark Davidson	Member	Videoconference
Patrick Tremlett	Board member	In Person
John Holan	Deputy Chair / Treasurer	In Person
Ce Kealley	Member	In Person
Wendy Corrick	Member	Videoconference
Kriss Soord	Member	In Person
Vanessa Huesges	Member	In Person
James Young	Member	In Person
Angela Loucaides	Member	In Person
Ian Kininmonth	Member	In Person
Helen Studham	Member	In Person
Ash Gibson	Member	In Person
Kath Broderick	Chair	In Person
Linda Daniels	Executive Director	In Person
Helen Grimm	Member	In Person
Natalia Murcia Garcia	Member	In Person
Steve Sertis	Member	In Person
Tristy Fairfield	Board Member	In Person
Charlie Soord	Board Member	Videoconference
Tim Macknay	Member	Videoconference
Tim Larkin	Member	In Person
Susan Soord	Member	In Person
Darrell Ventris	Member	In Person
Colin Gee	Member	Videoconference
Mary-Anne Addenbrook	Member	In Person
Isabelle Lenglois	Member	In Person
Anne Wayne	Member	In Person
Phillippa Bennett	Member	In Person
Joe Moran	Member	In Person
Sandra Thompson	Member	In Person
Chris Lee	Member	In Person
Sue Lee	Member	In Person
Jess Gibbs	Member	In Person
Marita Johnson	Member	In Person

Martin Johnson	Member	In Person
David Cohen	Member	In Person
Jane King	Member	In Person
Stefania Basile	Member	In Person

Apologies: David Forster (Member); Elke Paull-Keller (Member); Oona Ormsby (Member); Gary Payne (Member); Elly Spillekom (Member); John Scott (Member); John Murphy (Member); Laurence Leroux (Member); Jeremy Owen (Member); Sue Morley, (Member); Mike Wood (Board Member); Shaun Kaesler (Member); Bob Kelliher (Member); Hedley Amos (Member); Lari McDonald (Member); Alex Williams (Member); Steve Barrie (Member).

Minutes by: Vanessa Huesges

2. Minutes of 2021 AGM

Motion: That the minutes of the annual general meeting held on 28 October 2021 meeting be received and accepted as a true and accurate record

Moved: Patrick Tremlett Seconded: Bruce Manning
Result: Motion carried

3. Chair's Report – Kathleen Broderick

Kath acknowledged the traditional owners of the land. She thanked all members and the people who contribute to the Bibbulmun Track and the Foundation. Kath mentioned that she is even more appreciative of the work and effort going into maintaining the Track after completing a sectional End-to-End in 2022.

Her thanks go to all the staff, especially to Linda, as well as to the Board who resolved many issues in the last year.

Kath's personal thanks go to Patrick Tremlett, who is stepping down from his position as a Board member after 17 years. He has quietly supported the Foundation and Linda Daniels in many ways during his time on the Board.

Kath talked about the Trails Forum, Galeo Saintz, past Chair of the Worlds Trail Network delivered the keynote speech. She was inspired by his comments about the connections through hiking with spirit and body, which brings everyone together as a group. Galeo Saintz will also be hosted by the Bibbulmun Track Foundation for an overnight walk.

Motion: That the Chairman's Report for the Bibbulmun Track Foundation be accepted.

Moved: Tristy Fairfield Seconded: Sandra Thompson
Result: Motion carried

4. Executive Director's Report – Linda Daniels

Linda presented the Annual Report. Key points included:

- the value of our volunteers, if measured financially, was almost a million dollars
- the development of a template of the BTF's guide training program for guides for use by other organisations
- the development of an Introduction to Trail Maintenance course
- Track maintenance outcomes including major erosion control campaigns on the south coast
- several campsite upgrades and development of a new group campsite managed by DBCA's Recreation & Trails Unit
- the progression of initiatives from our Reconciliation Action Plan to improve walker engagement with cultural landscapes
- advocacy for protection of the Track from adverse impacts including off-road vehicles and mining.

Motion: That the Annual Report for the Bibbulmun Track Foundation be accepted.

Moved: Angela Loucaides Seconded: Natalia Murcia Garcia
Result: Motion carried

5. Treasurer's Report – Linda Daniels

Linda presented a summary of the Audited financials for 2021/22 and the written Treasurer's report. Key points included:

- The Foundation made a net loss of \$-33,551.
- The Foundation started the new financial year in a sound position with Net Assets of \$828,924.
- Key income streams included BTF sales and services, membership fees and sponsorship.
- Key expenses included an additional staff member and rent.

Linda thanked our volunteer bookkeeper, James Young, for looking after the accounts and Peter Edwards for conducting the audit.

David Cohen enquired about the 9% decrease in merchandise sales. Linda explained sales the previous year were exceptionally high after COVID with record sales for maps and guidebooks.

David also enquired if the Foundation has (in addition to sponsorship from Newmont) received financial support from Alcoa. Linda advised that the Foundation is no longer sponsored by Alcoa.

Darrell Ventris questioned if the Foundation received any funding from councils and the Main Roads Department and suggested if that was not the case, that it may be worth pursuing. Kath advised that some councils do contribute and, as an example, cited the upcoming 25th Anniversary celebrations with many towns taking part. The Town of Kalamunda had secured funding and managed the upgrade of the Northern Terminus, and the City of Albany coordinated the development of the new Southern Terminus. There is currently no funding from Main Roads.

David queried the amount in miscellaneous income. Linda advised this was largely the compensation received for having to move out of the YHA at short notice. The compensation was to cover the cost of the move and the rent, that went from \$10,000 to \$40,000 per year. The Foundation is now seeking premises with lower rent or, alternatively, purchasing a property.

Motion: That the financial statements for the Bibbulmun Track Foundation, for the period 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022 reflecting a true and fair view of the financial affairs be received and adopted.

Moved: David Cohen Seconded: Ashley Gibson
Result: Motion carried

6. Amendment to the Bibbulmun Track Foundation Rules 2009

Kath spoke to the background for the proposed changes to the Bibbulmun Track Foundation Rules. The current rules only allow for money to be deposited at a bank, where due to low interest rates, the money is decreasing in value. A change in rules is required to address this issue.

- i) Amendment to rule 40 in regard to the control of finances to allow investments outside of bank accounts with details outlined in rule 40A as per the type of investments.
- ii) Add new rule 40A to allow the BTF to invest non-operational funds in different ways, with only the Board being able to make such decisions.

John Holan outlined the kind of investments the Board had been looking at, ranging from shares and bonds to property. The timeframe of investment for the excess funds would be long term between five and ten years. John compared it with investments people usually make through their super funds with a balanced fund option. The Board would consider the risk and, similarly, invest in low-risk funds, for example with big companies.

There would be two layers of governance for the investments: An investment type committee researching where to invest, as well as the Board, ensuring the members funds are safeguarded.

Currently the inflation rate is at 3.5% and a term deposit offers a maximum of 4% interest, therefore the members funds are slowly being eroded.

Before the motion was moved, Kath stressed that the change in the rules is about enabling investment, not about making a decision on the investment.

