



Northern United Forestry Group

Monthly Meeting. Hay Farm, 3:45pm Wednesday 23 April 2008

1 Welcome and Apologies

President Ian Rankin declared the meeting open at 3:45pm.

Present: Rob Comer, Tim Johns, Phil Dyson, Ian Rankin, Mal Brown, Darren Kerr, Darren Bain, Shaun Quayle, Ken Wellard, Lindsay Cail, James Williams, Aldo Penbrook, Andy Hay, John Toll, Anne Murphy, Adrian Hocking, John Forbes, Faye Forbes, Alec Downey, David Millsom, Keith Padbury.

Apologies: Louise Wellard, Robyn McKay. Motion: "That the apologies be accepted." Moved JW. Seconded KW. Carried.

2 Minutes of previous meeting held 26 March 2008

Motion: "That the minutes of the meeting held at the Raywood Hotel 26 March 2008, be accepted as a true and accurate record of what took place at the meeting." Moved AP. Seconded LC. Carried.

3 Business arising from previous minutes

Issue/Action	By Whom	By When	Status
FF Toolbox V5 – New person has taken over from Andy. Shaun to organise training day.	SQ	May 08	Active
MB has met with Geoff Park re- running a MTG course. Melb Uni /Rowan Reid/Budget put together by Mal. EOI available. Selection process for running course next meeting.			
Saltbush seeder – All work complete.			

4 Correspondence In

- ♦ Andrew Lang (Smarttimbers)- Submission to 2008 Vic Timber industry strategy.
- ♦ VFF - Farm tree & Landcare Assoc. AGM Tuesday 24 June.
- ♦ 2008 Vic Landcare forum 29/30 May 2008.

5 Correspondence Out

- ♦ IR- JVAP Board, Milling & handling farm sawlogs.

Motion: "That the correspondence be accepted." Moved JF. Seconded MB. Carried.

6 Reports

- ♦ **President's report** – Ian Rankin reported that Pembroke college and East Loddon P-12 visit to the Kamo site was a success. Andy, Louise, Ken, Phil, Mal and Ian were present. Discussion followed on the fact that there was good potential for school visits to the site and that we need to continue to develop this to make it work better. The meeting also discussed turning the site into a good research site, accommodation, etc. Ian thanked all for their role in making field day a success, all the volunteers and for those who provided financial support for the day.

- ♦ **Treasurer's report** – Rob Comer reported on NUFG's income and expenditure as at 23 April 2008.

Motion: "That the Treasurer's report at 23 April 2008 be approved and that accounts received be approved for payment." Moved RC. Seconded SQ. Carried.

- ♦ **Social Secretary's Report** – No report due to field day.
- ♦ **Kamarooka Project Report** – No report due to the field day.
- ♦ **Kamarooka ground water** – No report due to the field day.

- ♦ **Climate change Project** – Phil stated that soil samples have been taken from all the project sites. Limestone present in most soil samples. Samples have been taken to a laboratory for pH and EC. Tree roots down to 2.5m observed under plantations. Lucerne roots observed to 2.3m. Five samples were taken from each participating farm.

7 **General Business**

KP- When managing sugar gum, may be advantageous to delay thinning to prevent large side branches. At pruning, it may be advantageous to fertilize and perhaps add copper, boron and zinc. Also, soil analysis and leaf analysis are useful regular undertakings. It is OK to have permanent sampling plots but probably better to rotate sampling plots.

MB- Thanks to everyone for their contribution to the field day.

DB- EBMP – need to finalise action plan.
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- ## 8 **Meeting closed:** 4:25pm. **Next Meeting:** Raywood Golf Club, BBQ prior and meeting starting at 7pm.