



## Northern United Forestry Group

### Monthly Meeting. Raywood Hotel, 8pm Wednesday 28 July 2010

#### 1 Welcome and Apologies

President Ian Rankin declared the meeting open at 8:17pm following the AGM.

**Present:** Phil Dyson, Ian Rankin, Rob Comer, Tim Johns, Ken Wellard, Mal Brown, Darren Kerr, Bill Gallagher, Louise Wellard, Robyn McKay, John Childs, Eric Pascoe, Alan Windust, Barbara Lindeman, Andy Hay.

**Apologies:** James Williams, Malory Weston, John Toll, Mal Johnson, Andrew Wall, Penny Wall, Marg Dack, Darren Bain, Keith Murphy, Anne Murphy, Stewart Ayson.

**Motion:** "Accept the apologies." Moved BG. Seconded JW. Carried.

#### 2 Minutes of previous meeting held 23 June 2010

**Motion:** "Minutes of the meeting held at Raywood Hotel 23/6/10, be accepted as a true, accurate record of the meeting." Moved BG. Seconded KW. Carried.

#### 3 Business arising from previous minutes

Formalisation of tour info. Submitted Grant Application to NCCMA. KW, RMcK, PD.
Grade 5/6 Kangaroo Flat Primary et al Kamo tour now 20/8/10 ~200 kids. AH, PD, BG, JC, IR, KW, KM confirmed as volunteer helpers.
Jenharwill baling ACUP course reminder asking for participants.
NC Biolinks update – BG and JW elected to the committee.

#### 4 Correspondence In

- LC Australia Ltd – Landlink July 2010.
- Jodie Odgers (NCCMA) – Community Action Grants Announced 2010/11.
- Lauren Bennett (Melb Uni) – Thank-you for Kamo visit Monday 19/7/10 (via MB)
- Aust Forest Growers – National Conf, Monday 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> Oct. 2010, Mt Gambier. See Ranx if interested in going.
- FF Firewood & Machinery Expo – Minutes of organising committee.
- Penny Wall (LPLCN) – Soil Health conference Friday 6/8/10.

#### 5 Correspondence Out

- RMcK – NCCMA SGLG application – Kamo Education and Enhancement
- MB – MCCMA SGLG application – Group Maintenance.
- JW – NCCMA SGLG application – Bus Tour of Member Plantations

**Motion:** "The correspondence be accepted." Moved LW. Seconded RMcK. Carried.

#### 6 Reports

**President's report** – Ian fed back to the meeting news from the FF&FM Expo Organising Committee meeting. Huntly plantation is the site. Being well supported by CoGB and DPI. Target audience ~1000 people. Good deals available for exhibitors. 1 day only, presentations, invention competition, coming together well. Ballarat Tree Growers (6 of) toured Kamo and other sites around Bendigo. Visit from Melb Uni went well.

**Treasurer's report** – Rob reported on NUGF's income and expenditure as at 28/6/2010.

**Motion:** "The Treasurer's report as at 28/6/2010 be approved and accounts received be approved for payment." Moved RC. Seconded AH. Carried.

**Social Secretary's Report** – Robyn informed the meeting that she has registered NUGF with LC online. Seeking ideas for activities – see Robyn if you have some thoughts.

**Kamo/CC2 Report** – Phil presented data on how the higher rainfall this year compared to those since 1996 has meant groundwater rises in the system. In the upper catchment this has only translated to a few mm, but on the Kamo site, GW is now within 1m of the surface under saltbush and 4-5m under trees. Phil also showed data

on how pruning on a sap-flow monitored tree has effected the data from the instrumentation and what this means at the tree level. Overall Phil's presentation again showed the highly valuable nature of the monitoring data on and around the Kamo site and within the group member's properties.

**Loddon Plains LC Network Report** – Mal fed back that the LPLCN has expanded an initial executive of 4 to include 4 further committee members namely, Bill Twigg, Wendy Murphy, Dennis Demeo and Laurie Maxted at their AGM. Mal gave an extensive run-down of the tree planting activities weekend on 4/5 September 2010 being conducted by LPLCN. The LPLCN is also advertising for a project officer (paid position) to develop a blueprint for moving forward, watch local papers and online for details.

Motion: "The reports be accepted." Moved BL. Seconded JC. Carried.

## **7 General Business**

1. RMcK – OH&S. <u>Motion:</u> "NUFG join Dingee Bush Nursing Centre at a cost of \$35 to assist if any injuries incurred with activities at Kamo and buy a First Aid kit up to \$150 in value to be used for same." Moved RMcK. Seconded KW. Carried.
2. RMcK – Gave a run-down of grants applied for as per "Correspondence Out".
3. MB – Picnic tables. <u>Motion:</u> "Allow Bill Gallagher to make outdoor picnic tables as offered (for the cost of materials) to be sited at Kamo. 2 x treated pine, 2 x local timber (LC)." Moved MB. Seconded KW. Carried.
4. MB – Suitable housing for "Classroom" at Kamo site. Discussion around what would be suitable. KW to investigate portable classroom. TJ to investigate straw bale.
5. MB – "Last Child in the Woods" day – target primary aged children. 9am to 12 noon Sunday 26/9/10. Environmental discovery trail. Helpers required. <u>Motion:</u> "Release of NUGF consolidated funds up to \$1,000 for appropriate advertising of the Last Child in the Woods event." Moved RMcK. Seconded LW. Carried.
6. PD – Co-operative Research Centre for Future Farm Industries have been in touch regarding specifics of the Kamarooka monitoring program to be part of a study into options for managing salinity. About \$7.5K of monitoring including soil analysis required as part of the project. Most monitoring already being done.
7. AW – Alan spoke to the meeting regarding "Your Own Forest", his new book and specifically, asking for consent to use the poster developed to show the Kamarooka site during the project. There was agreement to this proposal from the meeting. It was mentioned that the poster might not translate well to a smaller than A3 size for which it was designed. Discussion also focussed on the specifics of the Eco Schools concept, the layout of the Kangaroo Flat Primary, and the arrangements of the Kamo tour on the 20 <sup>th</sup> August. Alan spoke of his interest in establishing a long-term relationship between the Eco Schools in Bendigo and the NUGF.
8. KW – Another pruning day required. Kamo – 15/8/10, 9am, BBQ etc.

**Meeting closed:** 10:21 pm.

**Next Meeting:** Raywood Hotel, Wednesday 25 August 2010, 8pm.