



Northern United Forestry Group

Monthly Meeting. Raywood Hotel, 8pm Wednesday 24 November 2010

1 Welcome and Apologies

President Ian Rankin declared the meeting open at 8:00pm.

Present: Phil Dyson, Ian Rankin, Tim Johns, Mal Brown, Bill Gallagher, James Williams, Ken Wellard, John Childs, Howard Perry, Malory Weston, Alan Windust.

Apologies: John Toll, Louise Wellard, Darren Bain, Lindsay Cail, Darren Kerr, Rob Comer.

Motion: "Accept the apologies." Moved MW. Seconded JW. Carried.

2 Minutes of previous meeting held 27 October 2010

Motion: "Minutes of the meeting held at Raywood Hotel 27/10/10, be accepted as a true, accurate record of the meeting." Moved BG. Seconded MW. Carried.

3 Business arising from previous minutes - Held over for General Business.

4 Correspondence In

- ♦ Leah Cripps – Mapping on ground works done previously in LPLCN area. NUGF to do some data gathering at Xmas party.
- ♦ Tim Jenkyn/ Doug Baker - Bendigo TAFE Conservation and Land Management courses flyer.
- ♦ Cheque – Alan Windust – schools visit to Kamo.
- ♦ Email – Warwick Ragg response to questions from NUGF members re: AFG membership.
- ♦ Richard Bolt (DPI) – invitation to share achievements of 2010.
- ♦ AFG Mag, spring 2010, Vol 33 #3.
- ♦ CGB – Quick response Grant Program 2010-2011, acceptance of acquittal paperwork.
- ♦ Rhodney Bowman – Economics and Marketing of Farm Timber, FF Research Seminar.

5 Correspondence Out

- ♦ MB – acquittal report to CGB for Last Child in the Woods quick response grant program.

Motion: "The correspondence be accepted." Moved MB. Seconded MW. Carried.

6 Reports

President's report – Ian and Mal reported back about the FF expo meeting and the various requirements for the weekend.

Treasurer's report – Phil reported on NUGF's income and expenditure as at 24/11/2010.

Motion: "The Treasurer's report as at 24/11/2010 be accepted, and accounts received approved for payment." Moved KW. Seconded MW. Carried.

Social Secretary's Report – Christmas break-up, Sunday 12th December @ Rankin's – BYO chairs and drinks.

Kamo/CC2 Report – Phil reported that he physically measured Bore 8 at 1.4m. General watertable around 0.8m, under woody vegetation around 1.6m a few days later. Upper catchment has not recovered more than 40cm. Expect to see water-tables drop as the warmer weather kicks in.

Loddon Plains LC Network Report – Mal re-iterated the importance of getting the mapping right for Leah. Also want to do some future planning soon about what we as a group should do.

7 General Business

1. Education Centre at Kamo – KW and IR went to Kyneton to check out ex portable classrooms for the centre. KW gave a comprehensive verbal report on the options available. Wouldn't recommend buying any of the ones they saw. Need to look at other possibilities/other vendors. Sub-committee formed. BG, IR, KW, TJ, JW.

2. MB – NUFG forming a chapter of the Australian Forest Growers. Mal gave a précis of the answers Warwick Ragg gave to questions from group members, and re-iterated the position in respect of NUFG becoming a member of AFG. Members spoke to the proposal and their concerns and positives regarding the proposal. Some specific issues were brought forward and noted for further checking with Warwick. Most of the concerns ranged between losing independence and autonomy of the group versus the advantage of being part of a more corporate structure and the efficiencies involved. The meeting in January 2011 will pick up this issue again.

3. Kamo G5/6 student visit. Alan gave an overview of the day. Generally very well received. 200 kids, great help from CMA (7 people volunteered). WIN TV and ABC radio covered the event. The story is on the ABC website.

4. PD – Mapping of biomass (DIRD) – questionnaire.

5. JW – James ran through an initial draft of an agreement between the Hay family and the NUFG regarding the research site and plantations at Kamo. James kept the principles simple and put the document forward for further perusal and work. Issue of first refusal discussed.

Meeting closed: 10:05 pm.

Next Meeting: Raywood Hotel, Wednesday January 19, 2011 at 8pm.