



THE HUT COMMUNITY CENTRE INC. 2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



Thursday 16 November 2023 @ 6.00 pm
The Village Well (Aldgate Church of Christ)

MINUTES

1. **Welcome & Apologies**
 - 1.1. David Rawnsley gave Acknowledgement of Country
 - 1.2. Apologies list (as per AGM packs) acknowledged. Leon Stacey to be added.
 - 1.3. David Rawnsley introduced format of evening. No election of Board members required as nominations equal vacancies. Instead, endorsement of nominees will be sought from Members.
2. **Minutes of The Hut 2022 AGM** held on Thursday 27 October 2022 confirmed as a true and accurate record of proceedings and decisions.

Moved: Geoffrey Welch **Second:** Geoffrey Keynes **All in favour:** Minutes adopted
3. **Receive Reports:**
 - 3.1. **Chairperson's Report** - David Rawnsley, Board Chair gave a verbal address to the attendees from his report on Pg 2 of the Annual Report.

David expressed that the following were his key highlights from the year:

 - It was an honour to be the Board chairperson of a group who provide interesting and robust discussions along with creative forward thinking.
 - The establishment and opening of Woodside Book Shed. David also acknowledged the 'horde of volunteers' who helped make it happen.
 - The Hut's impressive staff. David noted that it is a delight to hear of the work done throughout the year and see the dedication to their work.
 - Hut Volunteers contribute over 500 hours per week! David thanked all volunteers for the work they do to strengthen community connections in community.
 - John Kemp completing his 6 year term on The Hut Board today. John originally started as the Adelaide Hills Council rep and then nominated independently. David expressed that John has been a great support with Woodside Book shed plans and Adelaide Hills Council. Thankyou John!
 - Thanks expressed to Deb Bates for her continued guidance to the Board.
 - 3.2. **Executive Officer's Report** – Deb Bates, Executive Officer gave a verbal address to the attendees from her report on Pg 4 of the Annual Report.
 - Last financial year presented challenges regarding our budget. The board and staff are considering creative ideas to support community who are struggling with the increased cost of living by expanding programs. This is being done with reduced funds.
 - The Dept of Human Services program funding for Hills Connected Communities has ceased after nine (9) years.
 - Existing partnerships are going well with local groups including: Village Well, Red Cacao, Harris Real Estate, Stirling Market and Rotary Stirling. Broader connections continue to grow. The loss of Woolworths to the fire has reduced food availability for the food pantry.

- Woodside Book shed is established now with an excellent group of volunteers. Thanks to Neil Wickens, John Kemp and David Rawnsley for the huge effort they have given in getting this up and running.
- A new partnership with Uni SA through the Loneliness Project has commenced. Loneliness is a detrimental factor in reducing a person's health and wellbeing. The focus will be on women aged 45-60 and will be led by Hayley Everuss.
- Deb acknowledged and thanked,
 - The Hut staff for their amazing work and inspiration.
 - volunteers - You are The Hut!
 - The Hut Board and Board sub-committee members.
- Special thanks to outgoing Board member John Kemp and David Rawnsley, who has been a very supportive Board Chair.

3.3. **Community Development Manager's Report**– Bernadette Reading, Community Development Manager gave a verbal address to the attendees from her report on Pg 6 of the Annual Report.

Highlights:

- Engaging with community and strengthening partnerships has been a highlight this year. Standout programs include:
 - The Dare to Dream program
 - Slow Food Movement
 - Men's Mornings in Woodside, led by Ari.
 - Learning Auslan
 - Village Well session on Ageing Well in collaboration with the Aldgate Church of Christ. Thanks to Anthony for his support.
 - The many volunteers who run programs with increased numbers this year.
- Thank you to all the volunteers!

3.4. **Treasurer's and Finance Report 2022/2023** – Due to the absence of Greg Bussell - Treasurer, David Rawnsley elaborated on the Treasurers Report on page 23 of annual report.

- The Hut experienced a net loss of approx. \$64,000 in 2022/23 and we are thankful we have reserves available.
- Increased cost of living affects everyone, including The Hut.
- We are presenting a negative budget this year. The Board are considering strategies to improve income streams and bring solutions for the negative budget.
- Thanks expressed to all the volunteers who enable the diversity of programs to run.

4. **Invitation for Questions and Comments**

- 4.1. Tony Herve asked regarding return on investment of Woodside Book Shed. Response: Expected it would take 12 – 18 months to cover costs and it has been a bit slower than expected. A BBQ and the Christmas pageant will be used to increase awareness. Part costs are covered by the sub-leasing rental of the street-front cottage to an external business.
- 4.2. Tony Herve commented on the interim report and suggested the photocopied version is enough. He questioned the cost of a professionally printed version.
- 4.3. Chris Wilson, Chair of the Stirling Community Op Shop asked why there has been such a downfall since 2021 in cash equivalent. Response: This has been impacted by Woodside building and the cease of Covid funding. Thanks expressed to the Stirling Op Shop for their financial support!

The chair moved that all the above reports be accepted.

Moved: Tony Herve

Second: Sandra Veitch

All in favour: Carried

5. Appointment of Auditor

As per The Hut constitution, the Board has elected to appoint the auditor post AGM.

6. Board Member Election

- 6.1. Stand down of retiring Board members, John Kemp (end of six year term), Greg Bussell (re-standing) and Jenni Bottroff (re-standing).
- 6.2. Board Election. 3 nominations received. 3 positions available. Show of hands (by The Hut members only) to endorse each nominee was sought.

- 6.2.1. Each nominee gave a short introduction of themselves. Each nominee prepared a written introduction that was provided to Members prior to the AGM and included in the AGM packs.

Greg Bussell – renominating for 2nd term. He is unable to attend tonight.
A show of hands of the majority of Members endorsed Greg.

Jenni Bottroff – renominating for 1st term.

Jenni was co-opted to the Board in July 2023 after a skills audit identified the need for a CPA. Jenni is amazed by the number of things The Hut is doing. She has a commitment to give back to the community. She has an office in Woodside and lives in the Adelaide Hills.

Comments/Questions: Tony Herve welcomed Jenni.

A show of hands of the majority of Members endorsed Jenni.

Tony Rogers – nominating for 1st term.

Tony described himself as “Old, cranky but enthusiastic.” He admires what The Hut is doing and loves helping others.

Show of hands of the majority of Members endorsed Tony.

- 6.3. Introduce the Hut Board 2023/24

Continuing: Sharon Maslen, Geoff Keynes, David Rawnsley, Pamela Patane, Prof Deborah Turnbull, Ann Croser, Dr Sarah Moulds, Greg Bussell, Jenni Bottroff, Dr Tony Rogers.

Next board meeting will be held tonight, 16 November 2023 at approx. 7.30pm.

7. Feature:

- 7.1. John Kemp: Deb Bates spoke to farewell John Kemp from The Board. John has served The Hut board since 2015; 2 years as AHC rep, 6 years as Board member in his own right. He has also been an ACE tutor, liaison with AHC and brought perspective. Deb sincerely thanked John for his contributions and gave a gift. John responded: He never ceases to be amazed how the energy of The Hut continues. He hopes The Hut continues to be as successful as it has been.

- 7.2. David advised there is a four-pronged program being established to increase The Hut income.

- ‘Friends of The Hut’ - business
 - ‘Friends of The Hut’ - individuals
- Both of these will be invited to sponsor general work or specific programs. Focus will be in March.
- Wills & Bequests. A difficult area but one we are considering tackling.
 - Donate for Community. More information see 7.4.

- 7.3. Presentation – Carolyn Webster (Caz). A video was shown where Caz gave an overview of how The Hut programs have supported her. From Food Pantry to Programs to other activities and now paid work.

David expressed sincere thanks to Carolyn for putting herself out there in such an articulate manner. Caz’s story highlights how The Hut programs help change lives.

Thanks to staff Ari and Courtney who videoed and edited this in just a couple of days.

- 7.4. Launch of 'Donate for Community': David gave a story of encouraging young people to give. The 'donate for Community' campaign will run for 4 weeks, starting tonight with a special focus at the Stirling Christmas pageant and again in June 2024. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

8. Acknowledgements & Wrap Up

Thanks to Denny, Doris, Jo, Sandra and Raelene for food and preparation for tonight.

Thanks to Ann Croser and family for supply of wine for the door prize and evening.

- 9. Refreshments & Networking** (A light supper provided with wine by the Croser family).

- 10. Meeting closed: 7.15pm**

Accepted as an accurate record of proceedings:


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Chair – on behalf of Members

Date 20 / 11 / 2024