

TALLONG COMMUNITY FOCUS GROUP INC.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 15th DECEMBER, 2011

ITEM	DATE Initiated	DECISIONS/FOLLOW UP
ADMINISTRATION		
Members Present	19-8-10	Margaret, Lionel, John, Dugald, Janet, Geoff
Apologies	21-05-09	Sharyn
Ratify Minutes Of Previous Meeting	21-05-09	Moved: Janet Seconded: John the Minutes be accepted.
Memberships	21-05-09	2 renewals
Treasurer's Report	21-05-09	See the Attachment 1 Moved: John Seconded: Lionel that the report be accepted. Foreshadowed motion: That at any time the Treasurer be authorised to draw down any Apple Day expenditures from the pre-allocated \$1000, without seeking approval of the general committee. Agreed.
Secretary's Report Correspondence In	21-05-09	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Letter from the GMC re a stall at the Goulburn Australia Day celebrations. 2. Email from J. Humphrey re house numbers on Bumballa St Tallong 3. Letter from Pru Goward re train timetables. 4. Many Emails from Terry Cooper, GMC re the road repairs.
Secretary's Report Correspondence Out	21-05-09	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Email to J. Humphrey that his issue will be raised with the Tallong road numbering/naming task force. 2. Letter to Pru Goward re railway timetables 3. Email to Terry Cooper/Chris Berry re Outcomes from the Tallong Outreach meeting, Nov. 22 – Attachment 2. 4. Emails to Terry Cooper re the repair of roads in the Tallong region. 5. Application and Email to Jodie Tremble re the 2012 Australia Day stall in Goulburn. 6. Email to Chris Berry re the action committee on road numbering/naming in Tallong. 7. Email to David Woods re the white line road painting on Highland Way. <p>Moved: Lionel Second: Janet that Incoming mail be received/Outgoing be endorsed. Action: Geoff to send letter to Pru Goward MP : support Margaret Morris's request for an extra morning train from Goulburn to Central between 5.30 and 7.40am. Done</p>
Articles and Publicity in the Local Papers	21-05-09	Leader – John: Continuing to get good coverage. John, can you please send the articles which are printed to Geoff for the records? Yes and done.

ITEM	DATE Initiated	DECISIONS/FOLLOW UP
Newsletters	18.12.08	Leader: John: The November newsletter is Attachment 3. Next Newsletter to be released mid-January. Inclusions: details of Santa Sabina dinner – people to be invited to bring plates of nibbles; electricity supply group; photos, etc.
COMMUNITY PROJECTS		
Tallong Apple Day Festival	26-11-09	Leader: Sharyn – everything is progressing smoothly with Mike leading the charge on all action stations required at this point. John has enlisted former Pollie John Kieran to come to the day & say a few words, do some judging and so forth. He also had an idea of a new competition: Apple Granny of the Year, which we are implementing. The committee is going to the Goulburn Aust Day celebrations (by invitation) with the apple cart to create some interest for our day in May. With the successful removal of the dirt hump near the pot imminent, we will be able to fit in more stalls for the day. Advertising at the Goulburn cinema being considered. 8 stall applications received so far.
Tallong History Booklet sales/reprint	22- 5-08	Leader- Janet: 2 books from the new print run have been sold. Berrima District Historical Society decided they didn't want to buy any books if they could not get them for less than \$20. I offered them the old print run at \$15 per book. They have taken 5. We could probably think about having some available for sale at the Santa Sabina dinner but I think most of the diners will already have a copy. I interviewed Barry and Laurel Ingate in Moss Vale. Barry was the son of the Methodist minister of the Moss Vale circuit (which included Tallong) between 1949 and 1953 and has fond memories of the Tallong Methodist Church. He was able to identify the photo we have and his wife was also able to give us some extra information from the Moss Vale Circuit Quarterly Plan and the visiting list from 1947.
Marulan South Quarry – CCC	17- 9 -08	Leader Geoff. Nothing new. Requested sponsorship for Apple Day.
Website development	21.05.09	Leader: Geoff: The TCFG needs to define its target audience (local/tourists?) and then review what is currently available on the website to guide the future upgrade. Some suggested new pages: Apple Day; Tallong PS; Tallong RFB; Things to do in the region; History; Newsletters; other suggestions.
Tallong Streetscape Volunteer Group		Leader: Lionel: Good to keep the tank and surrounds clear. Also to consider an on-going working bee at the picnic/camping grounds near Barbers Creek.
GENERAL BUSINESS		
Community Announcement Sign	1-5-09	Leader: Margaret: Awaiting outcome of FRRR grant application.
Road numbering in the Village	17-12-09	Leader: Geoff: So far no outcome from the Community Outreach meeting. Will follow up with Chris Berry, Manager, GMC re the small action committee. Done.
Movies	17-12-09	Leaders: Lionel/Janet: Next movie will be Red Dog on January 21 during the Community Picnic.

ITEM	DATE Initiated	DECISIONS/FOLLOW UP
Program of 2011-2012 events for the TCFG (to be publicised on the Website)	21-1-10	Leader: Committee: Action: John to seek out interested authors for a program of events after Apple Day 2012. Ongoing.
Tallong Public School	16-12-10	The school presentation day is at midday on December 16. All are invited/urged to attend.
FRRR grant application for a community sign	18-8-11	We should be notified this week!
Tallong Recreational Reserve Trust	20-01-11	Lionel to Liaise: Suggested the Streetscape Volunteer group might be able to help get things moving down there. Any action yet? Lionel to discuss with Mike Kennedy.
Highland Way clean-up	17-3-11	Leader Sharyn: Council Litter Prevention Campaign Resource Kit to Jason Moroney at GMC with highlighted areas for litter thrown from vehicles for our problem area on the Highland Way. We now just wait for some movement on that issue. Perhaps if we “minute” to send them a reminder in February, being that so many council employees are away during January, if we haven’t heard anything from them by then. I am happy to continue prodding them.
Footpath on Highland St between Hope St and Mulwaree Drive?	16-6-11	GMC considering for their next budget.
Road pot-hole patching – continued poor workmanship.	16-6-11	Geoff: There was an immediate reaction by GMC following the Outreach meeting. Work was done in Marulan and outside 169 Mulwaree Dr, Tallong. However, even though it appeared more thorough than in the past, the new patch has already broken up! This is the subject of continuing Email dialogue with Terry Cooper, GMC.
NEW BUSINESS		
Tallong Community Christmas Party	15-9-11	Leader: Lionel/Janet: From all the feedback so far, the 2011 Christmas Party was a great success. See Janet’s report as Attachment 4. One question is – could we do the salads ourselves for a much lower cost? Certainly quantities need reassessment. We agreed that the local chapter of the Red Cross charity will be supported with the \$220 raised at the party. Geoff’s comment: re the finish time – whatever time you make it people would linger. Therefore, let’s keep it at 8.30pm so we can get away at 9.30pm!
Community dinner at Santa Sabina	15-9-11	Total so far is 41 (including the speaker and his partner). The tables will take 6 people. However, we would like to inspect the venue, say on January 10, if that can be arranged. Plates of nibbles to be provided by the Committee and interested attendees. Speaker to be given a Tallong History book, Tallong bag and a bottle of wine for his troubles.
Vision for Vegetation in Tallong	15-9-11	Delayed until after the Community dinner at Santa Sabina.
Veolia Mulwaree Trust	15-9-11	Leader: Janet:
Community Outreach Meeting	20-10-11	Geoff sent a summary of the meeting to the GMC, from our perspective (see Attachment 2). Apart from the road repairs reported above, the white lines were repainted along Highland Way.

ITEM	DATE Initiated	DECISIONS/FOLLOW UP
GMC Strategic Plan	17-11-11	<p>Leader: Margaret:</p> <p>Action: Margaret to prepare a brief overview response for presentation at the Outreach Meeting emphasizing deficiencies in the Plan as published compared to the original Tallong submission and in comparison to plans for the other villages. Done and circulated for comment.</p> <p>Margaret gave John her latest version for editing and input of specific examples.</p>
Group buying power to slash our electricity bills	15-12-11	<p>Issue raised by local resident Julee D'Alcorn.</p> <p>http://www.powergrouppurchasing.com/how-it-works-and-media.php</p> <p>Sharyn's comment: it all sounds good in theory, but when looking at the website, it is Victorian based, and I could not find where they are open to NSW residents to join in. Unless there is a different organisation to handle NSW, would we be starting something completely new? Definitely needs more information.</p> <p>It was decided to let Julee D'Alcorn run with it. We seek specific publicity for the next Newsletter and Email to our residents.</p>

Meeting closed at 2110 DST.

Next Meeting: Thursday January 19, 2012

Attachment 1: Treasurer's report

TALLONG COMMUNITY FOCUS GROUP	
Balance Sheet	
ACN 35027663	as at 15/12/2011
Inc No NSW INC9887110	

Assets	<i>Current Assets</i>	
	IMB Account	\$7,339.05
	Cash in hand	\$184.05
	Equipment at Cost (Projector & DVD)	\$3,880.49
		\$11,403.59
Liabilities	<i>Current Liabilities</i>	
	Provision for Apple Day 2012	\$1,000.00
	Depreciation of Equipment	\$2,586.99
	Cheques to be written (for creditors)	\$623.03
	Unpresented Cheques	\$50.00
		\$4,260.02
Net Assets	(current assets minus current liabilities)	\$7,143.57

Summary of income and expenses (Year to date)

Total income	\$1,874.53
Total expenses	\$8,244.40
Creditors (see list below)	\$623.03
Income-expenses-creditors	-\$6,992.90

Summary of income and expenses since last meeting

<i>Income</i>	Santa Sabina dinner payments	\$510.00
	Membership renewals	\$15.00
	History book sales	\$40.00
	Bank interest	\$8.03
	Xmas Party kiosk	\$36.00
	Xmas Party entry donations	\$220.00
	Total income	\$829.03

<i>Expenses</i>	Salmat - print 50 books (DC Black)	\$579.49
	Tallong PS - prize money	\$50.00
	Stamps (G Clarke)	\$13.20
	Xmas party supplies (J Black)	\$115.10
	Xmas party fruit (L Willison)	\$61.85
	Total expenses	\$819.64

<i>Creditors</i>	Tallong General Store	\$492.65
	M Botticchio (Xmas Party food)	\$60.38
	Tallong Memorial Hall Trust	\$70.00
	Total creditors	\$623.03

Equity	Retained Earnings (notes 1&4)	\$12,842.97
	Current Year Earnings (note 2)	-\$6,992.90
	Equipment after Depreciation (note 3)	\$1,293.50

\$7,143.57

Note (1) Includes provision of \$3,350 for solar array for hall brought forward from 2010-11

Attachment 2

Outcomes from the Tallong Outreach Meeting and road site inspection on Nov. 22, 2011

Following the Tallong Outreach Meeting and an earlier road site inspection on Nov. 22, 2011, I have identified some outcomes listed below:

1. Road naming/numbering

- There is to be a small action committee consisting of the Secretary of the TCFG and a council employee to investigate all the issues.
- Some issues previously identified are: numbering on Caoura Street in the Tallong village – numbering starts at the village boundary and increases towards Highland St. (this is contrary to the direction of the rural numbering system on Caoura Rd. beyond the village boundary. without renumbering all the village properties on Caoura St. the **solution** is :three street signs to be erected a. At the intersection of Caoura St/Highland St a sign facing the village indicating house numbers running from 90 to 1 [90 to be confirmed from Council records as the address of the Tallong General Store]; at the intersection of Caoura St/Kettles Lane a sign facing the village indicating house numbers running from 1 to 90 [90 to be confirmed from Council records as the address of the Tallong General Store]; at the intersection of

Caoura St/Kettles Lane a sign facing away from the village indicating “Caoura Road 1-2121”.

- House numbering/naming on Highland Street – Council has designated the section of Highland Way running through the Tallong Village as Highland Street. However, as an historical artefact, many of the properties along Highland Street have addresses ranging from Railway Parade, Highland Way and Highland Street. This needs to be corrected so that in an emergency the correct properties can be located. **Solution:** the TCFG and GMC representatives should visit each property and discuss an address change to Highland St. It is also suggested that the lowest numbers in the new addresses should be start from the Marulan end of the village.
 - There is some confusion in the addressing of Bumballa St (in the village) and Bumballa Rd (in the rural area towards Wingello – the other end of Bumballa Rd Tallong is called Bumballa Rd, Wingello!). Some properties are still listed as Lot numbers on Bumballa St (e.g. Lot 6 in Google Earth is actually No. 46 – what is it on Council records?). The Tallong PS is listed as being on Bumballa Rd on the NSW Department of Education website. There may be other properties similarly mis-addressed. The confusion of Bumballa Street vs Road has caused emergency vehicles to arrive at the wrong destination on a regular basis. **Action required:** investigate how Council lists all addresses in Bumballa St in its records; inform Google Earth and other GPS manufacturers of the changes to road nomenclature in the villages (i.e. all now listed as Streets); inform all emergency services of the difference between the locations of Bumballa St and Bumballa Road; any other ideas though appropriate.
 - New signs indicating “Highland Street” need to be installed at the following intersections: Caoura St/Highland St; Mulwaree Drive/Highland St.
2. A site inspection prior to the Outreach meeting was undertaken with the Council Manager and the Works Supervisor to inspect road conditions in the Tallong region. The following are undertakings that the residents would like followed up by the Council:
- Repair of pot-holes – a new methodology of actually digging out the pot-holes then filling with bitumen and compacting is being introduced. Pot-holes requiring action were identified outside 169 Mulwaree Dr.; large puddles/holes near the railway bridge on Railway Parade near Old Wingello Road; on the gravel section of Railway Parade towards Highland St. It was stated that regular grading will be done on Railway Parade in coming weeks. Residents state that in the past this has caused underground pipes to be exposed at the surface and the road is down to bedrock in several places. The inspection officers stated that the bedrock exposure was not a concern but that the road gravel needs to be brought level with bedrock and to cover any exposed pipes.
 - Breaking edges and narrowing of roads – this is a concern on many roads in the area. In particular, from about 169 to the house at 586 Mulwaree Dr (not all the way around the loop) and at the intersection of Mulwaree Dr and Acacia Ave.
 - Vegetation growth along road verges – because of sensitive native plants, road verge vegetation cannot be sprayed in certain sections of Tallong. Therefore, as it is a safety issue in terms of narrowing of the roads and camouflaging of native animals, the verge vegetation needs to be slashed more regularly than if it is slashed and then sprayed with herbicides. An example of high verge vegetation was seen in Hakea Place. A slashing program is promised in the near future.

- Faint road markings – these were inspected on the brown section of bitumen on Highland Way between the Hume Highway and the Village; there are similarly faint lines from the Village on Highland Way across the plains towards Wingello. This is a matter of safety concern, in particular during regular fog occurrences in the winter months. It was stated that these road sections will be re-marked after the routine road tarring program has been completed, in the near future.
- An issue was raised of a narrowing shoulder of the road near the railway bridge on Old Wingello Road where canoes/kayaks are launched onto the adjacent dam. The safety of people using this launching place is of concern when traffic appears unexpectedly. Council undertook to inspect the site with a view to widening and strengthening the road shoulder. Contact Margaret Botticchio for more details at northman@goulburn.net.au.
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- Another issue was raised about the dangerous railway underpass on Highland Way between Tallong and the Hume Highway. The camber of the road approaching from the Tallong direction was thought responsible for a spate of road accidents, in particular by motor bikes crashing into the road railing. Apart from perhaps adding “Danger for motor bikes” sign, another idea might be to paint the white/ridged parallel lines on the approaches to the bridge. In addition, it was mentioned that in heavy rain there is frequent flooding of the low section of the road in the underpass. Council did not seem to have any engineering solution for this!
- The RTA provides some funding to GMC for maintenance of Highland Way. Therefore if there are branches down or roadside vegetation maintenance issues, contact GMC Works Section directly.
- It was stated the dip in the Highland Way between the railway underpass and the Hume Highway is scheduled to be removed in the next year’s work program.
- In order that the Tallong Streetscape Group does to not remove sensitive vegetation during its maintenance work, Council undertook to send to the TCFG, GMC brochures on sensitive native vegetation in the Tallong region and also one prepared for the Bungonia Village.

Geoff Clark
 Secretary, Tallong Community Focus Group
secretary@tallong.com.au

Attachment 3:

Tallong Community Focus Group Newsletter Nov 2011

Party time...

Christmas is a-coming and fast... and the Tallong Christmas Party arrangements are in full swing. The party is on Saturday 10th December at the Tallong Memorial Hall starting at 5.30pm with a barbecue organised by the Rural Fire Service and the Tallong Community Focus Group. They will also provide nibbles, salads and desserts. Adults should BYOG and soft drinks will be available for sale.

Santa will arrive at 7pm on board an RFS truck with a bag full of goodies. And there be children’s games from 7.30pm. We expect to be finished by 8.30pm. We are looking for decorations for the Christmas tree and some festive items suitable for Christmas hampers to be presented as ‘lucky door prizes’ on the night.

Entry is by a gold coin donation. But for catering purposes we need to know the numbers of adults and children. So please let us know if you are coming by Thursday 1 December at the latest. Just fill in the form below and put it in the TCFG post box at the Tallong General Store or Email

secretary@tallong.com.au

TCFG contact details:

Margaret Bottichio Ph 4841 0324 northman@goulburn.net.au;
Lionel Willison Ph 0418 609 572 lionelwill@optusnet.com.au;
Geoff Clark Ph 4841 0577 or 0437 409 336 geoff_run@hotmail.com
Dugald or Janet Black Ph 4841 0613 jlm.black@bigpond.com;
Sharyn Ward 4841 1502 or 0418 286 008 cavanpark44@bigpond.com
John Lombard 4841 0265 or 0424 956 534 lombard.john@gmail.com

Tallong Community Dinner at Santa Sabina College, February 25, 2012 - Book Now!

We're also looking for bookings for next year's dinner at Santa Sabina on the theme of the Native Plants of Tallong on Saturday 25 February. We're already getting inquiries so it's likely to be very popular and the numbers are going to be limited. So why not make up a table and book it in.

Guest speaker will be the well-known author, environmentalist, and broadcaster Paul Collins who will talk about environmental aspects of the Southern Highlands and in particular the Tallong region. He is well known as a witty and inspirational speaker and author of a popular book on the history of bushfires in Australia.

The evening will start at 6pm with nibbles and drinks followed by a Twilight Walk through various different ecological systems on the campus. Dinner will be at 7.30pm and Paul will speak after the main course. There will be an opportunity for questions and chat with Paul after the dinner. The price is \$15pp and includes nibbles, main course and dessert as well as the walk and the guest speaker. Drink is BYOG.

But we need to know numbers for catering purposes as soon as possible. So please can you fill in the form at the bottom of the page and hand it in to the Tallong General Store. Please don't put the form or money in the TCFG box.

Police Patrols...

Goulburn Mayor Geoff Kettle told the Community Outreach meeting in Tallong this month that a speed gun trailer is to be put in the village of Tallong in the near future. This will be backed up with police patrols targeting speeding. So be well advised to keep to the 50kph speed limit going through the village.

The Outreach meeting also decided on action over the naming and numbering of streets and roads in Tallong. The meeting agreed the present situation was unworkable. For example, the confusion of Bumballa Street vs Bumballa Road has resulted in emergency vehicles arriving at the wrong address on a regular basis. It was agreed that a small action committee of the TCFG Secretary and a Council member will investigate the whole problem and recommend solutions to the Council.

Many residents will be pleased to learn from Council that the dip in the Highland Way between the railway underpass and the Hume Highway is scheduled to be removed in next year's work program. Before the meeting, the Council Manager and Works Supervisor carried out a site inspection to examine road conditions in the Tallong region. Concerns raised with the Council included the repairing of pot holes, breaking edges and the narrowing of roads, vegetation growth along road edges, and faint road markings.

In particular, some residents are worried about a narrowing shoulder of the road near the railway bridge on Old Wingello Road where canoes and kayaks are launched onto the adjacent dam. The safety of people using this launching place is of concern when traffic appears unexpectedly. Council undertook to inspect the site with a view to widening and strengthening the road shoulder.

She'll be Apples

A new feature of next year's Apple Festival will be the Tallong Granny of the Year award. Granny Smith apples originated in Eastwood, NSW, in 1868 from a chance seedling propagated by Granny Maria Ann Smith. So to recognise the famous Granny Smith green apple with its crisp, juicy flesh, nominations in less than 50 words are invited for Tallong's Best Granny. A condition of entry is that all Grannies nominated must agree to be present at the Festival on Sunday 6th May next. A short list of five finalists will be chosen.

A perpetual trophy will honour the winning Tallong Granny of the Year and there will be a trophy for the winner to take home as well. Please put your nominations in the TCFG box at the Tallong General Store. Close of nominations is Monday 16th April.

Please don't forget the TCFG home-made produce stall at Apple Day. When you are making your jams, chutneys and other items please make one or two extra for the stall. Remember, all the proceeds will come back to benefit the community.

Attachment 4 Christmas Party 2011 (for future reference)

We were expecting 108. About that many turned up – the non-RSVPs cancelled out the no-shows. Cheryl and I decided that since we had masses of food left over in 2010 (catering for 80ish) that we would provide the same amount for 2011 (for 100+). Cheryl said they had been pretty generous as far as quantities go in 2010. We again had masses of salads left over although the fire brigade had provided extra green and pasta salads and ham and chicken left over from their Xmas party.

The fire brigade provided sausages, onions and bread. They also provided the lolly bags and drinks for Santa to give out.

Memo to whoever is ordering in 2012: don't count the children in the numbers when deciding on quantities of salads, THEY DON'T EAT THEM. By and large the children ate sausages and bread, cherries, water melon, desserts and sweets.

Our order for 2011 from the shop was: 2 bowls coleslaw, ditto rice salad, ditto potato salad. Also for desserts: 2x raspberry slice, 2x lemon drizzle cakes, 1x snickerdoodle cake. Each was cut into 36 slices. In addition Margaret provided nibblies, I provided 3 green salads (1 Iceberg, 1 medium Cos), 2 x separate bowls of tomato (16 medium tomatoes) and cucumber (6 Lebanese) and 4 extra frozen desserts (Aldi type) and Lionel provided a box of cherries (5kg) and 2 medium watermelon.

Memo for 2012: coleslaw and potato salads were popular, rice salad less so. The fire brigade's potato salad was very popular (think it may have had curry powder in it). This was in contrast to 2010 when the rice salad was popular and our pasta salad left. The cold chicken and ham were very popular – perhaps we could think about having a baked ham (very easy to do) next year with agreement from the fire? 3 green salads was way too much – 2 would have been loads. Bowls of tomato slices all went but some cucumber was left. Don't use dressing.

Lemon drizzle cake and raspberry slice were very popular, snickerdoodle was largely left. The raspberry slice was too difficult to handle. We could have used many more frozen desserts (cheesecake and plum crumble pie). Suggest we provide a greater proportion of the desserts in 2012. The cake slices should only be individually wrapped if they are being made ahead of time and frozen (sorry Lionel!). If any are left over, all are good freezing types. We could have had fewer cherries (say about 3kg) and we could have got away with 1 watermelon (but we need to bear in mind it was a cool night). More cherries would probably have been eaten if we had put plates of them on the tables after dinner.

Memo for 2012: we should think about putting 3-4 decorated tables outside since the fire brigade and smokers do not come inside – it would make more room in the Hall and be more comfortable for them as well as meaning we don't have tables unoccupied inside. The children by and large did not sit down either.

The games were great – suggest Vicki and Mike be booked for the next 20 years or so. Vicki has had some feed-back about the games and has some ideas for changes including some with more older kids/adult involvement so we should get a note from her to add to this report for next year. Father Christmas was very good – NB he has his own suit. We had a 5.30 start and finished at 8.30pm, Santa came in theory at 7pm (I don't know what time he actually did come). We could think about finishing later in 2012, maybe 9.30pm as many people were lingering.