



Australian Recreational Motorists Association

ARMA Delegates Meeting Minutes

Date: 17th of November 2021

Chairman declares a quorum present and opens the meeting at 7:05pm

Meeting Chair: Miles Brennan

Attendance and Apologies

Attendance: Bruce Fenwick, Paul Ryan, Miles Brennan, Garry Doyle, Peter Cole, Bruce Brinkley, Derek Mikolaj, Shane Rose, Mark Kortink, Kieran Lomas, Geoff Couper, Shane Rose.

Apologies: Richard Cooper, Malcolm Harrison, Nesta Barr, Roger Sheath.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

20th of October 2021

Accepted as tabled

Moved: Paul Ryan

Seconded: Derek Mikolaj,

Carried: Unanimously

Business Arising:

Correspondence

As per the presented statement. Inwards received and outwards endorsed.

Moved: Geoff Couper

Seconded: Ray Mackaway

Carried: Unanimously

Business Arising: Nil

Treasurer's Report – Peter Cole

As per attached report if not in the Dropbox

Business Arising: Zoom Meetings... investigate.

Question of Kieran asking if payments are one off.

Miles replied that some of the payments are by annual subscriptions for various online tools - ongoing.

The budget includes such items as website plugins, zoom and others.

Subscriptions are being reviewed on a consistent basis.

Kieran asked if ARMA is a not-for-profit organisation, Miles answered, yes ARMA is. Kieran went on to state the MJOC in a not-for-profit organisation and are able obtain a zoom license for free that ARMA should investigate a free licence. Further discussion further.

Miles stated the individual transcription for Otter with Zoom was about \$300, however we needed to get a minimum of 5 accounts, so would have cost us \$1500 / year, and we didn't need that many accounts for Zoom or Otter.



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Action Item: Miles and Kieran to have a chat off-line about obtaining free Zoom licences as an NGO.

Miles asked Paul if he could champion such an opportunity with Zoom for free licences for members of ARMA to use for their own club purposes.

Paul has been investigating NGO status for Microsoft, though presently ARMA doesn't qualify because of Microsoft's its stringent policies with NGO's

ARMA needs to be registered as an NGO. ARMA is not automatically considered an NGO, ARMA would have to be registered with the tech department, that is just a matter of a process.

Garry asked a question of Transit in

Transit in - to do with Stripe.

Transit in allows for the balancing of the bank account.

Motion: I.T. officer (Paul) to follow up to have ARMA registered as an NGO with tech departments of Zoom, Microsoft, etc.

Moved: Peter Cole

Seconded: Garry Doyle

Carried: Unanimously

Insurance Products Portfolio:

Tony Collins

Ray alerting Tony of home and contents – is it covered. yes, it is.

From Miles: Tony was asked to go away and find out what insurance products we may be able to obtain and what people think they would need. And he was going to engage Marsh and then come back to let us know, what would be, part of a potential system or solution. And then we would look to see what we want to take on.

Miles stated investigation is still on going.

Vehicle Standards Portfolio:

Miles Brennan

Historical vehicle standards remain at 25 years and didn't go 30 years – discounted registration.

From Miles: A 20-page submission to Victoria, we were forwarding details around modifications and vehicle lifts. Victoria did come out and say regarding the historic vehicle registration that there was a potential push from 25 years out to 30 years because some of the other states match at 30 years and that will bring them into alignment with other States.

But they got a lot of push back from the Victorian community. The minister came out early before all the other details had been fleshed out and they said that they're not going to move on the 25 years, they're going to leave the historical vehicle registration at the 25-year mark.

National fleet discount for clubs – reminder.

We've got the four vendors that are signed lined up to our national fleet discount program and that has been launched. So just a reminder to any clubs out there to communicate back to their clubs about national fleet discounts just for being a member of your own club because all the fleet discounts and benefits flow through from us down to everyone else so great benefits.



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Question of Paul to Mikes about the 90-day membership eligibility, is the eligibility specified by the vendors or by ARMA for fleet discounts?

Miles: It's a bit of both, vendors need assurance that someone on the street won't get the national fleet discount and by offering only members of clubs, there would be value given to these club members of ARMA.

All the varying vendors offered different options, so ARMA needed to set a generic rule that met with most of the vendors requirements.

Volunteer Projects Portfolio:

Bruce Brinkley

No report forwarded.

Land Management Portfolio:

Malcolm Harrison / Geoff Couper (WA)

Report attached from Malcolm Harrison:

- Harvey Dam Access to day use areas.
- Manjimup and RTRA.
- Inland south side of city near the gold coast / mining lease.
- Noise at night, early hours of the morning – 0300.
- Plate recognition, cameras in place.

Discussion on Ormeau Hills in Queensland (-27.80235, 153.23789) by Shane Rose.

Councillor of that area wrote a submission intending on closing Ormeau due to excessive noise in the early hours in the morning, excessive speed, and other anti-social issues.

A fair bit of publicity on social media related to the proposed closure, as a result the Councillor was directly contacted by 4wd Queensland. A one-on-one meeting has been arranged with the council and 4wd Queensland. ARMA to assist 4wd Queensland in discussions with the Council so that the Council are aware that there are two Associations with invested interest in the Ormeau area.

Hard Korr Campers engaged whereas all those on the Facebook Group dedicated to Ormeau did not show up to an invite to a meeting to discuss their concerns.

Discussion amongst the committee members who come to the table with many, many years of experience continued dialogue on a whole host of related issues and how they were handled in similar circumstance in other area right across Australia, some successful, others not so successful.

From Kieran: The question I think is how we make sure people are driving in those areas are educated and the best way to do that is make sure they're in a club and the best way to do that is have a permit system where you can only get in those areas if you're in a club.

Media such as TV shows was discussed in detail about the media response to their responsibilities in maintaining access.

Bruce Fenwick offered that at the beginning of their shows there could be a disclaimer related to a code of conduct, as an example, stating that where the film is taken for any activities / tasks preformed, is achieved under strict controlled conditions.

Paul Ryan offered as an example; Having a quick look at that Glasshouse Mountain thing what we are coming up against is 24/7 has 702,000 subscribers and 360,000 people have watched that video



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and if we as an organisation say you guys are idiots you need to do something differently, that is 760,000 people are going to hate us.

Education is the way forward but what we must do is get these guys to own the idea that it's cool to look after the environment.

Such as, we went through the Glasshouse Mountains, and we gave it a bit of curry, but we've gone back to build some tracks and we've got clubs coming with us to rebuild tracks just because that's the right thing to do.

Numerous solutions discussed such as education and training and making good use a of Brand Ambassador.

Association Affiliation Portfolio:

No Report apart from Miles giving Roger a brief.

Membership

Roger Sheath

Roger not present – no report forwarded.

CRM system presented to Roger for membership signups by Miles.

Also, for membership, access to sections of the website, emails address and some of the accounts.

Business Arising: Nil

Respective Club / Association Briefs: As Required

Mark Kortink from All-Wheel Drive Club of Sydney <https://www.facebook.com/awdcsydney/> introduction and welcomed to the ARMA Delegates meeting.

All-Wheel Drive Club of Sydney one of the oldest clubs in Sydney, has been around for 35 years and the second largest 4wd club after the TLCC - NSW.

Mark stated the All-Wheel Drive Club of Sydney moved from the Stated Association to ARMA in hope that there will be better support in terms of land management for many of the 4wd tracks and areas the club prefers to recreate on.

NSW is not 4wd friendly and that Victoria is the best example of supporting recreational 4wding.

Whatever the NSW 4wd can do to copy what VIC 4wd is doing, negotiating with the Victoria Local and State Governments must be a good thing.

Supporting vehicle modifications which aligns with what ARMA are currently achieving.

All-Wheel Drive Club of Sydney are very interested in helping to 4wd keep tracks and areas open.

Concerns of 4wd tracks getting closed due the aftermath of bushfires, the State Government introducing COVID ticket books that are difficult to manage due to varying options of camping location when out on 4wd trips. Designating a location is not always possible.

The club requires some unwarranted COVID restrictions that penalise club outing to be lifted and 4wd tracks reopened after bush fires and not forgotten about and left closed.

From Mark.



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It's a losing battle in a lot of ways that the 4wd media videos, lots of people watch those videos and they paint a picture of 4wd drivers hooning.

Once they close something, they don't open it up again.

In New South Wales there are so many national parks and not enough rangers, the only way they can manage all the land of the national parks is by really herding everyone into little controlled areas and closing down 4wd tracks. So, I'm speaking a bit for myself, not just the club.

Two key objectives of ARMA are in fact 4wd vehicle modifications and land management.

Action Item: To better understand what the COVID restrictions are in NSW. Possibility and consideration of the management committee writing to a NSW State minister to achieve authority of information on these COVID restrictions.

Shane Rose offering personal support toward the All-Wheel Drive Club of Sydney.

Ray Mackaway mentioned his club had a get together meeting at a Toyota dealer and were fortunate to look at the new 300 Series Landcruiser.

Made mention that the CR model is worth consideration and the best of the 300 Series.

The main salesperson stated that the very best 4wd the Toyota had even developed was the 80 Series Landcruiser and that the 300 Series is very much based on the 80 Series Landcruiser.

Paul Ryan (Mitsubishi 4wd Club of WA) said that he and his friends took out a 300 Series for a photoshoot with Wilbinga CP in Western Australia and made mention that the 300 is very similar to the rear end of a 80 Series. Aftermarket industry has it work cut out for it to try and make the 300 somewhat attractive. Vehicle capability was fantastic in the sand.

Pete Cole (Mitsubishi 4wd Club of WA) the club spent a few days up at Koorda <https://www.koorda.wa.gov.au/> within the wheatbelt of Western Australia which was a club effort to raise the profile of 4wding.

The club spent approximately \$9500.00 in the town over a weekend.

The town of Koorda has a drive-in theatre, a sportsman club, a pub, even a museum.

According to the towns people, every dollar spent in town it goes around the town three times before it leaves, so in effect (economically speaking) there is approx. \$30,000 injected in the community of Koorda.

Tremendous effort from the club supporting a small local farming community which in turn raises the public profile of 4wding through advertising, club needs to be seen as being responsible.

On a previous meeting there were discussions about what are other clubs doing with COVID restrictions.

The club arrived at a decision not to place anymore barriers up for members and visitors to participate in any official club outings or events or meetings.

No other restrictions that what the WA Government already has in place. A statement sent out to all club members to follow the WA State Governments rules and regulations of COVID restrictions.

Club encouraging members to get vaccinated.



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Club has given all their event (Trip) leaders full authority to specify full vaccination or not on their led events/Trips to follow the club's policy or trip leaders.

Request from Peter Cole directed at other clubs.

If any club comes up with any policies or decisions, or ways of covering the privacy aspects of people with the vaccinated and so on, can we please circulated because I think we can all learn from each other.

As borders open to the east, COVID rules/guidelines are expected to change here in WA and club members will need to make allowance for these changes leading into 2022.

More discussions by other clubs about their COVID actions, most clubs are doing the same that have addressed the COVID travel issues. What was identified was the different guidelines set by the different States and Territories.

MJOC announced the ceasing of their Jeep Jamboree.

General Business:

Notification for the AGM – 15th of December.

Announcement by the Chair, to follow the organisation constitution the next AGM was elected to commence on the same evening of the next delegates meeting and will start the meeting off.

No office bearer changes so no elections, only to announce and to vote the finances in, short and sweet.

Discussion on the timing of the AGM to clarify dates.

Mark Kortink (All-Wheel Drive Club of Sydney):

I guess we are, we are interested in what's happening with the Zigzag Railway and whether it's going to impact on the, you know, access into the news, plateau, and all that kind of stuff. And the President asked me to bring it up. But like I said, I don't really know the scope of ARMA, and what you do and what level you go to at a local level. He wanted to know; I think he was under the impression that you guys would investigate something like that. I don't know if you do, or don't it sound like it's getting localised to me.

Reply from Miles Brennan.

We have a land manager, the way that we're structured is we've got numerous portfolios.

We've already spoken about some of the portfolios like the vehicle standards portfolio, I look after that portfolio, and Malcolm looks after land management portfolio.

We will pull people in and set up working groups, if possible, to discuss those areas.

For the vehicle standards, one of the areas we'll probably do is as we get to certain spots, we'll bring representatives in, we'll lean on industry.

Malcolm has been engaging quite a lot of the councils on these areas.

Geoff briefed earlier on Malcolm's information regarding Ballena.



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So, we are looking at the stuff that's happening at Ballena, the lockdown and the closure of the beach access. We look at these areas.

We will engage and where possible we will utilise yourself, as the contact to engage on behalf of ARMA, so this is what we want to do. We want to empower people to be able to do that so we can hook you up with Malcolm to work together and pretty much be the voice piece

As an example, Bruce Brinkley drove from Perth to Albany to one of the council meetings, four hours down to go to a local council meeting. ARMA representing people with the same invested interests. Happy to have you on board to achieve similar efforts.

Action Item: For Mark and Malcolm to work together on the Zigzag Railroad effort with the local council creating a possible local working group with ARMA's support.

Geoff asking for and about ARMA shirts – digressing of course (Icebreaker)

Action Item: Bruce Brinkley to arrange a sizing guide and to send them out via email to those requesting and ARMA shirt.

Bruce Fenwick (Sydney Districts 4wd Club) In support of Mark Kortink (All-Wheel Drive Club of Sydney).

I'm already in discussions with the conservation area because what's happening in the Blue Mountains is it's segregated away from national parks. It's a 30,000 hectares of Crown land.

I've been read a lot on the western side of the Blue Mountains.

So, it's borderline News Plateau, it's encompassing the Pagoda areas in the Lost City.

They're in discussions with what's going to happen to the conservation areas and state forests and then Forestry Commission land.

If you notice that forestry has ceased replanting now up on the plateau because these discussions have been going on for the last three and a half years.

They're not sure where they're going to get their leases renewed.

The new Crown land area is going to be Crown land and state forest in the western side are going to become a new state conservation area.

It's not going to be yet a dedicated National Park, they're going to call it a conservation area and as a conservation area, we will start getting locked out.

I've already been in touch with a couple of the officers in the last 14 days, trying to get some further information.

Mark Kortink: What Mark is making discussions about will wrap into what Bruce offered for the overall area.

More discussion identifying antisocial behaviour between the members in these areas causing possible closures.

Strategies discussed among the members that have working very well in other States such as Western Australia with 'adoption agreements' that could help other States and Territories better negotiate



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4wd track and area access within local government or land management forming invested motorised recreational working groups.

Meeting closed at: 8:53pm (Brisbane) – 6.53pm (Perth)

Dated: 29th of November 2021

Next Delegates Meeting: the 15th of December starting with the AGM then Delegates.

Signed:

Chairman: Miles Brennan