



**Preston Beach Progress
Association Inc**
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MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING of the Preston Beach Progress Association Inc. held at the Community Hall on Saturday 15 February 2025 commencing at 10:21am.

PRESENT: Vicki Bosworth (Vice-President), Lyn Allen (Treasurer), Bob Goodwin (Secretary), Trick Cole (Shire of Waroona), Mick Farragher, Colum O’Kane, Jo-Anne O’Kane, Noel Dew, Robyn Clarke, Charlie Clarke, Rick Madin, Bill Russell, T Orrell, Fred Evely, Mike Cardy, Mauricio Sanabria, Michelle Logan, Gary Knight, Beverly Luke, Dave Shopland, Peter Allen, Jill Norton, Dan Norton, Valda Culverhouse, Ian Dury, Amanda Dury, John McSwain, Charlie Batey, Di Batey, Peter Eastlake, Geoff White, Don Bebbington, Jan Bebbington, Graham Anstee-Brook, Georgie Tunstill.

APOLOGIES: June Boardman, Nola Eastlake, Irene Dew, Marion Herkes, Debra Tyler, Robin Cardy, Joselyn Madin, Craig Logan, Chris Ziatas, Kathy Ziatas, Linda Ross, Martin Royce, Sue Royce, Jenny Arthurson, Gay Landwehr, John & Anne Borserio, Romilly Goodwin.

Chair for AGM: Vicki Bosworth chaired the meeting.

WELCOME: Vicki welcomed everyone.

QUORUM (min 10 people): A quorum (35 attendees) was declared, and the meeting proceeded.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS GENERAL MEETING: The Minutes of the previous GM held on 02 November 2024 were circulated electronically (email of 30 Jan 2025). Amanda Dury **moved** that the Minutes be accepted as a true record of that meeting. **Seconded** by Michelle Logan. **Carried.**

APPROVAL OF NEW MEMBERS

The only new members were Gary Ayres & Sanja Krilich – 35 Fairway Tce. These were accepted unopposed.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Secretary Stuff Done

- Ongoing work to electronic filing system. Gmail is getting full and we will need to change to a paid subscription to enlarge storage capacity.
- The PB Map was acquired and hung on the wall in the passageway.
- Weekly updates continue to be issued.
- The 2024 Qtr 4 and 2025 Qtr 1 Newsletters were written and hand distributed (as well as electronic).
- 100 2025 PB Calendars were sold and we ordered another 10. We have a few left available at \$10 each.
- The weather station data is being distributed monthly in the weekly updates.
- I attended a Community Cabinet meeting in Waroona in November.
- An enquiry was sent to Western Power regarding the number of blackouts – no response received. Robyn Clarke advised that she had also made a similar enquiry and had received a response. This will be circulated with the weekly updates.

Secretary Stuff to Do

- We need to consolidate the calendar of events for 2025. A meeting will be organized with the Golf Club and Community Garden.
- Mick Farragher & I intend to fit out the storeroom at the back of the hall with wooden shelves then put all the items into plastic tubs. Marion and Lyn have already been through most of the items. This is being held up due to liaison with the Shire's building inspector.
- Further scanning of old minutes and correspondence is being done as time permits.
- I will be working full-time from end-Feb to early May. Weekly updates should continue but might get abbreviated during this period.
- We have heard nothing further on Doyles Quarry.

Community Service Awards

- Don Bebbington was nominated for and won a Meritorious Community Service Award for his role and involvement in the PB Volunteer Fire Brigade. The ceremony was held on Australia Day. Congratulations to Don!
- The Waroona Historical Society (Deb Tyler is president) was awarded for the Community Group award. As if Deb isn't busy enough, the Yarloop CWA (Deb member) won the Active Community Group award at the Australia Day breakfast in Harvey.
- Showing their true community commitment, both Don and Deb got to the PB Australia Day function for lunch.

Meeting with the Shire of Waroona

Lyn and Allen and Bob Goodwin had a meeting with the Shire of Waroona's Development Manager Trick Cole in January to discuss the PB priorities that stemmed from the Shire's Strategy Day held six months ago.

Shire and Other Government Departments Correspondence

Trick Cole provided the following updates on behalf of the Shire

White Weeping Broom Update

The weeping broom eradication has been successful. Residents and SoW teams are removing the plants from private properties and reserves. The drop off point for people to place removed plants helps keep it contained. Other properties in that area have or are in the process of receiving letters to remove the invasive plant.

Playground / Barbecue

Two new barbecue plates for the playground have arrived and adaptor plates are being fabricated.

Toilets and general maintenance

The leaking shower at the toilets will be repaired once the parts arrive, regular maintenance and repairs are ongoing, and work on the golf club roof is underway with materials ordered.

Preston Beach Local Law

We held a workshop in November updating residents of Preston Beach about an upcoming local law regarding Preston Beach. Key points included restrictions of vehicle use, horse riding, dogs, restrictions around camping, night fishing, campfires, regulation of events, boat launching, designated swimming areas and RV use. We are on track with our original timeline proposal for this local law to be considered by Council this month to start the law-making process.

Preston Beach Visitor Management Plan

We are developing a Preston Beach Visitor Management Plan (PBVMP), which will be presented to Council in February and shared with the Preston Beach Volunteer Rangers and Progress Association for review, followed by a community meeting. There is a full community meeting coming about it, but the Plan aims to guide the management of beach visitors and activities, prioritizing risks and actions for sustainable asset management. The key objectives focus on addressing issues like environmental degradation, damage to coastal dunes, overcrowding, inadequate facilities during peak seasons, anti-social behaviour, loss of habitat, and illegal activities such as camping, speeding, theft and vandalism.

Emergency Egress Road

In response to the bushfire risk faced by Preston Beach and the lack of an alternative escape route, the Shire is in early exploratory discussions with the Shire of Harvey about the prospect of an emergency access road between Myalup and Preston Beach.

- Most of the road north from Myalup already exists and is bituminised, but there is a 7km stretch that would need to be connected.
- This section would require negotiations with private property owners, so it is still in the early stages.
- If successful, the road could have tourism benefits as well, improving access to and from Preston Beach.

The Shire did explore a route north, but the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions was not supportive as they wish to preserve the conservation values of Yalgorup National Park. We will continue to explore options and keep the community informed as discussions progress.

[Bob Goodwin Note:] This topic also rolls into a ‘Places of Last Resort’ plan that is to be developed between the Shire and the Department of Fire and Emergency Services. This was advised in the last weekly update. Whilst there has not been a lot of progress on this, it remains a live issue for the Shire who advise that it will be progressed.

Annual Dune Brushing Program

Protecting our coastal environment remains a priority, and in mid-December 2024, we carried out our annual dune brushing program. We engaged a contractor to distribute the majority of the green waste stockpiled in the camping area, using it to fill in eroded sections along the foredunes, with a particular focus on the eroded areas north of the car park. Due to budget constraints, a small amount of green waste was left behind, but this will be used in December 2025 as part of next year’s program.

Community Development Strategy

My department is currently working on the Shire’s Community Development Strategy 2025 – 2028. This strategy will guide how we support and enhance community wellbeing over the next few years, ensuring our efforts align with what residents value most. Importantly, this strategy has been shaped by community input. The bi-annual community survey and the workshops held in 2024, including

here in Preston Beach, provided us with valuable insights. Community feedback has helped us understand key priorities, challenges, and aspirations for the future.

Preston Beach Movie Night

Movies under the Stars at the Preston Beach Golf Club Saturday 01 March, the movie is 'The House With a Clock In Its Walls'.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

This was covered by the AGM report of the same day.

TREASURER'S REPORT: (November 2024 to January 2025)

A summary of events is provided in the AGM Minutes

Events since previous General Meeting

- Shire of Waroona Volunteer's Breakfast
- Food supervisor's course completed
- Christmas Carols
- Impromptu Christmas Day lunch
- Australia Day

Events Calendar – Qtr 1

- Easter Mega Book Sale – Saturday 19 April – Marion Herkes
- ANZAC Day commemorations – 25 April – Andrew Cayzer

Current Financial Position

1/11/2024 – 31/1/2025 Quarter

Term Deposit: \$6,289.09

Cheque Account: \$23,887.46

Debit Account: \$186.95

Total \$30,363.50

The full financial summary for November to January is provided below:

PRESTON BEACH PROGRESS ASSOCIATION - Summary Report				
Account: *** ALL ***		From :	1/11/2024	
		To :	31/01/2025	
Category	%	Nett Income	Nett Expense	GST Amount
Income				
Calendar Sales	13%	609.08		60.92
Donation (Progress)	21%	968.19		96.81
Hall Activities/Use	17%	765.46		76.54
Membership	40%	1,836.20		183.80
Payment	0%	13.64		1.36
Sales	1%	29.09		2.91
Yoga	8%	386.37		38.63
Income Total		4,608.03		460.97
Expense				
Calendar	1%		50.00	(5.00)
Comm/Hall purchases	2%		71.79	(7.18)
Electricity	7%		312.19	(31.22)
Function Cost	66%		2,916.14	(291.61)
General Expense	1%		29.00	(2.90)
Insurance	22%		970.18	(97.02)
Printing/Stationery	2%		77.27	(7.73)
Expense Total			4,426.57	(442.66)
Balance Sheet				
Assets (Equipment)			135.45	(13.55)
Transfer		400.00	400.00	0.00
Balance Sheet Total		400.00	535.45	(13.55)
Grand Total:		5,008.03	4,962.02	4.76

Di Batey **moved** that the Statement be accepted. **Seconded** by Charlie Batey. Motion

OTHER ORGANISATIONS:

Graham Anstee-Brook **moved** a motion that Robyn Clarke not speak to this meeting due to the looming state election. This was **seconded** by Charlie Batey. This was defeated on a show of hands.

State Government

Robyn Clarke (MLA) firstly advised that the credit given to her in the latest Beach Bulletin for the improved beach facilities rightly belongs to the Shire.

The Forest Hwy intersection upgrade to the PB access road remains a live issue but has been held up by the numerous government departments who have a stake in this project. This includes Main Road and Western Power. It is unlikely that there will be further action in the immediate term until after the WA State Election.

Shire Report

Already covered above.

Volunteer Beach Rangers

Noel Dew provided and spoke to two subjects as below:

Beach Rangers

This summer, for whatever reason, has so far proven to be one of the quietest that we have experienced for many years. The Xmas/New Year period was well below what we expected, in terms of numbers of visitors to the beach. Australia Day, which is generally one of our busiest days, was amazingly quiet, compared to most other years.

Despite the recent hot weather during the past month, we have noted many days during the week when the beach has been practically deserted. It is hard to put a finger on the reason for the decline in beach numbers so far this year. Fair to say that the relentless afternoon winds have had some impact!

Despite a few unsavoury incidents, generally, it must be said, that overall beach behaviour was remarkably good. We would like to take this opportunity to thank those locals who contacted us in order to alert our group of inappropriate behaviour occurring on the beach. This obviously allowed us to respond quickly in order to deal with the issue!

We would also like to thank our Shire Rangers for their outstanding support this summer. Working closely together with our group has resulted in many positive outcomes.

This can probably be best summed up by a few simple words....Ignore the Sign....Pay the Fine! A message now being strongly and firmly delivered!

White Weeping Broom

I would just like to reiterate my comments at the last meeting, regarding what I believe was an outstanding effort by this community in dealing with an issue that had the potential to have serious consequences for our wonderful, natural environment.

Of course I refer to the White Weeping Broom.

This was an outstanding effort by a group of hardworking locals, supported by our local Shire, all working together to try to eliminate this problem plant. Those efforts haven't gone unnoticed!

Just prior to Xmas, I was contacted by a lady from the DBCA. It appears that this authority is in the process of nominating this plant to be included on the National Established Weed Priorities list and wanted information on what we had been able to achieve. I sent her a copy of the story, Spirit of Cooperation, which as you may recall, details our efforts in dealing with White Weeping Broom. My understanding is that this report was greatly appreciated.

Volunteer Fire Brigade

Don Bebbington thanked the PBPA for his nomination for the meritorious community service award. Don noted that the fire brigade had been called out on multiple occasions this year. The brigade still

does not have access to a light tanker. Don expressed concern about rumours circulating that the local brigade may be moved under the control of DFES. Robyn and Charlie both assured Don that this would not happen.

Golf Club

Peter Allen (President) advised that the Golf Club was doing well. A number of improvements to the course fairways had been undertaken in 2024. There was a good social atmosphere at the club and people are always welcome to drop in for a drink on Friday and Sunday afternoons after golf completes (usually around 5:00pm).

There is an upcoming movie night on 01 March run in conjunction with the Shire. The movie is 'The House with a Clock in its Walls'. A sausage sizzle and popcorn will be available before the movie. The Pre-St Patrick's Day gala event will take place on Sunday 16 March commencing with golf at 9:00am and lunch and drinks from 12:30pm onwards.

Friday night dinners will also resume soon.

There is a steady number of golfers playing each week (even through the festive break), but new golfers are always welcome.

Community Garden

John McSwain (President) gave a report on the Community Garden. The garden was doing very well.

- The bulk of infrastructure has been completed thanks to the vision, planning and hard work of a dedicated, motivated group of people. Lots of positive comments have been received from people visiting from neighbouring towns, interstate and overseas.
- Our focus has shifted to better utilization of the garden as a communal hub with regular monthly markets, a Long Table Lunch, committee meetings and sundowners.
- Market days have been particularly successful, raising over \$2,500 since introduced 11 months ago. This pays for water usage, insurance and purchase of new equipment. Locals and visitors sitting around the tables having a cuppa and home-made cakes chatting away has been a highlight.
- The AGM was held recently, with 4 new people joining the committee - bringing the total to 11. They bring a variety of skills, knowledge, contacts and ideas. This will improve and progress the garden moving forward. Current membership is 75.
- Exciting things are happening this year. We received a \$4,250 grant from the Department of Communities for training purposes. As a result, an Introduction to Bee Keeping course will be held on Saturday 01 March, a Bush Foods Workshop on Sunday 16 March, and a Soils seminar on Saturday 22 March. More info can be found on our Facebook page or by contacting a committee member. A very successful, fun filled Earrings workshop was held on Sunday 16 February at the garden for those that like shiny, dangly, jangly, resinous things!!
- We were also awarded an Alcoa/Waroona council micro grant of \$2,000 to upgrade the road verge on Stables Rd and permission to reuse existing fencing from an area adjacent to fifth and sixth fairways to prevent damage from kangaroos and rabbits. Work will commence as soon as the weather cools enough to give new plants the best chance of survival.
- Our bee hives are thriving, this week we bought a new nucleus hive (starter with fertilised queen and small swarm to help her) and box to replace one that had swarmed. This brings the number of hives to three. With the marri in full bloom, we hope to harvest some magnificent honey for the next market day.
- AFL tipping starts very soon and winners will be announced at our Grand Final celebration in September - contact Crackers for more info.
- Finally, we have a Mad Hatters Tea Party coming up at Easter with prizes awarded for the maddest Hatter (could be a tough choice in Preston!). Details on the garden page soon.

Police Report

The report for Preston Beach is tabled below.

Preston Beach Report

Offences/Police attendance between 1/11/2024-30/01/2025

<u>Report Date</u>	<u>Incident Type</u>	<u>Outcome</u>
Nil Reported	Nil Reported	Nil Reported

For the period between 1/11/2024 and 30/1/2025 Waroona Police did not receive and reports or complaints of crime in the Preston Beach area.

There were 7 individual tasks that Police have attended as a result of calls for assistance from the public for reasons such as concerns of a missing/overdue marine vessel, accidental '000' calls and welfare concerns for individuals who may have needed assistance.

Waroona Police continued regular traffic patrols and RBT actions, particularly during peak periods. There have been various traffic-based cautions and in excess of 20-30 vehicles/driver breath tested during each RBT action.

Ongoing traffic enforcement will continue during strategically determined periods where offences such as impaired driving, speeding and anti-social driving will be targeted.

Police non-emergencies Phone: 131 444 or Crime Stoppers: 1 800 333 000
For emergencies Phone: 000

OTHER BUSINESS:

The PBPA had been contacted by a member regarding the possibility / advisability of having an evacuation siren installed at PB. This generated an amount of discussion, but the conclusion was that, whilst not opposed to the idea, the installation of a siren should be incorporated into the broader 'Places of Last Resort' issue [mentioned previously].

Another member wanted to remind everyone that feeding of wildlife was prohibited and was injurious to the wildlife itself.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING:

The next General Meeting of the Preston Beach Progress Association will be held starting at 10:00am on Saturday the 03 May 2025 at the Community Hall.

GENERAL MEETING CLOSED:

There being no further business to discuss, the PBPA GM closed at 11:20 noon.