

Queen Mary Botanic Garden Advisory Committee,

Minutes of meeting held 1st October 2025

Present Dorothy Patton, Ros Small, Lyn Box, Dot Baldwin, Janelle Patching, Sharon Shepherd, Jo Hamilton, Cr Murray Emerson, Brenda Proctor, Nola Lloyd, Annette Driscoll, Cr. Karen Probst,

Apologies Marg McCahon, Dee Freeman.

Minutes from previous meeting – Moved Lyn Box, Seconded Dorothy Patton, that the minutes of the meeting of 4th June 2025 are true and correct.

Matters arising from previous meeting

History of Agriculture Mural has now been mounted on the side wall of the Historical Society building.

Correspondence – nil

General Business

Children's Play Area

Col is due to return from leave and work on the Play Area and work there should recommence shortly. The Friends of the Gardens to fund the plants for the area. Further discussion needed on the selection of the plants.

We are awaiting a team from Stawell to put up the new entrance arbours.

Butterflies

Following a presentation to the Friends of the Gardens by Jean and Ellen Reid, it was suggested that we should plant more butterfly friendly species in the gardens. Possibly a collection of Buddleias planted along the western fence of the Main Drain, as well as more salvias. Sharon and Jo to draw up a planting plan for this area.

A letter of thanks to be written to Jean and Ellen Reid on behalf of the Friends and the Advisory Committee, which would also outline our plans to attract butterflies to the Gardens.

Additional Committee Members

Janelle to approach Mary Scully or Kerrie Gibson about adding Nola Lloyd and Annette Driscoll to the Advisory Committee.

Lighting of Signage wall

There has been a suggestion by a member of the public that the lighting of the signage wall is not bright enough. After discussion it was decided that this was not the case, and even if it were, it is not the concern of this committee.

Next Meeting – 3rd December 2025

Meeting closed. 6.40 pm

Following the meeting there was a presentation by Tina Baker of NG Shire regarding the possibility of an Art Installation in the Queen Mary Gardens. This would be funded by the Council.

There were suggestions of the lighting of trees, or possibly sculptures mounted on trees.

It was generally agreed that what ever was decided upon should be in keeping with the botanic nature of the gardens and not be intrusive.

Committee to meet in the gardens on Monday 8th October at 7.30pm to discuss the matter further.