Northern Grampians Shire Council

St Arnaud Recreation Advisory Group Meeting - Minutes

The meeting to be held at **6.00pm** on 18 February 2026 **at the Lord Nelson Park Clubrooms (Tony Driscoll Room)**

Chair: Cr Probst 605pm open.

Acknowledgement of country: *We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which we are meeting from. We paid our respects to their elders, past and present*

To be Present: Cr Murray Emmerson, Cr Karen Probst, Kim Birthisel, Nicole Amos, Tara Lowe, Kaye Boyd, Jackie Peacock, Annette Driscoll, Tom Hamilton, Nic Baird (NGSC), Samantha Winter (NGSC)

Apologies: Peter Knights, Jason Smith, Bruce Hando.

Moved

1. **Minutes of the previous meeting: Moved** Nicole Amos. **Seconded**: Tara Lowe
2. **Business arising from the previous meeting:**
   a. **Cricket nets at Lord Nelson Park**: Hockey not keen to take over as such but if cricket move fully to King George Parks they'd be keen to be first in line to take over.
   b. **Schedule of use document.** Can be done in advance if dates are known or regular (e.g. St Arnaud Show timings).

3. General Business

Item	TOPIC	Discussion	Action/ Outcome
1.1	**Lord Nelson Park/St Arnaud Area Update**	**St Arnaud Swimming Pool**: • Sam provided an update. • Friday 27 February last day for the pool before works begin. Pool party scheduled for this day. • 3m board will be removed as it does not mean standards with the depth of the pool. • Works start 2nd March plan works done by middle of Septmeber for opening start of November. **Modular Pump track**	**Action:**

		• Nic to provide update • Pump track expected to be in Melbourne mid-late March. • Plan for this to be located at King George Park to activate a green space that isn't used as much as other areas. Group was happy with this idea. • This would then be moved around the shire after a period of time to other locations and then a final location would need to be decided upon in around 18 months time. • This pump track isn't taking away the work that St Arnaud Mountain Bike Club are doing in trying to get their area developed. This is something that we believe will help with this and showcase biking to a lot more younger children. Council are still supportive of the work Mountain Bike Club are doing.	
1.2	**Participation Plans**	St Arnaud Pool Participation Plan is an in house participation plan so all work will be done by council.	**Action:**
1.3	**St Arnaud Recreation Committee Term**	Update on two year term ending. Group members will need to re-apply for positions this can be done by emailing Nic with their application. Nic's email is Nicholas.baird@ngshire.vic.gov.au	

Other business:

Nic: Asked about the frequency of this meeting. The group were keen for quarterly meetings, on the third Wednesday of the month.

Jackie: Mountain Biking update on Tiny Towns grant. They have applied to investigate concept design SCAN help, $12.5K total cost, obtained a letter of support from all including council EWHS DEECA Schools local co-op, this is a start and then raise money for the building of track there after. Tiny Towns Grant is announced in June.

Sam: East Wimmera Health Services have offered to support clubs in a variety of things from Drug and Alcohol sessions, mental health and anything else they may need. Group sessions can be done or clubs can just reach out on their own accord. Clubs can reach out to Nic to discuss with East Wimmera Health Services about anything they may need assistance with.

Nic: community grants open and can be found here: Council grant opportunities

Nicole: Asked about the merit to put up donations board in breezeway at clubrooms at Lord Nelson Park. She also mentioned that there is 26K still in fundraising committee club and asked the Recreation Advisory Group if there was anything that this could go towards e.g. tables and chairs picnic portable tables if possible Pots and pans for canteen, blinds. Wishlist from all clubs not for clubs use it is for the building or surrounds for all to use. This is to be discussed at the Fundraising Committee meeting in the future.

Kim: Over the break freezer left a jar. Can they do something? Nic said they are able to either a) put a lock on it as long as there is a freezer or space for others to use, b) buy a second smaller fridge freezer to have in the kitchen for others to use or for them to use in which they can lock. Kim also asked about lockable cupboards for bits and bobs they have was this something that was apart of the build or can be done for them. Nic to investigate this.

Kaye: User fees. Not happy with the increase in the fees, Harness haven't paid and not overly happy haven't paid for two years. Nic explained the fees increased this year due to utilities increasing and all clubs saw a rise in their fees from this. There was discussion around fees and percentages to clubs it was explained if harness lose percentage other clubs need to pick up that percentage.

Sam: Get Active Kids Vouchers opening soon, encouraging all clubs to sign up as providers.

4. Close time: **703**pm

5. Next meeting: May 20th 2026 time TBC