

IPA Queensland Region
Far North Queensland Branch

Minutes of Annual General Meeting 2011

Meeting held at Cairns RSL Club on Tuesday 2nd August 2011

Meeting chaired by acting Chair person, Preben Farbaek (#7239)

Present:

Preben Farbaek	member # 7239
Gordon Turner	member # 7667
Darryl Kruse	member # 7316
Graham Sweeper	member # 8017
Gil Dyett	member #5288
Cheryl Sayer	member # 7751
Donna Fyfe	member # 7315
Harry Hooper	member # 6382
Logan Alderson	Local resident but IPA New Zealand member
Kevin Vidler	Guest – IPA Victoria member
Sylvia Vidler	Guest
Narelle Farbaek	Guest

Apologies:

Mike Phelan (#7055)
Leanne Rissman (#7581)
Chris Nelson (#7229)
Alex Bor (#7987)
Mary-Anne West (#7312)
John Ridgway (#7313)
Ray Stubbins (#4932)
Adrian Gover (#5064)
Della Merrett (#2531)
Rod Van Der Linde (#7574)
Manfred Krieger (#7453)
Peter Cochran (#7721)
Ray Knight (#7539)
Andrew Merchant (#6940)
Jon Gilmore (#7651)

Meeting was preceded by a dinner at the Cairns RSL attended by Donna Fyfe, Darryl Kruse, Gordon Turner, Preben and Narelle Farbaek, Kev and Sylvia Vidler and Karen and Chris Nelson to farewell Kev and Sylvia who had been vacationing in Cairns for the last couple of weeks and was continuing

on their trek around Australia on the following day. Chris and Karen Nelson unfortunately had to leave the dinner early and were unable to remain for the AGM due to another commitment.

The formal part of the AGM commenced at 7:40pm.

The meeting was attended by Graham Sweeper who had driven down from Mareeba and by Gordon Turner who had driven down from Atherton, both were acknowledged for their efforts in driving a considerable distance to attend the AGM.

Items of business:

1. Minutes of AGM 2010.

The minutes from the last AGM in September 2010 were not available. No issues raised and no discussions were held on this subject.

2. Election of new committee.

The positions of the FNQ Branch Committee were opened for new nominations and each position was discussed and members elected.

a. Chair person:

Current office holder: **Adrian Gover** - Re-elected.

Adrian Gover is the existing Chair person but is currently in the US on an extended holiday and was not present at the AGM. He had expressed his willingness to continue in the position during the July 2011 meeting.

The meeting expressed appreciation for the work done by Adrian in reforming the FNQ Branch in 2008 and his hard work since then to keep the branch active by organising a number of social functions and hosting a number of overseas IPA visitors.

Adrian was nominated by Donna Fyfe to continue in the position of Chair person, which was seconded by Gordon Turner. The nomination was unanimously carried.

b. Secretary:

Current office holder: **Preben Farbaek** - Re-elected

Preben is the existing Secretary and was nominated by Cheryl Sayer to continue in that position, seconded by Donna Fyfe. The nomination was carried unanimously.

c. Treasurer:

Current office holder: **Chris Nelson** - Re-elected

Chris is the existing Treasurer, but was not present at the meeting. He had expressed his willingness to continue in the position during the pre-meeting dinner. He was nominated by Preben Farbaek to continue as the Treasurer, which was seconded by Harry Hooper. The nomination was unanimously carried.

d. Reception officers:

Current office holders: (1) **Chris Nelson** and (2) **Chris Judd**

New office holders: (1) **Chris Nelson** and (2) **Cheryl Sayer**

The FNQ Branch has two positions for reception officer, one of which is currently undertaken by Chris Nelson and the second position is vacant following the resignation of Chris Judd.

Chris Nelson was not present at the meeting but had expressed his willingness to continue in the position and was nominated by Gordon Turner, seconded by Cheryl Sayer. Nomination unanimously carried.

Cheryl Sayer then accepted a nomination to undertake the duties involved, nominated by Gordon Turner and seconded by Preben Farbaek. Nomination unanimously carried.

3. Financial report.

In the absence of Chris Nelson, the financial report was tabled by Preben Farbaek. As at 31/7/2011, the balance in the Queensland Police Credit Union account was \$1,093.97.

There are no outstanding bills.

The financial account is yet to be audited. Chris Nelson to arrange as soon as possible.

No other issues were raised with the financial account.

4. Correspondence.

a. Incoming:

There has been no incoming correspondence.

It was discussed that the Branch does not have a mailing address other than the private residential address of Adrian Gover. With Adrian on an extended holiday it is not known if any IPA related correspondence has been received at Adrian's home address.

The creation of a formal post office box for incoming correspondence is to be discussed at the next IPA Branch meeting.

b. Outgoing:

An email with the Minutes from the July 2011 meeting has previously been sent out to local members by Adrian Gover.

No other outgoing correspondence.

5. Upcoming visitors.

Information received pre-meeting from Chris Nelson on upcoming visitors.

- a. A US visitor (Donna Levi and her partner) are arriving in Cairns on 16 September for a short term visit. Contact with Donna has already been made by Chris Nelson and arrangements are being made to accommodate a request for assistance to go snorkelling on the Great Barrier Reef. Chris to continue communications direct with Donna and keep the Committee informed.
- b. Information has also been received that a NSW member (name unknown) is expected to visit Cairns in about 6 weeks. No details of their visit or what assistance they have requested were available. Chris Nelson is to continue handling this visit with information to be provided when available.
- c. It has further been indicated that a German member is visiting Cairns in the near future. No formal details are available at this time. Local Cairns member Manfred Krieger has previously indicated he would be willing to host any German police visitors. Chris Nelson to provide details to Manfred once available.

6. General business.

- a. Visitor Kev Vidler, who is the reception officer for the Victorian Region of IPA Australia, based in Melbourne near the Tullamarine Airport, and his wife Sylvia were hosted for a lunch at the Yorkeys Knob Boating Club on Sunday 24 July 2011 at which a small number of local members attended.

Darryl Kruse also arranged to charter an aircraft and took Kev and Sylvia on a flight over the Daintree and out over the GBR.

Kev and Sylvia are on a touring holiday around northern Australia and had intended to only stay a week in Cairns but extended their holiday here for another few days to be able to attend the local AGM.

Kev expressed his appreciation of the hospitality extended to him and Sylvia during their visit to Cairns and offered to reciprocate should any local members ever visit Melbourne.

b. Meeting ratios and schedules.

Criticism has previously been raised from an Executive IPA member in Brisbane, based on a “complaint” from a local member that insufficient social events were being organised, apparently resulting in the member resigning from the IPA.

The meeting schedules for the FNQ Branch were outlined for the information of all members.

The FNQ Branch meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30pm at the Cairns RSL, most often preceded by dinner at the RSL. All members are welcome to attend but mostly it is the same small number of members who attend.

In addition, a number of dinner events have been organised on a weekend, which have mostly been at commercial restaurants, but recently also included a BBQ lunch at Adrian Gover’s home, attended by about a dozen local members.

Further, a small number of social events have been organised when interstate or overseas IPA visitors are in Cairns, providing an opportunity for a social event for local members and a ‘meet and greet’ event for the IPA visitors.

It was discussed that the regular meetings on the first Tuesday of each month be continued, but that perhaps every third meeting be substituted with a dinner at some local commercial restaurant on the first Saturday of the month, thereby providing some regularity for social events and allowing members unable to attend the weekday meetings an opportunity to attend regular IPA events.

Further discussions to be held on this subject at the next local IPA meeting and information will be provided to all local members via email with date, time and location of the next social dinner.

c. Weekend Excursions

The option for an excursion to some local destinations were discussed, allowing for other than Cairns based events, and perhaps enticing non-Cairns based members to become more involved in the social activities of the IPA Branch.

It is anticipated that each event would be conducted over a weekend, with members mostly arriving on Friday afternoon and departing on the Sunday. Members would make use of local accommodation opportunities, whether camping or commercial, with all members meeting at a central location for a social event on the Friday and Saturday evenings, and taking part in local explorations of the area on the Saturday or Sunday morning.

Locations of Einasleigh, Cooktown and Chillagoe were discussed.

A proposal was made to organise a social excursion to Chillagoe for the weekend of Friday 14th to Sunday 16th of October 2011.

Further details of accommodation and local attractions to be obtained and provided to members via email as soon as possible.

d. Updated member details

It has become clear that there are a number of IPA members in the Far North who have not been known to the local Branch committee.

When the FNQ Branch was reformed in 2008, a list of email addresses was provided to Adrian Gover from the Queensland IPA Executive which has proven woefully inadequate.

An updated list of IPA members in the Far North of the State was recently obtained from Brisbane, but even it appears out of date with a number of IPA members who reside locally identified as not being on the list. Also, a number of members are recorded on the list but have transferred out of the Region some considerable time ago.

All members are requested to ensure they access and update their IPA profile on the IPA Australia web site to ensure correct address and contact details.

The website can be accessed via IPA-Australiapolice.com.au

If you do not know your log-in details, please contact the Queensland IPA Treasurer, Lorenzo Ricato (treasurer.qld@ipa-australiapolice.com.au) and he will be able to assist you.

e. Local tourist discounts for IPA visitors.

The possibility of arranging 'Local rate' discounts for IPA visitors was discussed. With the status of the tourism industry, now may be a good time to approach some local tourist attractions to source discounts for IPA members, on production of a valid IPA membership card, same as what is being provided by a number of tourist operators to local residents.

Donna Fyfe has volunteered to make contact with local reef fleet operators to try to obtain a special discounted rate for IPA visitors. Further information to be provided when available.

Should any member have a contact in management at any other local tourist attractions, please let the Branch committee know, perhaps even make direct inquiries yourself as to the possibility of local's discounts to IPA visitors.

7. Next meeting:

Next FNQ Branch meeting to be held on Tuesday 6 September 2011 at 7:30pm, again at the Cairns RSL. Meet in the meal room bar area or arrive early for a social dinner before the meeting.

8. Meeting Closed – 8.20pm

Prepared by: Preben Farbaek (#7239)
Secretary, FNQ Branch IPA