



# friends of the pinnacle

## Annual General Meeting

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2026 2:00 pm

*Hawker Primary School*

### Draft Minutes

#### Present:

**Members:** John Brannan (Convenor), Barbara Allan, Tony Ashton, Warren Bond, Vaughn Cox (Pax), John Fitz Gerald, Denise Hall, Mike Hall, Lesley Harland, Bob Hodgson, Gilbert Hughes, Gerry Newman, Len Taylor, Norma Vernon, Scott Wilkinson.

**Non-members:** Jeff Ellis, Nola McKeon

#### 1. Welcome by the convenor

John acknowledged that we volunteer and are meeting on Ngunnawal land, paid respect to their elders past, present and emerging, and asked that we remember the debt we owe the Ngunnawal for their stewardship of the land. He welcomed the guest speaker, ranger Leah Colebrook.

#### 2. Apologies: Anne Aisbett, Jo Clay, Mark Hallam, Alana Wilkes, Wendy Witham

#### 3. Guest Speaker: Leah Colebrook, District Ranger, Urban Reserves North, ACT Parks and Conservation Service (PCS)

Leah thanked fotpin for the opportunity to attend the meeting, congratulated fotpin on our efforts on the reserve and on our informative website.

She then addressed several recent issues that she thought would be of interest to us:

##### Improving the surroundings of the dam

Large woody debris has been distributed to reduce the erosion on the western bank. This largely came from the felling of a dangerous tree nearby.

There was discussion of the possibility of thinning the trees further up the slope from the western bank and at the same time enhancing the ground-layer to further reduce the washing of sediment and leaf litter into the dam.

John asked about the proposal to redirect the track leading from the Valley Track through that area. Leah noted that woody debris placed across the track had been moved, and that they had reconsidered the idea of blocking it that way. They are planning instead to make the western shore of the dam less attractive to walkers by using star pickets to anchor some of the woody debris in place and by supporting a planting by fotpin, which would place tree/plant guards in the way of would-be walkers.

Arising from the above discussion Leah mentioned that PCS was working its way through the Landscape Improvement Plan and that would include looking at thinning elsewhere among other things. She also mentioned that there will be a review of tracks right across the reserve, which is carried out periodically, to determine any that should be closed and those that needed repair or improvement.

Removal of timber from the reserve. The large limb that fell from the Dungowan Street tree several months ago had been identified as having indigenous heritage value and was being stripped by wood gatherers. To prevent further removal of wood, PCS moved the limb over to the edge of the Forest where it would be less accessible to vandals. Leah reminded us to contact PCS if

we heard or saw similar behaviour anywhere on the reserve by calling Access Canberra 132281 and asking to be put through to the North District office.

Trail bikes and e-bikes are a growing problem in the nature reserves. If we see inappropriate behaviour, particularly with trail bikes we should report this on the non-emergency police phone line 131444.

Leah also mentioned the new Environmental Offset in North Kama that is offsetting the area of box-gum woodland being removed to make way for the duplication of William Hovell Drive. She pointed out that during its establishment it would be managed by the Offsets team who work independently from the district rangers. In response to a question about the future of the homestead in the new offset, Leah said she thought it unlikely that they would demolish the house, but that other structures around the house would be demolished. However, the woolshed would be retained due to its heritage value.

The session was then opened up to general questions from the floor and the following matters were raised:

- The suitability of wildlife underpasses under William Hovell Drive.
- How kangaroos were counted (direct count, sweep count, transect count).
- The distress caused to kangaroos by the recent orienteering event that caused them to move out of the reserve into the adjacent suburbs.
- The accuracy of the telephone number on the old PCS sign near Dungowan St.
- Spraying of African lovegrass on the reserve and along its boundaries and whether that was planned to continue (Answer: Yes).
- Rabbit control. Leah explained that with limited funds the north district had to prioritise its reserves for treatment. Spotlight counting is continuing. She encouraged the continuation of mapping of active rabbit warrens by fotpin members to feed into the prioritisation. Warren Bond reminded members to send him waypoints of rabbit warrens together with the number of active entrances at each and a photo if possible.
- Foxes -are they targeted? (Answer, no, nowhere in the Canberra urban area.)

The meeting thanked Leah for the interesting and informative discussion.

#### **4. Confirmation of [Minutes of the 2025 AGM](#)**

Moved John Brannan, seconded Denise. Agreed unanimously.

#### **5. Convenor's Report**

John referred the meeting to his [written report](#) and provided a brief summary of some of the matters discussed in it including:

- The new Offset adjacent to The Pinnacle Nature Reserve;
- The kangaroo cull taking place this year for the first time since 2023; and
- Work carried out so far and planned to improve the condition of the area surrounding the dam.

#### **6. Treasurer's Report**

Warren Bond presented the [audited financial statement for our 2025-2026 Financial Year](#).

Gerry Newman moved that the Treasurer's Report be accepted; seconded by Lesley Harland. Agreed.

#### **7. Report on the Conflict-Of-Interest Register**

Warren reported that there had been no conflicts-of-interest registered by committee members during the 2025-26 year.

## **8. Election of new Coordinating Committee**

Leah Colebrook agreed to act as Returning Officer and called for nominations.

Members of the 2024-25 Coordinating Committee stood down in accordance with meeting rules and all positions were declared vacant.

The following office bearers and ordinary members were nominated, accepted their nomination and were elected unopposed:

**Convenor:** John Brannan

Nominated: Warren Bond; Seconded: Gerry Newman

**Secretary:** Anne Aisbett\*

Nominated: Warren Bond; Seconded: Len Taylor

**Treasurer:** Warren Bond

Nominated: John Brannan; Seconded: Denise Hall

**Ordinary Members:**

Denise Hall

Nominated: John Brannan; Seconded: Warren Bond

Len Taylor

Nominated: John Brannan; Seconded: Denise Hall

Alana Wilkes\*

Nominated: John Brannan; Seconded: Mike Hall

Vaughan Cox (Pax)

Nominated: Warren Bond; Seconded: John Brannan

\* Anne Aisbett and Alana Wilkes had indicated in advance their willingness to be nominated in their absence

## **9. Other Business**

None.

**Meeting closed at 3:45:** John Brannan thanked the Hawker Primary School for allowing us to use their facilities for the meeting, thanked all those who had brought contributions for afternoon tea and invited everyone to stay for afternoon tea.

Warren Bond  
Acting Fotpin Secretary  
20 June 2025