



MINUTES GSQ Members' Meeting 18 November 2021 Via Zoom

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Helen Veivers welcomed GSQ members and thanked everyone for registering and gave an overview of the purpose of the meeting.

Meeting opened: 7.35pm

Attendees:

Mary Agnew	Robyn Dean	Christine Meehan
Gail Albert	Lorraine Digney	Sharyn Merkley
David Barnes	Geoff Doherty	Graeme Moulton
Kerry Beeton	Marg Doherty	Trish Mullins
Jan Bimrose	Liz Drew	Jeanne Myles
Elva Callaghan	Di Edelman	Stuart Neill
Lynne Cavanagh	Bobbie Edes	Kate Peters
Maureen Cavanagh	Ann Fitz-Gerald	Rhona Pickering
Margaret Clark	Russell Fraser	Claire Rodwell
Helen Connor	Sue Grant	Charlotte Sale
Kim Cooke	Karen Hawkes	Wendy Seib
Janice Cooper	Janine Heggie	Richard Silcock
Rhoda Copeland	Alistair Henderson	Helen Smith
Ailsa Corlett	John Jones	Hugh Smith
Margaret Cumberland	Dianne Kennedy	Catherine Thompson
Paul Cummings	Judy Lofthouse	Helen Veivers
Kim Davis	Matt McCoy	Pauline Williams
Bob Dean	Rosemary Meadows	

Apologies

John Allen	Helen McKinnon	Sally Romano
Margaret Allen	Howard McKinnon	
Ian Hunt	Lesley Roebig	

2. Property Report – 'Looking for a New Home'

Full report attached.

3. Comments from GSQ Members

Geoff Doherty: Advised that \$36,000pa was rent paid when GSQ moved to Wishart. None of the proposed applications for redevelopment to date has been approved. Proposals take at least two years for approval. David advised that annual increase in rent has led to current rent of \$48,600 including GST.

Di Kennedy: Is an out of state member and suggested we make the move early, however, lease would need to be for a fixed term.

Trish Mullins: Commented that we have offered St David's the same starting price as St Matthews and dealing with the same property manager so she will know GSQ's situation.

Marg Doherty: Suggested considering changing the model so SIGs met on days GSQ closed so that Gabba Towers would not be required every weekend. The issue is that there are members still in the workforce that would be affected if meetings not held on weekends and some SIGs prefer to meet face-to-face.

Helen Smith: Considers that it is short sighted not to open on weekends. Need to attract younger people who will still be in the workforce and need to be able to have open days. Not sure people will only want to do zoom meetings. Would need to have rooms so lectures and meetings could take place concurrently. There is no guarantee government will assist.

David Barnes: Decision will be made in next three years about Gabba Tower's future but in reality it could be up to eight years before building knocked down.

Kate Peters: Does government want to charge for out-of-hours and would evenings be charged for A/C. David replied that offer was for a 12 hours spread per day.

Kerry Beeton: Working members like to go in on weekends and Kerry has identified this via telephone conversations with members. Detailed presentation gave members a good idea about how complex it is to find somewhere. Question is where to go from now and what to do and who is going to do all this work?

Helen Connor: Asked size of St David's. David responded about 300 square metres, however, MC members were only able to view about 80% of the property and is considering a place for disability parking. Male, female and disabled toilets and kitchen area 4m x 4m are available.

Catherine Thompson: Is Brisbane History Group still interested? Response is yes and that they would contribute rent for about 30 square metres i.e. about \$4000 per annum.

Ailsa Corlett: St David's is near to Sherwood District Australian Football Club (SDAFC). SDAFC has its own car park and there is quite a lot of on street parking and property is close to the railway station on Ipswich/Springfield line. Wishart landlord would want one or two year lease but there is no other tenant so could perhaps negotiate month by month.

John Jones: Do we still want members to look for premises. Yes but consider the criteria that was posted previously.

Paul Cummings: Are the moving costs accurate? No accurate costs for the actual quote yet but would envisage hiring removalists who would deliver to the new premises where members could unpack. Would need to close down GSQ during operational time which is not ideal.

Sharyn Merkley: Chelmer is 13 kms from Queensland Family History Society (GSHS) so both headquarters close together. Response that GSQ might also draw people from the QFHS area.

Lorri Digney: Took 40 Minutes to get to QFHS so doesn't think it would be an issue.

Geoff Doherty: QFHS is also facing a shift.

Susan Grant: Suggested to avoid giving detail on properties to avoid angst when GSQ isn't successful in EOI.

Helen Veivers encouraged members to look for properties and if specification required contact the Secretary at secretary@gsq.org.au.

David's report 'Looking for a New Home' will be posted on the website with the Minutes from the meeting.

4. Members' thoughts on vaccination status of those visiting Resource Centre

Helen Veivers advised that GSQ will be guided by government regulations but sought opinions from members about whether anyone entering GSQ should be double vaccinated. It was pointed out that many GSQ members have health conditions and are in the senior age group.

Ailsa Corlett: Supports double vaccinations for members entering the premises.

Kate Peters: Supportive as GSQ needs to protect the bulk of members. Government may make the decision. It is not just about ourselves but also about our families.

Rhoda Copeland: Appreciates that vaccinations are important but some may have reasons for not being vaccinated i.e. anaphylactic shock and there may be members with genuine exemptions

Lynne Cavanagh: Need to consider case-by-case basis if people cannot be vaccinated. Need to protect the vulnerable.

David Barnes: If we allow an unvaccinated person into GSQ and someone catches Covid where does that leave GSQ?

Helen Smith: Legally we will have to abide by whatever the government puts in place. If vaccination rate reaches 90% and have a decent booster rate then Government may be able to loosen up. Will probably have stricter regulations for the immediate future. With the opening of national and internal borders the flu will be

a massive issue. GSQ will not have a choice and will have to go straight down the government line and will not be able to obtain insurance if we don't comply. Need to offer hybrid meetings for members who cannot be vaccinated.

Pauline Williams: GSQ has to follow whatever the government says and a clear statement about what the policy is will be required. Need to be fair to the Research Assistants as they would be policing compliance and we need to protect them.

Ailsa Corlett: Checked the government regulations and thought GSQ would come under libraries.

Dianne Kennedy: Agrees with Ailsa but also agrees with Pauline about who is going to enforce the policy.

Jeanne Myles: Pointed out that people can still catch Covid if double vaccinated.

Paul Cummings: Health Department spokesperson advised that with the opening up of borders there will be more cases that are expected to peak next August.

5. Other issues

Trish Mullins: Asked about whether on-line subscriptions will continue. Ailsa responded that the only on-line that is not continuing is Find My Past that had been available during Covid but discontinued on 18 November 2021. My Heritage, The Genealogist, Biographical Database of Australia, Roots Ireland and Irish Ancestors will all be available. From 1 December British Newspaper Archive will return but not sure if it can only be accessed at GSQ at this stage.

6. Christmas Afternoon Tea

The Christmas Party is being held 2pm 11 December. Members are not required to bring food as GSQ has obtained a grant from the Brisbane City Council. The Christmas Party will be preceded by the book sale at 10 am – 2pm.

7. Christmas Raffle

Donations for the Christmas Raffle are still being received at GSQ. Tickets cost \$2 and are being sold on the Website and at GSQ.

Helen Veivers thanked everyone for attending and contributing.

Meeting closed at 9.07pm.

Signed as a true and correct report of the Genealogical Society of Queensland Members' Meeting Minutes of 18 November 2021.

Signature: 

Name: Helen Veivers

President, Genealogical Society of Queensland Inc.

Date: 