



MINUTES OF THE AFTER AGFEST EXHIBITORS MEETING, HELD AT THE CHAPEL ROOM, TAILRACE CENTRE, 1 WATERFRONT DRIVE RIVERSIDE ON FRIDAY 1st JULY 2016.

PRESENT:

Exhibitors

Fishmania Petuna, Ali Firat
Marine Safety Tasmania, Ian Ross
Ruband Tyres, Rod Branzendale
Aussie Kids at Work, Diane Schumann
Habitat Plants, Sally Staubmann,
Luv Jewellery, Anne Brumby
Bootassolar, Jeremy Patterson
Glennroys, Glennroy Greely
Smoke and Spice Tasmania, Rhonda Newton (Marshall)
St Johns Ambulance, Darren Cooper
Defence Force Recruiting, FSGT Adam Poultney
Defence Force Recruiting, CPO Stuart Tinker
TFGA, Sam Wedgwood
Youngtown Rotary, Ian Smith
Launceston Christian School, Kate Gill
Leukaemia Foundation, Kate McGough
Leukaemia Foundation, Wyn Baker
Australian Veterinary Association, Dr Angela Offord
Rotery Club Devonport South East,
Tankworld, Michael Stringer
Springbank Agency, Shayne Smith
LWB, Gaylene Connell
Farm Machinery Tasmania, Mich Boyd
Toyota, Jess Satler
Gas Compliance, Ralph Thomson

Agfest Committee:

Kate Coad, Agfest Chairman - Agfest Organising Committee
Tracey Badcock, Exhibitor Manager - Agfest Organising Committee
Sarah Revell, Unique Taste Pavilion Coordinator - Agfest Organising Committee
Mitch Beer, Power Coordinator - Agfest Organising Committee
Karen Robinson, General Manager – Rural Youth Tasmania
Selena Flanagan, Office Administrator – Rural Youth Tasmania

The Chairman opened the meeting at 3:08pm and welcomed everyone in attendance.



APOLOGIES FROM AGFEST COMMITTEE:

Emma Rayner, State President – Rural Youth Tasmania
Kathryn Cenin, Junior Vice President – Rural Youth Tasmania
Benjamin Cripps, Traffic Coordinator – Agfest Organising Committee
Simone Hayers, Craft Coordinator – Agfest Organising Committee
Aleta Jones, Committee Catering Coordinator – Agfest Organising Committee
Ricky Edson, Operations Manager - Agfest Organising Committee & Vice President Rural Youth Tasmania

APOLOGIES AND WRITTEN FEEDBACK FROM EXHIBITORS:

Strainrite, Debbie Payne
Bonsai Ichi-ban-ii, Noel Kemp
Tasmanian Country, Marian Maclachlan
Lincoln University, Sophie Prangnell
Jane Franklin Hall, Mike Jolly
Sustainable Australia, Susan Bowes
Fence-Line Solutions - Siobhan Whitty
Australian Weaving, Alison Radford
Alpaca South, Alison Brolsma
Royal Flying Doctor Service Tasmania, Mary Frost
Terrain Tamer 4WD, Peter Bonavia
Laska's Lullabies, Mary Lynton-Moll
Ultrabond, Steve Green
Greyhound Adoption Program, Susan Gittus
Jolly Lolly Trolley, Donna Newton
Cozyosko, Sally Bourguignon
Cyclad, Jason Orr
JW Minerals, John and Stella Woolfe
Step Forward Orthotics, Lesley Rands
Morris Outside, Jan Morris
Rural Bank, Jo Davidson



Apologies with written feedback:

Company	Comment
Bean Frenzy, Tanya Brown	Please forward on my congratulations through to all involved again for running a brilliant event. Everything went smoothly for us and we encountered no problems.
Anvers Confectionery, Todd Ashdown	<p>Thank you for your email, unfortunately Anvers won't be in a position to attend this your feedback meeting however below is the response I sent to Dairy Tas..</p> <p>Hi Maryann</p> <p>Firstly thank you so much for all the organizing you have done to make AGFEST happen.</p> <p>Overall Anvers was happy with the location of the site, size of the site, and layout of the site and at this stage we would like to commit to the same for next year please.</p> <p>The major challenge we had was parking. AGFEST want everyone off site by 6pm on the Saturday night but we were unable to have our cars at the back of the marque until after 5pm, with our turnover and profit we do for the 3 days Anvers cannot financially afford to come back Sunday. So we would be requesting to have 1 vehicle allowed to park out the back on the Saturday.</p> <p>I would also like to see the "Dairy Tas" theme be kept to, food and drink stall holders must have Tasmanian Dairy in their products to be allowed under the marque.</p> <p>We also had requests from the public for Milk flavoured drinks? (being the fact we are a Dairy Tas Marquee). This is something we do not make in our core range but potentially could if you cannot find Tasmanian Milk Flavoured drink supplier.</p> <p>Again well done and thank you for all your hard work.</p>
Senator Jacqui Lambie, Fern Messenger	<p>Thank you for the invitation, unfortunately due to it being held the day before the election, the senator is unable to attend.</p> <p>We would appreciate it if you could please forward any meeting notes etc. We would also like to confirm our interest in participating next year. The site we had this year was fantastic so if we could have that one again that would be great.</p>
Kalmaren Gardens, Sally Wilson	<p>Sorry can't make the meeting but I can tell you Agfest was absolutely brilliant. Yes, I did well but that was not the main reason for my comment. The committee were superb – nothing was a problem and if the person I approached didn't have the answer they would contact someone else and the answer was there within 30 seconds.</p> <p>Congratulations on a great event and thank you for giving me the opportunity to participate this year. Am already planning for next year (in hope that I am accepted) and look forward to the event.</p> <p>The whole event and process of organisation was amazing – I really don't know how you did it! Congratulations.</p>



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Angus Gourmet Steaks Sandwiches, Vaughan Taplin	I'd like to thank all involved for another wonderful event.
Dolly Design, Ros Briggs	<p>I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the craft organisers and Simone Hayers for all the help and support that was given to me before and during Agfest 2016.</p> <p>I had a great Agfest and even enjoyed the mud and learning to know how well I am able to drive in those dreadful conditions.</p> <p>I look forward to the new application and with hope that I am accepted.</p> <p>Best regards to all and especially Linda in the financial area.</p>
Diamond Marketers, Kylie Crockers	We would love to attend your meeting but we will overseas so unfortunately we won't be able to attend; I would like to thank Agfest for the opportunity of exhibiting this year, you guys certainly know how to put on a great well organised Field Day.
Tough As Products, Darren	<p>We would like to see improvements with how you manage the exodus of exhibitors on the final evening.</p> <p>It was a breeze to get into and out of our site every previous morning/night because of the use but of multiple gates but too have only one exit gate on the last night caused some delays.</p> <p>Otherwise your show was fantastic and we will definitely be booking a site for 2017.</p>
PFG Group, Erin Hibberd	<p>I am not able to attend but I wanted to have some input. Generally, I thought the whole event was run to the usual high standard....</p> <p>These are the exceptions to that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Plastic Fabrications and Seamaster were moved to different sites that proved less successful for us2) Traffic management was pretty poor compared to other years. People need more training. There was a woman in orange overalls at the front gate directing traffic by jumping around on the road. Not good!3) Exhibitors that parked in the exhibitor car park (with a permit) were also asked for their purple gate passes at the gate entrance. Your staff were not trained properly and two days running I had an argument with the guy there to let me in. This was after I had already complained to the Agfest office about it.4) Toilets were very poorly maintained and obviously you need more!5) The standard of food across the site is generally pretty poor. You need a huge 'food court' area with high quality Tasmanian produce. The fund raising food places could then be scattered around the site separate from this.6) Poor instructions during bump out led to unnecessary traffic congestion. Vehicles were lined up to exit via back gates when Agfest announced only one exit via the main gate. Not good for traffic flow! <p>It is unfortunate that you moved us this year and we are unlikely to attend again next year due to the mediocre outcome for us...</p>



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Callipari Wines, Michael Callipari	Just positive feedback from my point of view. Great Event, Great People and Great Attitude. Delighted to be a part of the event.
Whitlands Engineering, Kerry Broek and David Burder	<p>We were very annoyed to be allocated an untrafficable muddy site to exhibit our woodsplitters/firewood processors. The options given for the site were not suitable. As a long term exhibitor (20 years) with a good track record with the Field Day committee I expected that a bit more thought from your site selector should be put into where working displays are put (as against static displays).</p> <p>Also to be noted was our repeated and “ignored” request on Thursday and Friday for some wood chips or walkway crossing to be put at the entrance to our site so people didn’t have to either wade through or jump over a 1 metre wide wet muddy gutter. This request was made multiple times and to my frustration and the girl in the office’s frustration NOTHING was done until Friday afternoon. It goes to show your liaison/communication with your site manager was non-existent or at least not a priority. It made us as your valued long term exhibitor feel that we were treated like the poor second cousins who you didn’t care about. Noting that all other sites with wet gutters had walking bridge crossovers or woodchips installed before the show opened on Thursday (except our site).</p> <p>Apart from this, the event as usual was well run, traffic management was great and it is a credit to the Rural Youth Organisation. Re 2017 and beyond I feel it would be pertinent to give long term exhibitors more recognition and offer them a bit more choice of site allocation.</p>

The Chairman, Kate Coad, introduced Rural Youth personnel present and outlined the purpose of the meeting. She requested that attendees please provide feedback to Karen Robinson or herself including feedback from personnel unable to attend that they may be aware of.

REPORTS

Chairman’s Report – Kate Coad

Thank you for attending today’s meeting, this is a valuable opportunity to debrief, reflect and communicate in order to develop going forward for future events.

Capturing Agfest 2016, what an experience! A year of mud, sunshine, touch of wind and the introduction of more policies, procedures and mechanisms in place in prevention of risk, reassurance of safety and working together in order to host Tasmania’s biggest rural event.

Some highlights:

- 2016 saw the highest quantity of exhibitors ever to our event, with 762 in attendance.
- The development of the Ag Demo area into sites, which proved a challenge but the only way is forward with this area, now that the initial step has been advanced.



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- The development and reintroduction of the Equine Expo feature, with aspects this could eventually become a livestock expo area in the coming years – subject to committee direction.
- Our branding development with the introduction of our theme, Growing Rural Tasmania and our new look, thank you to the Clemenger Tasmania.
- Sales of tickets at Roberts Ltd stores Tasmania wide; which has resulted in \$1 from every ticket being put into a scholarship fund this year for Tasmanian's to apply for in advancement of their career/education within the rural/agricultural sector – the committee is deciding tonight how best to develop, promote and launch these opportunities into the community.

Some future developments:

We are constantly looking at ways to improve business dealings and logistics - Feedback is important; we welcome feedback – this assists us in developing, learning and working together. If we don't know about something we cannot address it – so, please keep the feedback coming!

MUD... A site with no mud would be perfect! Not realistic, but what we have put in place is seeking costings in having a company onsite afterhours to maintain our drain ways each night – this is a service we had up until 2008, removed for reasons I do not know. Our main feedback received this year was on drainage and mud – so we have taken this on board, and have action in the works ready to ensure a solution for 2017. Also the process in reporting issues within sites are being developed – stay tuned.

Marketing – as Exhibitors you are our major market drawcard – if you have an exciting product, launch or opportunity within your site – please let us know so we can communicate to our media, committee and other networks. We want to increase support to those that invest in us.

A focus of this year was the additional weekend day set up time, with Security services starting the Sunday not Monday – we hope this assisted many businesses.

The Agfest Committee has our Brainstorming weekend the first weekend in August; this year the weekend will focus on development of the Field Days – what we do now, what we've done in the past and what our future could/should/would look like. Developing the vision for Agfest 2017 and beyond.

Thank you for investing in our event, attending today and being part of the planning and communication for Agfest 2017.

Exhibitor Manager – Tracey Badcock

This year the demand for sites was on par with previous years, the static site was full and replacing cancellations was not an issue. The Spirit of Tasmania sailing did cause a few unpredictable problems on the Tuesday Night, but could have been significantly worse with only 1 exhibitor withdrawing from this event.

February saw the approval for the Ag Demo area to be renovated into static sites, allowing an opening for 46 additional sites (26 10x10's & 20 10x20's). This allowed for exhibitors on the waiting list to be accepted and alleviated this heavy demand and made some exhibitors exceptionally happy to receive



this late notice acceptance. With the end result being only 39 exhibitors remaining on the waiting list after the event.

TOTAL STATIC EXHIBITORS: 523

- 418 Static Exhibitor
- 79 Static Site Sharers
- 5 Static Services
- 6 Static Charities (including our 2016 Official Charity Ronald MacDonald House)
- 12 Static Caterers
- 3 Static Beef Expo Exhibitors

PLUS

- 148 Craft Exhibitors
- 21 Equine Exhibitors
- 2 KAAP Exhibitors
- 21 Trades Expo
- 47 Utaste

TOTAL EXHIBITORS FOR AGFEST 2016 – 762

Some of the amazing on site events and entertainment for patrons at Agfest 2016 included:

- The Working Bullock Display with Brian Fish who utilised the Four Wheel Drive Track and Central Arena.
- Sthil Timbersports Australia Display
- Eddie Freeman Chainsaw Carving
- Beef Expo who trialled new location again this year, which with discussions with the Beef Expo coordinators looking at more central location and larger scale for 2017.
- The popular Australian Weaving Heritage Display
- The Peter Brock Memorial Four Wheel Drive Track
- Working Sheep Dog Trials
- Dairy Expo – Dairy Tas Legendairy Expo
- KAAP – Kids Ag Awareness Program
- Ag Artwear Competition
- Whip Cracking Displays
- Navy Band playing daily in Central Arena
- Equine Expo had returned to Agfest 2016, this ran a full program featuring demonstrations including miniature ponies, dressage, cross country and show jumping.

Every year the Agfest Committee supports a selected charity through a free site at Agfest, enabling them to promote their service to a concentrated audience. This year The Official Charity of Choice was: Ronald MacDonald House Hobart, with 16 charities applying in 2016 RMH was chosen.

We also saw the Craft Pavilions expanded from 4 full sheds to include a 5th shed for 2016, an amazing effort from Simone Hayers and assistant Nicole Elliott who worked with limited timeframes to ensure this was a success and provide the availability to showcase additional exhibitors within the craft area.



Changes to Utaste this year saw sponsorships for the Picnic Area and included an additional 3 sites within this picnic area, a great suggestion arranged by Sarah Revell and her assistant Renee Latham.

The site allocations this year were focused on the Agfest policy of rotation, as you would be aware this is not always possible, due to many reasons including power and size restrictions, but does work well where possible.

My personal experience during the event and every muddy step taken to visit as many of the exhibitors my Assistant Exhibitor Manager, Kaysie Wood and I could, in between following up with those exhibitors who requested specifically to be visited to discuss issues or genuinely compliment the committee in person. Most Exhibitors were full of praise and really reacted positively with the one on one contact from an Agfest Representative visiting and taking the time to talk and make them feel welcome to the event.

I was able to take a bird's eye look at the site from the helicopter and I could not be more impressed with the appearance of the overall site, clearly I remember viewing Red River Rural's site that looked amazing from this view with their cattle yards and panelling, just to name one exhibitor that remains clear in my mind. But the entire site looked amazing and all exhibitors are to be recognised for this.

I would like to congratulate the winners of site awards for 2016:

- Best Small Site - **Tough As Products** (1131B)
- Best Single Site - **Adbri Masonry** (S75)
- Best Multiple Site - **MJ Cook Agricultural Supplies** (NN18)
- Best Machinery Site - **DLM Machinery** (828)
- Best Craft Pavilion Exhibit - **Perry's Lemon Myrtle Rainforest Products** (C13)
- Best Unique Tastes Fine Foods Exhibit - **Hellfire Bluff Distillery** (S38-3)
- Best Trades Expo Exhibit - **Terry White Chemist** (CWA8-1)
- Best Heritage Display - **Historical Machinery Club of Tasmania Inc.**
- Best Equine Site - **Drovers Saddlery** (E02)
- Best Beef Expo Exhibit - **Roscrea Speckle Park Stud** (842B)
- Most Accessible Site - **Irrigation Tasmania** (S62)
- Best Use of Central Arena - **Brian Fish Bullock Display**

Lastly I would like to say I have really enjoyed my time as Exhibitor Manager and have learnt a lot in this role, gaining greater appreciation for the event, the committee, the exhibitors and our wonderful office staff. Thank you for taking the time to attend today's meeting and for working cooperatively with me and the committee during 2016.

Disability Access – Mr Ken Ewington

The Chairman introduced Mr Ken Ewington.

Ken outlined his background which included being born on a dairy farm and working in a variety of agricultural roles including as a business owner employing many people.



He stated that he had been to Agfest in its early days. In May 2005, he had an accident which affected his mobility. He set himself a goal to tackle Agfest in a wheelchair. When he attended it rained. He had parked in the disabled parking and started to move around the site where he experienced many large puddles that he had to go around. He discovered that the site was not flat and it was hard work getting around. He managed the whole site in a wheelchair and it was challenging. When he got home he thought about the challenges and identified some changes that could be made to make it easier for people with disabilities. He approached the Agfest committee and started a campaign for people with disabilities to attend Agfest. He thought that Agfest was a great opportunity for people with disabilities to attend and noted that some small changes could make a big difference for people with prams, the elderly and people with disabilities. He noted that many elderly people need a place to sit and rest and that wheelchairs don't like blue-metal and woodchips. He also noted that ramps with steep lips are a safety hazard and should be avoided if possible.

This year, he noticed that some of the mainland exhibitors used industrial grey plastic matting on their sites. He found this matting to be very wheelchair friendly and a fantastic product. He also noticed a number of professional ramps in use which was also fabulous. Whilst they may be expensive to purchase, these items can be reused in future years. He encourages exhibitors to use plastic matting.

He stated that woodchips are very difficult for families with kids in prams to negotiate. He suggested that attendees offer assistance to people with prams or in wheelchairs when going uphill, especially if they are on their own or with small children.

He stated attending an event like Agfest is great!

Ken advised that the plastic matting product was industrial grey matting and that it is fine matting like carpet which could make exhibitor's sites much easier to manage. He advised that it just rolls out.

Kate Coad, the Chairman said that she would investigate the product and see if a bulk purchase price could be negotiated with suppliers. If so, details would be made available on application forms in 2017.

An attendee from the floor noted that there is a place in Adelaide that supplies the product and it is not that expensive.

FEEDBACK FROM THE FLOOR:

Company	Name	Comment/Ry Response
Launceston Christian School	Kate Gill	Kate said thanks, it was very smooth and we were not affected by the rain. Because we are both a caterer and craft exhibitor, there was confusion about access to power and our closest exhibitors in the craft area had issues. <u>Agfest Response</u> Kate Coad advised that we will look into the issue and resolve for next year.



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Company	Name	Comment/Ry Response
Australian Veterinary Association	Angela Offord	<p>Angela stated that it was amazing. I really enjoyed the breakfast session and the evening drinks; it was a great initiative!</p> <p><u>Agfest Response</u> Kate Coad advised that the breakfast and drinks was a trial this year. We wanted it to be big and beneficial to all. We had 100 attendees for this year and next year we would like 200.</p>
Rotary Club of Youngtown	Ian Smith	<p>Ian noted that he had attended Agfest since it first started and that Agfest indirectly supports the community. He stated that this year their food van was stolen but with help from Rural Youth we were able to get up and running.</p>
Fishmania Petuna	Ali Firat	<p>Ali advised that Agfest was very good.</p>
Rotary Devonport South East	David de Cani	<p>David noted that there was a problem with the gas collection point. Is there a reason we cannot bring our own in rather than purchasing it at the site?</p> <p>Ralph Thomson noted that there was an issue with using a trolley to collect gas bottles which took up to 45 minutes.</p> <p><u>Agfest Response</u> Selena Flanagan advised that Agfest have an agreement in place with a supplier and that there are WHS requirements with testing and tagging to ensuring that gas bottles are in date. She noted that there were also government regulations regarding the transportation of gas cylinders and there is a law that only three cylinders are allowed to be transported privately at any one time. She stated that over Agfest we detected eight cylinders in use which were out of date which would have caused a significant issue if they had exploded. There are issues with "stop and go" cylinders and this is a safety issue which affects everyone including patrons.</p> <p>We will be looking at transportation with the supplier for next year. All 45s will be dealt with separately and we will coordinate drop offs.</p>
Launceston Christian School	Kate Gill	<p>Kate stated that 13.5 kg bottles were not available this year and the 18kg ones are illegal for their particular use. She noted that last year they had a huge gas bill but this year they only used 9kg bottles and it was less.</p> <p><u>Agfest Response</u> Kate Coad advised that they would request the supplier bring in 13.5kg bottles rather than the 18kg ones in 2017.</p>



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Company	Name	Comment/RY Response
Marine and Safety Tasmania	Ian Ross	<p>Ian stated that it was a fantastic event. We have had a great site for three years. We noticed a huge difference with work done on drainage. He noted that the site sloped, which for them was difficult. There was a problem with vehicles slipping and stabilising boats/trailers. A flatter site would have been better. One dealer said there was less traffic but we understand site rotation. The traffic management getting in and out was amazing, but on the Saturday afternoon there was a huge holdup only managed by one Agfest person and a security guard. Could you develop something better for that last day? It was a real bottle neck.</p> <p><u>Agfest Response</u> Kate responded by saying that this year we had trucks exiting that we weren't expecting. With regard to requiring a flat site, please put this in your application and we will take that into consideration when we are allocating sites. The application form is used in decision making and is very important. Please list any specific requirements.</p>
Ruband Tyres	Rob Brazendale	<p>Rob advised that he was very specific about where/who he wanted to be with, i.e. amongst the trucks. Whilst we had less traffic this year, we did more sales because we were in the right place/grouped correctly. It really worked and was the best for us in 18 years.</p>
St Johns Ambulance	Darren Cooper	<p>Darren advised that the school's program was really well run! We got a lot of enjoyment out of that. It was great. Breakfast was really good too and I networked and got some great ideas. Next year we would like to offer a more specific display including first aid in the rural environment.</p> <p>He requested that first aid have a greater presence/signage so people know where the first aid is for service/accidents etc.</p> <p><u>Agfest Response</u> Kate Coad responded that the suggestion was on her list and would be actioned for next year.</p>
Leukaemia Foundation	Kate McGough	<p>Kate advised that it was their first time with their own site. She thought it was very good. We received lots of awareness and were approached by lots of patients who thanked us. We have come up with ways for people to be involved and learn more.</p>
Launceston Toyota	Jess Satler	<p>Jess stated that it was a great event for us. She inquired about data collection, online ticketing and where attendees are from. She noted that for many exhibitors this information was useful. She inquired about a way for patrons to search on line for site holders outside of the paper program/map. She also thought that the</p>



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Company	Name	Comment/RY Response
		<p>exhibitor map should show power locations so we know where it is and don't put pegs into power lines or block others etc.</p> <p><u>Agfest Response</u> Kate Coad advised that yes, online ticketing was being investigated for 2017. She noted that online look up was available on the Agfest Website which is mobile friendly and searchable by products and stalls. She took the comment on board and will promote the website more in 2017. With regard to power, she advised that they would produce a map and will add to communications.</p>
Habit Plants	Sally Staubmann	<p>Sally stated that we were still on site at 6pm because of the trucks which caused a huge delay. She also noted that the ATMs ran out of cash.</p> <p><u>Agfest Response</u> Kate Coad advised that we have updated our traffic management processes and learned from the experience this year with the trucks.</p> <p>She stated that we were advised by the ATM provider that we would run out of cash and so we utilised the ticket box eftpos to dispense cash. Going forward, we will ask for more cash from our ATM provider and promote the ticket box option.</p>
Australian Defence Force Recruiting	Flight Sargent Adam Poultney	<p>Adam passed on thanks from the commander of Defence Recruiting for letting us participate. It was great to interact with the public. The navy band had a great time and want to come back next year. We had a good response especially in the reserve space with young unemployed people. It is our 5th or 6th year at Agfest and the best outreach place for the north of the state. Our biggest problem was packing up as some of the equipment we have is sensitive and can only be transported at set times. Can we let you know this in advance next year so that it can be accommodated?</p> <p><u>Agfest Response</u> Kate Coad replied that it could definitely be sorted out. With any logistical or safety issues, please approach us.</p>
Springbank Agencies	Shayne Smith	<p>Shayne asked what is the objective of the pavilions and how do you get in?</p> <p><u>Agfest Response</u> Kate Coad replied that the pavilions are a showcase of handmade, craft, Tasmanian, unique, handmade products or food. It is a broad area and depends on what people put on their applications. The inclusion of web sites, detailed product information and samples with your application make it easier for us to assess.</p>



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Company	Name	Comment/RY Response
		<p>Shayne advised that some exhibitors (on the end of the rows) got washed out with the rain.</p> <p>Shayne noted that some of the mainland suppliers were selling identical products to those sold by local people. Where this occurs it is duplication and not financial for us to do if others are selling the same thing e.g. a soap product. The same happens with leather goods for example there was one Tasmanian exhibitor but two mainland ones others selling identical bags. It really does not help Tasmanian businesses.</p> <p><u>Agfest Response</u> Kate Coad responded that if there are similar products we don't put in the same shed and instead spread them around. We do give preference to Tasmanian products and those with a rural or agricultural linkage. This is taken into account but I will pass your comments on to next year's committee.</p> <p>A comment was made that there were two products being sold from Peru and another from China which questions the objectives of the craft pavilion.</p>
Luv Jewellery	Anne Brumby	<p>Anne advised that her daughter makes hand crafted jewellery. This year was our fourth at Agfest and we think it is a great event. I understand that there is a waiting list for the sheds and we were lucky to get in. We were put in the Tasmanian handcraft shed and there were no mainland people. Is it only for handmade items?</p> <p><u>Agfest Response</u> Kate Coad replied that it used to be "handmade only" but more recently "craft" has become much broader and it has grown and diversified. We were lucky this year to have the extra shed which allowed and additional 30 exhibitors.</p> <p>Anne noticed that in the big sheds there were a lot of mass produced items and products made in China. She wasn't sure how these exhibitors got a place in a shed before the handcrafted Tasmanian items.</p> <p><u>Agfest Response</u> Kate Coad advised that exhibitors with Tasmanian products are allocated first and then the others. If they are selling mass produced items they would be selling some handmade products. But the exhibitor does not need to sell 100% handmade items. This information is contained in the terms and conditions and we will pass your feedback on and adjust these, so look out for it in the new year.</p>



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Company	Name	Comment/RY Response
		<p>Anne advised that she felt really sorry for those in the small shed because when the rain came in it affected their products. We sympathised because we were located at the end previously. She inquired if the door be lowered? They asked about it during Agfest but were advised that it was a safety issue.</p> <p><u>Agfest Response</u> Kate Coad advised that she would review the placement of the end sites or use these areas for something else so that the sites aren't affected. She also committed to looking at the option of lowering the doors and the use of dividers.</p>
Glennroys	Glennroy Creely	<p>Glennroy advised that he was located besides a van that was only six feet from the road which blocked his vision. There was seating for people and my van was well back but the other van blocked people from seeing me. Maybe something can be done to ensure the food vans are set back to allow more room.</p> <p><u>Agfest Response</u> Kate Coad advised that there are guidelines about placement but we will be more specific going forward.</p>
Smoke and Spice and Exotic Filled Candy	Rhonda Marshall	<p>Rhonda stated that the committee have really listened to us which was great. We didn't have the mainland completion this year. The person who was operating the bobcat did an amazing job – please pass on our thanks to that person.</p> <p><u>Agfest Response</u> Kate Coad replied thanks for the feedback, it will be passed on.</p>
Life Without Barriers	Gaylene Connell	<p>This was our 4th or 5th year at Agfest and this year we were known and the exposure was great. We did have a lot of people asking where the Coles' site was.</p> <p><u>Agfest Response</u> Kate Coad advised that Coles decided not to participate this year and we reallocated the area to Shannons and Telstra. Ticket sales were conducted by Roberts. We tried to let people know that Coles weren't there and have had some feedback on where the family picnic site should be in the future.</p> <p>Gaylene noticed that exhibitors were packing up earlier than normal and it became a psychological issue.</p> <p><u>Agfest Response</u> Kate Coad replied that if you see it happening, please let us know as it is not good. The earliest pack up time is 5pm on the Saturday which is documented in the terms and conditions.</p>



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Company	Name	Comment/Ry Response
Australian Veterinary Association	Angela Offord	Angela inquired about ticket sales/attendees. <u>Agfest Response</u> Kate Coad advised that 58,285 people attended.

Kate Coad thanked attendees for their feedback.

Meeting closed at 4:17pm.