

Minutes

Meeting of the AEVA Tas Branch
Rose Bay High School, Kaoota Rd, Lindisfarne, Hobart
7th December 2016 7:10pm

Attendance

AEVA Members

John Casimaty, Peter Freeman, John Hanley, Les Gregson, Penny Cocker, Tim O'Loughlin, Ray Johnston, Charles Gregory, Geoff Attwater, Chris Heath, Christopher Walkden, Clive Attwater, Andrew Cash, Rhys Filbee

Guests

John Allason, Gary Adderton

Apologies

Penny Wadsley, Michael Wadsley, Warren Boyles, Michael McCausland, Paul Rayner

Confirmation of minutes from previous meeting (available on the [website](#))

Moved by Rhys, seconded by Charles that the minutes be accepted as an accurate record.

Correspondence in/out

Extract from an email from Dan Peters - Policy Analyst from the Department of State Growth:

*"I work in the area of energy policy and, as you may be aware, an action under the [Tasmanian Energy Strategy](#) is to: Review policy and regulatory settings to enable an effective market led roll out of **electric vehicles in Tasmania** (action 42). This is an action that I'll be delivering.*

I'd like to get in touch with a representative from AEVA and arrange a time to discuss what you, the peak body for EV's in Tasmania, see as the major policy and regulatory barriers to EV's in the state."

We received an email from Peter Sawley, Executive Director of Energy Education Australia. EEA is asking if the AEVA Tas branch would be interested in a schools-based Tasmanian EV Challenge. Peter suggests that such a challenge could be based on the Western Australian EV Challenge. Gary from EEA was present at the meeting, and suggested that perhaps a challenge could be developed ready for the 2018 school year.

Craig Plaisted (Meander Valley Council), and John Doubleday also replied to emails expressing interest in the EV Challenge concept.

Christopher will send an email to members to gauge interest, with the aim of meeting to discuss early in the new year.

General Business

Treasurer's Report

Report is in a separate file distributed with the minutes (or look for it on the website [here](#)).

Website & Social Media

Charles reported that there has been no further progress toward a new or re-vamped national AEVA website. Charles will oversee the creation of a separate website for the 2017 AGM. He would welcome help from people with graphic design experience.

Christopher noted that there has been lively discussion on the [Tas AEVA Facebook group](#). Topics include the Hyundai Ioniq – is it coming to Australia or not?

Events

Sustainable Living Festival (Hobart) 12th & 13th November. Was good despite the weather on the Sunday. The posters worked well, as did the display on the TV screen. Thanks to all who contributed.

Ray reported on the **Launceston Conversions SIG**. We've had perhaps 5 working bees to plan and then wire up Launceston College's motor. LC have mounted the motor on a frame, and have bought some batteries and a controller. The system is running at 24VDC.

The idea is that it will be painted in AEVA colours, and we'll be able to take it to shows as a demonstration of a full-size car motor and wiring. At the moment it just spins, but we'll probably put something on a pulley – perhaps a car alternator.

Most of the work for this project has been done by LC staff and students, headed by the Automotive Studies teacher Kerry Garwood. AEVA members just had to turn up and wire in the fun bits!

Reports on AEVA submissions:

Clive and Penny spoke with the state Labour party regarding their EV policies. Clive got the impression that although progressive, they probably didn't realise how soon EVs would become important in the state. This meeting was an important educational step.

Clive and Penny also spoke with Dan Peters (see his letter in the Correspondence section). He seemed receptive. Although it is the government's policy to help along the "market-led" introduction of EVs into the state, AEVA pointed out that there were many benefits that would not interest the market (emissions, health benefits etc.). AEVA suggested three areas that the government could help:

1. Government has tried to introduce EVs into its fleet, but it is tied to a particular fleet company, who did not offer any cost-effective EVs. Changing the policy to do with fleet purchases would help this situation.
2. Help to get a statewide charge network off the ground. EVs are not attractive without a charging network, but the market won't put in a charging network without EVs in the state.
3. Help Tas Networks to develop products to promote EV charging during off-peak times.

Report from National AGM in Adelaide in October

Charles, Clive & Christopher spoke about the national AGM including:

- [Eco Caddy](#) city transport
- [Redflow](#) home storage batteries
- SA branch's EV car show

A number of initiatives were raised at a national level.

- Sally Knight from SA is leading a project to see whether a national group buy of vehicles would be feasible.
- A group was formed to promote EV purchases for fleets. EVs are most suited to fleets, where high mileage in urban environments means that the initial high purchase price is offset by reduced lifetime running costs. It is envisioned that if enough interest is found from local and state governments around the country, a car company may be influenced to bring a model into Australia that is not otherwise due to be imported. The group has found an enthusiastic lease company, and is aiming to make a case for the 2017/2018 financial year.

It was raised that **home battery storage** is a hot topic right now, and could the AEVA organise a public information session on this? Christopher and Ray attended such an event organised by the ATA at Nest Energy in Launceston recently, and it was very well attended. TREA might like to be involved.

The Tasmanian branch has organised the printing of **Charge Point signs**. These are slightly smaller than A4 size, blue & white and made of colourbond steel. They have been offered to other branches at \$4 each and will be sold in Tasmania for \$5 each. Orders from other branches have largely offset the printing costs, and there will be a slight profit if we sell most of them. The signs are designed to be placed at charging points as-is. We will also get vinyl stickers made to add flexibility. Stickers include arrows (so the sign can be used to direct towards a charge point), as well as instructions such as "5 Minute Parking Unless Charging" or "Guest Charging Only".

Brochures have been printed for caravan parks. The brochure contains information about EVs, how much the electricity costs, and how to advertise on PlugShare. It folds into a sign that can be placed in the window of the park's reception building so that EV drivers know they are welcome and what they will be charged. This is a national brochure, with minor changes for each state. This is the first brochure printed, since caravan parks already have the infrastructure required to charge cars (15A power points). Brochures for cafes, hotels etc. are being developed, these will need extra supporting documentation since these destinations will likely have to install infrastructure.

Volunteers are now required to visit caravan parks to ask if they would like to offer EV charging. We have three coordinators, each with a list of (probably) all the caravan parks in their area:

South : Clive Attwater <treasurer@tas.aeva.asn.au>

North : Ray Johnston <ray.johnston@bigpond.com>

North West : coordinator required. At the moment Christopher Walkden

<secretary@tas.aeva.asn.au> has the list, but he'd like to offload this job to someone else!

If you'd like to visit some caravan parks, please contact the coordinator in your area and they'll give you some signs and brochures. They'll keep track of who goes where so that we don't double-up.

The **Electric Highway Working Group** has met. Members have agreed to progress to the next step, which is to find locations for the first few DC fast chargers. There is a Department of State Growth grant which might be suitable, and could be large enough to pay for a number of the chargers. There are new models of chargers coming out, including a Tritium 25 kW DC charger, which is significantly cheaper than the standard 50 kW model. Once the initial infrastructure is installed, if a site proves popular another faster charger could be installed with minimal disruption. The model will probably be that the site pays for (and thus owns) the installed infrastructure, wires

etc., and that the Charge Network owns the charger. The installed infrastructure is a long-term investment, and should not depreciate much with age. The charger does depreciate, requires regular maintenance etc.

Penny is representing AEVA at the **Tas Networks Pricing Reform Working Group**. Tas Networks is treading carefully in its quest to reduce peak demands via pricing signals. There are two projects in progress which will provide data. The [Bruny Island Consort](#) project is installing batteries in homes with the aim of reducing peak demand. The Bridgewater area [tariff trial](#), is currently gathering data on resident usage patterns, and will later move them onto the Time of Use tariff to see how it works for residential customers.

Christopher has applied for a site at **Agfest 2017**. The site applied for is 10m x 10m, to be shared with the Alternative Technology Association. The ATA gets a discounted rate for site sharing, but they will pay for power which means both organisations pay around the same amount. We will need some kind of marquee on site to give protection from the weather. The ATA priced marquee hire from a company that will be erecting many other marquees at Agfest. Price was just under \$3000 for a marquee large enough to cover the entire site for the three days (includes erection and dismantling). So the ATA decided not to get one! Christopher's neighbour has a marquee that may be suitable, although it has to comply with council guidelines so he will look into that.

The application has been made, Rural Youth will advise if the application was successful in the new year. Site fee will be \$455, which was approved by those present at the meeting.

It was suggested that a **video package** could be made to show on the TV screen at events such as the Sustainable Living Festival, Agfest, Motormania etc. Please contact the secretary if you'd like to be involved in this.

The (as-yet still unnamed) **2017 AGM** is being hosted by the Tasmanian branch. Dates have been set as 9th – 12th November 2017. Bookings have been made for the following venues: The [Waterfront Function Centre](#) for the conference on Thursday & Friday. This has a flexible layout that can cater for large or small functions.

[Roundhouse Park](#) in Devonport. This is for the static car show on the Saturday. Possibly 10am – 2pm, with the option that we might hold a BBQ. Christopher's observation from the Adelaide car show was that there were many interstate AEVA members who didn't have much to do. So we could put them to work on the BBQ to raise some money.

[CMax Cinemas](#) – for a public talk/lecture. Similar to the branch launch in Hobart last year. Theatres hold 120, 140 and 280 people. Cost is \$400, with the offer that we can use their ticketing system. So we could charge a nominal fee to cover our costs (say \$2 each).

[The Old Black Stump](#) restaurant & function room in Gowrie Park. This is for lunch on the way to Cradle Mountain on the Sunday.

[Gowrie Park Wilderness Village](#) – a caravan park that can supply charging for the cars while having lunch.

[Cradle Mountain Wilderness Village](#) – a cabin park that has offered to install 15A outlets on cabins for people who want to stay overnight.

[Devonport Discovery Park](#). This is for the Wednesday night through to Saturday night, for people staying with or without cars. Cabin park accommodation and powered sites to charge cars. 100 places on the Spirit of Tasmania (and they provide a small discount).

The ferry and the two accommodation places have been booked now, with the understanding that once we know numbers we will let them know that they can release spots that are not required.

John Hanley has approached [High Voltage Karts](#) in Melbourne to see if they would like to bring their karts down for some fun. Also [ELMOFO](#) (NSW based race car).

John also suggested getting an electric bus for the event. This could serve the dual roles both of ferrying people around who don't have a car, and demonstrating that an EV bus can make demanding trips – such as up to Cradle Mountain and back.

The Rose Bay High School has been a good **meeting venue**. Andrew Cash will confirm if we can use the venue into the new year. The following meeting dates were proposed:

Wed 1 Feb - Launceston College

Wed 29 Mar - Rose Bay High School, Hobart

Wed 24 May - Rose Bay High School

Wed 19 Jul - Rose Bay High School (branch AGM)

Wed 13 Sep - Rose Bay High School

Wed 6 Dec - Devonport or Latrobe (1st meeting after national AGM in Devonport)

These were generally accepted, although they may change due to venue availability. They will be posted to the [website](#) and updated if required.

Charles suggested a social get-together, perhaps a weekend BBQ? Nobody volunteered any dates or venues, this could be organised via email.

John Hanley suggested that AEVA could one or more Bunnings BBQs to raise money. It would presumably be possible to have some EVs at the carpark to show off at the same time. This is an easy fundraiser, as it requires very little planning – just some willing helpers. John will ask for volunteers via email.

Tim O'Loughlin has bought a [Fonzarelli](#) electric scooter (hasn't been delivered yet).

Greg mentioned the [I-Pace Concept](#) from Jaguar.

Meeting closed 21:10

Next meeting: 19:00 1st February at Launceston College

General information:

Want to join the AEVA or join our mailing list? See our [website](#).

Members' discounts:

- 20% off **Tesla Limousines & Tours** <https://teslatours.limo/> (Statewide)
- 20% off first lawn service from **Greg Milligan Gardens and Maintenance** (up to \$20). <https://milligangardens.com/> (Hobart & surrounds)
- Discounted EV chargers from **Gelco**: <http://www.gelcoservices.com.au/>
- 10% off rack rates at **Lufra Hotel and Apartments** through to 30/6/17 (mention it when you book). Also free charging for anyone who drops in for a coffee. <http://www.lufrahotel.com/>
- Fonzarelli Electric Scooters are offering a 5% discount and a free charger pack to AEVA members: <http://www.fonzarelli.co/>

EV Related links that members have suggested (since last meeting):

AEVA Promotional Video: <https://youtu.be/g-Nf-8xiY3Y>

Interview with Darren Moody: <https://audioboom.com/posts/5225319-ract-s-darren-moody-tests-all-electric-tesla-s>

Offroad Electric Jeep: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p6eIPdbIAfU>