

DRAFT MINUTES

37th Annual General Meeting
ANBG Theatre
3pm 16 October 2025

1. Opening and welcome

The meeting was opened by Alan Henderson, acting President, at 3pm.

Alan welcomed everyone present and thanked them for their interest and support in attending the AGM. The attendance list of the financial members of the meeting is at **Attachment 1**.

Alan acknowledged the Ngunnawal people, as the traditional custodians of the land on which we are meeting, and paid his respects to the Elders past, and present.

Alan explained that he would chair the meeting because President, Linda Beveridge was on long leave following surgery. He conveyed Linda's message to the meeting of best wishes and appreciation for the contributions made by Council members, Special Interest Group convenors and all our members.

Alan welcomed Dr Judy West, Patron of Australian Association of the Friends of Botanic Gardens and member of the Friends.

He also welcomed Dr Matthew Parker, the recently appointed Director of the ANBG and Helen McHugh, ANBG Friends' Liaison Officer, the two ex officio members of Council.

2. Apologies

Alan read out the list of apologies received. See Attachment 2

(No proxies were received).

3. Acceptance of the minutes of 36th AGM held on 24th October 2024

The draft minutes of the 36th AGM held on 24th October 2024 were placed on the website for review prior to this meeting.

Motion: That the minutes of the 36th AGM of the Friends of the Australian National Botanic Gardens held on 24th October 2024 as presented on the Friends of the Australian National Botanic Gardens website, be accepted.

Moved: Ian Primrose

Seconded: Darrell Porter

CARRIED

4. President's Report

Alan presented the President's Annual Report, which was published on the website prior to the meeting. His report will also be printed in December edition of Fronds.

Motion: That the President's report be received.

Moved: Cathy Robertson

Seconded: Barbara Podger

CARRIED

5. Presentation to Pat and Warwick Wright, retiring ambassadors for the ANBG and the Friends.

In accordance with the October Council decision, Alan presented a gift to Life Members, Pat and Warwick Wright, in acknowledgement of their 23 years' service to the Friends. He invited them to give a speech in reply. Pat Wright responded magnificently, on behalf of both. The meeting expressed their appreciation by loud acclamation.

6. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer, Rod King, presented the 2024/2025 financial accounts and audit statement for acceptance, indicating that they were made available on the website prior 21 days before the meeting.

He presented his annual report to the meeting. The report will also be printed in December Fronds.

Motion: That the Treasurer's report be accepted.

Moved: Rod King

Seconded: Ian Primrose

CARRIED

7. Report by Dr Matthew Parker, Director ANBG.

Matthew Parker presented a PowerPoint display of the year's highlights. His report is reprinted in the December edition of Fronds.

8. Election of Office bearers and Council members

Alan handed over the meeting to Helen McHugh, the Council's ANBG Liaison Officer to conduct the Council elections as the Returning Officer.

Helen McHugh took the chair. She said that prior to the meeting, the Secretary presented the six nominations she had received for the six vacant positions on Council. She confirmed that they were received by 9th October 2025, the close of nomination period. She found all nominations to be in order and so it was not necessary to hold a ballot for any of the vacant positions.

Helen then declared the election as follows:

Catherine Robertson elected as Secretary, for a two-year term.

Dr Rod King is elected as Treasurer, for a two-year term.

John Barrow, John Pilbeam, Darrell Porter and Beth Tyerman elected as ordinary members of Council, each one of them for a two-year term.

Helen returned the chair to Alan Henderson.

9. Appointment of Auditor for 2025-26

Alan explained that as a small, registered charity, the Friends of the ANBG are not required by legislation to have an auditor. However, an auditor is required under the constitution to ensure that the financial records are accurate. He advised that the appointment of an auditor is the responsibility of the Council, and that this would be done at the November Council meeting.

9. Other business

Alan invited members to raise items without notice. None were raised.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 3.50 pm.

Alan invited everyone to move to the Dickson Room for refreshments.

Attachment 1

Friends of ANBG 37th Annual General Meeting (25 financial members constitutes a quorum) Attendance Record 16 October 2025	
Wanda Filsell	Ros Walcott
Darrell Porter	Ben Walcott
Pat Wright	David Campbell
Penny Emmery	Kristiane Herrmann
Warwick Wright	Elizabeth Hall
Joan Adler	Barbara Podger
Peter Dowling	Daphne Nash
Anna Howe	Rod King
Jennifer Rowland	Kath Holtzapfel
Mary Bush	Maurice Hermann
Bill Bush	Ian Primrose
Cathy Robertson	Susan White
Judy West	Lal Warusevitane
Tanya Brass	David Coutts
John Barrow	John Fitzgerald
John Pilgram	Elizabeth Hall
Alan Henderson	Lesley King
Lesley Harland	35 Members

Attachment 2

Friends of ANBG 37th Annual General Meeting

16 October 2025

Apologies received

Linda Beveridge
Kerry Moir
Pam Cooke
Helen Elliot
Max Davill
Christianna Cobbold
Brian Weir
Amanda Geir
Anne Campbell
Lesley Jackman
Glenys Bishop
Lynne Curran
Andrew and Beryl Bettell
Beth Tyerman
Stacie Hall
David More
Max Bourke
Neil Porter
Judy Pearce
Glenda Andrewartha
Peter Andrewartha
Andrew Podger

23 apologies were received.