

**BUSHCARERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

For the meeting held at 3:30pm on Wednesday, 23 February 2011
In the Civic Centre

Meeting opened at 3:40 pm.

1.0 PRESENT

Committee Members: Cr Des Wolfe, Val Davies, Kim Stanton, Greg Freebury and
Nominated Members: Charlotte Powis and John Moore
City of Albany Staff: Sandra Maciejewski, Mark Ford and Jane Allen (Minute Taker)

2.0 APOLOGIES

Matthew Kennewell and Graham Blacklock

3.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved: V Davies

Seconded: K Stanton

That the minutes of the meeting of the 24th November 2010 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

CARRIED 4-0

4.0 CORRESPONDENCE

Email to Martin Shuttleworth regarding recommendations from the Committee to improve practices in regards to the weed issue at John Street.

5.0 BUSINESS ARISING

5.1 Vancouver Waste Facility – follow up on recommendations in 2010

In November 2010, Committee members visited the Vancouver Waste Facility at John Street, preceding the last Bushcarers Advisory Committee Meeting. The purpose of the site visit was to assess the composting procedure being used for the green waste being collected from households within the City of Albany, and then sold to customers. The Committee and the Bushcarers Group had received some complaints indicating that weeds are growing out of the composted material.

Martin Shuttleworth, Director of Vancouver Waste, attended the site visit, and explained how the green waste is being processed. He indicated that he did not want to produce a product that was spreading weeds, and that he was happy to

work with the Bushcarers Advisory Committee and Bushcarers Group on improving his product.

Sandra has emailed the recommendations through to Martin Shuttleworth, but as yet has received no feedback. Mark Ford mentioned that he organised for the weeds to be mulched on the boundary verge at the John Street facility.

6.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

6.1 What will we do about Sydney Golden Wattle? This wattle is the biggest single threat to biodiversity in the Albany area. It is doubling in area every five years and will overtake 27% of our native bushland by 2020. Community and government action is required to stop its spread and impact (John Moore)

John Moore reiterated the issues with the spread of the Sydney Golden Wattle. Recently a community busy bee was held on private properties at Goode Beach. The 12 Most Wanted Weeds Leaflet went out with the Community Newsletter, prior to the Meeting, and the response to the advertising proved to be very successful.

Discussion ensued and it was decided that Little Grove would be a good area to target next, with approximately twenty properties with Wattle issues.

ACTION: Kim Stanton/Mark Ford to meet to arrange for a pamphlet to go out with the Community Newsletter, with a view for a busy bee to be held in July.

ACTION: Charlotte Powis to look into SCNRM funding opportunities available

Moved: J Moore

Seconded: K Stanton

THAT the City of Albany supports the South Coast Natural Resource Management and South Coast Progress Association in sourcing funding for the control of Sydney Golden Wattle in the Little Grove area, bounded by Bald Head to Princess Avenue.

CARRIED 4-0

6.2 Access to north side of Yakamia drain. This area has heavy weed burdens and it is difficult to access. Can we get the north side of the drain mulched? (John Moore)

John Moore discussed the difficulty in accessing the north side of the Yakamia drain. Areas need to be kept level, as work is carried out, to allow vehicle access.

ACTION: Sandra to check with Kevin Ketterer as to the future of Yakamia Creek.

6.3 Fire Management Requirements 2010-2011 (Kim Stanton)

Kim Stanton wished to clarify what "garden" is permitted on blocks less than 2000m², according to the Bush Fires Act 1954.

ACTION: Sandra to discuss with Rangers/Garry Turner

6.4 Lack of follow up at the Little Grove Sewerage pump station in Marine Terrace (Kim Stanton)

Kim Stanton expressed concerns as to the overgrown state of the pump station.

ACTION: Mark Ford will follow up

6.5 Reports from around the table

Natural Reserves

Mark Ford informed Meeting that the Reserves Team are involved in:

- Weed Control
- Infrastructure
- Trails
- Tracks
- Signage
- Greenskills

Department of Environment and Conservation

Greg Freebury mentioned DEC has been working on Voyager Park since handover from City of Albany.

South Coast Natural Resource Management

Charlotte Powis outlined that SCNRM are carrying out blackberry/gorse control on Yakamia Creek. She also had copies available of the Gorse Eradication Strategy 2011-2021.

Department of Food and Agriculture

John Moore outlined Department's involvement in gorse eradication programme. Also funding has been applied for re: breaking of seed coat – gorse and wattle.

John will send through details re: Course to be held in Perth in September, to Mark Ford and Charlotte Powis.


City of Albany

Sandra is going to review Weed Strategy for City of Albany and will include promotion of Bushcarers' work being done.

7.0 NEXT MEETING

8.0 CLOSURE

The meeting was closed at 5:05 pm.

CONFIRMATION: CHAIRPERSON:  DATE: 25. 5. 11.