

**1.1.2: ENVIRONMENT AND RESERVES COMMITTEE**

**Proponent** : City of Albany  
**Responsible Officer(s)** : Executive Director Works & Services (S Grimmer)  
**Attachments** : Minutes of Environment and Reserves meeting held on 12 June 2012

**ITEM 1.1.2: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**  
**VOTING REQUIREMENT: SIMPLE MAJORITY**

**THAT the confirmed minutes of the Environment and Reserves Meeting held 12 June 2012 be RECEIVED.**



**ENVIRONMENT AND RESERVES COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES**

for the meeting held on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2012,  
in Depot Training Room, Mercer Road, Albany

(File Ref: PR.MEE.1)

**1.0 ATTENDANCE**

**Councillors:**

Councillor Attwell,  
Councillor Bowles,  
Councillor Bostock,  
Councillor Holden.

**Committee Members:**

Greg Freebury,  
Kathryn Kinnear.

**Staff:**

Steve Grimmer,  
Mark Ford,  
Alexandra Tucker,  
Mary Holt,  
David Hatellie,  
Sandra Maciejewski

**Apologies/Leave of Absence:**

Karen McKeough,  
Andrew Dickinson

Everyone gave a general introduction of  
themselves.

**2.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING  
NOT APPLICABLE**

**3.0 DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST  
NIL**

4.0 ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

4.1 Election of Chair

**ITEM 4.1: RESOLUTION**

**MOVED: Councillor Bostock**  
**SECONDED: Councillor Attwell**  
**CARRIED: 14:14**

**THAT COUNCILLOR CHRIS HOLDEN BE ELECTED CHAIR OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND RESERVES COMMITTEE.**

4.2 Election of Deputy Chair

**ITEM 4.2: RESOLUTION**

**MOVED: Councillor Holden**  
**SECONDED: Councillor Bowles**  
**CARRIED: 14:14**

**THAT COUNCILLOR DAVID BOSTOCK BE ELECTED DEPUTY CHAIR OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND RESERVES COMMITTEE.**

4.3 Arbitrary Signage

Councillor Holden explained background of why he had raised the item. His main concern being possible sign pollution/overload.

Steve Grimmer acknowledged that the City is currently reviewing the sign policy and agrees we don't want an overload of signs.

**ACTION:** Steve Grimmer requested the committee bring any signage concerns to his attention for him to deal with.

4.4 That Council endorse Sydney Golden Wattle as the major environmental weed of the region.

Councillor Attwell asked whether Sydney Golden Wattle was in fact a noxious weed.

Mark Ford spoke of existing controls managed by City of Albany officers including control of Sydney Golden Wattle on road reserves which has resulted in lowering road maintenance costs in the last ten years. Mark also suggested education is the best way to tackle the issue and address the public through forums such as progress association meetings, media releases and discussions with schools.

Steve Grimmer agreed education is best way forward.

Sandra Maciejewski explained that the item had previously gone to Council and was endorsed as part of Bushcare Minutes. Sandra Maciejewski also considered a multi-agency approach was the best way of dealing with the issue. Sandra Maciejewski then explained the City already had strategies in place which were under review – this review was then facilitating a policy update.

Councillor Bowles asked whether Council can send noxious weed notifications with rates notices?

## AGENDA ITEM 1.1.2 REFERS

Councillor Bostock was concerned there may be a financial risk to the City if Sydney Golden Wattle was endorsed as an environmental weed.

Email from Andrew Dickinson agrees with the proposal of Sydney Golden Wattle being endorsed as the major weed of the region.

**ACTION:** Steve Grimmer has a meeting next week with progress associations and will address the issue of noxious weeds with the community.

### 4.5 That the Bush Carers Committee conduct further research into illegal dumping of green waste.

Mark Ford explained that green waste dumping does occur although it has reduced over the years. Mark Ford confirmed residents need to pay to take green waste to the John Street depot. Mark Ford also stated where possible City of Albany officers used contractors to mulch vegetation on site and reuse the mulch in reserves.

Councillor Bowles asked Steve Grimmer whether there is a way to address researching other avenues for the disposal of green waste by residents?

Greg Freebury asked whether a cost analysis could be done for the City to mulch residents green waste?

Councillor Bostock asked Steve Grimmer to look at the problem as part of the waste management programme review and the renewal of the green waste contract.

**ACTION:** Councillor Bowles has requested a costing from Mary Holt of how much the City of Albany spends on illegal dumping for the next meeting.

**ACTION:** Steve Grimmer will speak with Mike Richardson to discuss any other options that may be available to the City of Albany and will keep committee informed of outcomes.

### 4.6 Briefing on the Environmental Impact Procedure

Sandra Maciejewski explained the process of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and how it guides the City's day to day operations and ensures we comply with all relevant environmental legislation.

**ACTION:** Sandra Maciejewski will provide a final draft of the EIA to the Committee for review before the next meeting for consideration. At next meeting Sandra Maciejewski is hoping the Committee will endorse the EIA so the item may be presented to Council for release for public comment.

## 5.0 ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED AT FUTURE MEETINGS

### 5.1 Steve Grimmer suggested:

Public Open Space - Councillor Bowles said that this matter was being addressed by the Planning Committee.

### 5.2 Mark Ford suggested:

Developed Reserves and Parks all need addressing by this committee. Councillor Bowles suggested a regular report be provided at each meeting by:-

David Hatelie – Developed Reserves;

Mary Hold – Natural Reserves;

Alexandra Tucker & Sandra Maciejewski – Reserves Planning.

**5.3 Councillor Holden requested:-**

If practicable, all submissions for future meetings be in writing.

**6.0 GENERAL DISCUSSION**

**6.1 Fire Access Tracks**

Councillor Bostock asked about cost to City of Albany to implement fire access tracks.

Mark Ford explained we have a budget of \$125,000.00 for fire maintenance which includes:-

- Prescribed burns;
- Maintenance of existing tracks;
- Replace infrastructure (e.g. fire gates).

Any new access tracks are restricted by budget as we must maintain the existing as a priority.

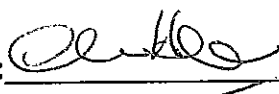
Steve Grimmer explained the City of Albany is currently developing a Fire Management Plan for our priority reserves.

**7.0 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:**

11 September 2012

**8.0 CLOSURE OF MEETING**

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 5.03pm.

CONFIRMED CHAIRPERSON:  DATE: 22-6-12