

TOWN OF BASSENDEAN
NOTICE OF THE MEETING OF THE
RIVER PARKS COMMITTEE

Dear Committee Member

A meeting of the River Parks Committee of the Town of Bassendean will be held in the Council Chamber, 48 Old Perth Road, Bassendean, on Tuesday 8 May 2018, commencing at 3.00pm.

Mr Bob Jarvis
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

3 May 2018

A G E N D A

1.0 **DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS**

Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners

The Town of Bassendean acknowledges the past and present traditional owners of the land on which we gather to conduct this meeting, and pays its respects to their Elders, both past and present.

2.0 **ATTENDANCES, APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

3.0 DEPUTATIONS

4.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION – ITEM 4.1

That the minutes of the River Parks Committee meeting held 6 February 2018, be confirmed as a true record.

5.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDING PERSON WITHOUT DISCUSSION

6.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

7.0 BUSINESS DEFERRED FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

8.0 REPORTS

8.1 Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage - Draft 2018-2023 Ashfield Flats Reserve Works Program

APPLICATION

The purpose of the report is to re-present the Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage draft 2018-2023 Ashfield Flats Works Program, and to seek formal feedback from the Committee.

ATTACHMENT

Attachment No. 1:

- Draft Ashfield Flats Works Program 2018-2023
- Draft Ashfield Flats Treatment Areas v3 Aerial Map

BACKGROUND

At the February 2018 Rivers Parks Committee meeting, the Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage representative presented at as a deputation to the Committee the attached draft 2018-2023 Ashfield Flats Reserve works programme for consideration.

Since presenting the draft program, the Department has started consultation with Council members on the works program, as well as with other interest groups, including AshfieldCAN, Water Corporation and Department of Biodiversity Conservation & Attractions.

On 4 April 2018, the Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage had a meeting with the Department of Biodiversity Conservation & Attractions and as a result some changes have been made to the first Draft presented to the Rivers Parks Committee in February 2018.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Community Strategic Plan 2017-2027; Strategic Priority 2: Natural Environment

Objectives <i>What we need to achieve</i>	Strategies <i>How we're going to do it</i>	Measures of Success <i>How we will be judged</i>
2.2 Protect our River, Bushland Reserves, and Biodiversity	2.2.1 Protect and restore our biodiversity and ecosystems	Community / Stakeholder satisfaction Survey (River, Bushland and Reserves)
	2.2.2 Sustainably manage significant natural areas	
	2.2.3 Partner with stakeholders to actively protect, rehabilitate and enhance access to the river	Biodiversity and Bush Condition ("Keighery" Scale of bush condition) measurement

STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

Bush Fire Act 1954
Local Government Act 1995
Metropolitan Region Scheme
State Planning Policy 3.7 Planning in Bushfire Prone Areas
State Planning Policy 2.8 - Bushland Policy for the Perth Metropolitan Region

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Nil at this stage.

COMMENT

In early April 2018, the Town provided the following preliminary or interim feedback to Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage:

- Proposed dogs off-leash area will be subject to consultation;
- Fire Access Tracks And Bushfire Management - April 2017, the Department of Planning advised that the Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC) was seeking advice regarding the impact of the draft Fire Management Plan presented in regards to the environmental and hydrology / stormwater impact of the proposed limestone tracks on the reserve;
- In August 2016 the Bassendean River Parks Management Committee received the comments from an Interagency Working Group (Department of Planning, Swan River Trust, Department of Water and Town of Bassendean) concerning a "Brief" for a Strategic Management Plan/Master Plan. The interagency group recommended, in part the following works programs:
 - Undertake a detailed Acid Sulphate Soil (ASS) investigation and prepare an Acid Sulphate Soil Management Plan be prepared and implement the ASS plan to ensure soils are appropriately identified and managed.
 - Conduct a Hydrology Study , groundwater assessment and drainage feasibility study.
 - Ground Water Plume characterisation/modelling.
- The East Metropolitan Regional Council, on behalf of Member Councils, is currently conducting a study to understand and manage flood risks and once this report is completed, may be considered as part of any future studies.

In regards to the above preliminary feedback provided, the Department of Planning Lands & Heritage has advised that the Western Australian Planning Commission is keen to work with the Town of Bassendean and the Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions (where it relates to the Swan River Trust) on the matter of the off leash and on leash signage and the requirement for appropriate community consultation. In the first instance, there will need to be an agreement on the areas that need to be designated for both off leash and on leash. Aligned with this is the need to look at walking path realignments and the erection of new fencing along the foreshore, so that the WAPC will be able to achieve the draft Works Program, as follows:

- Protection of the samphire areas;
- Areas to be identified for rehabilitation in line with the draft Works program; and
- Areas to be reserved for access to the water by dogs and public including fishers.

The Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage has previously advised that it is keen to work with key stakeholders to progress a final Ashfield Flats work program and as a consequence, the timing around when the proposed works are undertaken would be subject to the Town of Bassendean and the Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions being in agreement.

As such, the Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage has requested that River Parks Committee provide feedback to permit the draft final documents to be prepared.

Once the draft final documents are prepared, they will be presented to the Committee prior to being adopted by the WAPC/Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage and being implemented.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION – ITEM 8.1

That the Committee:

1. Notes the Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage is working with key stakeholders and seeking comments on the draft 2018-2023 Ashfield Flats works Program;
2. Notes the Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage has indicated that the draft final 2018-2023 Ashfield Flats works Program will be re-presented to the River Parks Committee prior to being adopted and implemented; and
3. Provides feedback on the proposed draft 2018-2023 Ashfield Flats works program at the River Parks Committee meeting on 8 May 2018 to enable Council to consider this feedback prior to it being provided to the Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage.

8.2 Bushcare Volunteer Action Plans 2018/2019 (Ref: GRSU/PROGM/4 - Jeremy Walker Senior Environmental Officer)

APPLICATION

The purpose of the report is to advise the Committee of the Bushcare Volunteer Action Plans for 2018-19 financial year.

ATTACHMENT

Attachment No. 2:

- Bassendean Preservation Group Planting Program 2018

- Friends Of Bindaring Park Community Event 2018
- Friends Of Success Hill Action Plan 2018

BACKGROUND

The Town of Bassendean has a Volunteer Bushcare Guide for volunteers involved in bushcare activities on Council managed reserves; the guide was developed in 2008 and last reviewed in 2013.

The Town of Bassendean Volunteer Bushcare Guide seeks to establish mutually beneficial working relationships between volunteers undertaking bushcare activities and Council. The Town of Bassendean recognises and places great importance on the value and skills of volunteers. Volunteers may include members of families, centers of worship, schools, community groups and businesses.

Volunteers are covered by personal accident and injury insurance, if registered and undertaking approved volunteer work for the Town of Bassendean.

The objectives of the guide are to:

- Ensure that all volunteers are registered and undertake approved work in accordance to Council's Volunteer Policy and this guide;
- Ensure that bushland reserves are managed in accordance to industry wide Best Practice bush management techniques in order to maintain and/or enhance their conservation and community values;
- Provide a safe working environment for volunteers undertaking bushcare activities on Council reserves;
- Determine an appropriate framework and process for Council support of bushcare volunteers; and
- Provide a guide to preparing Work Plans and Action Plans for Council reserves.

The guide provides guidelines for volunteers involved in bushland management and addresses a range of relevant issues associated with the community and Council partnership arrangement.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Strategic Priority 2: Natural Environment

Objectives <i>What we need to achieve</i>	Strategies <i>How we're going to do it</i>	Measures of Success <i>How we will be judged</i>
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2.2 Protect our River, Bushland Reserves, and Biodiversity	2.2.1 Protect and restore our biodiversity and ecosystems	Community / Stakeholder satisfaction Survey (River, Bushland and Reserves)
	2.2.2 Sustainably manage significant natural areas	
	2.2.3 Partner with stakeholders to actively protect, rehabilitate and enhance access to the river	Biodiversity and Bush Condition ("Keighery" Scale of bush condition) measurement

STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

Local Government Act 1995
State Planning Policy 2.8 - Bushland Policy for the Perth Metropolitan Region
Town of Bassendean Volunteer Policy

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Each action plan submitted has a Volunteer Form 3 request for assistance outlining the financial support the group requires from Council to undertake activities outlined in their action plan; these figures are provided to Council for budget consideration.

COMMENT

The Town's responsibility in the support and assistance to Volunteer Groups working on Town land is to:

- Provide best practice technical advice in order to maintain / enhance and or rehabilitate the natural area
- Provide and maintain healthy and safe work areas and safe equipment;
- Provide access to training, and information to ensure the safety of all volunteers;
- Require all volunteers to adhere to the safety requirements;
- Encourage all volunteers to report hazards, incidents and accidents in a timely manner;
- Encourage all volunteers to accept that safety is the responsibility of all those taking part in the Group's activities.

The level of involvement and activities undertaken by volunteers largely depends on the management needs of particular bushland reserves and the intentions (and capabilities) of the group or individual.

All volunteer groups are required to submit an action plan to the Town's Environmental Officer in December each year; these plans are used for the following:

- Budgeting purposes;
- To ensure all volunteer work is in accordance with the Towns Volunteer policy;
- To ensure that bushland reserves are managed in accordance to industry Best Management Practice for bush management, in order to maintain and/or enhance their conservation and community values.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION – ITEM 8.2

That the Committee notes that:

1. Actions Plans have been received from Bassendean Preservation Group, Friends of Bindaring Park and, Friends of Success Hill; and
2. Funds will be listed for Council consideration in 2018-19 financial year to cover Volunteer Form 3 request for Assistance each group has submitted.

8.3 Ashfield Flats Reserve – Fox Activity (Ref PARE/MAINT/68) Jeremy Walker Senior Environmental Officer

APPLICATION

The purpose of the report is to advise the Committee of the Ashfield Flats Reserve fox activity and the management approach to dealing with foxes.

ATTACHMENT

Attachment No. 3:

- November 2017 - Ashfield Flats Fox Activity Survey, NAMS
- May 2018 - Quotation for fox monitoring and trapping program

BACKGROUND

In November 2017, the Town commissioned Natural Area Management Services (NAMS) to undertake monitoring for fox activity between 8th November and 13th November 2017, on the Town of Bassendean managed land. The survey involved a site inspection of the area, the establishment of camera traps and installation of sand pads. Sand pads were baited with an olfactory lure (fox urine) to attract foxes to the monitoring locations.

The November 2017 monitoring program did not find any fox dens or signs of feeding (carcasses) on the Town of Bassendean managed land. However, one scat was located near 151 Hardy Road and fox activity was recorded on Camera 5 (near French Street) on 12th November 2017, and Camera 6 (adjacent to Reid St drain, not Town managed land) on 8th November 2017.

Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC) advised that they engaged Alpha Pest Management to undertake fox surveillance over December 2017 and January 2018. The WAPC have advised their consultant did not detect at the time of the surveillance evidence of foxes on land owned by WAPC and managed by the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage.

In early April 2018, residents again reported a fox sighting at Ashfield Flats Reserve and as a result this report is provided to the Committee for consideration.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Community Strategic Plan 2017- 2027 Strategic Priority 2:
Natural Environment

Objectives <i>What we need to achieve</i>	Strategies <i>How we're going to do it</i>	Measures of Success <i>How we will be judged</i>
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STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

Local Government Act 1995

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

In May 2018, the Town obtained a quote of \$5,450 ex GST to provide fox monitoring and trapping program for both Town of Bassendean land & WAPC land which is managed by the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage.

COMMENT

As a result of the continuing fox reports received, and given the majority of the land is managed by the Department of Planning Lands and Heritage, the Town is working in conjunction with State Government agency and obtained a quote for fox monitoring and trapping for all of Ashfield Flats Reserve.

The WAPC are currently reviewing the attached proposal from Natural Area Management Services (NAMS), which involves a 5 day pre-trapping monitoring program with the use of infra-red motion sensor cameras, trail cameras will be reviewed regularly and free feed applied to the area.

It should be noted that before trapping commences an 'application for permit to trap declared vertebrate pest animal' form will be completed as prescribed under regulation 45 of the biosecurity and agricultural management act (2007). NAMS have proposed using Victor 1.5 soft jaw leg traps with protective lids used to cover the traps during the day and hours of increased public activity. NAMS will remove the protective covers to make the traps live when deemed safe to do so and all traps will be marked with flagging tape and GPS coordinates recorded for reference along with caution signage at all potential access points. All traps will be checked each morning no later than 3 hours after sunrise, trapped feral animals will be euthanized in-situ. Destroyed pests will be buried at a suitable location onsite at a minimum depth of 600mm below ground level.

NAMS have advised that after they finish 5 day monitoring and risk assessment if they deem domestic animals are of high risk to trapping, the Town will be consulted to determine if trapping should proceed.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION – ITEM 8.3

That the Committee:

1. Receives November 2018 Fox Activity Survey; and
2. Notes the Fox Monitoring & Trapping program received from consultant Natural Area Management Services (NAMS) is currently under review by the Western Australian Planning Commission.

Voting requirements: Simple Majority

9.0 MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

10.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS OF NOTICES OF MOTION FOR THE NEXT MEETING

11.0 CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

12.0 CLOSURE

The next meeting date to be held on Tuesday, 7 August 2018 commencing at 3.00pm.