

TOWN OF BASSENDEAN
MINUTES
BASSENDEAN RIVER PARKS COMMITTEE

HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, 48 OLD PERTH ROAD, BASSENDEAN
ON TUESDAY 4 JUNE 2019, AT 3.05PM

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

The Presiding Member opened the meeting, welcomed all those in attendance and conducted an Acknowledgement of Country.

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

Present

Committee Members

Cr Melissa Mykytiuk, Presiding Member
Cr Kathryn Hamilton (Until 4.51pm)
Nonie Jekabsons, Community Representative
Paul Bridges, Community Representative
Naomi Bannister, Community Representative
Jane Bremmer, Community Representative (from 3.15pm)

Members of the Committee (Advisory role only)

Augustine Okom, Dept. of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions – Rivers & Estuaries Branch

Officers

Ken Cardy, Manager Parks & Environment
Jeremy Walker, Senior Environmental Officer
Amy Holmes, Minute Secretary

Apologies

Cr Bob Brown
Cr Sarah Quinton
Simon Stewert-Dawkins, Director Operational Services

3.0 DEPUTATIONS

Nil

4.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

4.1 River Parks Committee Minutes of 5 March 2019

COMMITTEE/OFFICER RECOMMENDATION – ITEM 4.1

MOVED Naomi Bannister, Seconded Paul Bridges, that the minutes of the River Parks Committee meeting held on 5 March 2019 be confirmed as a true record.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 5/0

5.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDING PERSON WITHOUT DISCUSSION

Nil

6.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil

7.0 BUSINESS DEFERRED FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Nil

8.0 REPORTS

8.1 Success Hill Reserve

BACKGROUND

At the March 2019 meeting of the River Parks Committee, it was resolved that the increasing decline of the Success Hill Reserve, including the river embankment, reserve and spillway and the ongoing and future management options planned, be discussed at this meeting.

COMMENT

In the past, the Town has submitted a number of grant applications and has been successful in receiving grants to prepare detailed designs and to undertake foreshore restoration work.

In 2016, the Town submitted a grant application to prepare detailed designs and specifications for foreshore restoration works from the spillway down river approximately 60 metres, to the Water Corporation overhead pipe.

Due to competing financial demands at the time, the Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) advised that the Town's application was not successful. After this notification was received, the Town was contacted by DBCA advising that the State Government had made available additional funds and that the Success Hill project was again being considered. However, due to the Success Hill Spillway collapse in 2017, DBCA advised that funding could not be provided for the foreshore restoration works, and that Civil Engineering detailed design and construction of a new drainage outfall structure, would need to occur prior to grant funding being available for the foreshore restoration works.

To manage the water from the collapsed spillway, the Town obtained a DBCA permit for the temporary drainage pipe into the Swan River and Council allocated funds to engaged GHD Pty Ltd to prepare draft Spillway Concept Plan

In March 2019 Council (OCM – 23/03/19) resolved in part the following:

1. *Receives the minutes of the meeting of the River Parks Committee held on 5 March 2019;*
2. *Receives the project update on the Success Hill Reserve collapsed spillway;*
3. *Requests as a matter of urgency that Town Officers ask GHD consultants to provide the Success Hill Reserve concept design options to the River Parks Committee members and/or directly to Council as soon as practicable before the next Committee meeting on 4 June 2019;*
4. *Requests Town Officers communicate with the Department of Transport to facilitate the installation of a river speed camera in the vicinity of the Success Hill spillway to assist in efforts to reduce riverbank erosion associated with the wakes produced by speeding boats;*
5. *Requests Town Officers explore and apply for grants that will assist in riverbank restoration of the degraded areas at and around the Success Hill Spillway, at the discretion of the Town administration;*

6. *Requests that Town Officers inform the working party of the Wadjuk People of the nature of the problem at Success Hill and seek their input with respect to the Success Hill project; and*
7. *Requests Town Officers ask GHD to consider water sensitive urban design options that maximise effective utilisation of storm and ground water.*

It is intended that GHD Pty Ltd in conjunction with Town of Bassendean staff will consult with Aboriginal groups and key stakeholders to obtain feedback on possible solutions and that a report will be provided to Council for consideration before being advertised for public comment

Council will then consider the community feedback and adopt a Spillway Concept Plan in order to allocate funding for the preparation of the detailed drawings and the construction of the Council adopted drainage outfall structure.

Once the civil engineering works are resolved, the Town will resubmit a riverbank grant application to DBCA for the foreshore restoration works to be undertaken in conjunction with the civil works.

Jane Bremmer joined the meeting at 3.15pm.

Officers are in the process of liaising with the traditional land owners. Once this process has been completed, GHD will be conducting workshops. Due to Council's resolution to consult with traditional landowners before the concept plan is adopted, this project has been delayed.

Jane Bremmer reminded Committee members that the location of the spillway involves the whole of the reserve. There are concerns about changing the natural topography and water flows of this area. It is a highly sacred site with natural springs which should be preserved.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION – ITEM 8.1

That the Committee notes the information on the Success Hill Reserve.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – ITEM 8.1

RPC – 1/06/19 MOVED Paul Bridges, Seconded Cr Hamilton, that:

1. The Committee notes the information on the Success Hill Reserve **spillway**; and
2. **Should the GHD report be completed and available prior to the River Parks Committee's September 2019 meeting, an interim meeting be held to allow for GHD to present its report to this Committee.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 6/0

8.2 Bushcare Volunteer Action Plans 2019-20

APPLICATION

The purpose of the report is to advise the Committee of the Bushcare Volunteer Action Plans for 2019-20 financial year.

ATTACHMENT

Attachment No. 1

- Bassendean Preservation Group Planting Program 2019;
- Friends Of Bindaring Wetland Bush Management Plan 2019; and
- Friends of Success Hill Action Plan 2019.

BACKGROUND

The Town of Bassendean has a Volunteer Bushcare Guide for volunteers involved in bushcare activities on Council managed reserves. All registered volunteer bush care groups have been issued with the guide.

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, centres 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 advice 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>
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; and
- 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 consideration as part of the draft 2019/20 Budget process.

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; and
- 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 Town's Volunteer Policy; and
- 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.

Committee members expressed disappointment that State Government agencies are again not in attendance at this meeting. The Presiding Member will request the CEO follow up on their attendance.

COMMITTEE/OFFICER RECOMMENDATION – ITEM 8.2

RPC – 2/06/19

MOVED Cr Mykytiuk, Seconded Cr Hamilton, that the Committee:

1. Notes that Actions Plans have been received from the Bassendean Preservation Group, Friends of Bindaring Wetland and Friends of Success Hill Reserve;

2. Notes that funds have been listed for consideration in the draft 2019/20 Budget to cover the Volunteer Form 3 request for Assistance from the Bassendean Preservation Group, Friends of Bindaring Wetland and Friends of Success Hill Reserve; and
3. **Extends its thanks to the Bassendean Preservation Group, Friends of Bindaring Wetland and Friends of Success Hill Reserve for their efforts in caring for the Town's river parks.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 6/0

8.3 River Parks Committee - Informal meeting held on Wednesday 29 May 2019 with Community Representatives

BACKGROUND

On Wednesday 29 May 2019, between 4.30pm and 6.00pm, community representatives of the River Parks Committee held an informal meeting at the Ideas Hub on Old Perth Road to discuss issues of interest before the planned River Parks Committee meeting on 4 June 2019.

COMMENT

At the start of the informal meeting, the Director Operational Services, Manager Asset Services and Senior Environment Officer, provided a brief update on the proposed AshfieldCAN lookout, the Ashfield Flats Reserve and European House Borer

The Town of Bassendean Officers left the informal meeting at 5pm. The Presiding Member of the River Parks Committee continued to facilitate the meeting until approximately 6pm.

Augustine Okom, (Dept. of Biodiversity, Conservation & Attractions – Rivers & Estuaries Branch), advised that he will liaise with his counterpart in the Department of Transport regarding the issue of speeding boats and the installation of speed cameras and report back to this committee.

9.0 **MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN**

9.1 **Notice of Motion - Paul Bridges – Bindaring Park**

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – ITEM 9.1

RPC – 3/06/19 MOVED Paul Bridges, Seconded Nonie Jekabsons, that the River Parks Committee recommends to Council that to advance the concept designs proposed in the Co Terra report:

1. A funding allocation be considered in the 2019/20 Budget sufficient to:
 - a) Allow for the preparation of a detailed design for at least the northern precinct of Bindaring Park;
 - b) Allow some prioritised implementation of the plan to commence in 2020; and
2. Staff be requested to explore grant funding options for the detailed design and implementation of the Bindaring Wetland Plan in conjunction with Friends of Bindaring Wetland Bassendean.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 6/0

Cr Hamilton left the meeting at 4.51pm and did not return.

10.0 **ANNOUNCEMENTS OF NOTICE OF MOTION FOR THE NEXT MEETING**

10.1 **Notice of Motion - Jane Bremmer – Best Practice Natural Resource Management Work**

That the River Parks Committee recommends to Council the following:

1. The RPC supports the application of the safest, best practice, ecological restoration in all areas of the Town of Bassendean;
2. The RPC notes that the Australian Governments Weed Strategy 2017-2027 identifies the National Goals as:
 - Prevention, detection and early intervention
 - Minimise impact of established weeds
 - Enhance Australia’s capacity and commitment to weed management;

3. The RPC supports the Town of Bassendean to pursue as a priority,
 - a. the prevention of and early intervention for, weed management as identified in the Invasion Curve model (Vic gov 2010);
 - b. through non-chemical ecological restoration; and
 - c. an integrated approach to Natural Resource Management..

References:

Legislative and Management Framework for Weeds in WA (DPIRD)

<https://walga.asn.au/getattachment/Policy-Advice-and-Advocacy/Environment/Environmental-Events/Kay-Bailey-Leg-Mgmt-Framework-WALGA.pdf?lang=en-AU>

Weed Management for Conservation (DBCA)

<https://walga.asn.au/getattachment/Policy-Advice-and-Advocacy/Environment/Environmental-Events/K-Passeretto-WALGA-14-Feb-2109.pdf?lang=en-AU>

11.0 **CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS**

Nil

12.0 **CLOSURE**

Jane Bremmer gave an update on the use of Glyphosate weed killer given the reports in the media regarding the recent banning in other states.

The Manager Parks and Environment gave an update on the Town's weed management programme.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 10 September 2019, commencing at 3.00pm.

There being no further business, the Presiding Member closed the meeting at 5.10pm.