



Meelup Regional Park Management Committee

CO Locked Bag 1 · Busselton · Western Australia · 6280

Email: kay.lehman@busselton.wa.gov.au

Web: www.meeluppark.com

Informal Meeting- Notes

DATE: Monday 27 November 2017, 10.00 am

VENUE: Dunsborough District Country Club

1. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Attendance

Members: Dr Bob Jarvis (Presiding Member), Councillor Kelly Hick, Mr Damien Jones, Mr Tony Smurthwaite, Mrs Shirley Fisher

Community members: Alison and Ian Anderson

Officers: Mr Greg Simpson (Environmental Planning Coordinator), Ms Kay Lehman (Meelup Environment Officer- EO)

Apologies: Councillor John McCallum, Mr Peter Randerson (Deputy Presiding Member), Mr Albert Haak, Mr Bob Ginbey

2. FINANCIAL SUMMARY - Attachment A

Proposed Direction:

1. The Committee noted the November 2017 Financial Statement (**Attachment A**).

3. MEELUP VOLUNTEER UPDATE

This report covers the period 7th to 21st November 2017. For the period, there were a total of 36 man-hours of volunteer involvement. With the advent of warmer weather, volunteer activities will commence at 8.30am.

Achievements for the period included:

- Removal of household rubbish at the end of Burton Road
- Removal of *Polygala* weed at Burton Road
- Installation of shelving in equipment shed
- Installation of die-back tags along Meelup Beach Road
- Removal of *Acacia iteaphylla* (Flinders Ranges Wattle) weed opposite Meeka Carpark on Eagle Bay – Meelup Road

Upcoming events:

- Dunsborough Coast and Landcare (DCALC) Possum Talk Sunday November 26th – 10am Centennial Park, Dunsborough.
- Meelup Regional Park Bird Walk Tuesday 28th November – 8am Meelup Beach carpark.

Proposed Direction:

1. The Committee noted the update.
2. EO to coordinate with Committee member Peter Randerson on the tagging of the dieback boundary.
3. EO to check with Richard Clark, locations where Flinders Ranges Wattle has been recorded.

4. ACTION SUMMARY PROGRESS UPDATE

The action summary is appended as **Attachment B**.

Proposed Direction:

This matter is submitted for discussion.

5. REPORTS

5.1 Point Piquet Whale Sign

The revised Whale interpretive sign to be installed at Point Picquet was provided for the Committee members to discuss prior to finalisation of the sign.

Refer to Draft Whale Sign - **Attachment C**

Proposed Direction:

1. The Committee supported the revised Whale interpretive sign.

5.2 Annual Report

A draft Annual Report for the period July 2016 to June 2017 was provided to Committee members for discussion prior to finalising the report.

Refer to Annual Report - **Attachment D**

Proposed Direction:

1. The Committee supported the Annual Report.
2. Request the Chief Executive Officer include the Annual Report in the Council Information Bulletin and that copies of the Annual Report be made available to the public at the City customer service points and at the Margaret River Busselton Visitor Centre.

5.3 Trail Maintenance Schedule

Trail work including limestone sheeting is planned for April/May 2018. Track/trail work already identified include:

- Western firebreak- Meelup Brook section and north of the Wildlife Corridor to Eagle Bay
- Coastal trail- section between Point Piquet and Eagle Bay
- Culvert to be installed in the wildlife corridor.

- Upgrade of car rally trail including improved drainage control at the old gravel pit.

Proposed Direction:

1. Information noted by Committee.
2. Assess the condition and suitability of the Meelup Brook trail as a dual use trail and report back to the Committee.
3. EO to investigate using the Find to Fun App to promote the Park and trails.

5.4 Pyp grass control- Eagle Bay

Pyp grass control will be undertaken again in late November in liaison with the Residents of Eagle Bay Association. The Meelup volunteers will be undertaking temporary fencing of the northern section of the dunes. The area will be included in the revegetation schedule for June 2018.

Proposed Direction:

1. Information noted by Committee.

5.5 Soil Erosion and Track Maintenance Project

Committee member, Tony Smurthwaite, presented a summary of his work on the soil erosion and track maintenance project.

A report is being prepared to detail the geological investigations into the occurrence of soil erosion in the Park and an assessment of the Park's track and firebreak maintenance program. An environmental geological approach is being used to examine the relationships between geology, topography, drainage and erosion. Site-specific mapping will be utilised to assess the effectiveness of drainage measures to control the erosion of tracks and firebreaks. The report will be supported by maps of the distribution of soil and rock types, landforms and identify sites where erosion exists and where remedial action is required.

Proposed Direction:

1. Information noted by Committee.
2. Consult with Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) dieback staff on management options to control the spread of dieback from the gravel pit on the car rally trail.

5.6 December 2017 Committee meeting

The December 2017 Committee meeting date falls on Monday 25 December-Christmas Day. The Committee discussed whether to postpone or select an alternative date for this meeting.

Proposed Direction:

1. The Committee decided to not hold an Informal Meeting of the Committee in December 2017.

6.0 Late Item

Seafood Safari Business

A Seafood Safari business is proposing to take guests on a seafood safari tour in Meelup Regional Park including a guided walk from the Eagle Bay Hall carpark to Rocky Point beach for a seafood lunch.

The access trail from Eagle Bay to Rocky Point currently passes through sections of private property. The operator would have to negotiate with private landholders to use the trail/area.

The Committee required further detail on a number of issues including the footprint on the beach, whether they are erecting shade structures, lack of toilet facilities, frequency of the tours, the viability of using a boat to transport supplies during rough seas and washing facilities.

Proposed Direction:

1. EO to liaise with relevant City staff on the management and operation of the proposed Seafood Safari.

7.0 NEXT MEETING- 29 January 2018, 10.00am, Dunsborough District Country Club.