



Meelup Regional Park Management Committee

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Informal Meeting- Notes

DATE: Monday 30 October 2017, 10.00 am

VENUE: Dunsborough District Country Club

1. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Attendance

Members: Dr Bob Jarvis (Presiding Member), Mr Peter Randerson (Deputy Presiding Member), Councilor John McCallum, Councilor Kelly Hick, Councilor Lyndon Miles, Mr Albert Haak, Mr Tony Smurthwaite, Mr Bob Ginbey, Mrs Shirley Fisher.

Officers: Mr Greg Simpson (Environmental Planning Coordinator), Craig Baxter Senior Technical Officer Design and Survey

Apologies: Mr Damien Jones, Ms Kay Lehman (Meelup Environment Officer- EO)

2. FINANCIAL SUMMARY - Attachment A

Proposed Direction:

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

3. MEELUP VOLUNTEER UPDATE

Thanks to Graham Fisher and Bob Jarvis who coordinated the volunteer activities while Peter Randerson was away. From 22nd August to 30 October 2017, there were a total of 45 man-hours of volunteer involvement.

The following is a summary of volunteer activities during this reporting period:

- Tree guards installed on small Peppermint trees naturally regenerating at Meelup Beach;
- Weeding at Castle Bay and Meelup Beach carpark areas-hand removal of Arums, Thistle, Nightshade and Double-Gees;
- Tree guards installed on seedlings in the wildlife corridor and Sail Rock;
- Upgrade of fencing around the direct seeding patch- Wildlife corridor;
- Cockatoo hollow monitoring in the wildlife corridor;
- Sprayed Bridal Creeper (BC) rust spore water on uninfected BC plants along the Rocky Bay track; and
- Trail pruning of the Lookout Trail.

Volunteer Events have included the following:

- Wildflower Walk- Sunday 8 October
- Tangorua Blue Beach Cleanup- Castle Rock- Point Piquet- Sat 14 October

Proposed Direction:

1. The Committee noted the update from Acting Volunteer Coordinator, Peter Randerson.

4. BEACH CLEAN UP

The EO coordinated volunteers for the Tangorua Blue Beach Clean-up on Saturday 14th October at Meelup Beach and beaches between Castle Rock and Point Piquet. Twelve volunteers participated in the cleanup with 12.2kg of litter collected. All litter was categorised with most of the litter consisting of plastic packaging, plastic drink bottle containers, glass bottles, paper and metal lids and cigarettes. Some marine debris was collected including foam material and wood from boats. Data sheets have been forwarded to Tangorua Blue Foundation to be incorporated into the Australian Marine Debris Initiative database.

Proposed Direction:

1. Information noted

5. ACTION SUMMARY PROGRESS UPDATE

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

Proposed Direction:

This matter is submitted for discussion.

6. REPORTS

6.1 Progress on the Coastal Nodes Master Plan

An onsite meeting was held on 5 October 2017 with members of the Meelup Regional Park Management Committee and City staff to review the pegged footprint of the carpark upgrade at Point Piquet. The design was slightly modified through discussion with the engineering staff to revise the design plan. Craig Baxter presented a revised carpark layout and discussed the revised plan with the Committee.

Proposed Direction:

1. The Committee supported the revised Point Picquet carpark.
2. Point Picquet carpark design to include appropriate signage:
 - a) To exclude caravans and boat trailer entry to the parking area.
 - b) To identify the alignment of the coastal trail through the carpark.

6.2 Ngari Capes Marine Park Signs-Parks and Wildlife Services, Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA)

The DBCA is currently producing a sign plan to educate visitors about the proposed zoning scheme for the Ngari Capes Marine Park. The signage plan includes areas within Meelup Regional Park (MRP) between Castle Rock beach and Eagle Bay. MRP is an important site for signage as the Eagle Bay Sanctuary Zone is offshore from Meelup Regional Park.

The EO met with DBCA staff on 3 October 2017 to locate suitable locations for the signage. Once the locations are finalized, they will be incorporated into DBCA's sign plan and implemented when the Ngari Marine Park is gazetted. **Refer to Attachment C.**

Proposed Direction:

1. EO to check location suitability for the Gannet Rock signage and follow up with DBCA possibility of using the sign at Gannet Rock for both Marine Park and Meelup Regional Park information.
2. Arrange directional sign for Gannet Rock carpark to be installed at Meelup Eagle Bay Road.

6.3 Remediation Works with Zone 6- Update

Site works associated with the remediation of the former waste disposal area within zone 6 has commenced. Initial works have involved upgrading the crossover access/entry to the small carpark area opposite the Cape Naturaliste Road and Endicott Loop intersection to enable the importation of soil to the site for the remediation works.

Proposed Direction:

Information noted by Committee

6.4 Weed and Feral Animal Control Contractors- Update

The weed contractor commenced works in September, starting with targeted Arum lily control and has now moved on to controlling other weeds within the Park. Weed control was also undertaken in Zone 6 in the remediation areas prior to site works.

The Feral Animal contractor has been commissioned and will start work in November. The scope of works includes three rounds of fox baiting, the use of the Rabbit Haemorrhagic Disease Virus (RHDV) (Calici virus), 1080 oat baiting for rabbit control, monitoring (sand pads and camera surveillance) and a presentation to the Committee on the feral animal program at the completion of works. Feral cat trapping will also be undertaken if required through monitoring surveillance.

Letters will be sent to nearby residents and a notice in the Council for Community page informing the community of the program and use of 1080 baiting and RHDV Calici virus for feral animal control.

Proposed Direction:

Information noted by Committee

6.5 Litter Collection Contractor

The Litter collection contractor, Ms. Jenny Clark will commence works from the week commencing 23 October to the week ending 18 May 2017, a 30 week period.

Proposed Direction:

Information noted by Committee

6.6 Maintenance Works

The following maintenance works have been undertaken and are in progress:

- Limestone sheeting of steps up to the dieback boundary on the Look-out trail;
- Woody weed control in Zone 6;
- Rocks moved at the Meelup carpark to allow access for the Kayak operator;
- Bollards installed along the western boundary which was open to private property;

- Soil amendment and fertilising of tree and lawn at Meelup Beach.
- Pruning and felling of potentially dangerous trees in the Meelup carpark and BBQ/picnic areas
- Point Piquet ablution –EO requested facilities staff to install a toilet roll holder, toilet lid and instructions for the handle; and
- Watering of the revegetation areas at Meelup Beach.

Proposed Direction:

1. Investigate the possibility of cutting in nesting hollows as part of the works for pruning and felling of potentially dangerous trees in the Meelup carpark.
2. Include the section of the Western firebreak from the wildlife corridor to Riedle Park in the firebreak re-sheeting program.
3. Install extra culvert in the wildlife corridor access trail.

6.7 Bay OK Day- 3 November 2017

The Dunsborough Primary School will be having their annual Bay OK environmental education day with numerous activities along Geographe Bay and in Meelup Regional Park. The EO will be coordinating an education program, with several school classes, on the endangered black cockatoo species and their habitat in the Park.

Proposed Direction:

Information noted by Committee

6.8 Leavers- Meelup Beach

The High School Leavers event is scheduled for Wednesday 22 November 2017 between the hours of 8am and 5pm. The event gives the Leavers the opportunity to take part in fun activities in a drug and alcohol free environment.

The event organisers, Royal Life Saving Society of WA, are required to provide a Traffic Management Plan (MP), Risk MP and Emergency MP. The event organisers are also responsible for the cleaning of the site after the event.

The event will be run as in past years and will include stalls (Don't Drink and Drown, WA Aids Council and Headspace), a DJ with 2 large speakers, beach volleyball and aqua playground in the water. Food vendors will be present as will a portable toilet block and first aid/ambulance services. There will be generators for power supply and water tanks to provide the portable toilet block and a drinking water station.

Leavers will be transported to Meelup Beach using a regular bus service. The expected numbers for the entire event is between 4,000- 5,000, with a maximum of 500 at any given time.

Proposed Direction:

Information noted by Committee

6.9 Australia Day/Boxing Day

The City will be managing the high number of visitors to Meelup Regional Park over this peak period utilising the same management measures as Australia Day 2017. This will include:

- Planning for the event with City staff including Meelup Environment Officer, Rangers and relevant agencies including Department of Transport, Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions and Dunsborough Police.
- Traffic management including road closure points, traffic personnel and use of vehicle message boards.

- Litter management- litter signage, litter bags available to the public and a coordinated clean-up.
- Media releases prior to Australia Day

Proposed Direction:

Information noted by Committee

6.10 Gourmet Escape- 16-19 November 2017

The Margaret River Gourmet Escape Beach BBQ will take place on Castle Bay Beach from Thursday 16th November to Sunday 19th November 2017. This will be the sixth year of the event and the fifth year at Castle Bay.

The event is planned and produced by IMG Culinary Pty Ltd and is promoted as a non-smoking event. The event series is a festival of dining, wines and produce that serves as a showcase for restaurants and suppliers from the Margaret River and surrounding areas.

The Gourmet Beach BBQ includes seven sessions including a dinner session on Thursday 16 Nov and lunch and dinner sessions Friday 17 November -Sunday 19th November 2017. Access to the event is strictly by ticket only and is limited to 260 a sessions. There will be an estimated 1,820 guests and up to 30 crew and service staff will be present on-site. Live music will be played to enhance the ambience of the event.

The event will be utilising marquee structures likely to be white sperry tents instead of the tipis used previously. Structures on the beach will include 2 x large and 1 small sperry tents, some small cabana style VIP tents (up to 4) plus 6m x9m back of house marquee. Total front of house (beach) footprint is approximately 65 x 30m. Back of house requirements will be situated in the carpark and include waste water tank, generators, site office, refrigerators, waste compound and toilet block.

Event parking is not permitted at Castle Bay. Guests are advised (by ticketing, marketing messages, road signage and security presence) to park at neighbouring Meelup Beach. The event organisers will be running a continuous shuttle service between Meelup and Castle Bay. The community will have access to the beach and six parking bays will be sectioned-off for community members.

An onsite meeting with the representative from Gourmet Escape, Hayley Boneham, City event and depot staff and the Meelup Environment Officer is scheduled for Thursday 9th November at 2pm. Site set-up for the event will commence on Monday 13th November including the grading the beach to level a section for the tent structures.

Proposed Direction:

1. Information noted by Committee
2. Committee members Albert Haak and Peter Randerson to attend the Thursday 9th November onsite meeting with the representative from Gourmet Escape.

6.0 NEXT MEETING- 27 November 2017, 10.00am, Dunsborough District Country Club.