



Meelup Regional Park Management Committee

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Informal Meeting- Notes

DATE: Tuesday 23 August 2016, 5pm
VENUE: Eagle Bay Community Hall

1. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Attendance:

Members: Mr Peter Randerson (Deputy Presiding Member), Councilor John McCallum, Mrs Shirley Fisher and Councilor Terry Best and Mr Damien Jones

Officers: Mr Greg Simpson (Manager Environmental Services) and Ms Kay Lehman (Meelup Environment Officer- EO).

Apologies: Dr Bob Jarvis (Presiding Member), Mr Bob Ginbey, Mr Albert Haak and Mr John Lang.

2. FINANCIAL SUMMARY - Attachment A

Proposed Direction:

1. That the Committee notes the August 2016 Financial Summary (**Attachment A**).

3. MEELUP VOLUNTEER UPDATE

1. Upcoming Volunteer Activities-

- Weed Identification Field Trip Sunday 21st August at 9.30am- 11am. Meet at Riedel Park- Meelup Regional Park. Volunteers are invited to learn to identify weeds and weed control in the Park. Facilitated by Shirley Fisher and Kay Lehman.
- Wildflower Walk and Volunteer Picnic/BBQ- Sunday 25 September at 10am at Meelup Beach. Facilitated by Shirley Fisher and Kay Lehman.

2. EO presented a summary of the weekly volunteer activities from Bob Ginbey.

Proposed Direction:

1. To change to date of the Wildflower Walk and Volunteer picnic/BBQ to 9th October 2016 (as the previous proposed date is a long weekend).

4. ACTION SUMMARY PROGRESS UPDATE

The action summary is appended as **Attachment B**. The Action Summary table was discussed with outstanding/ongoing actions to be summarized for the next meeting. Refer to the Action Summary table for details.

4.1 Meelup Regional Park website update

Proposed Direction:

1. For the Committee members to give feedback on the content and improvements for the Meelup Regional Park website to the EO in the next two weeks.

5. REPORTS

5.1 Whale Viewing Platform, Point Picquet- Update

The Whale Platform at Point Piquet was completed on 9th August. Planning for the official opening of the platform is underway and is scheduled for mid-late September.

Proposed Direction:

1. Information for the Committee to note.
2. To invite Aboriginal representatives to the official opening of the whale platform.
3. To undertake the limestone sheeting of the small section of trail from Point Piquet carpark heading to Eagle Bay to join with the new limestone trail section.

5.2 Coast West Grant Success

The grant application to fund the project: Implementation of Dieback Management Measures along the Meelup Coastline has been successful. The grant funding from Coast West for this project is \$29,488.

Dieback is considered to be a significant threat to the Park and the management of dieback is a very high priority. A number of the management units within the Park are dieback free and prevention of infection is essential to protect these areas.

It is also essential that dieback hygiene management and community awareness be implemented in strategic areas to prevent the spread of dieback and well as the loss of biodiversity and recreational values of the Park. A major component of the project is to install dieback hygiene stations along the coastal track to prevent the spread of dieback into dieback free areas, including the threatened ecological community: the coastal heath community (*Calothamnus graniticus* subsp. *graniticus*).

The project includes:

- Installation of 8 dieback hygiene stations;
- Limestone sheeting of strategic tracks;

- Dieback signage and markers;
- Phosphite treatment of susceptible vegetation in strategic areas;
- GreenCard dieback training for 15 community members;
- Aboriginal consultation;
- Monitoring and education component by Meelup volunteers; and
- Project coordination by the City and the Meelup Regional Park Management Committee.

Proposed Direction:

1. Information for the Committee to note.

5.3 Pyp Grass Control Project at Eagle Bay

The EO met with President of the Residents of Eagle Bay Association (REBA) to discuss the control of Pyp grass (*Ehrharta villosa*) along the beach at Eagle Bay. The spread of the grass weed along the Eagle Bay beach is a concern and will be a long-term project to control the spread of the weed. There was a discussion on developing trial areas (plots) for various controls including manual removal, chemical spraying and burning followed by the spraying of re-growth.

REBA members may contribute to this project and assist with community communication and awareness. Monitoring of the various controls could also be undertaken by members of REBA and the Meelup volunteers.

Weed control spraying for this project could be included in the Weed Control contract for the Meelup Regional Park or grant funding could be sort for this project.

The EO has established a 10m x 20m plot and the Green Army has undertaken 1.5 days of manual removal of the Pyp grass in areas of native vegetation.

Proposed Direction:

1. EO to develop the project, in consultation with REBA.
2. EO to investigate grant funding for the control of Pyp grass (*Ehrharta villosa*) along the beach at Eagle Bay.
3. Information for the Committee to note.

5.4 Development Application, Lot 7 Burton Road

The City of Busselton has received a development application for a 'reception centre' at Lot 7 Burton Road. This property is accessed through Burton Road which is a non-gazetted road reserve that has not been excised from the Meelup Regional Park.

The proposal is expected to include the construction of two vehicle passing bays along Burton Road to allow 2 vehicles to pass each other safely involving:

- a. Widening of Burton Road in two locations to create areas 6.5m wide by 20m long.
- b. Gravel 150mm depth is to be placed in the widening.
- c. Drains to be cut where necessary to drain the stormwater off the road.

A map to indicate the approximate location of the passing bays on Burton Road is appended to this agenda as Attachment C.

The intersection of Cape Naturaliste Rd and Burton Rd is to be assessed to ensure a clear vehicle sight distance of 130m in each direction along Cape Naturaliste Road is achieved. A preliminary assessment indicates this intersection is relatively clear and that only minor vegetation clearing will be required.

The proponent may be required to apply for a Native Vegetation Clearing Permit under the *Environmental Protection (Clearing of Native Vegetation) Regulations 2004*. The proponent may also be required to undertake a Spring Flora Survey of the proposed vegetation clearing areas to support the vegetation clearing application.

Proposed Direction:

1. Information for the Committee to note.
2. That consideration be given to dieback management, drainage and fire management measures for any proposed disturbance areas, in the planning assessment process..

5.5 Green Army Activities

The Green Army is an Australian Government initiative that helps connect young Australians between the age of 17 and 24 with meaningful work through environmental and conservation projects. Participants undertake accredited training and are supported to obtain Certificate 1 or 2 qualifications.

The Green Army team have undertaken the following work at Meelup Regional Park this month:

- Weed control and revegetation at Point Piquet;
- Landscaping and revegetation at the Whale Platform, Point Piquet;
- Manual removal of Pyp grass (*Ehrharta villosa*) in a trial plot at Eagle Bay; and the
- Construction and installation of rock gabions with the Meelup volunteers west of the Meeka carpark.

Proposed Direction:

1. Information for the Committee to note.

5.6 Update on the implementation existing Grants

The implementation of the three current grant projects is almost complete. Works to be completed include:

Wildlife Corridor Project

- Ongoing cockatoo hollow monitoring by the Meelup volunteers.
- Three additional cockatoo hollows will be installed, making a total of 8 hollows.

Coastal nodes Project

- Salmon sign for Baudin Memorial ordered.
- Two trail markers have been installed along the re-aligned trail neat Point Piquet.

Zone 6 Rehabilitation

- All on-ground works completed.

Proposed Direction:

1. Information for the Committee to note.
2. For the EO to check if Bob Ginbey (volunteer coordinator) has a key to the gate for the Wildlife Corridor to undertake cockatoo monitoring.

5.7 Dog Management Area Eagle Bay Beach

A review of dog control designations relating to public places in the City, following the introduction of controls in 2015 has been undertaken and in response to community feedback the City is considering potential changes to dog management areas on Eagle Bay beach. The proposal is to extend the dog exercise area on Eagle Bay beach south east approximately 200m to a point generally in line with the existing public access way which allows access from the beach to Eagle Bay Meelup Road, near Gypsy Street.

In March 2015, the Committee made the following recommendation (recommendation MP1503/011) to Council which related to the area currently under consideration as follows:

That Eagle Bay foreshore between Jingarmup Brook to a line at right angle to the beach northward of a sign, erected at the south eastern apex of Lot 203 as a dog exercise area except between 9.00am and 5.00pm during the period 1 December to 28 February inclusive.

Proposed Direction:

1. Information for the Committee to note.
2. The 200 metre extension to the south east of the dog management area on Eagle Bay beach is generally supported.

6.0 Meeting Closure

The meeting was closed at 6:40pm.

7.0 NEXT MEETING- 27th September 2016, 5pm Eagle Bay Hall.

ATTACHMENT B - ACTION TABLE 23 August Meeting 2016

Subject	Action	Date of Committee Decision	Progress	Completed
Dog Management Area Eagle Bay Beach	The 200 metre extension to the south east of the dog management area on Eagle Bay beach is generally supported.	23/08/2016		
Update on the implementation existing Grants	For the EO to check if Bob Ginbey (volunteer coordinator) has a key to the gate for the Wildlife Corridor to undertake cockatoo monitoring.	23/08/2016		
Development Application, Lot 7 Burton Road	That consideration be given to dieback management, drainage and fire management measures for any proposed disturbance areas, in the planning assessment process.	23/08/2016		
Pyp Grass Control Project at Eagle Bay	1. EO to develop the project, in consultation with REBA. 2. EO to investigate grant funding for the control of Pyp grass (<i>Ehrharta villosa</i>) along the beach at Eagle Bay.	23/08/2016		
Whale Viewing Platform- Point Piquet	1. To undertake the limestone sheeting of the small section of trail from Point Piquet carpark heading to Eagle Bay to join with the new limestone trail section. 2. To invite Aboriginal representatives to the official opening of the whale platform.	23/08/2016		
Point Piquet carpark upgrade	That directional signage be installed on the section of trail at Point piquet to better define the trail alignment as part of the Point Piquet carpark upgrade.	26/07/2016	Two trail marker have been installed.	Done
Financial Summary	1. Request the re-allocation of \$11,000 from 2015/16 budget for the purpose of constructing equipment shed. 2. Investigate options for location of equipment storage shed including the Vidler Road depot.	28/06/2016	Funds have been reallocated for a shed. Shed location is proposed to be located adjacent to the fire shed at Fern Road, Eagle Bay.	Done
Volunteers	EO to pick up seeds collected by the volunteers from Shirley Fisher, as part of the SWCC Wildlife Corridor Rehabilitation grant.	28/06/2016	Schedule to pick up	Done
Governance and Management Arrangements	Re-schedule Manager, Governance Services to go over the Meelup governance and management arrangements for when the new committee member is appointed in a few months.	24/05/2016	Waiting for new committee member to start	

Environmental Guidelines for Events	requirements for event organizers' to include in their Environmental Management Plan. Guidelines are to include details and standards on dieback hygiene stations, preferred trail routes and other relevant environmental measures.	24/05/2016	A scope of works for advice from a Dieback consultant is being developed to include in the environmental guidelines.	
Meelup Beach- Trees	EO to prepare a scope of works for a tree condition audit, landscape and vegetation plan for Meelup Beach and investigate the available of grant funding to undertake the project. August 2016- EO to check the Meelup Master Plan for landscape design works. 23	24/05/2016	Undertake in August/Sept 2016.	
Dogs in Meelup	For the EO to meet with Committee member John Lang to discuss and plan measures in preventing dogs in the Meelup Regional Park.	26/04/2016	Corflute sign designs (NO dogs) have been drafted. Waiting on quotes.	
Sign audit	That a sign audit be undertaken to identify the types and location of signage throughout the Park.	19/01/2016	Scheduled for August/Sept 2016	
Website update	That the options for managing the Meelup Regional Park Website be investigated. 22/3/16 - Check the link to the Meelup website on the City of Busselton's website and the hosting of the Meelup website. 23/8/16 - For the Committee members to give feedback on the content and improvements for the Meelup website to the EO in the next two weeks.	28/06/2016	Information on the Meelup Regional Park is being updated on the City's website including a link to the Meelup Regional Park website. Update of the Meelup website to be included in the Project Planning 2016/17 meeting on 8th September.	
Ongoing Items				
Training Needs for the Meelup Regional Park Committee members	EO to send through any environmental training opportunities to committee members including training offered through local NRM groups. EO to arrange speakers on relevant topics e.g. experts from DPaW.	22/12/2015	Training opportunities will be sent to committee members when available (ongoing). Members to let EO know of any particular training requirements. EO to arrange speakers (ongoing). 23 Aug 2016-The new CoastWest grant: <i>Implementation of Dieback Management Measures along the Meelup Coastline</i> includes Dieback GreenCard training for 15 community members-scheduled for April 2017	Ongoing training as available