

## Minutes August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018

**Attendance:** Tony Fowler, Margaret Fowler, Steve Gates, Jill Gates, Mary Syme, Kevin Goss, Elaine Sargent,

**Apologies:** Catherine Hall, Jane Wallis, Katharine Outten, Toni Warden.

**Minutes of last meeting** 19 June 2018 accepted by Steve Gates, and seconded by Margaret Fowler.

### Business Arising:

- Doggie doings – single use bags – not yet addressed. Too many other important issues to address first.

### Correspondence Out:

- 2 July. Forrestfield North Residential Precinct Local Structure Plan submission.
- 14 July. Local Development Plan Lot 500 Gavour Road submission – ongoing.
- 14 August. Cambridge Street reserve Concept Plan Design submission- tabled and passed around.

### Correspondence In:

- Attorney General response to Pember court action challenge on Wilkins Road.
- 19 July. Confirmation email from Environment and Public Affairs Committee. No further action on Pember petition 034.
- 20 July. Minister's office response on Access to Wilkins (sec. 91 licence). Sent to committee, local member and CEO as a courtesy. – tabled.
- 23 July. Emails to insurer confirming we have sufficient public liability insurance.

### **President:**

- 31 July. Attended meeting of Council Audit and Risk Committee. A proposal for Council to consider placing 'surplus' funds, where possible, in 'ethical' funds avoiding fossil fuel investments. CEO and staff are for this. The Divestment group will meet this Thursday (23<sup>rd</sup>).
- 16 August. Parks of the Darling Range CAC. Chair has resigned. \$25k grant money available to our CAC (part of \$200k, based on 2012 community grants programme).
- Gavour Road – see General Business

### **Treasurer:**

- Account #1 \$1378.72
- Account #2 \$265.91
- Members = 84

**KEAC: (minutes online <http://www.kalamunda.wa.gov.au/Waste-Environment/Environment-Groups-Programs/Environmental-Advisory-Committee>) 2 meetings have been held since last NRPG meeting.**

- Forrestfield North and new Runways. There has been a suggestion to link the two. Vicki has drafted a piece for City of Kalamunda about losing 129 hectares of land. There are consequences from urban development and the State Government needs to look at the Regional Funds to accommodate these consequences. City of Kalamunda needs to up the ante and continue with the Forrestfield North plans while arguing for maintaining canopy cover. City of Kalamunda CEO and Councillors are on-side with each other. Local Government authorities GAPP – Mandurah/Kalamunda/Wanneroo have joined together as interested Councils all under pressure to change rural land to urban.
- Kevin talked of 2 Noise Contours for the new runway with the comment that it was not only up to the residents to double glaze and use acoustic materials in their houses.
- Fox trapping resumed and now finished the season (- best done while Mothers have pups). Kevin met with Max Butcher the expert trapper. He reported that there were low injury rates. Traps are much better than cages as it takes up to 12 weeks to get the fox to go the cage. There were low levels of other species trapped. KEAC had contacted Chittering Land Care to get their report on trapping effectiveness. The traps were soft

traps with rubber on the hard jaw. They were set over night and checked each morning. Foxes were killed on site.

- KEAC /MundaringEAC – a good public meeting well attended. MEAC has been operating for 20 years and use Persistence, Persuasion, and Pestilence - running different strategies which then become imbedded into Local Planning Schemes. MEAC uses Sub Committees which do the work rather than meet as a whole every month. The Sub Committees are formalized so that some members are enduring, some short term and others for a particular issue or event.
- MEAC will meet with KEAC to discuss how to embed good environmental decisions into planning documents.
- Kevin talked of the extent to which KEAC is able to maintain good relationships with the Councillors. They are rotated through and sometimes they have informal get togethers at coffee shops. The resulting connections made it worth the effort.
- City of Kalamunda is investigating how to Re-brand as a City. The Logo, Artwork of gumnuts and fountains will all be considered.
- Steve asked KEAC to liaise with Sarah Lohmeyer re ethical divestments prior to City of Kalamunda voting on it.

**Conservation Council:**

- Notes from Steve attached to end of these minutes.

**Volunteer hours**

Toornaart Creek	Crumpet Creek -	Poison Gully 20.5 hours	Ray Owen -
		Old Yorna Rd -	Other -

**General Business**

- Constitution revision still ongoing. Tony will send out copies to Committee members (Catherine Hall has sent her apologies).
- Wilkins Road. Creating Class A reserve, access permission, Pember petition # 034.
- Web matters, including Facebook. Logo needs updating. Mary to send image to Toni who has access to editing.
- New runway MDP. (Subs by 24 Aug). Steve spoke of how in 2005 the land was granted High Conservation Land for Preservation. However money and safety of the flying public has now the priority. Forthcoming Airport North MDP later in year. Steve will write a letter reminding them again of the past conservation label.
- Lot 500 Gavour Road proposal. Iris Jones wrote to Tony informing him that Ross Leighton has agreed to meet her and prepared to discuss the shortcomings of the plans for Gavour Rd. Tony has agreed to be at that meeting.
- Prescribed burning and asbestos concerns. Tony to pass on contact details of staff member to Toni W.
- Wattle Grove Dornan keeping us up to date on this topic.
- Mountain bike trails. Talks are continuing with the City of Kalamunda and DBCA, DR person will send photos to Tony showing the Trails after 12 months of use. Steve expressed concern over weed control on ripped tracks. There are some tracks already showing lots of earthworks.

Meeting closed at 9.10 pm

Next meeting: September 18<sup>th</sup> at 7.00pm

## Attachment for August NRPG committee meeting:

CONSERVATION COUNCIL OF WA GENERAL MEETING NOTES - 30 JUL 2018

(S Gates, NRPG Delegate)

### President's Report (Dr Carmen Lawrence)

- Prescribed Burning conference proposed for mid 2019 (Evidence does not support the present method)
- WA Gas Fracking Inquiry report was originally due in June but taking longer and no availability date at this point.
- CCWA Ecofest will now be held every 2<sup>nd</sup> year, but will be bigger event
- CCWA is pressing State govt for more environmental group funding. (Regional Parks community grants are now available again)

### Director's Report (Piers Verstegen):

- State biodiversity and conservation regulations and guidelines:  
CCWA engaging in review of the Barnett govt regulations to try to improve, or re-write. In the meantime McGowan govt has proposed draft guidelines which CCWA will put to Member groups for comment, but there are still many issues, including avoidance of transparency of decisions. A new Act revision is required.
- Strategic Assessment of Perth-Peel Region:  
This is on hold pending review of its value by the state govt. CCWA believes there is value in strategic planning (to avoid otherwise present 'death by 1000 cuts' (ed)) but it needs to be done well. UBC has made a submission.
- Climate, Energy and Fossil Fuels:  
WA is the only state without a renewable energy and climate policy. Chevron and other gas projects are increasing WA's greenhouse emissions by 1/3! And are not adequately addressing the problem, but a review of offsets in carbon farming, renewables would create jobs and long-term investments. Further gas projects must be stopped to meet Australian Climate Agreement obligations. CCWA will initiate a campaign on this in the near future.  
  
The Fed govt is allowing carbon farming in the rangelands under the ERF (Emissions Reduction Fund) in the form of de-stocking and allowing native vegetation regrowth, but only gives 20-yr credits – needs to be 100-yr credits per international standards.
- Waste and Plastic pollution:  
Polling shows strong community support for further plastic bans beyond single-use bags. State govt is making changes in purchasing to address this and to recycle.  
  
Container Deposit System (CDS) arrangements are in progress but industry is pushing to make returning of containers more difficult.
- Uranium-free campaign:  
Leonora is being proposed as international nuclear waste dump by Leonora Council, to take nuclear waste if South Australia site does not happen.  
  
Most likely location of new Uranium mine is Mulga (by Andrew Forrest) but CCWA is producing a report which demolishes any 'business case', and will be given to potential investors to discourage this from proceeding.  
  
A fundraiser walk between the potential mines sites in WA is in progress.
- Citizen Science (Dr Nick Dunlop):  
4WD impacts on the environment are difficult to stop and it is a powerful industry with no political will to address issues. CS is engaging with some organised responsible 4WD organisations (Track Care & WA 4WD Assoc) to develop an environmental program. Present area in works is north of Perth to Dongara, called "Tending the Tracks Alliance".
- Southwest forests logging (Shona):

Have had a very large petition to WA govt but no success as they claim that protecting high conservation forest was not an election promise.

State govt says they will take existing Forest Agreement to 2020 election but this is still essentially clearfelling without adequate diversity in replanting. 500 year-old Karri trees are being logged and chipped but still being given the 'tick' certificate of approval as sustainable.

Replanting of Karri has not been successful due to decreasing rainfall and lack of ecosystem to support seedlings. Audit of certification is expected in Sept.

Numerous high conservation value (HCV) forests still planned for logging in the near future.

Regional Forest Agreement (RFA), which allows for HCV forest to be logged, due for review in 2019 so hopefully it can be revised to include reference to the EPBC (Environmental Protection and Conservation) Act

- Community Campaigns (Sarah English):

Several community and NGO organisations using the campaign tools on the CCWA website, particularly "The Wildlife Centre" which educates young people about environmental and associated occupations.

- Federal Labor's environmental policies and the upcoming federal election:

Difference between federal Labor and Coalition is 'chalk and cheese' - Labor much more progressive but still needs work.

CCWA will produce a 'scorecard' on the policies of the various Parties ahead of the election.