

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday 3rd August 2010 – 12.00PM – 2.00PM

Council Chambers

ATTENDANCE: Cr. May, Cr. Steindl
Lisa Kermode, Stuart Holley
Frank Perna, Saskia von Fahland, Margaret Lane,
Joan Fitzsimmons, Bruce Milles

APOLOGIES: Cr. Cameron, Cr. Christensen, Helen Paulsen

CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

The minutes of the previous meeting held 01/06/10 were accepted as a true and correct record.

1. **MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

1. **Potential purchase of land**

Three potential purchases of land were discussed.

The committee will be advised as more information becomes available.

Action: Saskia will undertake a desktop analysis of the environmental values of the land suggested for purchase in the Sarina area, and report back to the group.

Action: Lisa to send map/mimaps link of parcel of land suggested by Cr Steindl.

2. **Coastal project update**

A detailed report on this item received.

It was noted that there was an ongoing issue with vandalism of the pool fencing at the flood gates at Sandfly Creek. Lisa has passed this information on the relevant council department, and has suggested that a more appropriate type of fencing be installed.

SLCMA have submitted a funding application to Ergon Energy for development of a walking trail and interpretive signage at Louisa Creek,

and to BMA for an extension of the Sarina Sustainable Landscapes Program.

The alternative pathway at Sandfly Creek was discussed and it was noted that no funds exist in this year's budget for formalising this pathway, and design/location/funding opportunity details would need to be considered prior to this work occurring. However there is scope to sign an informal path along the road (East Gordon St).

Action: Regulatory signage to be installed at Sandfly Creek Environmental Reserve, pending council decision on possible regulatory changes.

3. Land for Wildlife Program

Report on this item received.

Pending the results of the survey to Land for Wildlife participants, a proposal will be brought back to the committee to consider funding a program of workshops/landholder education sessions to be delivered/coordinated by the catchment groups.

Opportunities to promote the program were discussed including the existing methods (website, promotion at events, brochure displays, media articles including Envirochat), potential methods included in the proposal from the Landcare groups currently being considered (Landcare newsletters, promotion at additional events) and other possible options such as council's 'In Focus' magazine.

4. Sarina and Mirani Special Projects allocation

Action: Meeting to be set up with the catchment groups, Cr. May and council staff to discuss options for funding projects in the Sarina and Mirani areas from this budget allocation of \$50,000 for each area.

5. Possible funding of MRPMG weed projects

A Leucaena project was discussed.

Action: Margaret Lane to contact the MRPMG and (with support from Lisa and Landcare Groups) develop a potential project with approximate costings for consideration by the committee.

2. STORMWATER PROJECTS UPDATE

A written report was received. It was noted that the projects reported on to date have largely been at a strategic level.

Action: Lisa to ask the stormwater officers to attend the next meeting to give details about what on-ground projects have been delivered (e.g. Caledonia Drive), give some examples of on-ground implementation of the WSUD guidelines for developments, and present the Draft Gooseponds Catchment Management Plan. Officers to also provide details of the committee that has been set up relating to the Gooseponds Catchment, including the role, scope and membership of the committee.

3. FINANCIALS

Financial report not available for the meeting

Action: Stuart, Helen and Lisa to prepare a detailed budget for 2010/11 for the committee, including spreadsheet with updated budget allocations.

4. OTHER BUSINESS

1. Community Environmental Projects

Discussion was held regarding changing the funding guidelines to allow CEP to be more like a grants program with payment based on agreed milestones, and to consider the existing council Community Development Grants as a model. This will reduce council officer time spent coordinating the program and also allow for funding of applicant staff coordination time to be funded.

Action: Lisa to send out the CEP documentation for the committee to review. Members to consider being involved in a subgroup to assist with the review at a short workshop. Workshop to be arranged.

2. Project signage

Action: Lisa to develop a 'this project funded by the Natural Environment Levy' sign, to advertise NEL funded projects.

3. Habitat Restoration Team

Action: Report to be provided to the committee on the recent activities that the Habitat Restoration team including details of sites and projects.

4. Environmental Newsletter

It was noted that it would be ideal to have an Environmental E-Newsletter similar to the newsletters some other departments have, but it is not currently possible given staff workloads.

5. Review of the Natural Environment Plan

Contracts are currently being prepared and the committee will be presented with a draft first chapter/unit when available.

6. Final Beach Plan meetings

To be arranged shortly.

Meeting closed 1.40 pm

Next meeting October 5th 12-2pm Council Chambers.