

FILE NO: 064/036

MINUTES

Rehabilitating Roe 8 Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday 10 December 2020, 2pm-4pm

Wetlands Centre Meeting Room

Advisory Committee Attendees:

Kim	Dravnieks (Chair)	KD	Community
Phoebe	Corke	PC	Save Beelias Wetlands
Felicity	Bairstow	FB	Wetlands Centre Cockburn
Tim	Barling	TB	Conservation Council WA
Catherine	Baudains	CB	Australian Association for Environmental Education WA
Diana	Corbyn	DC	Wildflower Society
Angela	Jakob	AJ	Coolbellup Community Association
Catherine	Prideaux	CP	Department Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions
Jozina	De Ruiter	JR	Hamilton Hill Community Group
Bruce	Webber	BW	Western Australian Biodiversity and Science Institute

Other attendees:

Isabella Streckhardt (IS) – Acting Rehabilitating Roe 8 Project Manager (City of Cockburn)

Apologies

- Lou Corteen - Cockburn Community Wildlife Corridor
- Ted Griffin - Community
- Heidi Mippy- Aboriginal Reference Group (Cockburn)
- Rachel Standish - Perth Urban Restoration Science Advisory Committee
- South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council

1. **Welcome and Apologies**
2. **Observance of Acknowledgement of Country**
3. **Minutes from previous meeting**

Minutes from November meeting: Minor corrections required. Meeting minutes accepted, moved by PC and seconded by CP.

4. **Conflict of interests declaration**

Nil

5. **Business arising from previous meeting**

- 5.1 **Norfolk Island Pines - Expression of Interest artwork.**

IS highlighted that there is currently ambiguity around the protection status of the Norfolk island pine stumps on Turtle corner, which are still listed on City of Cockburn's significant tree register, and that she will contact the Heritage Council of Western Australia to seek written clarification on their protection status. IS informed that release of the short Expressions of Interest has therefore been put on hold. IS also mentioned that this will also need to be discussed at the upcoming bi-annual meeting with Main Roads Western Australia (MRWA). FB voiced support of thorough approach.

TB enquired whether his email regarding carved artwork in Northam was received. IS confirmed that she received the email, as well as an email from a member of the public suggesting carved artwork. IS ensured that if and when the EOI is circulated, it will be sent out widely and that the artist will be taken into consideration.

BW joined the meeting via Zoom.

Action: IS to contact Heritage Council of Western Australia to seek clarification on protection status of Norfolk island pine stumps.

- 5.2 **Path Network Plan and Signage Plan**

IS informed that kick-off meeting with Path Network Plan (PNP) consultant went very well and shared the Draft Engagement Plan with the committee. IS highlighted that consultant would like to run a workshop with the committee in January or February and also showed the timeline of the Draft Engagement Plan. IS raised concern about timing of workshop before the committee meeting in February and before members' positions have been confirmed for the upcoming 2021-23 tenure. IS will send invitations to out-of-session workshop to committee members.

AJ enquired whether the committee will be meeting at the same time as the general public. IS shared that wider community will likely get consulted via an online survey. IS will create landing page on the website, where information on progress, as well as online survey will be shared. KD mentioned that she finds face to face meeting with community of value. FB mentioned possibility of open day. TB enquired whether Draft Engagement Plan can be shared. IS will circulate information via email to committee.

DC enquired when work will start on the paths. IS highlighted that implementation of the PNP will still need to

get approved by Main Roads WA and that there was no start date for works at this stage. DC emphasised that drier time should be chosen for any works to mitigate risk of spreading disease.

CP highlighted that there is a difference of opinion on the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) managed section of the corridor. IS ensured that there will be thorough consultation with all stakeholders, including DBCA .

Discussion moved on to Signage Plan. IS advised that she received confirmation of Whadjuk Nyungar spelling from Sharon Gregory. IS recapped that dual naming will not be etched into the signs and instead one distinctive name per zone, ideally a Whadjuk Nyungar name, will be chosen as the prominent name. IS shared that colour themes for zones 7 and 8 in the DBCA managed are still being discussed, as DBCA would like colours to represent the Beeliar Regional Park colour, while the Whadjuk Working Group would like the orange/yellow colour of the Christmas tree represented.

Action: IS to send further information on proposed Path Network Plan workshop, as well as Draft Engagement Plan to committee members

Action: IS to create landing page for Path Network Plan on website

5.3 Aboriginal Archeological Survey

IS shared that the Aboriginal Archaeological survey is about to start on Monday, 14 December 2020. IS shared map and sheet that was prepared with Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs). IS informed that small test pits would be dug out by hand on Monday and Tuesday and depending on density of findings, selected plots would be extended to 1m x 1m square sections, to then also be excavated by hand. IS shared that archaeologist will be taking native flora into consideration when selecting pit areas to avoid damage to native vegetation.

BW enquired what type of artefacts were expected to be found. KD shared that the archaeologist who carried out a preliminary survey four years ago released a report on chert artefacts that had been found. DC shared that a natural spring was also discovered during that survey. KD to circulate the report amongst the committee.

Action: IS to share Frequently Ask Questions sheet with committee

Action: IS to send map of proposed archaeological survey area to PC

Action: KD to share previous report on previous archaeological survey

5.4 Advisory Committee Membership

IS informed that the link for the Rehabilitating Roe 8 website asking for Expressions of Interest (EOI) for community positions had gone live and that three rounds of advertisements are being run in the Cockburn Gazette. Applications will close on 18 December 2020.

IS shared that letters regarding the upcoming committee members' February 2021-February 2023 tenures had been sent to stakeholder groups. IS advised of difficulties contacting the Aboriginal Reference Group.

Action: IS to send electronic copies of letters that had been posted to stakeholder groups to their current representatives

5.5 Hands Healing the Land-Community Science Conference

IS informed that process of contacting potential speakers had commenced and that some are tentative, others very keen, keynote speakers to be confirmed. Jenny Weigend joining one day per week to assist with conference planning. IS advised that speakers who were confirmed for last year's conference (which was cancelled) are being contacted as a priority. IS encouraged to forward ideas for speakers to her. AJ enquired whether there will be a papers committee meeting and AS advised that papers committee will hopefully meet in January.

Action: IS to organise speakers and continue scheduling and promotion

5.6 Letter requesting fauna bridge sent to Main Roads WA

IS advised that letter on behalf of committee was sent to Main Roads WA (MRWA). KD enquired whether there had been any response. IS informed that she had not received any direct acknowledgement or response, however Linda Metz had forwarded her an email in which a Project Officer from Main Roads was referring to the letter sent by IS. KD enquired whether individual groups had also forwarded the letter. PC advised that Save Beelihar Wetlands did and also received a response after roughly six weeks. IS advised that she had been advised that MRWA had engaged an environmental consultant to undertake a preliminary biological and fauna survey during December and January. IS advised that it is unsure whether this is in relation to a vegetated or fauna bridge specifically. IS to forward fauna survey that had been carried out to MRWA. IS shared that there were no other plans or updates regarding the bridge at this stage.

PC shared that Save Beelihar Wetlands received a reply to their letter, advising that planning of the footbridge was at very early stages and that MRWA's environmental branch will continue to provide advice regarding the bridge's design. Committee shared excitement about potential input at infancy of the project and involvement of MRWA's environmental branch. AJ raised that Collbellup Community Association passed a motion to also send the letter. PC raised that Hamilton Hill and Coolbelup community groups should get together, since the overpass was going to link them.

Action: IS to send fauna surveys to Main Roads WA project officer

5.7 New Project Manager:

IS advised that she will continue to act in the Rehabilitating Roe 8 Project Manager role for the foreseeable future, as the backfilling arrangements within the City will likely continue until the position of the City's Director of Engineering has been appointed again.

Members of the committee briefly shared their excitement for the appointment of the City's new CEO Tony Brun due to the fact that he seems to have a good grasp on environmental and sustainability issues, as well as having experience in the private sector. Tony Brun will be starting on 1 February 2021.

5.8 Correspondence

Outward	Letter sent to Main Roads WA requesting fauna bridge
Inward	Nil

6. Project update from Rehabilitating Roe 8 Project Manager – update provided to committee

Main Roads carried out installation of drainage bunding, no native vegetation was damaged during the operation and area will be monitored to assess effectiveness.

Fire in Stock Rd West was contained quickly, area affected was roughly 10m x 10m and fire did not reach S7. No information on how fire started. Gate is getting fixed.

'Insect Adventures' workshop was a great success, small number of participants were very interested. FB mentioned that interest amongst young people in insects is growing.

IS will be providing secateurs and buckets for CCWC's upcoming seed collection workshop.

IS enquired whether CCWC conducted site visit to Aboriginal Cultural Visitor Centre site to assess whether plant salvage prior to clearing would be worthwhile. DC advised that they had not and that April / May would be a good time for translocating plants. IS advised that area has been dieback mapped, however DC mentioned hazard of introducing dieback by transplanting plants into the corridor still exists. IS highlighted that decision does not need to be made before Christmas, as clearing will not occur until 2021. DC happy to forward clearing permit that has been given to the City to DBCA to enquire whether location would need to be added their seed collection license. IS suggested to conduct site visit first to assess whether plant salvage is worthwhile, due to high density of weeds.

AJ enquired whether plant salvage at Mandogalup East development was pursued. IS advised that she visited the site together with seed collecting contractors, however clearing was unfortunately further ahead than expected and salvage not worthwhile, as majority was cleared. KD mentioned that better process should be in place regarding salvaging plant material from sites that are getting developed. AJ highlighted that developments are currently moving very fast.

IS advised that drone infrared image mapping did not go ahead as planned, as sites got interfered with overnight and new permits need to be obtained. Aerial mapping work will hopefully still go ahead in December.

7. Other business

PC spoke on ongoing problems along a certain section of bushland, where water bowls are repeatedly being vandalized and where there has been a violent altercation affecting one of the residents tending to the water bowls. PC also mentioned poisoned Acacia tree in this location, which had been brought to her attention by residents. IS advised that police and rangers have been dealing with the matter.

Committee discussed that it is unknown whether the reasons behind ongoing vandalism of water bowls are of personal, location-specific or other nature and stressed importance to gain an understanding of underlying issues.

BW queried whether there is certainty that the water source is essential in this very area and DC enquired whether water can provided in people's gardens instead. Committee members discussed that water has been provided in this location by local residents for two decades and that the community could provide water on a more regular basis to take the pressure off the residents currently tending to the water bowls. CB shared the idea that seasonal rainwater catchment of some description could be installed by the City and residents and community could volunteer to top it up during very periods.

Committee members requested for IS to contact fauna consultant to gain better understanding of the level of cockatoo's reliance on water in this particular location.

KD requested for the provision of a water source within the rehabilitated area to be tabled as a standalone item on the next agenda.

Action: IS to investigate poisoned Acacia tree

Action: IS to enquire with wildlife ecologist regarding level of reliance of cockatoos on water in the particular location where it has been provided by residents

8. Committee member report

AJ – Coolbellup Community Association. Cooby Fest was held in November, working on project to develop community wall.

DC - Wildflower Society will be running seed collection workshop for Cockburn Community Wildlife Corridor for the purpose of direct seeding project in the corridor on 12 December 2020

JR - Hamilton Hill Community Group Christmas part was held on 9 December 2020 and went well; entrances at Blackwood corner are getting done. Fig tree got heritage listed in Dixon Park.

FB – The Wetlands Centre, Cockburn. Access to the new meeting room should be available from next week

CB – Australian Association for Environmental Education WA have held West Australian Sustainability Education Forum last week. Limited numbers due to Covid but great event. Picnic on Sunday the 13th of December at Kings Park behind Zamia Café.

Appointment of Chair for next meeting: Catherine Baudains

Meeting close: 3:32 PM

9. Next Meeting

Thursday 11th February 2021 2pm-4pm at Wetlands Centre and via video link option