

FILE NO: 064/036

MINUTES

Rehabilitating Roe 8 Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday 10 February 2022, 3-5pm

The Wetlands Centre Meeting Room

Advisory Committee attendees:

Felicity	Bairstow (Chair)	FB	Community
Catherine	Baudains	CB	Australian Association for Environmental Education WA
Jaye	Snowden	JS	Aboriginal Reference Group Cockburn
Jozina	De Ruiter	JR	Hamilton Hill Community Group
Diana	Corbyn	DC	Wildflower Society
Phoebe	Corke	PC	Save Beeliar Wetlands
Catherine	Prideaux	CP	Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions

Other attendees:

Chris Beaton (ChB) – Head of Sustainability and Environment (City of Cockburn)

Christine Athanassiou (CA) – Rehabilitating Roe 8, Administrative Assistant

Apologies:

Lou Corteen	Cockburn Community Wildlife Corridor
Rachel Standish	Perth Urban Restoration Science Advisory Committee
Bruce Webber	Western Australian Biodiversity and Science Institute
Tim Barling	Conservation Council WA
Mitchell Garlett	Traditional Owner
Angela Jakob	Coolbellup Community Association

1. Welcome and Apologies

2. Observance of Acknowledgement of Country

FB welcomed members to the meeting.

3. Minutes from previous meeting

Meeting minutes from 9 December 2021 were moved and seconded by CB and CP.

4. Conflict of interest declaration

nil

5. Business arising from previous meeting

5.1 Action items arising from previous meetings

Action item	Person to action	Status
DBCA to present North Lake concept plan to committee	CP (DBCA)	Presented and feedback provided
Contact Gardening Australia to enquire regarding follow-up	New Project Manager	Carried over, not yet started
Send 'thank you' letter to CEO Tony Brun	ChB	Complete
Offer Zoom option for committee meetings again	Felicity Bairstow	Ongoing
WABSI to stay informed via agendas and to be contacted on an as-needs basis	Bruce Webber and CB	Ongoing
Forward weed threats pdf and urban biodiversity resilience commission flyer	IS	Complete
Path Network letter to residents	ChB	Complete
Promote citizen science project	All	Ongoing
Powerline pruning	CP	Ongoing
Nesting Rainbow bee-eaters	FB and IS	Update
Distribute updated RMP to all members before summer break	ChB	Completed, members to review
RMP review to be tabled March 2022	ChB	Remind members Feb 2022
City of Cockburn new department structure	CA	Complete
New DBCA representative contact details	CP	Complete
10 buckets and secateurs to be supplied to Wildflower Society representative	IS	Complete and DC returned

5.2 Promote citizen science project

CB noted the importance of the Birdlife Australia citizen science project relevant to the community engagement objectives in the Rehabilitating Roe 8 Management plan and the data that could be useful in supporting the Rehabilitating Roe 8 project.

ACTION: CB to forward original birdlife flyer to advisory committee

5.3 Powerline pruning

CP hasn't received an update. Ezgi has been deployed to bushfire duties. Ezgi is pushing to have an environmental officer on site. FB raised her concerns due to previous history

with contractors damaging surrounding habitat. ChB noted Western Power are to contact Ezgi/Amber, who will inform CP and pass the message onto advisory committee.

5.4 Nesting Rainbow bee-eaters

DC mentioned in December, Isabella and DC identified 2 nests in s7 and neither would be affected by watering contractors.

5.5 Updated RMP

PC suggested a copy with track changes due to the length.

ACTION: ChB to distribute raw RMP with track changes to advisory committee members.

5.6 Equipment supplied to Wildflower Society representative

DC noted the 10 buckets and secateurs were received and returned after using for seed collection in section s7 of the corridor. DC is licensed and has received permission from the City of Cockburn.

5.7 DBCA to present North Lake concept plan to committee – CP presenting on behalf of Stuart Harrison (Acting Manager Regional Parks Unit)

CP presented ideas on how the site can be improved, with the impetus of funding (from DBCA's Recreation Planning and Design Unit)

- Maintaining and reinforcing the existing experience, as a quiet and low-key space, of bird watching, walking, biking, leashed dog walking area, in singles or groups,
- Upgrading to an accessible path down to the lake's edge, onto the boardwalk and bird hide,
- Accessible facilities such as chairs and tables,
- Improved wider trails and orientation through the park,
- Enhanced lake and wetland vegetation, through revegetation and weeding,
- Greater capacity and improved vehicular parking,
- Low maintenance built infrastructure, simple aesthetic.

The following concerns were put forward by members:

- DC questioned whether trees would need to be removed to make space for the proposed parking upgrade. CP advised there is no intention of tree removal.

- Realignment of the trail towards Frog Swamp. There was mention of it being a heritage or sacred site, Jaye Snowden will check with the Aboriginal Reference Group as to whether the track diversion towards Frog Swamp would be supported, or not, and provide feedback to CP and the group. The high values of the swamp were reiterated, and members were concerned about introducing additional visitors to an area that is so special.
- Members were not supportive of the track upgrade from the loop trail to Hope Road, towards The Wetlands Centre. CP recalled discussion regarding this when the Path Network Plan was reviewed by the Regional Park Unit (DBCA).

CP advised these issues would be fed back to the Recreation Planning and Design Unit.

ACTION: JS to check with the ARG whether the track towards Frog Swamp would be supported, or not, and provide feedback to CP and the advisory committee.

5.8 Path Network Plan Update

ChB advised that contractors begun work end of January for the construction of the limestone path in bushland adjacent Malvolio road. Friendly flyer was distributed to surrounding residents a week prior to notify residents of path upgrade occurring. Limestone path is expected to be complete by mid-February. ChB has not received any complaints from local residents. Zamia palms were also able to be saved by diverting path around plants. FB noted that there are lots of bandicoots in the area.

5.9 Aboriginal archaeological survey – invite only information sharing session on 14 December 2021.

ChB advised the committee that there were conflicting events on that date and no guests attended, therefore no approvals were received to share the information. Fiona has asked ChB to arrange another meeting. CB questioned whether Fiona could present at the next ARG meeting rather than organizing a separate event. The committee decided all collated evidence should be shown to the elders first, and they decide how to proceed. ChB questioned whether we needed to seek approval from other elders other than the ones that attended the survey. JS noted Mitchell Garlett is the traditional owner in the advisory committee and would have authority to identify who needs to attend. DC asked if the meeting attendees are being paid for their knowledge. ChB suggested the City of Cockburn has a specific rate for cultural knowledge sharing at meetings and due to the Rehabilitating Roe 8 project is being overseen by the City of Cockburn, the amount would be the same.

ACTION: ChB to arrange another meeting with Fiona and seek approval from elders to bring to ARG. Elders to decide who will have access to this information.

5.10 Aerial (drone) vegetation mapping update

ChB updated the committee that aerial drone mapping was completed 30 January 2022, project data analysis queued for processing and expected to take 2-3 weeks. CASA approvals necessary for drone flying.

5.11 Changes to RR8 Project Manager position

The position is vacant with applications closing 11 February 2022. ChB currently overseeing project until the position is filled. FB suggested that in previous discussions it has been suggested the role be divided amongst two people as a job share role, one with revegetation experience and one with community engagement experience.

5.12 Vacant community member position on advisory committee

Advertise community member position to fill vacant position. ChB noted Rachel Standish will be standing down from her position on the AC representing PURSAC.

ACTION: ChB to check to see if Rachel has another PURSAC member that could step in. If not, two positions may need to be advertised.

6. Correspondence

<u>Outward</u>	Tony Brun	Sent 'Thank You' letter
<u>Inward</u>		<u>Nil</u>

7. Project Manager Update

Project Manager Update was briefly discussed by the committee.

PC raised concerns about a request received by the City of Cockburn to paint the Norfolk Island Tree stumps blue. The committee did not support this request and discussed the significance and future of the stumps. PC mentioned rather than keeping them as they are, they are a jab to each of our hearts every time we drive past them, turning them into something that has meaning through beauty, both retains the memory but would be a perfect illustration of the healing that is happening. Removing them would be worse as it would be like pretending it never happened. ChB shared his experience with tree carving artwork within conservation areas and noted the difficulty with long-term maintenance due to wood deterioration and the ability to obtain original artist to refurbish the artwork to its original form. PC noted that the decision for the faith of the trees should not require on-going maintenance. CB noted the symbolism from the original European invasion, history

with family ties and now a memorial of what never should have happened. PC mentioned during the removal phase in 2017, there were failed attempts by bulldozers to remove the stumps. ChB mentioned the risk of the European house borer that had been recorded in the City of Cockburn. CB added that the stumps had previously been treated to minimize the risk. JS suggested creating something symbolic about urban myth, colonization, and resilience; traditionally they used to carve trees or do artwork on the trees to inform visitors of what was in the area. ChB suggested drilling nesting hollows into the trees for the native birds and bee-hotels for native bees.

ChB added that Rachel Standish (Murdoch University) has completed vegetation monitoring on 9 February 2022. The stakes from dead plants are now being removed; this will give an indication of survival rates and reduce watering costs. PC asked whether the stakes would be reused. ChB advised they were not going to be reused due to contamination concerns, some stakes will be used in the creation of bee-hotels. DC raised concerns for about survival rate in s7, suggested lower than previous years.

ACTION: ChB to provide some stakes to Eco Action WA who use them to make bee hotels.

8. Other Business

8.1 Questionnaire

ChB stated the only question that measures Aboriginal engagement is whether they identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander and questioned whether committee had any ideas on how the questionnaire can be improved to increase engagement. CB explained the questionnaire is used as a tool to measure level of engagement and level of satisfaction in the community with the Roe 8 project. JS suggested a targeted approach to the ARG who may be able to promote Roe 8 activities via Aboriginal affiliations within the community.

8.2 Monthly Advisory Committee meeting times

ChB questioned whether meetings should be monthly, or perhaps now every two months given how far into the project we now are. The committee responded saying the monthly meetings keep actions on track but would consider for further determination at the next meeting. CA questioned whether the time and date is still suitable for the committee. The committee will review the time and date at the next meeting after reflection.

9. Committee member report and information sharing

DC reported the CWCC have been on break from hand-weeding in s7 but will be starting again soon.

CB stated that their first meeting of the year is next Thursday. Earth Day event has been postponed due to change in Covid conditions.

JS said they had their first meeting on Tuesday for the ARG and JS was voted in as Chair. Nothing to report, meetings are held every Noongar Season. JS mentioned she is open to being used as the communication link to the ARG.

PC and FB had nothing to report.

CP mentioned Regional Parks staff have been deployed for fire duties, locally and across the state.

10. Appointment of Chair for next meeting

DC appointed as Chair for March 2022 meeting.

11. Next Meeting

Thursday 10 March 2022 3-5pm at The Wetlands Centre, Cockburn.

Meeting closed at 4.36pm