

MINUTES

Rehabilitating Roe 8 Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday 13 June 2024, 3-5 pm

City of Cockburn Admin Building – 9 Coleville Cres, Spearwood

Advisory Committee attendees:

Felicity	Bairstow	FB	Community
Tim	Barling	TB	Conservation Council WA
Catherine	Baudains (Chair)	CB	Australian Association for Environmental Education WA
Diana	Corbyn	DC	Wildflower Society
Lou	Corteen	LC	Cockburn Community Wildlife Corridor
Eddie	Van Etten	EE	Research
Ezgi	Perincek	EP	Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA)
Leah	Knapp	LK	Coolbellup Community Association
Jozina	De Ruiter	JD	Hamilton Hill Community Group
Phoebe	Corke	PC	Save Beeliar Wetlands
Kam	Rae	KR	Community

Other attendees:

Adam Peck (AP) – Rehabilitating Roe 8, Project Manager

Madeline Copcutt (MC) – Rehabilitating Roe 8, Administrative Assistant

Apologies:

Heidi Mippy	Traditional owner
Jaki Richardson	Wetlands Centre

1. Welcome and Apologies

2. Observance of Acknowledgement of Country

JD welcomed members to the meeting.

3. Minutes from previous meeting

Meeting minutes from 9 May 2024 were moved and seconded by PC and DC.

4. Conflict of interest declaration

HM has a standing conflict due to being a supplier to the project. It should be noted that this conflict is seen to be a potential or perceived conflict, rather than actual. She will not be able to vote on matters in which she has a financial interest.

5. Business arising from previous meeting

5.1 Standing action items

	Action item	Person to action	Status
5.1.1	DBCA North Lake concept plan	EP	Ongoing
5.1.2	Promote citizen science project	All	Reminder

5.1.1 DBCA North Lake concept plan

Email sent to Whadjuk Corp requesting traditional owners for future engagement and workshops. Final site briefings for the dual use path/carpark, tender for submission closes in late July. Meeting with DPLH to work through Section 18 application. Extensive woody weed control being undertaken, selective and non-selective control at Roe Swamp, Frog Swamp and Horse Paddock Swamp. Planting at Frog Swamp next year. Site prep/seeding and planting this financial year in Horse Paddock Swamp. If funding allows, allows there will be follow-up woody weed control, arum lily control, etc.

PC mentioned that Frog Swamp is culturally significant and queried whether traditional owners had been consulted, and EP confirmed that they have, and it is the southern side of Frog Swamp being planted where weed control has already been done.

5.2 Action items arising from previous meeting

	Action item	Person to action	Status
5.2.1	Fauna road crossings	RR8AC	On hold
5.2.2	Create research proposal for Woody Meadow on Turtle Corner	AP	On hold
5.2.3	Coordinate stronger social media presence for RR8 Project.	RR8AC, AP	Carried over

5.2.3 Coordinate stronger social media presence for RR8 Project.

AP said engagement with the Facebook page needs to be improved as there are not many followers. JD said she could not find the Facebook page when she looked for it. FB suggested advertising it in the next newsletter, and JD added to put the link on the website. AP asked everyone to share it on their group pages. KR said she would send the link to everyone in the RR8AC. AP said to also continue with likes and comments on the actual pages to increase visibility.

ACTION: Share the Facebook and Instagram pages among networks.

6. New action items

7. Correspondence

<u>Outward</u>		<u>Nil</u>
<u>Inward</u>		<u>Nil</u>

8. Project Manager Update

Planted 1000 seedlings at the community planting day. Rain has improved which is good news. Using Terracottem water crystals for all seedlings this year instead of fertiliser tablets, which are more expensive but will hopefully have better results. Pre-planting herbicide treatments are behind schedule due to the delay in rains, they have started today (13 June) and contractor planting will start on June 24.

AP talked to an arborist about a tree that was leaning over a residential fence, and they suggested that rather than pruning it, it can be braced against the wind to prevent branches from snapping off.

KR queried whether there are any upcoming events and AP said not until spring.

9. Other Business

- Shothole borer

Shothole borer has been detected in Roe Swamp and Frog Swamp bushland on the eastern side. Melaleuca, swamp banksia, acacia longifolia and edible fig have been infested. The info has been shared with relevant stakeholders e.g., volunteer groups, contractors, Western Power etc. Wood movement from the reserve. DPIRD are still monitoring – about 70% complete. Argument to have North Lake classed as an ecologically sensitive area (ESA). Most southern infestation in a natural area. Not clear where it has come from, but likely from large mulch piles in the surrounding area. Management actions not yet determined due to issues with access. However, as native trees are not their preferred host species, there is a chance they may move on from the area. EP will continue giving updates as required. Decisions will need to be made about whether to remove vegetation to prevent it spreading, although EP said that pruning is the preferred management option. DPIRD and DBCA are working on the situation together. AP said there is an ESA tag in Bibool (the easternmost area), but EP said she has not been informed of that.

PC asked whether the current treatment is effective (chipping), or whether new methods such as burning are being considered; and whether the quarantine area (the Perth metro area) is being altered to restrict the confirmed infestations. EP said that DPIRD is managing the borer outbreak so they will be able to answer questions about new methods and quarantine areas. However, EP added that while wood chipping is effective, the chips cannot be left in piles, it needs to be spread

or solarized to kill the borer.

LK asked what was done with the woody weeds that were removed from the site, and EP said they have been left on the site, which was prior to the infestation being discovered.

DC asked what the surrounding area was where the large mulch piles were, and EP said it could have been any park or garden nearby as they can travel up to 50m.

PC added that people go into that area and take firewood and asked how that will be prevented. EP said DPIRD are putting together some signage for the area, which is unlikely to deter people from taking firewood, but it is the only option because infringements cannot be given from CCTV footage. LC asked whether there was an option for the signs to have information about what residents could do if they see someone taking firewood, and KR suggested having information about the risks to both ecosystems and private gardens if firewood is being collected. EP said she will look into it.

FB said that local people in Bibra Lake who use the site regularly have not been informed of this, but there is strong local attachment to the swamp Banksias in the site.

EE asked if there is specific information available such as the number of plants in the area, and what the timeline was going forward for management. EP said the timeline is up to DPIRD, but she can send a map of the current infestation, but noted that monitoring and investigations are still ongoing so it will likely be updated soon. EP said she could ask a DPIRD representative to attend a meeting to provide the RR8AC with more information.

PC asked whether the infestation should be taken into account for future planting, and EP said that planting should be undertaken as usual. PC clarified that she was talking about exotic street trees, and EP said that DBCA is encouraging councils to use native trees that are less susceptible to the borers.

- Dieback

AP contracted BARK Environmental to undertake a dieback assessment of the corridor, and two areas are positive for *Phytophthora cinnamomi* from soil testing. They are on the eastern boundary of Moodjar and along the low-lying winter-inundated area. It has likely been infested in the last four years as testing from 2020 in the area was negative. AP said he would like to make it a no-vehicle movement zone for staff and contractors, as members of the public do not have vehicle access to the area. He said another consideration is whether to put a limestone walkway through the zone to reduce pedestrians' contact with the wet ground. EP said she had advised that gates be put on each edge of the area to be locked during winter, to restrict access for staff, contractors, and pedestrians when it is wet. She also said that dieback signage and cleaning stations are being considered, but a limestone path in the area is not feasible as it may have an impact on the hydrology of the site, and raised boardwalks would be too much of a disturbance. TB asked whether Western Power will still be going into the site for pruning and EP said they need permission from DBCA. Updates and management options will continue to be discussed moving forward.

- Signage update

AP has printed draft signs for everyone to see. EP said the Parks and Wildlife logo should only be on the signs in the areas that are managed by DBCA, which AP said is currently the case except for Yaakan, and EP confirmed that the logo can be removed from that sign to avoid confusion as the land is managed by CoC.

- Signage event

AP is hoping to hold an event to unveil the new signs when they are ready, possibly in early September.

- July meeting

AP will be away in July, so there will be no meeting that month.

- DPLH planning

DPLH have released their decision on the amended Metropolitan Region Scheme; the western section of the Roe 8 corridor (including Karaak and Malvolio Road bushland) is to be rezoned from Road Reserve to Parks and Recreation Reserve.

- Ngoolark event, Friday 13 September

CoC has asked whether RR8 wants to have a stall at the upcoming Ngoolark event, and AP suggested promoting Beeliam Woodland Walks with the new gazebo, and the RR8AC agreed.

10. Committee member report and information sharing

DC – WS have been weeding in S7, especially veldt grass.

FB – Bibra Lake turtle trackers/Wetlands Conservation Society are organising a workshop at the Wetlands Centre for all stakeholders (government departments etc.) to discuss management options going forward to prevent future turtle losses during the dry season.

JD – HHCG are putting together a petition to prevent the Wally Hagan development and asked for support from the RR8AC with writing the draft.

LC – CCWC have planted *Pittasporum* in S7. The Friends of Clontarf Hill are having a planting day this weekend.

LK, PC, EE, TB, EP – Nothing to report.

11. Appointment of Chair for next meeting

LK appointed as Chair for 8 August 2024 meeting.

12. Next meeting

Thursday 8 August 2024, 3pm-5pm either online or at the City of Cockburn, Administration



Building. 9 Coleville Cres, Spearwood. Doowart – Tuart Tree – Public Gallery Area 2.

Meeting closed at 4:30pm.

Apologies for next meeting: