

# WEDDERBURN CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT NETWORK

## Minutes of Meeting



**MEETING DETAILS:** 1 pm 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2015 Wedderburn Community House

**PRESENT:** Michael Moore, Sheilah Gaines, Kate Lee, Freya Matthews, Barrie Taylor, Janet Richardson, Nic van den Bronk.

**APOLOGIES:** Joy Hick, Maureen Moore, Jeroen van Veen, Peter Watts.

### 1. MINUTES OF LAST WCMN MEETING:

The last meeting of the WCMN was an un-minuted informal meeting.

### 2. BUSINESS ARISING: Nil

### 3. CORRESPONDENCE:

- Received from Martin Woodward – an email conveying his farewell to the group upon moving to a new position with Parks Vic.
- Received from website notification of a possible visit by bird watchers to the WCMN area.

### 4. REPORTS:

**President / Secretary:** Michael Moore

No report for over the Christmas/new Year break

**Treasurer:** it was moved by Nic van den Bronk and seconded by Barrie Taylor that the Treasurer's report be accepted – all in favour – resolved.

**Vice President:** Barrie Taylor – Barrie reported that he had received a note via the website indicating that a few avid bird watchers wished to visit the WCMN area and were keen to view the southern scrub robin, malleefowl and other species. They also indicated that they would be willing to participate in any bird research that the WCMN considered appropriate. Barrie will follow up on this matter.

**Parks Victoria:** - Nic van den Bronk

Nic informed the meeting concerning some of the consequences of the re-structuring that has been taking place within Parks Vic. Parks Vic. is still very keen to partner with community groups on mutually beneficial projects. Nic considers that the new structure will actually allow him more time to assist with such projects.

**Australian Bush Heritage and Cassinia:** Jeroen van Veen - apology

**CMN Observers:** Kate Lee – no report

**Malleefowl Report:** Peter Watts – apology

**Wychitella District Landcare Group:** Janet Richardson

Janet reported on a successful wheel cactus stabbing workshop held at Mt Buckrabanyule organized by Anthony Gallacher (LPLN facilitator). Some local volunteers turned to help out with the work – much appreciated.

**Mt Korong Eco Watch:** Kate Lee

Kate mentioned the following items:

- The group is interested in monitoring the negative effects on invertebrates, fungi and lichens of ecological burning. They will be seeking the advice of Dr Andrew Bennet on this issue.
- The group has/will be forming sub-committee to look at the problem of feral cats in their area.
- A wheel cactus stabbing workshop is in the planning stages. Anthony Gallacher will be consulted concerning the borrowing of equipment.

- Ecological thinning is being considered in certain areas. Kirsten Hutchinson of TFN has appropriate documentation for this activity.
- Kate has been following up, with some success, on the structure and function of the levees constructed in the 1960's in the Mt Korong area.
- During Kate's report Freya enquired as to the possibility of obtaining cochineal beetle to aid in the control of wheel cactus. Janet informed the group of the work that has been taking place in this regard with respect to Mt Buckrabanyule.

## 5. General Business

- Cat traps – Barrie mentioned that it had been reported to him that members of the community could not obtain cat traps from the council due to the fact that some of these cages were being used for trapping possums rather than cats – Michael to follow up with the appropriate council contact.
- It was moved by Nic van den Bronk and seconded by Michael Moore that Barrie Taylor proceed with his efforts concerning placing a greenhouse for the raising of indigenous plant seeds in the community house garden. Michael will follow up on this project with Barrie. All in favour – resolved.
- Assignment of roles:  
Sheilah Gaines has volunteered to take on the role of minutes' secretary (Barrie will bring a dictaphone to the next meeting). Freya Matthews has volunteered to take on the role of organising the venue for the WCMN meetings. Michael Moore, Kate Lee, Donald Sutherland and Freya Matthews will form members of the sub-committee responsible for the Soaks project.
- It was moved by Alistair White that a sub-committee be formed to consider the aspect of roles within the WCMN, define such roles and present a report to the next WCMN meeting. The sub-committee will consist of Nic van den Bronk, Kate Lee, Alistair White and Michael Moore. The sub-committee will meet at 9.00am on 16<sup>th</sup> Feb, Wedderburn Community House. The motion was seconded by Freya Matthews – all in favour – resolved.
- Michael will email WCMN members to canvass their opinions on the proposed change of the WCMN meeting time from the first Monday of each month, 1.00pm at the Wedderburn Community House to the first Tuesday of every month, 7.00 pm at the same venue.
- The ideas gathered at the Ideas Exchange Day will remain on the WCMN agenda until thoroughly discussed and suggestions implemented.
- Michael will forward to Kate the WCMN brochure for critique and suggestions. The WCMN power point presentation will be forwarded to Nic Van den Bronk for printing – Michael to follow up.

## 6. Notices

**Meeting closed at 3.25 pm**

**Next meeting: 1.00 pm Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March at the Wedderburn Community House**

**Note no change to usual meeting time yet**