

WEDDERBURN CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT NETWORK

Minutes of Meeting



MEETING DETAILS: 1 pm on Monday 2nd September 2013

Held at the Wedderburn Community Centre

PRESENT: Peter Watts, Nic van den Bronk, Michael Moore, Sheila Gaines, Jeroen van Veen, Anthony Gallacher

APOLOGIES: Annette, Lynton, Maureen, Joy, Barrie, Janet, Freya

1. MINUTES OF LAST WCMN MEETING: Monday 6 August 2013 – taken as resolved

Moved Peter W, seconded Jeroen,

2. BUSINESS ARISING: Nil

3. CORRESPONDENCE:

- Communities for the Environment notification that the WCMN does not have GST registration as per application.
- Email from Councillor Gavin Holt thanking WCMN and particularly jeroen for the cactus work along roadsides.
- FOPS burns comment letter from Jeroen
- LPLN notification of AGM next Thursday 6pm at Serpentine Bowling Club received.
- Thank you letters and cards from Wedderburn College students thanking the coach House Gallery and WCMN for the photo exhibit.

4. REPORTS:

Chair & Secretary: Michael Moore

- Mostly covered in General Business.
- Attended Central Vic. Biolink Project meeting. Interest shown in funding for projects involving combined Goldfields Groups. Michael to distribute summary of meeting.
- Gathering material for next weekend's exhibition.
- Anthony and Michael went to Government House on behalf of the LPLN for landcare awards. (Bill Twig and Norm Wettenhall Foundation were both winners)

Vice President - Barrie Taylor – nil

Treasurer

Maureen has prepared statement for this month. (not available at meeting). Balance is healthy with funds also coming in for: Eucy harvesting site project, Malleefowl line search project and Volunteer grant.

Parks Victoria: - Nic van den Bronk

- Covered in general business

Australian Bush Heritage and Cassinia: Jeroen van Veen

- Quarterly bush Heritage magazine brought in.
- Open day at the Barnett Block of Nardoo Hills now on Oct 26th. Supported by NCCMA, trust for Nature and Bush Heritage. 10am to 1 pm. Entry off Buckrabunyule Rd (signs on road)

- Kangaroo cull permits were issued recently in very low numbers. This is despite the research done by Jeroen, the WCMN and BRIT students which showed relatively high numbers of macropods. Jeroen will discuss this issue with Brody Childs (wildlife officer at DEPI) and if permit numbers do not reflect the science then no more surveys will be conducted. This issue has the potential to affect our reputation with the farming community.

CMN Observers: Sheila –

- Pair of Hooded Robins at her place.

Malleefowl Report: Peter Watts – nil

Wychitella District Landcare Group: Janet Richardson – apology

Mt Korong Eco Watch: Freya Mathews - apology

5. General Business

- **Line search project.**
 - Michael has seed and vermiculite. Need to get volunteers for seeding next week. Michael will email members.
 - Peter Watts has identified mounds suitable for vegetation enhancement.
 - Nic has maps and will supervise activity.
 - Final data from the CVA line search indicates that although several new mounds were found, some known mounds were missed. This indicates that the search was not as thorough as we had hoped.
- **Eucy harvesting site project.**
 - Michael battling through the frustrating process of getting GST registration for the WCMN.
 - Paul Foreman has started surveys.
 - Parks Victoria Research Branch will meet with Paul Foreman, local staff and the WCMN to ensure viability of proposed works.
- **Kooyoora Connections.**
 - \$1.8 million over 5 years
 - Nick Layne from the NCCMA to lead this project.
 - Steering committee being formed. Michael and probably other WCMN members will be on committee.
 - More information to come by next meeting, particularly about governance and how the WCMN will be involved.
- **Exhibition 7th & 8th September**
 - Room booked from 3.30 Friday for set up.
 - Roster developed for assistance throughout weekend
 - Removal of all material Monday 9am
- **Volunteer Grant**
 - New computer with office software and extended warranty purchased for \$805
 - \$800 for camera still available. Alison Pouliot being asked to help choose. (suggestion that we get GPS enabled camera)
- **Equipment list** sent by Wendy is already out of date and needs review

- **AGM Mon 7th** at Parks Victoria Office - nominations are being sought for office bearers and general committee members for the next year. Please contact Michael for information or if you are interested
- **Fencing** – Two groups have requested fencing from the left over material stored at the Parks Victoria depot.
 - Julie Whitfield (biodiversity officer) has asked for 2 rolls of ringlock and some posts to help fence out an orchid plot at Kooyoora State Park. (Agreed to by committee – Nic to organise with Julie)
 - Kara Kara CMN have asked for some material for exclusion plots at Kara Kara NP. More information is being sought prior to decision being made.
- **Nest Boxes** – LPLN has a \$3000 grant to install nest boxes and wishes to work with schools in the Loddon shire. They have trialled a project with Bridgewater PS and are now looking to work with Wedderburn College. Several suggestions were made as to suitable sites and species to target.

Meeting closed at 2:40pm

Next meeting: Monday **7th October** 10.00 am at Parks Victoria Office – 100 Southey St Inglewood.