

**Minutes of Committee Meeting**

Neil's House, Banjup

3 November 2014 at 7:30 pm

**Present:**

Jemma Van Dongen

Neil Raine

Ian Thurston

Coco Franklin

**Apologies**

Erika Antal

Colin Bramwell

Brian Morton

Sebastian Scata

Stephen Thornton

<b>Ref.</b>	<b>Minute</b>	<b>Action</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>Confirmation of minutes of last meeting</b>	
1.1	The minutes of the Committee meeting of 18 August 2014 were confirmed.	
<b>2.</b>	<b>Treasurer's Report</b>	
2.1	The Group has \$2,159 in its bank account.	
<b>3.</b>	<b>Bush Fire Matters Meeting with Cockburn Officers</b>	
3.1	Ian reported that on 21 October Colin Bramwell, Erika Antal, Stephen Thornton, and he had met with Cockburn's Chief Bush Fire Control Officer, Environmental Manager, and Emergency Management Coordinator to hear how Cockburn would be managing the bush fire risk in Banjup in the future.	

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3.2	<p>A letter recording the main points of the meeting is being agreed with the Cockburn officers and a copy has been circulated to all BRG committee members.</p> <p>The topics covered were:</p> <p><b>Bush fire Risk Management Plan</b>, which is being revised and will be presented to Cockburn council in November or December</p> <p><b>Fire Permits</b>, which despite promises to the contrary, still require that 3 people be in attendance at an average bonfire</p> <p><b>Fuel Mitigation</b>, at which Cockburn acknowledged the very high fuel loads in Banjup reserves but maintained they were manageable.</p> <p><b>Community Education</b>, concerned with identification and management of weeds, whose accumulation increases fuel load</p>	
4.	<b>Implications of Cockburn's Bush Fire Polices</b>	
4.1	<p>Ian spoke to a paper that he had circulated to the committee on 30 October. He explained that fuel loads of 30 tonnes per hectare in Cockburn's reserves were 3 or 4 times that which fire fighters could manage if there were a bush fire. The Committee reviewed the paper and agreed that there was considerable cause for concern.</p>	
4.2	<p>The Committee resolved to put the paper to Cockburn councillors Reeve-Fowkes, Mubarakai, and Portelli at a meeting in Banjup within the coming 2 weeks. Ian will arrange invitations and a venue.</p>	Ian
5.	<b>Wandi Progress Association Bush Fire Briefing</b>	
5.1	<p>Committee members resolved to attend the Wandu bush fire meeting at the Wandu Hall at 7:00 pm on 12 November to see if Kwinana had a different perspective on bush fire risk.</p>	
6.	<b>Sand Trucks on Banjup's Roads</b>	
6.1	<p>An informal traffic count on a morning in mid-October revealed that a quarter of all southbound vehicles on Liddelow Road was sand trucks. Northbound sand trucks were much reduced from September's count.</p>	
6.2	<p>Ian reported that he had spoken with Cockburn's Director of Engineering, Michael Littleton, who had said that another, week long, traffic count would be undertaken by Cockburn during November. After that recommendations would be put to councillors. Littleton also said that he would be leaving the City of Cockburn at the end of October to take up a position at the City of Stirling.</p>	

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6.3	Committee members were concerned that no action would be taken to discourage sand trucks in Banjup until a new Director of Engineering is appointed, which, with the proposed merger with Kwinana, might not be for a year.	
6.4	The Committee resolved to write again to Cockburn asking for 'Lego' chicanes to be installed along Liddelow Road.	Ian
7.	<b>Jandakot Water Mound Policy and Submission</b>	
7.1	Ian reported that the BRG submission had been received on time by the Department of Planning. A copy of the submission is available on the BRG web site.	
8.	<b>Annual General Meeting</b>	
8.1	Because signs had been stolen, the Committee resolved instead of signs to post two flyers, a week apart, to advertise the Annual General Meeting.	
8.2	To allow sufficient lead time for the preparation and distribution of materials for the AGM, the Committee resolved to hold the AGM on Sunday 8 March at 3:00 pm.	
9.	<b>Other Business</b>	
9.1	Jemma's new baby is due by the end of January so she will be unable to be involved in committee matters during the weeks around that time.	
10.	<b>Next Committee Meeting</b>	
10.1	To be determined but it will depend on the availability of councillors to discuss bush fire risks.	