Minutes

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| Title: | Meeting 2 – 2019 Koo Wee Rup Longwarry Flood Protection District Advisory Committee |
| Meeting date: | Thursday, 15 August 2019 |
| Meeting time: | 10.00am -11.00am |
| Location: | Melbourne Water offices, 334 Rossiter Road, Koo Wee Rup |
| Chairperson: | Bruce Turner |
| Attendees: | Bruce Turner, Con Raffa, Jo Fontana, Frank Rovers, Ian Anderson, John Hobson, Clive Brooker (BBSC), Kevin Alexander (CSC), Tom Le Cerf (MW), Georgina Downey (MW), John Woodland (MW), Trent Griffiths (MW) |
| Apologies: | Robert Mure, Matthew Coleman, Susan Anderson, Mark Howard (CSC), Cr Ray Brown (CSC), Anna Zsoldos (MW), Stuart Cochrane (MW), Cate Shaw (MW) |
| Note taker: | Georgina Downey |

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| Agenda item | **1. Welcome & apologies and items for General Business** | | Presenter | | Bruce Turner |
|  | Introduction and welcome to John and Council reps, new to the Committee. John outlined his long connection to the district. | | | | |
| Agenda item | **2. Actions from previous meetings** | | Presenter | |  |
| Discussion | 12.1: re Moody Street Drain – Kevin Alexander (as the only CSC rep in attendance) was briefed on this issue during the bus tour – this was originally Action 11.3 (from the 2018 bus tour) when questions were raised about the basis for approval of the drain – is capacity sufficient and is there backflow protection? **ACTION OUTSTANDING**  13.2: Exceptions report for identifying hotspots – Tom said he had discussed the concept with Cardinia SC – noted works on Bunyip Main Drain were from community advocacy – In the main, problems are addressed as they arise and there is not a long list of ones needing attention – New tools being developed to better assist with prioritising works, intention to roll this out when available and will continue to involve the Committee to help with identification and prioritisation of works. **ACTION CLOSED** (but will become an ongoing practice for involving the Committee)  1.1 A letter of thanks to be sent to Bernie Dillon for his many years of service on the Committee and previous committees in the KWRLFPD. Invitation to Bus Tour to say farewell. Bernie is attending bust tour. **ACTION CLOSED**  1. 2 Tom to investigate whether or how drainage implications of Seven Mile Road resealing (NB: not duplication) have been considered –  Ian Anderson stated that he doubted that the section of Seven Mile Road had been raised. He believed that the fill was required to reinstate road to previous levels and that the only critical section is at 550 Seven Mile Road. However, he identified a number of choke points between Convent School Rd and Whittle Lane where blocked culverts were preventing water from flowing from Nar Nar Goon.**CLOSED**  **NEW ACTION 2.1**: MW to investigate the reported choke points on Seven Mile Road, Meeting with Ian Anderson to be a part of this.  1.3 MW to check the ownership of the land in question and the danger posed by the cypress tree, and involve Ray. **CLOSED** – Land is owned by Council | | | | |
| Agenda item | **3. Pricing Submission and Levels of Service** | | Presenter | | Trent Griffiths |
| Discussion | Trent outlined the process for engaging with the Committee and community on the PS21.  Customers would be engaged regarding their required Levels of Service and their Willingness to Pay for increased levels of service.  The Committee will be the starting point for consultation; MW will seek their advice on the best way to engage with the wider community. This will coincide with a review of MW’s Customer Charter for the drainage district.  Expected engagement to take place from November to March 2020.  Trent noted and explained that the issue of Boundaries could not be looked at during the PS21 timeline as the team responsible have very strict guidelines and timelines for engagement under the new ESC PREMO model.  Bruce noted that Matthew Coleman had been raising this issue for a number of years. Bruce suggested that while it might be disappointing that a boundary review was not part of the scope of the new Pricing Submission, it was a positive step that it has been acknowledged as an issue and is on the agenda for the future. | | | | |
| Agenda item | **4. Action Plan update** | | Presenter | | Tom Le Cerf |
| Discussion See table below for record of update. | | | | | |
|  | It was noted that James Hodgins from Melbourne Water’s Development Approvals team would be joining the bus tour for lunch to discuss the ways the impacts of development on drainage were being managed (Action Item 4) | | | | |
| Agenda item | **5. Capital works & Maintenance** | | | | |
| Discussion | **Maintenance Update.**  Channel Precept cutting progressing well around 85% complete.  Remainder of program on hold for this week due to significant rains.  Scoping for current year’s program underway.  **Capital Update**  New Capital Project Identified for North of the inlets targeting significant weeds impacting high value conservation sites. | | | | |
| Agenda item | **6. Community Feedback** | Presenter | | ALL | |
| Discussion | Con and Frank raised the issue of a blockage (gate not opening) under Tynong-Bayles Road between Ropers Lane and Bayles Rd (@Kevin Scanlons home).  Rob Mure (absent, via Con) raised the issue of the blockage at the KWR railway bridge with dead reeds holding back water. This was to be visited as part of the bus tour.  Jo asked if she could come in to MW’s offices between meetings to be briefed more about drainage in the Longwarry area and about the different roles played by MW staff in the area, so that she could be more informed in her community role.  **New Action 2.2** - a briefing to be arranged for Jo at a time convenient TBA  **New Action 2.3** – Site Inspection with both John Hobson to look at Cardinia Creek area  **New Action 2.4** (from bus tour) – MW to review the performance of the Cora Lynn Ford, especially the fencing across the entrance to the Yallock Floodway – is it possible to replace with a collapsible fence or at least remove unnecessary wires? | | | | |

**Meeting closed:** 11.00am

**Next meeting**: Thursday 14 November 1.00pm-3.00pm

**Action Plan – Bold indicates changes**

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| **#** | **Action Item** | | **Lead** | | | **Priority** | **Status** | | **Comments** | |
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| **(1= 6 months, 2= 6 – 12 months , 3= 1 year +)** |
| **The area boundaries** | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | Explore the opportunity to review (external provider) the KWR district boundary to ensure catchment and hydrology are equitable and climate change are taken into consideration. | | Sarah | | | 1 | Consultation to commence around pricing submission shortly chance to get issue on MW agenda here. | | **Briefing by Trent Griffins at most recent meeting** | |
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| **Flood protection / improved flows** | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2 | Investigate the potential removal of pylons under the historic railway bridge crossing at Bunyip River to assist in flood conveyance | | TL | | | 1 | Feedback from Council heritage constraints on Bunyip River Bridge sought. | | **Survey received preliminary assessment to be completed** | |
| Looking to initiate investigation into risk of blockage, funding will be required. McDonalds Drain also to be considered | |
| 3 | Improve management of Bunyip Main Drain | | TL | | | 2 | New PM's to be set up for grooming of Melaleuca.  Additional works planned for levees. Investigation underway for how to improve the environmental management of the area. | | Ongoing improvements | |
| 4 | Are we getting development right? | |  | | | 2 | Key developments to be discussed as a part of this action item:  South Gippsland Railway Duplication Meeting attended Aurecon/Jacobs/McDonald together working on project. Many EPBC concerns with rail alignment - bandicoot, Grayling, Strzelecki Gum etc - concept design - then onto detailed design. MW confident that they will satisfy Commonwealth and State Depts and will take on comments from Project Group. Not anticipating objection. Further engagement needed during construction phase. | | | |
| 5 | Strategic land use planning – (Use of roads as drains is inappropriate in flood prone townships) | | TL | | | 2 | We need further information to improve understanding locally. Information to be shared with flood committee. | | KWR development guidelines to be completed will be forwarded once complete. | |
| 6 | Increase the coverage in monitoring flood protection | | TL | | | 2 | Hydro graphics team to presented in July key questions answered. | | Closed | |
| **Efficiencies** | | | | | | | | | | |
| 7 | Provide greater clarity around ownership of drainage maintenance responsibilities between council, MW and private properties | | TL | | | 3 | One pager to be developed. Key information within customer charter. | | Cardinia Shire Weed Strategy also referenced as a key document. | |
| 8 | Explore the potential to improve work efficiency and work practices (i.e. spreading of silt), include efficiency reporting as a part of this | |  | | | 1 | Doing trial around works methods in Lower Bunyip to look at removing woody vegetation from within waterways. Packaging of desilt works Consider multiple machine desilts? One to dig and one to spread. | | Ongoing part of practices. | |
| **Communications and Technology** | | | | | | | | | | |
| 9 | Continue the annual committee bus tour of the KWR district | |  | | | 1 | Complete | |  | |
| 10 | Melbourne Water to improve knowledge sharing to the Advisory committee through guest speakers, subject matter experts on key topics with further input from Council. | |  | | | 1 | Complete | |  | |
| 11 | Reduce the use of paper based newsletters and communicate through other effective approaches (i.e. use of MW KWR committee webpage or email based) | | Georgina | | | 2 | Complete | |  | |
| 12 | Coordinate with the MW customer call centre to actively ensure that issues/concerns are managed appropriately – tracking and escalation process | | Sarah | | | 1 | Complete | |  | |
| 12 | Technologies to improve Advisory Committee communication in between meetings – e.g. access to website/portal that everyone can access | |  | | | 3 | Complete | |  | |
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| **Habitat/environmental management** | | | | | | | | | | |
| 19 | Investigate blackberries/ weeds in areas across the flood district | | TL | | | 1 | Yallock No. 4 Drain to begin as pilot area.  Vegetation studies/management plans underway at Lower Bunyip and Yallock Outfall available shortly | | **Additional feedback at to be provided at next meeting** | |
| 13 | Investigate the opportunity to create a corridor for nature and public use along Yallock outfall (eg bike path network) | | Council | | | 3 | Complete | | Not considered viable by Council | |
| 14 | Engage an ecologist/ specialist to provide advice on the management of blackberry (staged approach) to reduce the impact on Southern Brown Bandicoot (SBB) habitat and provide a monitoring program | | Stu | | | 1 | Complete | |  | |
| 15 | Monitor the effectiveness of the fox and cat control program through a program of works | | Stu | | | 2 | Complete | |  | |
| 16 | Improve management of litter within drains | | TL | | | 1 | Current policy is to only remove blockages, hesitant to divert resources away from primary purpose of drainage levee. Acknowledgement of larger issue. | | | |
| **Collaboration** | | | | | | | | | | |
| 17 | Ensure effective coordination of programs across organisations | | TL | | | 2 | Relationship between councils being strengthened. Recent collaboration around councils biolinks and weed management plan. | | Need for ongoing communication identified due to officer change over. | |
| 18 | Explore opportunities to work together with councils on drainage infrastructure projects | | Sarah | | | 2 | Living Rivers existing projects | | Complete | |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |  | | Closed | |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |  | | Underway | |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |  | | Not progressing | |