

<b>Subject:</b>	Bushland and Environment Advisory Committee Meeting – Minutes of Meeting	Page 1 of 6
<b>File No:</b>	CLR/07/8/101/1/6	
<b>Document Ref:</b>	D18/138278	
<b>Venue:</b>	Council Chambers 1 Pope Street, Ryde	
<b>Date:</b>	Wednesday, 13 June 2018	
<b>Time:</b>	5.00pm	Started at: 5.04pm      Closed at: 6.45pm
<b>Chair:</b>	Councillor Penny Pedersen	
<b>Meeting Support (MS):</b>	Kathryn Fleming – Administration Officer Councillor Support - Governance	
<b>Staff Convenor:</b>	Kylie McMahon	
<b>Circulation:</b>		

**Committee Role:****Committee Members as per the Terms of Reference**

Present	Apology	Name	Position Title	Organisation
X		Councillor Penny Pedersen	Chairperson and Councillor Delegate	City of Ryde
X		Councillor Christopher Gordon	Councillor Delegate	City of Ryde
X		Councillor Edwina Clifton	Deputy Chairperson and Councillor Delegate	City of Ryde
	X	Councillor Trenton Brown	Councillor Delegate	City of Ryde
X		Pamela Reeves	Community Representative	
X		Libby Lawson	Community Representative	
X		David Thomas	Community Representative	
	X	Terry Perram	Community Representative	
X		Simone McGinley	Community Representative	
	X	Jill Hartley	Community Representative	
X		Adrian Kong	Community Representative	
X		Peter Brown	Community Representative	
X		Bev Debrincat	Community Representative	
X		Joanne Taranto	Community Representative	
	X	Jane Valentine	Community Representative	
X		Sylvia Lane	Community Representative	
X		Jessica Wilks	Community Representative	
X		Angela Maier	Community Representative	
X		Amelia Saul	Community Representative	
	X	Peter Davies	Community Representative	
X		Margaret Kelly	Community Representative	

Present	Apology	Name	Position Title	Organisation
X		Sam Cappelli	Manager Environment, Health and Building	City of Ryde
X		Kylie McMahon	Senior Coordinator Environment	City of Ryde
X		Sandra Payne	Natural Areas Coordinator	City of Ryde
X		Sean Simpson	Natural Areas Project Officer	City of Ryde
X		Jude Colechin	Senior Coordinator Resource Recovery	City of Ryde
X		Kathryn Fleming	Administration Officer Councillor Support - Governance	City of Ryde

Details	Action
<p>1. <b>Welcome by Chair – Cllr Penny Pedersen</b></p> <p>Cllr Pedersen opened the meeting by welcoming all present and by recognising the traditional owners of the land and her fellow Councillors.</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>2. <b>Apologies</b></p> <p>As above</p>	<p>Noted</p>
<p>3. <b>Pool to pond Preservation – Peter Clarke</b></p> <p>Peter Clarke gave a PowerPoint presentation to the group on the Pool to Pond program at Ku-ring-gai Council.</p> <p>Councillor Pedersen advised that she knew someone in Ryde who has a pond and is breeding fish.</p> <p>It can be very cost effective and environmentally friendly thing to do if people can no longer maintain their pool and is an alternative to demolishing the pool. There are a number of benefits to the environment but some potential issues relating to development consent and ongoing management so that these conversions do not become a nuisance if taken up by those just letting a pool go to a bad state.</p> <p>Sam Cappelli asked whether any of the other Council's that had taken up the initiative were approached prior to the conversion. Peter Clarke answered that a lot of them were not. Ku-ring-gai started the first conversion of pool to pond and then other Council's came on board. They then started and running workshops on the Pool to Pond Project. It is noted that Ku-ring-gai have a dedicated Pool to Pond Officer to quality assure and assist residents to safely and correctly through the conversion process.</p> <p>The Committee thanked Peter for his presentation.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
<p>4. <b>Adoption of previous Minutes – 14 March 2018</b></p> <p>Peter Brown stated that he was not happy to adopt the previous Minutes in their current form as he believes they are incomplete as there was no mention of finance. He would like hard copies of the financial statements which get passed from one Committee to another. He said it was like a 'festering sore with only one to fix it', an extra-ordinary meeting with one agenda item – finance, and what is happening in all areas. He stated that Council is lax.</p> <p>Councillor Pedersen also acknowledged to the Committee that Council staff, Cllr Pedersen and Mr Brown had previously met to discuss Mr Brown's concerns over finance in a separate meeting.</p> <p>Councillor Pederson disagreed stating that the staff have done everything in their power to provide the information and it was seeming unclear as to the specific desired outcome to satisfy Mr Brown's request fearing the matter could go around and around. Councillor Pederson then put it to the Committee to provide thoughts on if the committee should be provided a more in detailed financial update and breakdown at the meetings.</p> <p>Libby Lawson provided that she felt that this matter was feeling "like Ground Hog Day" and that this was brought up at every meeting by Peter. She also advised that she was perfectly happy with the documentation Council has supplied and said that you can easily look up priority areas and the number of hours worked.</p> <p>Pamela Reeves agreed stating that they only need the information a once a year, at the end of the financial year. That is the only time and that quite frankly there are far more important things for the Committee to discuss.</p> <p>It was agreed that the budget for the Committee is only required at the end of each</p>	<p>Sam to provide budget update and</p>

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<p>financial year and will be provided to the Committee at the October meeting. It was confirmed that the Terms of Reference are very clear. Analysing the budget is not really part of the Terms of Reference and that the Committee was an Advisory to Council not determining or financial accounting body.</p> <p>The Minutes were adopted by Libby Lawson and seconded by Councillor Clifton.</p> <p>The committee unanimously agreed with the adoption of the Minutes – 14 March 2018.</p>	<p>recap of previous year spend and project outcomes after October Council reporting</p> <p>Minutes adopted</p>
<p>5. <b>Actions arising from the previous Minutes</b> The actions arising table had been distributed with the agenda. The following updates were provided:</p> <p>* Verge Gardens: Sean Simpson responded providing that he has been in contact with Marrickville's Sustainable Street Officer who has offered guidance on this policy. The next step would be internal meetings with stakeholders on Work Health Safety issues, Assets, Tree Management and Risk and Insurance stakeholders to seek further clarity before steps can be taken to implement. Bev Debrincat suggested that maybe there is opportunity for Ryde to look at a 'guidelines' style roll out to support. Council agrees that this could a good direction for implementation.</p> <p>*Food waste – Update provided by Jude in 'Sustainability Matters' section</p> <p>*Trees as an asset and promoting trees as an asset - Council has opportunity to be able to roll out a community education program as aligned with outcomes under the Ryde Biodiversity Plan objectives to do this. Noted that there is also a segment of community that does not like trees which will require some additional work and education. Sandra to get some internal professional advice and to investigate what other councils have done.</p> <p>*Planting Guide – draft provided to Committee members prior to provide feedback and input. Raised was the point around 'soil quality' and inclusion in the guide. Simone raised adding captions on images and naming. Bev raised the point about broadening the DA Planting List. General comments from the Committee where very positive about the format, content and objectives.</p> <p>*Recycling information and education to community – information as requested by Pam at the previous meeting uploaded onto website, promoted in the 'Smarter, Cleaner, Greener' e-newsletter.</p> <p>* Biodiversity Plan updates at each meeting to Committee.</p> <p>* Table out to members for topic suggestions completed.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Sean to provide further update at next BEAC meeting</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Sandra to report back to BEAC with update and any plans for roll out.</p> <p>Review guide to include where available.</p> <p>Noted.</p>
<p>6. <b>Standing Items</b></p> <p><b>Sustainability Matters (including EarthPower Plant Tour)</b></p> <p>Chair Pedersen, Jo Taranto and Pamela Reeves presented to the committee about their recent EarthPower Plant Tour:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organised through Lane Cove Council, a 40 minute tour of the facility was great but very 'smelly'</li> <li>• The facility is an industrial commercial space that takes food waste both packaged and unpackaged and food scraps from mostly supermarkets and some restaurants.</li> <li>• They note that the facility is already at full capacity and they are the only one in the Southern Hemisphere.</li> <li>• They service unit blocks and convert food waste into a gas that powers the facility and also turns the waste into an organic fertilizer which is sold to Yates.</li> <li>• Discussion about contamination</li> </ul> <p>Jude Colechin, Senior Coordinator Resource Recovery was asked to advise the Committee of what currently happens to our food waste:</p>	<p>Noted</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council are part of the Regional Waste Disposal program and joint tender which was organised through the NSROC group of councils.</li> <li>• 33% of our waste goes through a waste facility</li> <li>• Did look at a food waste processing options but the contamination was too high when we investigated other Councils who had already implemented this program</li> <li>• Was going to cost council over a million dollars to implement programs like the 'Fogo' collections service just to provide bio-degradable bags across the LGA and does not include the processing component.</li> <li>• Our green waste is 10,000 tonnes of waste a year</li> <li>• Red bins is 23,000 tonnes of waste a year</li> </ul> <p>A member of the Committee enquired whether Council had thought about promoting a Bokashi bucket for compost. It is an in kitchen compost system that relies on a fermentation process and can be kept inside the home. They are a responsible step to make a difference to direct food waste away from landfill and for use by the home owner, not part of a recycling program.</p> <p>It was discussed on how Council could get unit blocks educated so as not to contaminate the bins:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We have an officer who works three days a week that is funded by the EPA who works with multi-unit dwellings and Strata Managers</li> <li>• Organised buckets and recycled bags to be distributed through the Strata Managers</li> <li>• Attempted many initiatives over the years to educate residents</li> <li>• Home Waste Program also provides tailored education about waste behaviours to residents who join the free program</li> </ul> <p>The Committee members made some suggestions of the below to further engage community towards improved waste behaviours:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WeChat (Chinese community)</li> <li>• Ethnic Communities</li> <li>• SBS – Local Radio</li> <li>• Fleamarket – (Korean community) another social medial way to get the message out</li> <li>• Councillor Pedersen suggested Councillor Zhou to communicate with the Chinese Community</li> </ul> <p><i>Natural Areas Budget Update – Sam Cappelli</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Base budget is close to \$900,000 (not including projects)</li> <li>• We have spent around \$750,000 (on track to deliver by 30 June)</li> <li>• A full report will go to Council in October 2018 after which the Committee will be briefed.</li> </ul> <p>Kylie will organise a copy of the table of the Bio-plan for next meeting</p> <p><b>General Projects Update</b></p> <p><i>Project Update: - Kylie McMahon</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• World environment Day – thanked everyone for attending</li> <li>• Currently upgrading the Terrys Creek walking track– 2<sup>nd</sup> year</li> <li>• Feral Animal Control Program - ongoing</li> <li>• Flora fauna surveys – just been completed. Invitations have been sent out to attend the presentation at Field of Mars Reserve</li> <li>• Finalising new Bush Regeneration tender</li> <li>• Draft Planting Guide – ongoing</li> <li>• Bio-diversity Plan Implementation – An update will be given once a report has been to Council and after the Financial Year.</li> </ul>	<p>Kylie to put the Biodiversity Plan priority table on the Agenda for the next meeting</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bush Regeneration Signage across 13 sites – informing about works, illegal dumping and ecological listing of the park for education (Bio Plan action). Councillor Pedersen enquired if signs could be in another language (signs in parks and along walking tracks). Council responded with difficulty in small sign space with many, many languages across the city and which language?</li> <li>• Brush Farm Park – signage in process of being designed</li> <li>• Settlers Park and Kissing Point Park delineation installed (Bio Plan action)</li> <li>• Number of difference corridor planting – Tuckwell Park, Brush Farm, Forsyth Park, Kennedy Street (Bio Plan action)</li> <li>• Restoration, corridor planting and water quality improvement works almost complete at Wilga Park.</li> <li>• Working on the Bennelong Groyne project</li> <li>• 100 Resilient Cities Group which is releasing their strategy addressing Community Resilience under Urbanisation, Globalisation and Climate Change.</li> <li>• Advocacy in developments occurring across the city to provide biodiversity and environmental input – Bundara, Ivanhoe and various development applications</li> <li>• Parramatta River Catchment Group –Master Plan draft being finalised. Activating Putney Beach as a new project across the next two years.</li> <li>• SWAP (waste to art prize) entries are open and workshops to follow</li> <li>• Backyard Buddies Backyard Event – great success and attendance</li> <li>• Solar projects – almost completed at the aquatic centre and Eastwood Hall</li> <li>• Council has adopted a car share policy and is part of a bike share working group</li> <li>• Conducted 115 audits to date under a Home Waste and Sustainability project</li> </ul>	
<p>7.</p>	<p><b>Priority action table</b></p> <p>Collated the Priority Areas provided by Committee members. Broad categories included:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Bushland</li> <li>2. Waste Management / Recycling</li> <li>3. Community Engagement</li> <li>4. Climate change</li> </ol>	<p>Will circulate to other members who can still contribute to the list.</p>
<p>8</p>	<p><b>General Business – Matters without Notice</b></p> <p>A Committee member enquired about Bundara and Ivanhoe Estate in relation to the current trees on the site – this is an ongoing item. Council currently in discussions both internally and externally. Very active on both these items advocating for protection whilst noting the State infrastructure and determination.</p> <p>Libby Lawson commented that recently some work had been done on Kitty’s Creek, which she surmises the contractors have decided to go outside their contract to make changes. The previous Natural Areas Coordinator position in the Parks department was to look after these contractors and she believes that since this was taken away six years ago it has been to the detriment for the natural areas. She finds it absurd that Sandra has to work through an intermediary to look after these contractors.</p> <p>Sam advised that it was a strategic decision-making exercise and that we need to get the right people in the role to contract manage to ensure the quality of work is completed. We are currently in discussions on this subject.</p> <p>Councillors Pedersen and Clifton attended the launch of UNSW’s Sustainable Material’s Research Centre. They have developed these micro-factories which mine our waste and on sells the waste as products.</p> <p>Councillors Pedersen and Clifton visited the Smart centre with the Professor from UNSW for a talk and workshop on these micro-factories. Councillor Pedersen placed a Notice of Motion for Porters Creek Waste Facility moving for a feasibility</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>

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## Details

## Action

	<p>study into building another Community Waste Facility for micro plastic micro-factory at the site with a repair room.</p> <p>Praise for the City of Ryde motioning towards getting rid of Plastic. Jude commented on Ryde having an active, current program to divert e-waste from landfill through a collection and drop off service available.</p>	
9.	<p><b>Next Meeting: Wednesday, 12 September 2018</b></p> <p>The next meeting is scheduled for 12 September – 5pm to no later than 6.30pm in the Council Chambers – Level 1A Pope St, Ryde</p>	

Meeting closed 6.45pm