

<b>Subject:</b>	Bushland and Environment Advisory Committee – Minutes of Meeting		
<b>File No:</b>	COR2010/56/1		
<b>Document Ref:</b>	D14/86963		
<b>Date and Venue:</b>	8 September 2014 Meeting Room 2, Level 5, Civic Centre		
<b>Time:</b>	6.00pm	Started at: 6.10pm	Closed at: 7.30pm
<b>Chair:</b>	Councillor Denise Pendleton		
<b>Meeting Support (MS):</b>	Linda Smith – EA to the Mayor and Councillors		
<b>Staff Convenor:</b>	Tatjana Domazet - Service Unit Manager – Open Space		
<b>Circulation:</b>			

**Committee Role:**

Advises and makes recommendations to Council on the matters relating to enhancement, preservation, conservation and management of natural areas, wildlife and their habitat corridors and local indigenous vegetation and environmental health and sustainability issues and initiatives within the City of Ryde. The Committee also act as a Project Reference Group for the development, implementation and monitoring of a Biodiversity Plan for the Ryde Local Government Area

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

Present	Apology	Name	Position Title	Organisation
x		Councillor Denise Pendleton	Chairperson	City of Ryde
	x	Councillor Jerome Laxale	Delegate	City of Ryde
x		Councillor Terry Perram	Delegate	City of Ryde
x		Tatjana Domazet	Service Unit Manager – Open Space	City of Ryde
x		Nicola Booth	Section Manager – Natural Areas and Urban Forest	City of Ryde
x		Sandra Payne	Coordinator Bushcare volunteers	City of Ryde
	x	Libby Lawson	Bushcare representative	East Ward
	x	Margaret Kelly	Bushcare representative	Central Ward
x		Peter Brown	Bushcare representative	West Ward
x		David Thomas	Bushcare representative	West Ward
x		Bev Debrincat	Environmental/sustainability stakeholder representative	
x		Jill Hartley	Environmental/sustainability stakeholder representative	
x		Pamela Reeves	Environmental/sustainability stakeholder representative	
	x	Michele Cooper	Industry Representative	National Parks and Wildlife Services
	x	Justin Alick (arrived at 6.20pm item 6)	Community Representative	
	x	Geoff Hudson	Community Representative	

**Additional Attendees**

Name	Position Title	Organisation
Linda Smith	EA to the Mayor and Councillors	City of Ryde

**Details****Responsibility and Date****Action**

Details	Action	Responsibility and Date
<p><b>1. Welcome by the Chair, Cllr Pendleton</b></p> <p>The attendees and apologies are as per above.</p>	Noted	

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**Details**

		<b>Action</b>	<b>Responsibility and Date</b>
<b>2. Minutes of the previous meeting</b>	It was noted that the minutes from the Meeting of 28 <sup>th</sup> July 2014, should have included a reference to the discussion regarding termites in the Shrimptons Creek area.	The minutes of the meeting dated 28 <sup>th</sup> July were adopted.	

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Details	Action	Responsibility and Date
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3	<p><b>Actions arising out of the previous minutes</b></p> <p>(a) <u>Update on 10/50 Draft Vegetation Clearing Code by NSW RFS</u></p> <p>The Committee was advised that Council lodged a submission in respect of the above code. The closing date for submissions was 21st July 2014 and on 1st August 2014, the draft code became legislation.</p> <p>Council has written to the relevant Ministers and local MP's asking that Council's submission be taken into consideration. Other Councils are also taking action and seeking either revocation of the legislation or that it only apply to areas outside the Sydney Metropolitan area.</p> <p>Tatjana and Nicola will be attending a workshop on 22nd September where this issue will be further discussed.</p> <p>NSROC will be meeting with RFS and have been vocal in trying to revoke or limit the impact of the legislation.</p> <p>Some Council's are garnering community support through their websites.</p> <p>It was noted that North Sydney has asked to be exempted, and a suggestion was made that perhaps Ryde could be exempted as well.</p> <p>It was further noted that one town house was damaged in a previous bush fire but that there has been no other known damage to property from bush fires in the past.</p> <p>(b) <u>Biodiversity Plan project</u></p> <p>Nicola thanked those people who had provided comment on the proposal to date. She advised that many of the comments have been included in the Biodiversity Plan – eg use of a student to assist with the project.</p> <p>She noted that many comments were site specific and that this type of assessment would occur later in the process.</p> <p>The Biodiversity Plan is designed to be a high level, strategic plan with city wide application.</p> <p>The Consultant, when selected, will consult with this committee.</p> <p>The Plan will not include specific site management plans for each location but will be broad and relate to all areas.</p>	
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Details	Action	Responsibility and Date
<p style="text-align: center;">(c ) <u>Program for future meetings</u></p> <p>It was noted that sustainability is a major focus and concern of this committee. Bev provided the committee with information regarding sustainable practices adopted in Hamburg as she had just returned from a visit to this city. She advised that “go get” cars are used extensively, free bikes are provided on every corner, separate running and walking tracks are plentiful and there are lots of green spaces including rooftops and vertical wall gardens.</p>	<p>It was noted that at the November meeting of this committee, a talk will be given by Sam Cappelli re the proposed light rail project between Parramatta, the Hills and Ryde.</p> <p>A the February meeting a talk will be provided by a representative of Council’s waste section.</p>	

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Details	Action	Responsibility and Date
<p>4. <b>General Business</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(a) <u>Biodiversity Legislation Review Paper</u></p> <p>The State Government forwarded a copy of the above paper to Council for comment.</p> <p>With very few exceptions, an independent panel set up by the government will be reviewing all biodiversity legislation.</p> <p>Committee members were forwarded a copy of the document but no feedback was provided and therefore no submission was made by Council to the Review Paper</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(b) <u>Bushcare arrangements for extended leave.</u></p> <p>Sandra Payne has accepted a placement with the Australian Army for 6 months which will end in April 2015. She is therefore taking extended leave from Council.</p> <p>In her absence, supervisors with appropriate experience will oversee Bushcare groups and in addition, two casual staff will be employed to undertake the work Sandra carries out with Bushcare groups.</p> <p><b>Update from members of the Committee</b></p> <p><u>Pressure on banks</u></p> <p>It was noted that some environmental groups are seeking to place pressure on Australian banks to encourage them not to provide funding for projects such as the Carmichael Mine.</p> <p><u>Species Planting Policy</u></p> <p>The need for a policy encouraging the planting of local species was raised. It was noted that often species are planted which are not native to an area.</p> <p><u>Presence at Granny Smith Festival</u></p> <p>A combined Bushcare and Habitat stall will operate at the Granny Smith Festival.</p> <p><u>Garage Sale Trail</u></p> <p>This event is being supported by Council</p> <p><b>Next Meeting</b></p> <p>Will be held on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2014 Level 5 Civic Centre</p>	<p>Staff will email committee members if any further information becomes available between the meetings of this committee.</p> <p>Tatjana advised that a forum which may be of interest to members of this committee will be held in September. Invitations will be sent to members of this committee.</p> <p>A report on the forum and its recommendations will come back to this committee.</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>This committee to further consider a policy regarding the planting of native species and the creation of a species list for individual areas.</p> <p>Noted. Matter to also be raised at September forum.</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>	

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