

Wednesday 7 July 2010.

## COXS ROAD TREE VANDALISM

Last weekend, between Friday 2 July and Sunday 4 July, twenty Council-planted trees along Coxs Road, between Badajoz Road and Wicks Road, were vandalised.

The trees (Eumundi Quandong *Elaeocarpus Eumundi*) planted in 2007 as part of Council's Street Tree Planting Program, were so badly damaged that the remnants had to be removed to ground level.

A similar incident in April, when twenty-five trees in Coxs Road were also lost to vandalism, brings the total for the year to forty-five.

The Mayor, Cllr Michael Butterworth, said: "It is very distressing to come to terms with damage such as this to our natural environment.

"The cost to Council funds in tree stock alone is in excess of \$8,000 and there are no available funds to replace the vandalised trees."

Council staff are currently looking into cost effective alternatives for tree protection measures to better protect future street tree plantings.

The Mayor added that Council will be doing everything to identify the perpetrators of this vandalism crime.

Residents of Coxs Road have been notified by mail informing them of the vandalism and requesting any information that may assist in prosecuting the person or persons carrying out these illegal activities.

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Photos attached

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