



**MINUTES**  
**KALAMUNDA ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**6PM THURSDAY 22 JULY 2021**  
**OPERATIONS CENTRE BOARDROOM**  
**10 Raymond Road Walliston**

**1.0 OPENING OF MEETING AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS –**  
 Presiding Member

The Presiding Member opened the meeting at 6:01pm and welcomed Committee Members and Staff. The Presiding Member also acknowledged the Traditional Owners of the land on which we meet, the Whadjuk Noongar people.

The Presiding Member introduced Bill Bateman, a Wildlife Biologist and Senior Lecturer at Curtin University as an Observer to this meeting.

An amendment to the Minutes of 22 April 2021 is required under Item 6.2, paragraph two; 'Strategic Corporate Plan' should be 'Strategic Community Plan'. It was also noted that the Resolution from this item has not been prepared by KEAC and will be addressed at the next scheduled KEAC meeting.

**2.0 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES – Presiding Member**

**Committee Members**

Victoria Laurie	Presiding Member
Mark Schilling	Deputy Chairperson
Peter Forrest	Community Representative
Cr Kathy Ritchie	Councillor Delegate
Cr Janelle Sewell	Councillor Delegate
Mick Davis	Community Representative
Holly Bradley	Community Representative
Rupert Duckworth	Community Representative
Cara Sheppard	Community Representative

**Staff**

Brett Jackson	Director Asset Services
Rod Strang	Manager Parks & Environmental Services
Chris Lodge	Manager Strategic Planning (left 8.10pm)
Dallas Lynch	Coordinator Natural Areas
Janine Morton	KEAC Support Officer

**Observer**

Bill Bateman	Local Resident
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**3.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

Ordinary Committee Meeting 22 April 2021

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Committee Meeting of KEAC held on the 22 April 2021 as published and circulated, are confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings, with the amendment as discussed at Item 1.0.

Moved: Peter Forrest

Seconded: Mark Schilling

Voted: Carried Unanimously

**4.0 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS**

**4.1 Disclosure of Financial and Proximity Interests:**

- a) Members must disclose the nature of their interest in matters to be discussed at the meeting. (Section 5.65 of the *Local Government Act 1995*).
- b) Employees must disclose the nature of their interest in reports or advice when giving the report or advice to the meeting. (Section 5.7 of the *Local Government Act 1995*).

Cr Janelle Sewell declared that she is currently working for Doctors for the Environment Australia (DEA).

**4.2 Disclosure of Interest Affecting Impartiality**

- a) Members and staff must disclose their interests in matters to be discussed at the meeting in respect of which the member or employee has given or will give advice.

Nil

**5.0 CORRESPONDENCE**

Nil



## 6.0 ITEMS FOR COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION – Presiding Member

### 6.1 Significant Trees

The Presiding Members outlined the background to this item specifically that in July 2019 Council resolved to adopt the Environmental Land Use Planning Strategy (ELUPS).

One action within the Strategy was to investigate a Natural Heritage Register as part of a Scheme amendment or local planning policy to register trees or local natural areas deemed to have a significant environmental, cultural or heritage value to the local community.

Mark Schilling has undertaken investigations into Significant Tree Registers in other local governments which would be similar to a Natural Heritage Register.

- a) Mark Schilling presented and discussed the processes used at the Town of Bassendean in this area.

#### Discussion

Points raised from this presentation predominantly were:

- What defines a 'Significant Tree', i.e. size, age, cultural.
- Significant Tree Registers (STRs) do they form part of the City's Local Planning Scheme? – *(LPS3 5.18 Tree & Vegetation Preservation)*
- Plantings for species selection to be specified in LPS.

- b) Update on City of Kalamunda development of a policy for significant trees on development sites (an action within ELUPS).

Chris Lodge Manager Strategic Planning presented the development of 'Trees on Private Property – Local Planning Policy' as identified in the City's Strategic Planning Framework. This policy will be presented to Councillors at a briefing in August followed by a report to Council to initiate public advertising later in the year. KEAC will be able to review and provide comment during this advertised period.

#### Discussion

Various questions were asked during and after the presentation and summarised below:

- Is the policy just for trees, does it include vegetation around the trees? The proposed policy is predominately for trees and tree canopy. The Local Biodiversity Strategy (LBS) will look at vegetation more broadly.
- Whilst some Councils have preservation of trees (and / or vegetation) on private property dealt with within their Local Planning Scheme (LPS), the City of Kalamunda determined to deal with this issue as a Local Planning Policy. The Decision of Council would need to be rescinded if this matter was to be included in the LPS.



- Could the STR be incorporated as part of the Tourism Strategy, similar to Mandurah?
- What if policy ignored? Legal advice received by the City ensures that 'a permanent change to landscape' is included within the broad definition of works and therefore prosecution could be taken by the City.
- Will the policy take into consideration bushfire risk?
- Will the policy be in place before Wattle Grove South (WGS) development? Yes, but this is policy will be used on smaller scale developments. WGS is on a larger scale and falls under the MRS.
- Education is needed with regard to why this is being done, i.e. climate change.

#### Outcome

KEAC has decided to wait for the policy to be advertised for public advertising to review and comment.

### **6.2 6 Dixon Road Update**

The Presiding Member has requested Council's response to EPA requirements regarding retaining statutory protection to protect and manage impact to environmental values.

Chris Lodge, Manager Strategic Planning provided background information to the Committee including the Council decision reached in June 2021 and explained that Council adopted the option to apply the Centre zone over only the residential portion of the site.

#### Meeting Comments

The Presiding Member was advised to revert further enquiries regarding 6 Dixon Road to the Department of Communities.

### **6.3 Zig Zag Reopening Status**

The Presiding Member has requested City Officers provide a brief update of any environmental impacts to date since its reopening.

#### Update

The Zig Zag Scenic Drive (ZZSD) has been open for a period of 22 days. Most incidents reported so far have been, one vehicle driving up ZZSD, one car locked in, cyclists and vehicles clashing (cyclists riding up, cars coming down). There have been no reports of environmental damage and rubbish has been kept to a minimum.



#### **6.4 Future Focus of KEAC**

The Presiding Member opened up discussion to the Committee on what the future focus items KEAC want to address.

Brett Jackson informed the Committee of the major milestone in Council signing the Climate Change Declaration. He also asked for suggestions/items to reshape the new Terms of Reference for the new KEAC Committee.

##### Discussion

- Sustainability and climate change – water, waste, recycling.
- Strategies - have done LES, LBS, UFS and NPWAP are there anymore to be done?
- Plans currently being updated from the action are the Street Tree guideline and Policy and Verge Treatment guideline. Rod Strang advised that an arborist is currently assessing all City managed urban trees within the road reserve and that funds had been allocated in the Workforce Plan to recruit a permanent qualified Arborist this financial year. Also, Parks & Environment were drafting a suitable plant information sheet with pictures and area specific locations, detailing recommended local plant species for the City's web page, with links to the numerous other administrative documents that are in use within the verge area.
- Education through KEAC. Possibility of teaming up with university students to monitor verge conditions with regard to wildlife.

#### **7.0 KALAMUNDA CLEAN AND GREEN LOCAL ENVIRONMENT STRATEGY – PROGRESS REPORT**

A status update on actions contained within the Local Environment Strategy was provided to the Committee with the Agenda.

##### Discussion

- Mark Schilling on the natural resources, protection of water ways. With the Helena Catchment study what are we measuring exactly? Brett took this question on notice. – UPDATE – The project live in this year's budget is to complete identification and data capture of all drainage assets within the Helena Catchment as there is a substantive set of missing information. Once all assets are identified, subsequent works can then be undertaken in modelling and analysis.
- Reuse of natural resources where practical. Main Roads are trialling the reuse of rubber and recovered material for road construction. Monitoring for efficiency and cost. Rehabilitation and renewal programs are funded through MRRG strict rate to apply for road rehabilitation. Increase total funding to local governments. Question is will it cost more and can it be used in rehabilitation applications for funding.



- Non-Potable Water Action Plan (NPWAP) – Peter Forrest queried the taking of water from Yule Brook as this is a highly sensitive area. This will form part of the process going through significant discussion with DWER and environmentalists as to what the impacts could be. This will form part of second Managed Aquifer Recharge Project investigations. Going forward the City (and Perth as a whole) will require more water as the suburbs grow and density increases. Public Open Spaces as part of these new developments will require water. Councils all over the Perth and Peel area will have to reduce mains water usage.
- Peter Forrest enquired about his submission on the community and environment education program by the South-West Learning Discovery Network. Mentioned the Kalamunda Visitor Centre and surrounds.
- Holly Bradley referred to page 8 of the update regarding a discussion paper to be produced by KEAC – on application of “environment in all policies” approach to policy development. This should be placed on the next KEAC agenda.
- Chris Lodge provided a quick update on the draft LBS and UFS. Advertising has concluded. A review will be taken back to Council late 2021 or early 2022. Data is going to be peer reviewed by an independent consultant to ensure that the strategies are robust and send the correct message in the final version of the report. All submissions are considered and responded to and validated. All strategies are reviewed to ensure that actions are implementable and fits in the framework. Question asked as to what triggered this alarm. Some of the heatmaps produced for clearing in the future required further details. Budgeted funds are available for this review.
- Some KEAC members requested that this review be referred to KEAC however this was not resolved as a recommendation for Council to consider.
- Cr Kathy Ritchie noted there were 13 targets set which were part of the LBS 2008 – can Council see what has been done and why targets were not achieved.
- Brett Jackson will take on notice for KEAC to be part of the reviews of the LBS and UFS.

#### **8.0 URGENT BUSINESS WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE PRESIDING MEMBER**

- Presiding Member queried Verge Maintenance under budget. Rod Strang responded that overall the Parks & Environment budget was very close last financial year – within 1 or 2%. Brett Jackson asked for the supporting documentation to be provided to him as the City was not under budget for this area.
- Mick Davis extended an invite to join the 2021 National Landcare Awards Presentation being held at the Kalamunda Community Centre on 5 August 2021 (note this is a ticketed event). The Friends of Upper Lesmurdie Falls are one of the WA finalists.



- Cr Janelle Sewell requested that an invite be sent for the film 'Cry of the Forest' by Jane Hammond being showcased at the Kalamunda Uniting Church, 7 Heath Road, Kalamunda on 30 July 2021.

**9.0 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

30 September 2021

**10.0 CLOSURE**

Meeting closed at 8:36pm

DRAFT