

Minutes **Conservation Advisory Committee**

MEETING HELD ON **WEDNESDAY, 25 FEBRUARY 2009**

CITY OF JOONDALUP

MINUTES OF THE CONSERVATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN CONFERENCE ROOM 2, JOONDALUP CIVIC CENTRE, BOAS AVENUE, JOONDALUP ON WEDNESDAY, 25 FEBRUARY 2009.

ATTENDANCE

Committee Members:

Cr Mike Norman	Presiding Person
Cr Marie Macdonald	
Mr John Chester	Community Representative
Mrs Marilyn Zakrevsky	Community Representative
Ms Suzi Greenway	Community Representative <i>from 1807 hrs</i>
Mr Barry Fitzsimmons	Community Representative
Dr Marjorie Apthorpe	Community Representative
Mr Steve Magyar	Community Representative
Mr Gary Tate	Community Representative
Mr Tim Argus	Community Representative <i>from 1830 hrs</i>

Officers:

Mr Martyn Glover	Director, Infrastructure Services
Ms Jane Pritchard	Manager, Infrastructure Services
Mr Keith Armstrong	Conservation Officer
Mrs Jill Hewison	Administrative Secretary

DECLARATION OF OPENING

The Presiding Person declared the meeting open at 1805 hrs.

APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Apologies

Cr Sue Hart
Cr Fiona Diaz
Ms Dorothy Lullfitz
Ms Phyllis Robertson

Ms Greenway entered the Room, the time being 1807 hrs.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**MINUTES OF THE CONSERVATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 29 OCTOBER 2008**

MOVED Mr Fitzsimmons SECONDED Mr Magyar that the minutes of the meeting of the Conservation Advisory Committee held on 29 October 2008 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

The Motion was Put and

CARRIED (9/0)

In favour of the motion: Crs Norman, Macdonald, Mr Chester, Mrs Zakrevsky, Ms Greenway, Mr Fitzsimmons, Dr Apthorpe, Mr Magyar and Mr Tate

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDING PERSON WITHOUT DISCUSSION

The Presiding Person advised that Council has approved his attendance at the ICLEI World Congress and North American Study Tour to be held in Canada in June 2009 with a follow up tour of a number of sites in the USA. The Presiding Person advised that he will prepare a presentation for the Conservation Advisory and Sustainability Advisory Committees on his return.

The Presiding Person introduced and welcomed Jane Pritchard, who has joined the City of Joondalup in the role of Manager, Infrastructure Services.

The Presiding Person provided an update on discussions held previously with regard to engaging schools under the community service program and with regard to insurance arrangements for Friends Groups and advised that a report will be presented to the March 2009 Council Meeting and a further update will be provided at the next meeting of the Conservation Advisory Committee.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil.

IDENTIFICATION OF MATTERS FOR WHICH THE MEETING MAY SIT BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

Nil.

PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS

Nil.

REPORTS

ITEM 1 CONSERVATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC) WORK PLAN 2009-2010

WARD: All

RESPONSIBLE Mr Martyn Glover
DIRECTOR: Infrastructure Services

PURPOSE

To provide information for the Conservation Advisory Committee (CAC) to consider upon compilation of the Committee's Work Plan.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report recommends a number of projects and initiatives for consideration by the CAC. This report will form the basis of the CAC's Work Plan for the 2009-2010 financial year.

The proposed projects and initiatives all form part of the City's biodiversity planning structure and the CAC's input into them would underpin its Terms of Reference.

It is recommended that the Conservation Advisory Committee ENDORSES the proposed Conservation Advisory Committee Work Plan for the 2009-2010 financial year.

BACKGROUND

The CAC is a Council Committee that meets on a bi-monthly basis. The CAC comprises of elected members, representatives from local Bushland Friends Groups and community members with specialist knowledge and local biodiversity.

The CAC's objectives as outlined in its Terms of Reference are as follows:-

- Make recommendations to Council for the conservation of the City's natural biodiversity.
- Provide strategic input and technical advice on issues relating to the conservation and management of the City's natural biodiversity.
- Promote partnerships between Council and the community to protect the City's natural biodiversity as contained within its various natural areas (bushland, wetlands and coastal environment).

The CAC in association with the City produced a CAC Strategic Plan (2005-2008) outlining work and projects for the CAC to achieve (Attachment 1). Many of the goals set within the plan have been completed as follows:

- Natural areas to be protected under the City’s District Planning Scheme.
- The formation of a Natural Areas Maintenance Team.
- Undertake an assessment of the City’s natural areas and formalise a priority management ranking.
- Work with institutions teaching land care subjects.
- Develop key performance indicators for bushland maintenance.
- Become involved with school walks, talks and bush care projects.

The CAC Strategic Plan 2005-2008 was intended by the CAC to be a work plan for the CAC.

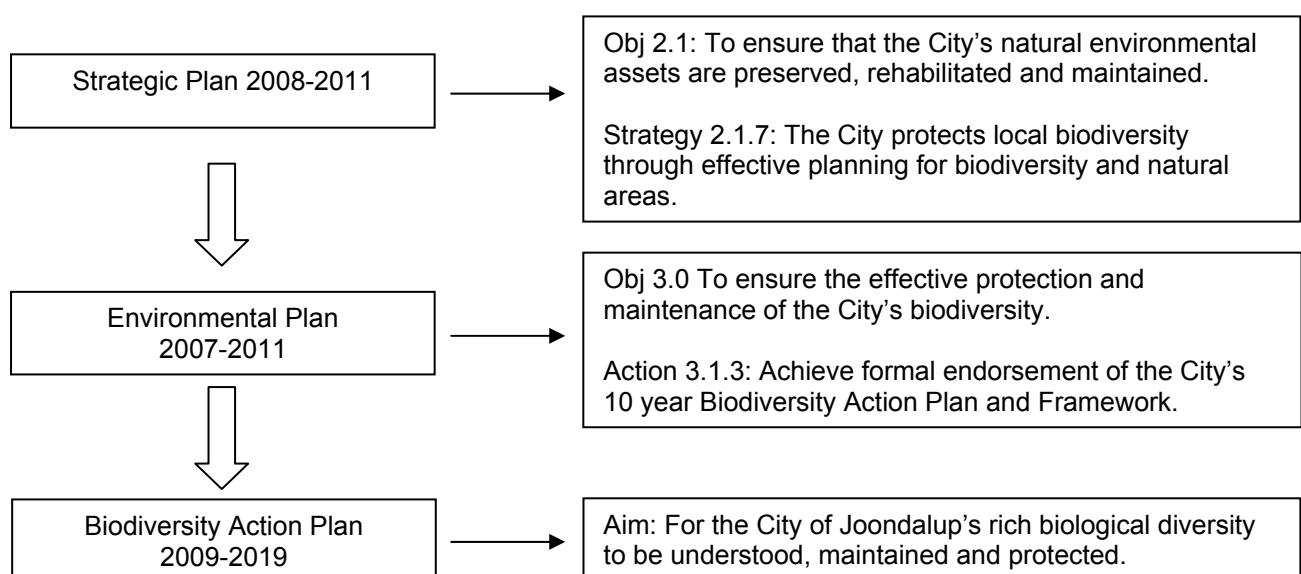
At the Council meeting held on 19 July 2005 the following resolution was carried (Report CJ146-07/05 refers):

“That Council NOTES:

- 3 that the Conservation Advisory Committee Structure Plan attached to the minutes is for the Committee purposes only at this stage.”

This report aims to explore existing initiatives and projects for input from the CAC for the 2009/2010 financial year. Examples of these initiatives can be found in the City’s Strategic Plans, such as the Environmental Plan 2007-2011 and the Biodiversity Action Plan 2009-2019 (copies available under separate cover). In addition, initiatives that were not completed from the CAC Strategic plan 2005-2008 will also be considered.

The following chart illustrates the City’s Strategic Framework for Biodiversity Action Planning:



DETAILS

The City's biodiversity Action Plan 2009-2019 and Environmental Plan 2007-2011 have been developed to provide direction for the City's biodiversity management activities for the next ten years. In developing this plan, the City has identified six key focus areas for biodiversity management, as follows:

- Planning and Development
- Catchment Management
- Reserve Management
- Corridors and Connectivity
- Community Education and Awareness; and
- Community Engagement and partnerships

The Biodiversity Action Plan 2009-2019, in tandem with the City's Environmental Plan 2007-2011, will act as a road map for the City's biodiversity planning, management and operational activities. It is considered appropriate that planning for the CAC's future activities will also be based on the Biodiversity Action Plan and Environmental Plan, as well as initiatives from the CAC Strategic Plan 2005-2008.

Below is a summary of projects and initiatives that are contained within the Biodiversity Action Plan, Environment Plan and the CAC Strategic Plan that would form the basis for discussion at the February 2009 CAC Meeting. It is envisaged that the outcome of the meeting will serve to advise Council on the initiatives the Committee can assist with in 2009-2010.

Conservation Advisory Committee Strategic Plan 2005-2008

- **Provide materials that can be used in displays and brochures to promote the natural environment of the City (this would include CAC current Iconic Biodiversity Species DVD)**
- **Showcase the City's environment and natural areas on the City's website.**
- Consider the development of Environmental Excellence Awards for business and community achievements.

Biodiversity Action Plan 2009-2019

- Action No 1.18: Investigate and recommend on how a moratorium to cease the planting of invasive weed species could be introduced.
- **Action 1.21: Investigate methodologies for valuing natural assets and create and maintain a Natural Assets Register that records the value and extent of the City's natural assets.**
- **Action 2.12 Develop a program of planting sumps with nutrient stripping plants to ensure nutrients are removed before they enter the groundwater.**
- Action 3.8 Review the Perth Biodiversity Survey (2004) and list priorities and new biodiversity areas with the intent of adding further to the 32 sites that the

City already has listed under schedule 5 of the City's District Planning Scheme 2.

- **Action 3.12 Develop Individual Reserve Management Plans for each natural area, (including fire management strategies, significant tree register etc) and link budgets to management plans.**
- Action 3.17 Control access to natural areas to reduce the level of human-instigated biodiversity destruction (eg: fencing; paths; boardwalks etc).
- **Action 5.1 Install interpretive signs describing and illustrating indigenous plants, animals and habitats in selected City reserves where there is identified community involvement.**
- **Action 5.8 Develop a project to erect education signs along the coastal foreshore reserves to improve the community's understanding of coastal biodiversity.**
- Action 5.16 Conduct frequent community walks within the City of Joondalup to educate residents about local natural areas and to highlight the biodiversity in their local community.

Environment Plan 2007-2011

- Review and evaluate the City's Coastal Foreshore Management Plan in line with State Coastal Planning Policies.

It is considered that the bolded actions (also refer attachment 2) would be an appropriate level of work and achievement to be completed in the 2009-2010 financial year.

Issues and options considered:

Not Applicable.

Link to Strategic Plan:

- 1.2 Objective: To engage proactively with the community and other relevant organisations in the preservation of the City's natural environmental assets.
- 5.2 Objective: To facilitate healthy lifestyles within the community.
- 5.2.1 The City provides high quality recreation facilities and programs.

Legislation – Statutory Provisions:

Not Applicable.

Financial/Budget Implications:

Not Applicable.

Sustainability implications:

The projects and initiatives listed for the CAC's consideration within this document are all closely linked to the conservation of the City's natural heritage. In turn this will affect the quality of the City's parks and natural open spaces. The City is regionally recognised as having quality beaches and bushland areas which act as a social hub and attract visitors from outside the City. This has a positive economic benefit for small service businesses that operate in the City.

Consultation:

The CAC consists of representatives of Friends' Groups operating in the City. A range of topics relating to the management of the City's natural areas are discussed at this forum. The CAC also acts as an efficient mechanism for the City to consult with the community on environmental and biodiversity issues.

COMMENT

The CAC has been advising Council on issues relating to biodiversity for 12 years. Members have a large breadth of knowledge relating to natural sciences, local government practices, local plant species and horticulture.

The proposed CAC Work Plan 2009-2010 will ensure that appropriate progress is made on the numerous natural area and conservation projects required in the City.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 Conservation Advisory Committee Strategic Plan 2005-2008

Attachment 2 Proposed CAC Work Plan 2009-2010

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority.

The Director, Infrastructure Services gave an overview of the report.

Discussion ensued.

Mr Argus entered the Room, the time being 1830 hrs.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That the Conservation Advisory Committee AGREES with the proposed CAC Work Plan for the 2009-2010 financial year forming Attachment 2 to this Report and SEEKS endorsement of the Plan by Council.

MOVED Mr Fitzsimmons SECONDED Dr Apthorpe that the Conservation Advisory Committee:

- 1 AGREES with the proposed CAC Work Plan for the 2009-2010 financial year forming Attachment 2 to this Report and SEEKS endorsement of the Plan by Council;**

2 REQUESTS that projects as detailed on the CAC Work Plan 2009/2010 be prioritised as follows:

Points 1, 6, and 7 Highest priority

Points 2 and 3 Second highest priority

Points 4 and 5 Third highest priority. Natural areas without a management plan, but with active Friends Groups, will have management plans produced first.

The Motion was Put and

CARRIED (10/0)

In favour of the motion: Crs Norman & Macdonald, Mr Chester, Mrs Zakrevsky, Ms Greenway, Mr Fitzsimmons, Dr Apthorpe, Mr Argus, Mr Magyar and Mr Tate

Appendix 1 refers

MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

Nil.

REQUESTS FOR REPORTS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

Nil.

CLOSURE

There being no further business, the Presiding Person declared the Meeting closed at 2038 hrs; the following committee members being present at that time:

Cr Mike Norman
Cr Marie Macdonald
Mr John Chester
Mrs Marilyn Zakrevsky
Ms Suzi Greenway
Mr Barry Fitzsimmons
Dr Marjorie Apthorpe
Mr Steve Magyar
Mr Gary Tate
Mr Tim Argus