



# GSBC NRM Special Committee Meeting # 53 Minutes

Iluka Tavern, Coles Bay  
Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2016, 10:30am.

## 1.0 PRESENT

**Present:** David Tucker (Chair), Mel Kelly (GSBC Manager Natural Resources), Terry Higgs (Catchments to Coast Coordinator), Cynthia Maxwell-Smith (GSBC Sustainability Officer), Nicky Meeson (GSBC Biodiversity Officer), Amanda Brooks (GSBC Weed Officer), Rosie Jackson (GSBC NRM Administration), Diana Nunn (Coles Bay), Gary Stoward (Dolphin Sands Ratepayers Assoc.), Derek Madsen (*Banwell*), Kate Hibbert (Department of Defence), Kath Hitchcock (PWS Triabunna Field Centre), Richard Dakin (PWS Freycinet), Alan Morgan (Coles Bay), Judy Broadstock (Bicheno).

## 2.0 APOLOGIES

Councillor Bertrand Cadart, Jane Wing (Orford Community Group), Ben Fleer (Brown Bros. Devils Corner Vineyard), Rosemary Jarvis (Bicheno).

### 3.0 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Confirmation of previous minutes from GSB NRM Committee meeting no. 52.

*Moved:* Derek Madsen. *Seconded:* Diana Nunn. *Carried unanimously.*

### 4.0 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF LAST MEETING.

**Look into the award winning GPT installed at Glenorchy:** Cynthia reported that this is in progress.

**Invite a representative from CLS to attend a future Committee meeting to discuss Bagot Point and Crown Land in general:** A representative from CLS is hoping to join us at our first meeting in 2017.

**Follow up with Regulatory Services Manager regarding the emptying of the Coles Bay slipway drain:** Mel has spoken to the Regulatory Services Manager and the Plumbing Inspector, both of whom have been in correspondence with the owner about this. Mel will follow up again before the next Committee meeting. Kate noted there is a relevant Code of Practice that applies in this situation. Richard suggested asking MAST.

**Follow up with GSBC GM about the letter regarding erosion and sedimentation from Solis:** David reported that he has not yet followed up in writing with the GM, but he will do so. Mel passed on an apology from the GM, he will reply to David soon.

**Supply link to NSW EPA Report on Illegal Rubbish Dumping, for circulation to the Committee:** done.

**Find out more information about what contributes to Tasmania's greenhouse gas emissions:** done.

**Facilitate a working bee at the Gordon St Reserve (Swansea) to remove the debris that Aurora or Transend left behind:** David noted that he spent a day volunteering at the Reserve last week, he has moved a lot of the debris into piles which will need burning or removing sometime. Rosie noted that as this is Crown Land, when the CLS Officer next comes to GSB for site visits, we will take him there and request that he follow up with Aurora or Transend, to ask them to clean up the debris, and not to leave debris behind in the future.

**Site visit and quote to CLS to undertake follow up weed control on Swansea's unmade road reserves:** CLS officer is hoping to visit GSB next week. If so, the unmade road reserves will be one of the site visits.

**Install CLS 'camping prohibited' sign at Dolphin Sands easement:** done.

**Having received notice that our Tasmania Police Committee representative is moving to a new position, follow up with Sergeant Pearce as to who the Committee should liaise with into the future:** done. Sergeant Pearce will be our new point of contact, and he will involve other staff too to increase their awareness about what the Committee does. Sergeant Pearce is unable to join us today but has requested that we send him anything relevant from the meeting.

### 5.0 COMMITTEE CORRESPONDENCE

- The Chair re-tabled the letter from the GM regarding Council vegetation clearing and a way forward. The Chair asked Mel for an update on the situation. Mel noted that even though it is early days, things are already improving. The Works Manager is going to liaise with Terry on upcoming projects and natural values. Kate noted that the Dept. of Defence have an environmental clearance certificate that is part of their planning for a new project. Kate will find out if she can share this template with us.
- Email from Sergeant Marcus Pearce advising that following Leighton's departure, he will be our point of contact for Tasmania Police, and that he would involve other staff too to increase their awareness about what the Committee does.

- The Chair noted that several emails have been sent to the new ECPPA Chair regarding ECPPA representation on the Committee. No response has been received to date. Derek agreed to follow up at the next ECPPA meeting. Derek acknowledged Jack Cotton's past contributions to the Committee over many years as the ECPPA representative.
- Email from Tassal Community Engagement Officer to David regarding invitation to a future meeting. David would like to attend, depending on the date. It would be good if a couple of other Committee members could attend too.
- Mel noted that Council have approved a budget to review the Prosser Catchment Plan and that we plan to commence this in the new year.
- In regards to the ABC's recently aired Four Corners programme about salmon farming in Tasmania, Mel noted that despite how it was portrayed she was not asked by Tassal to attend the interview and had made this clear to all in attendance. She had approval from the GM to attend and went with the Mayor so to be able to provide a bigger picture NRM context to the discussion however they did not include any of her comments in the programme.
- Email from Lyndel Wilson advising that she is leaving NRM South. Lyndel acknowledged the work of the Committee and the progress that the Committee has made over the past 4 years. Kim Willing will be replacing Lyndel on a temporary basis until her position is filled.

## 6.0 BUSINESS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE

Nil further.

## 7.0 UPDATE FROM PWS FREYCINET RANGER IN CHARGE

Richard provided the Committee with an update:

- Visitation to Freycinet NP has sky rocketed with 272,000 visitors in 15-16.
- Last week Freycinet NP won the Major Tourist Attractions category at the Tasmanian Tourism Awards.
- Removal of asbestos from Moulting Lagoon and Whalers Rock Lookout carpark.
- Friends of Freycinet continue their great weed control works.
- PWS staff have limited capacity to undertake weed control works, but when possible focus on priority weeds.
- After this year's floods events staff have focused on repairs of tracks, roads and fire trails.
- Improvements at Douglas Apsley NP including tracks.
- Investigating new walking tracks eg. Visitor centre to Wineglass Bay lookout car park.
- Receipt of some tourism funding to improve track from Wineglass Bay lookout to the Bay.
- Low staff levels. However, recently received approval to advertise for two more staff, including Rob Connell's position.
- Prescribed burns winding up for this season.
- New 'leave no trace' signs are being trialled and working well.
- Preparing for tourism season including volunteer management.
- Boundary change in the north, to try to alleviate pressure on PWS Freycinet team.
- Shorebirds nesting at Sandpiper and Richardson's Beach.
- Centenary Celebrations were a big time commitment for staff.
- Freycinet Instagram account has been really successful, a great tool for education/awareness raising.

The Chair thanked Richard for the update.

Derek asked if wombat mange appears to be a problem at Freycinet at this stage? Richard noted that he has not personally observed this to be a problem. For Freycinet, feral deer are more of a concern at this point in time.

Alan asked if the possibility of running a shuttle bus to the Wineglass Bay lookout car park has been further investigated? Richard noted that it is still on PWS' radar. However, it would be difficult for PWS to manage alone and there are issues with finding a space for a car park for the shuttle bus. Alan noted that the Horse Paddock Reserve has been identified as a possible location for a car park in the past.

Cynthia asked if drones were a problem in the NP? Richard noted that PWS have recently drafted a policy on this. A permit is required to operate a drone in a NP.

#### 8.0 GUEST SPEAKER AMANDA BROOKS, GSBC ON-GROUND WORKS OFFICER: WEED CONTROL ACROSS GLAMORGAN SPRING BAY FROM A FIELD OFFICER'S PERSPECTIVE.

Amanda spoke to her PowerPoint presentation on the many roles and activities that she undertakes across GSB. This work is undertaken on a variety of land tenures (both public and private) and includes Council work, grant projects, private works and contract works.

**Lunch 12:30 – 1:00pm**

#### 9.0 CATCHMENTS TO COAST REPORT

Terry provided an update on Catchments to Coast activities since the last Committee meeting:

- Orford Bird Sanctuary – lots of shore birds present at the moment including Fairy Terns.
- Hooded Plovers are nesting on Spring Beach.
- Bicheno boneseed control on the Crown Land Reserve at Bicheno has re-commenced.
- Serrated tussock infestation in the Swansea area has increased greatly. Also a new infestation has been found at a property just north of Swansea.
- Patersons curse infestation at Sorell property. Committee requested that Mel email Sorell Council regarding this site and CC in DPIPWE so they can follow up.

Derek asked again if NRM could provide chemical to assist land owners with weed control, particularly serrated tussock?

Mel noted that DPIPWE are currently proposing to re-instate the position of serrated tussock officer at the Invasive Species Branch. Mel agreed with Alan's suggestion that we write to politicians about assisting land owners with chemical for weed control, including the relevant federal and state ministers, their shadows and the Greens.

In addition to Terry's update, Rosie provided the following information:

- Funding from NRM South to hold another World Wetlands Day event in partnership with PWS. Event to be held on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2017 at Devils Corner Vineyard. More information to come closer to the date.
- Funding from NRM South for interpretation sign and community event at Rita & Doris Reserve (Coles Bay). Sign to be launched on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2017, to incorporate a community BBQ and Clean Up Australia Day event. More information to come closer to the date.
- Attended the Bicheno Earth & Ocean Network (EON) Expo on 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> November. Congratulations to EON for organising and delivering such a worthwhile and successful event.
- Shorebird newsletter has been sent the 328 ratepayers at Dolphin Sands.
- Whale Trail project ongoing.
- Submitted an article for possible inclusion in the 2017 edition of the *Wetlands Australia* magazine.
- Looking into reports of short-tailed shearwater deaths at Waterloo Point (Swansea).

#### 10.0 SUSTAINABILITY REPORT

Cynthia provided the Committee with a sustainability update.

- In partnership with relevant stakeholders, continuing to progress the re-usable coffee cup project idea.
- Trials of flushable, biodegradable dog poo bags.
- Also attended the Bicheno EON Expo as a panellist and guest speaker.

## 11.0 TREASURERS REPORT

Mel distributed and spoke to the Treasurer's report.

David observed that the NRM Reserve (carryover) from last financial year needs to be confirmed.

## 12.0 GSBC NRM DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Mel spoke about some Department highlights:

- Pulchella nursery project is ongoing and had a workshop this week with the Councillors.
- Money in Council's budget to develop Fire Management Plans for Council Reserves, following the success of the fuel reduction burn at Rita and Doris Reserve carried out by the Coles Bay Fire Brigade.
- DPIPWE will be attending a workshop with the Councillors next month to present on the new *Cat Management Act*.
- A workshop will be held with the Councillors in December to provide an overview of other potential coastal hazards in GSB and to discuss a way forward in managing these hazards in the short, medium and long term in context of other work being undertaken by other councils and the state government.

## 13.0 OTHER BUSINESS

### **Committee round table:**

Alan asked what is the relationship between the NRM and Planning Departments at Council?

Mel explained that she has had input into planning since she first started at Council. Nicky assists Mel too.

Derek commented on the recent swift parrot breeding successes with the use of nesting boxes, and congratulated the swift parrot team on their work.

Derek asked if Mel could let the Committee know when the Tassal meeting will be. Mel will advise via email.

Gary thanked Terry and Rosie for installing the 'no camping' sign on the Crown Reserve at Dolphin Sands.

Gary advised that the DSRA have replaced 2 wild fire signs in conjunction with the TFS. The DSRA recently received a letter about the proposal to operate a barge between Bagot Point and Swanwick.

Judy thanked everyone who supported the Bicheno Earth and Ocean Network (EON) Expo. Following the success of this event, EON have decided to hold an expo again next year.

***Richard departed at 2:25pm.***

Diana asked about the status of the development on Picnic Island. Mel advised she has had a site visit with the planner and a number of actions need to be followed up. BirdLife Tasmania had a date set to visit, but the weather prevented this from going ahead. A new date will be set.

## 14.0 COMMITTEE DISCUSSION ABOUT FILLING THE POSITION OF CHAIR IN 2017

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Mel advised that Councillor Cadart has indicated that he is considering the position of Committee chair. Mel will follow up with Councillor Cadart regarding the position of Chair.

David advised that he is happy to act as Vice Chair. All present supported this offer.

Alan asked if there was a position description available for the position of Chair? Mel noted that there is not a formal PD. But she can put something together for the Committee to look at.

Alan noted that David's offer to fill the position of Vice Chair is great for mentoring and continuity.

*The Committee and Council staff present thanked David for his many years of service and dedication to the Glamorgan Spring Bay Natural Resource Management Committee. We are grateful that David will be acting as Vice Chair into the future.*

*Meeting closed: 2:40pm.*

### NEXT MEETING

**Next Meeting Venue:** Swansea Town Hall.

**Next Meeting Date:** 15<sup>th</sup> February 2017 – to be confirmed.

### ACTION ITEMS

1. Look into the award winning GPT installed at Glenorchy. Who: Cynthia/Mel.
2. Invite a representative from CLS to attend a future Committee meeting to discuss Bagot Point and Crown Land in general. Who: Mel.
3. Follow up with Regulatory Services Manager regarding the Coles Bay slipway drain. Who: Mel.
4. Ask CLS to contact Aurora or Transend regarding removing the debris left behind at the Gordon Street Reserve (Swansea) and requesting that they remove their debris in future. Who: Mel.
5. Site visit and quote to CLS to undertake follow up weed control on Swansea's unmade road reserves. Who: Mel/Amanda.
6. Email Sorell Council with CC to DPIPWE regarding Paterson's curse infestation in Sorell municipality. Who: Mel.
7. Write to state and federal politicians, their shadows and the Greens regarding assisting land owners with chemical for weed control. Who: Mel/David.
8. Advise Committee members of the date of the Tassal meeting. Who: Mel.
9. Compile PD for position of Chair for the Committee. Who: Mel.
10. Follow up with Councillor Cadart regarding the position of Committee Chair and confirm date for next meeting. Who: Mel.

Signed by the Chair:



Date: 1/3/2017