

Wye River Separation Creek - Community Resilience Committee

Meeting #1

Date: Sunday 20 March 2016 **Time:** 2.00pm to 4.00pm **Location:** Wye River SLSC

Attendees: Cr Frank Buchanan (Chair); Sue Wilkinson, Colac Otway CEO; Craig Lapsley, Emergency Management Commissioner; Ian Angus (by phone, part of meeting) ; Andrew Dunn; Paul Greene; Deb Hocking; Roy Moriarty; Dr Diane Sisely; Joanne Tyler.

Apologies: Dr Mark Stokes.

Ex officio: Sandra Wade, GM Bushfire Recovery, Colac-Otway Shire; Peter van Lambaart, MPV,WRSC Resettlement Program Manager; Emma Diffen, Communications Bushfire Recovery, Colac Otway Shire; Clare Malone Co-ordinator Bushfire Community Recovery, Colac Otway Shire.

| Agenda Item | | Discussion | Action / Outcome (Responsibility) |
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| 1 | Welcome and Apologies | <p>The Chair, Cr Buchanan gave a brief overview of the background to the establishment of the committee, including the EOI process.</p> <p>There was discussion about the Committee chair arrangements as included in the Terms of Reference and the request for one of the community representatives to act as Co-Chair.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Co-Chair arrangement would be trialled for 3 months. • Diane Sisely was agreed to be Co-Chair. |
| 2 | Introductions | The Chair welcomed and introduced Committee members. | |
| 3 | Role of Committee | <p>The Chair referred to the paper distributed with the Agenda which outlines the way in which it is proposed that the Committee operate.</p> <p>The CRC discussed the option of holding meetings in public given the importance of transparency.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft minutes will be circulated within 3 working days to the CRC (COS). • CRC will have 2 days to provide any feedback to the secretariat (All). • At this point meetings would not be open to the public although minutes would be |

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| | | <p>Committee members discussed location of the meetings and noted there is a community expectation that the meetings will be held in Wye River.</p> <p>The members acknowledged their role in terms of representing the best interests of the entire Wye River Separation Creek community.</p> | <p>made available via the WyeSep Connect portal.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The majority of Committee meetings will be held in Wye River with every fourth meeting to take place in Melbourne. • Colac-Otway Shire to produce forward schedule (COS). |
| 4 | Community Information – Update and discussion | <p>Emma Diffen, Bushfire Recovery Communications Manager from Colac Otway Shire provided an update on the communications portal WyeSep Connect noting that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • it has been operational for 2 weeks • includes information from the Shire, the community and state government. <p>Emma also noted that direct emails seem to be the most effective method of communication.</p> <p>The Committee discussed the Community Meetings and frequency noting that the next meetings are scheduled for Thursday 7 and Sunday 10 April 2016.</p> <p>There was discussion around the content and format of the Community meetings. It was suggested that information sessions focussing on specific topics such as planning could be scheduled prior to, or following the meetings.</p> <p>There was discussion around the need for the Committee to have a strategic approach and focus on what we would like the area to look like in the future and what the pathway to achieve this is.</p> <p>The Committee discussed the need to ensure that all sectors of the community are communicated with including long term campers and cabin stayers.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly WyeSep Connect Web-site Activity Statistics report would be distributed to Committee with Agenda. • Monthly cycle of Community meetings in Wye River and Melbourne will continue at this stage. • People will be invited to submit questions in writing prior to the meetings. • More time will be allocated to questions from the floor. • Colac-Otway Shire to arrange a strategic workshop for CRC to develop a workplan and identify and agree what success looks like. • Colac-Otway Shire look at accessing data and contact with long term holiday makers. |

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| | | <p>It was noted that a survey was undertaken by the interim Recovery Committee which will provide valuable information as a starting point.</p> <p>Activities over Easter were discussed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sandra Wade advised the One Stop Shop will be closed Good Friday but operate as normal on Easter Saturday (10am to 1pm at the WRSLC). • Council staff and the Mayor will also be present at the fete. • The CRC will have a table at the CFA Easter Fete <p>Emma requested members to provide short biographies to make available on WyeSep Connect and through other communication channels.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sandy Forbes from Nous Group / Debra Hocking to be invited to present the results of the survey to the next CRC meeting. • CRC members to provide biographies to Emma. • Colac-Otway Shire to order name tags for the Committee members. • Shire to prepare a flyer including information on the Committee to be available for the fete if possible. |
| 5 | Feedback from Interim Resilience Committee | <p>Debra Hocking provided an update on the work of the Interim Committee noting that the relationship between the two committees requires consideration. She advised that among other matters, the Committee has been dealing with the art installation, how the money from the pub fund raiser can be most equitably distributed and the community firewood initiative. She also noted that they have received feedback that the signage in Wye River could be improved.</p> <p>Deb advised that the next meeting is scheduled for Saturday 9 April.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Colac-Otway Shire to prepare a letter to formally commend the Community Recovery Committee for the valuable role played and work it has undertaken. • Standing item on CRC agenda to get update on groups activities. |
| 6 | Current Issues | <p>Craig Lapsley EMC gave an overview of the Governance structure advising that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Leadership Group is comprised of the CEO, Colac Otway Shire, Secretary DELWP and himself as EMV Commissioner. • It includes 8 areas of work | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diagram of governance structure to be distributed with minutes (EMV). |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governance Model • Resettlement Plan • Update on Clean up | | |

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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Wye River and Separation Creek Community Resilience Committee forms part of the arrangements. <p>Craig also provided an overview of the recovery governance and reporting arrangements within the context of his role across state government noting that Lisa Neville is the lead Minister. The critical role that the Leadership Group has to play was noted, and its role to identify / address blockages and high level policy issues.</p> <p>Peter van Lambaart, Project Management Office (PMO), advised that the Wye River and Separation Creek Resettlement Plan is currently in draft form and will be completed by Easter. It was noted that it is important to have connectivity and a whole of government approach. Peter tabled a summary of the key elements.</p> <p>The CRC noted the need to engage on the draft plan and not present it as a fait accompli. It was noted that it is important to make clear that the plan is a draft and will change over time.</p> <p>The issue of funding was raised with clarity being sought on the allocation of the \$2.7m announced by the state.</p> <p>A question was raise about re-survey (lot survey) of properties in the exclusion zone (and at two previous Community Meetings).</p> <p>A question was raised about where the community donations had been spent.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Management Office to develop process to engage on Draft Resettlement Plan to communicate elements of the plan that will benefit from community input and those that are about restoration of basic services (PMO). • A detailed breakdown of \$2.7m funding announced, including agency accountability to be provided to the CRC (EMV). • Clarify situation. • EMV agreed to provide a pie-chart anonymously outlining the different sectors of the Community that received donations. |
| 7 | Health and Wellbeing | <p>The Chair welcomed Dr Rob Gordon who provided the committee with an extremely informative briefing on the impacts of the bushfire on individual’s health and well-being.</p> | |

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| 8 | Other Business | <p>Sue Wilkinson advised that officers at Council and the State are receiving multiple inquiries from some individuals, often in relation to the same specific matter which is creating resourcing and efficiency issues.</p> <p>It was noted that there are currently no teleconference facilities available at the Wye River SLC.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shire to draft a process to address this for further discussion with the Committee. • Arrange teleconference services for future meetings, including either a 1800 or 1300 number. |
| 9 | Items for Future Meetings | <p>There was discussion in relation to the fact that there a number of myths circulating that require clarification.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'Mythbusters' to be included as a standing item on the meeting agenda. |
| 10 | Next Meeting | <p>The meeting concluded at 6 pm.</p> <p>The next meeting is scheduled for Sunday 10 April 2016 at WRSLC.</p> | |