

*CRC Work Group – Flora, Fauna and Beachscape
Draft Minutes – 14 October 2016*

Wye River Surf Lifesaving Club

10:30 – 12:30

Invitees		
Chair:	Joanne Tyler	
	Yvonne Sheppard	
	Stewart Anderson	COS (phone in)
	Kelly Boladeras	COS (phone in)
	Sibylle Noras	(phone in)
	Libby Riches	SOLN
	Kim Stanley	DELWP
Apologies:	Ted Gannan	
	Juliet Le Feuvre	
	Tegan Brown	DELWP

Item No.	Agenda Item	Time	
	Ratify minutes from 26/8 Ratified (moved Yvonne)		Chair
	Actions		Chair
	Public liability FFB Work Group members Community members of FFB need to sign and return the liability form so that coverage can update.		Chair
	SOLN / Vegetation Restoration Committee update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Libby – Background – Southern Otway Landcare Network (SOLN) have 5 groups (Wye to Wongarra Landcare group is the most eastern). Traditionally difficult to get funding. Started working with community members Rex Brown and Yvonne Sheppard last year to address weed issues with minimal money. Leveraging from the fire, found additional support and funding to increase weed control projects. Project focus on 4 weeds and was due to finish end of Dec 2016. Due to delays caused by weather, this will extend to continue over 3 months of summer. Immediately following the fire – threatened species government funding application for a local project from 		Stewart / Libby

	<p>the Landcare network. Community engagement high priority. Community engagement planning, communications and activities for habitat restoration. Delivering community engagement components of this plan over the next year. Still determining activities/opportunities for community engagement as needs emerge.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flora, Fauna and Beachscape Work Group (FFB) and the Wye River Vegetation Restoration Committee (WVRC) are now working together, with WVRC reporting into FFB. This provides opportunity for greater community input into WVRC activity, and co-branded community engagement events. Push from within the steering committee to do more community planting works (as on Paddy’s Path) rather than just weed contracting works for the longer term. Four year plan in development. Planting / engagement/ monitoring focussed – citizen science (robust data collection that builds into the bigger picture) may be a focus. • Sybille – long term scope of works – what is the timeframe for the release of that document? • Kelly/Stewart – document being worked on currently. Draft available for Monday’s WVRC meeting. Once approved and funding clarified community engagement will be a priority. • Joanne – autumn planting event possible - have a range of local nurseries available to come down and show their wares. Need to continue to be flexible and open regarding community engagement – both how to engage the community about ideas and to update and invite to participate in projects and activities. Approaches will alter as the recovery and community changes over the next few years and engagement will need to be flexible to navigate that. Need for a shared calendar of events between the FFB and WVRC groups (co-branding, sharing resources, minimise community confusion, united front, support and legitimise different projects, value adds). • Joanne - Seed donation from Judi Forrester. Indigenous seeds to be used for community projects (need to double check exactly what they are). How to most effectively use these? Libby - Need disturbed ground to seed them; limited opportunity for community sites in Wye River at the moment. Landcare perspective – usually supports private property rehabilitation. Suggests breaking the seed up into smaller portions and give to local private property to broadcast on suitable land. May be able to organise a community event (show how to use the seed) on private or public 		
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	<p>land (depending on finding a suitable site). Could do this demonstration on Sunday of the Melb Cup weekend as part of the community lunch. Is Harrington Park suitable? Could work with the Saturday Open House event as well. This was favoured by the committee.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stewart – Does the community want Grocon to clean up some of the shrubby bits in the Harrington Park gully (burnt scrub area down from Wallace along the Boulevard) and make it ready for more suitable planting/rehab? Use different techniques for seeding steep slopes safely (ie seed balls as part of a community event). Another Melb Cup activity? 		
	<p>Paddy's Path – routes under consideration and community input</p> <p>What is the best way to engage the community and provide input on a new Paddy's Path? Opportunities at multiple meetings this week and next to start the process. Until the crack is stabilized or a slip occurs, it is difficult to plan ahead, however an engagement process for a new path (wherever it may be) can be developed. Multi-pronged approach (community meetings/ usual channels etc) – once we understand the roadworks and risks, should we have some Paddy's Path specific community meetings? Will need extra support for this engagement process and a professional person to drive the process and link the community expectations/hopes with agency regulations/safety/geotechnical specifications. Libby will send through some suggested approaches to this form of engagement</p>		Joanne
	<p>Landslide debris at Kennett River and impact on beach</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community concern that debris should be removed and the beach rehabilitated appropriately to ensure no ongoing impacts on the beachscape. Joanne to follow up with VicRoads and OCC and report back. 		Joanne
	<p>Bird Boxes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joanne met with Gio FitzPatrick of the Port Phillip Ecocentre. Available as a helpful resource re bird box design. Trialling a new style of microbat boxes (tubes). Feedback any improvements back to Jay Robinson and the Men's Shed so that the designs they are building can be modified accordingly. • Yvonne has picked up 10 bird boxes from Lorne Men's Shed, and has some more to pick up from Timboon this week. Need to establish a schedule for setting up and installation • Erection of bird boxes has been funded. 		Yvonne

	<p>Community requested agenda items (fire and weed risks):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removal of Blue Periwinkle and Surf Club and On McRae Road Council Land <p>Libby – extremely difficult to treat. Can it be contained? Attempt will be made</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cypress above Wye GS <p>Stewart will give this consideration</p>		Joanne
	<p>Hydromulching and Erosion & Sediment Control Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hydromulching will use a sterile rye grass for binding with native grass mixed in. Need to encourage people to sign up for the process. Can it be added to the Cup weekend activity promotion? Reassure people that it will be sprayed on bare areas where grass is struggling to grow (won't replace current natural regrowth). 		Tegan
	<p>Donations:</p> <p>Surf Coast Trees</p> <p>\$1000 – services provided or cash donation. Could this be used for flucker posts? Libby will arrange for the cash to be held for FFB activity</p> <p>Otway Herbs seed donation</p>		
	<p>Bird Day and Community Planting Day</p> <p>Two very successful and well supported events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invoices. Process explained - Sybille to liaise with Simon Starr and Yvonne with Roy • Thanks To Simon and Roy – Joanne to do 		
	<p>Other Business</p>		Chair
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Connections and Networks Group: Dr Rob Gordon is Coming to Wye River to provide support for members of the CRC and the Work Groups Saturday 5 November 		All members have received a calendar invite.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stewart – any other Council land around the area that still needs to be cleaned up (ie around Dollar Track)? Members to advise Stewart 		Stewart
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • River Walk Project <p>Very important to the community. Initial consultation has indicated a low impact delineation/ formed dirt and grass. However there are concerns about camper encroachment, guy ropes, sullage, barbeques being placed on the walk area. Need to come up with something that will clearly show it is a community pathway, not a space for campers. The understanding had been for dirt/grass/low profile, but this may need to be reconsidered to stop campers limiting use by the community. At the time of voting, people may not have been in aware of this complication re camper activity. Bollards may not</p>		

<p>provide a sufficient barrier/delineation. A teleconference will be arranged between Tammy Smith of DELWP, FFB Community members, and key members of the Progress Association to work towards a resolution.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next meeting – Friday 11 November 10:30 – 12:30. Venue TBA • Apol Sybille 		
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Action:	By whom:	By when:	Complete
Erin / Tegan to follow up with Jenny Howell in Otways Fire District about the trees and debris on Donlevy Estate behind houses.	Erin / Tegan	Next meeting	Action complete – management ongoing pending weather.
Following up from previous meeting:			
*Stewart –clarification of planting information as part of planning permit process, Booklet will act as a guide.	Stewart will talk to Doug McNeil to confirm process	Next meeting	
<p>* Stewart – road reserve planting. Entrance to town. Finding a good location – window for planting is closing – falls under the long term plan, Will be community engagement around this when it’s ready. Trying to do something now inappropriate as plants may die over summer without extra care.</p> <p>* Libby – 2016 not appropriate for planting for a variety of reasons. A few issues with the Boulevard road reserve site as it is too small to provide safe working for more than 5 people. Weed control needs to occur first which pushes back the timeframes for planting. Also SOLN at the end of tree planting season, by now nurseries mostly out of trees and suitable plants. Not recommending planting at this stage.</p> <p>* Flag for autumn 2017</p> <p>* Yvonne – mindful of the hydromulching – might it preclude plantings? Stewart – a number of things have slowed the process down. Won’t preclude future planting, but the hydromulching is a short term method for erosion control to get us through until the more detailed planting planning can be done.</p>			
<p>Bird Boxes</p> <p>Feedback any improvements back to Jay and the Men’s Shed so that the designs they are building can be modified accordingly.</p>			
Paddy’s Path – Kim to help find an engagement practitioner/resources/support to help guide this vital structured process. Can DELWP or other suitable			

<p>facilitator support/guide/drive the overall process? Sybille – if something hasn't significantly started to engage the community about Paddy's Path by Christmas, it will be a real problem and difficult to manage. It's so iconic, and has so many values and associations across the community. Opportunity to both update on changes and final report findings as well as start working through new options for the community to replace/ renew/ redirect the path. Large scale communications needed to capture all voices.</p>			
<p>Surf Coast Trees \$1000 – services provided or cash donation. Could be used for eg fluker posts, or signage for boxes. Work with Libby to set up holding the cash.</p>			
<p>The group is grateful for the work DELWP has been doing to clean up the tracks and areas around the perimeter of the town impacted by fire fighting operations.</p>			