

AGENDA

Conservation Advisory Committee

MEETING OF THE CONSERVATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TO BE HELD ON

MEETING DATE



WEDNESDAY 30 MAY 2007

commencing at 6 pm

in Conference Room 2
JOONDALUP CIVIC CENTRE,
BOAS AVENUE, JOONDALUP



GARRY HUNT
Chief Executive Officer
25 May 2007

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City of
Joondalup

CITY OF JOONDALUP

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the **CONSERVATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE** will be held in Conference Room 2, Joondalup Civic Centre, Boas Avenue, Joondalup on **Wednesday 30 May 2007** commencing at **6pm**.

GARRY HUNT
Chief Executive Officer
25 May 2007

Joondalup
Western Australia

AGENDA

Committee Members

Cr Steve Magyar	Presiding Person
Cr Michele John	
Cr Sue Hart	
Cr Marie Macdonald	
Cr Brian Corr	
Mrs Marilyn Zakrevsky	Friends of Korella, Deputy Presiding Person
Mr Ralph Henderson	Friends of Hepburn Heights
Mr John Wood	Friends of Craigie Bushland
Mr Barry Fitzsimmons	Friends of Periwinkle
Ms Phyllis Robertson	Joondalup Coast Care Forum
Dr Marjorie Apthorpe	Friends of Iluka Foreshore
Mr John Chester	Friends of Yellagonga Regional Park
Mrs Wendy Herbert	
Ms Alice Stubber	

Terms of Reference

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

DECLARATION OF OPENING

APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

MINUTES OF THE CONSERVATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD 28 MARCH 2007

RECOMMENDATION

That the minutes of the meeting of the Conservation Advisory Committee held on 28 March 2007 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDING PERSON WITHOUT DISCUSSION

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS

REPORTS

Item 1 Bushland Fencing

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MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

REQUESTS FOR REPORTS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

CLOSURE

ITEM 1 BUSHLAND FENCING

WARD: All

RESPONSIBLE Mr David Djulbic
DIRECTOR: Infrastructure Services

PURPOSE

To introduce the report titled Bushland Fencing to the Conservation Advisory Committee.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At the March 2007 meeting of the Conservation Advisory Committee (CAC), Officers were asked to provide the CAC with a report detailing an alternative to the use of treated pine posts for the construction of fencing within the City's Coastal reserves.

BACKGROUND

The CAC is a Council Committee that advises Council on subjects relating to biodiversity and the management of natural areas within the City of Joondalup. The CAC meets on a monthly basis.

The Committee membership comprises of five Councillors, a representative from each of the City's Bushland Friends Groups and community members with specialist knowledge of biodiversity issues.

At the March 2007 meeting of the Conservation Advisory Committee, a report was requested from staff to examine possible alternatives to the use of pine posts in the construction of coastal reserve fencing within the City.

DETAILS

Issues and options considered:

Currently two types of fencing are utilised to protect bushland reserves in Joondalup. Larger conservation reserves such as Hepburn Heights Bushland and Warwick POS Bushland have CCA treated pine horizontal poles supported by CCA treated pine posts; this framework supports plastic coated "Cyclone" mesh. The most predominant fence type used by the City consists of CCA treated pine posts that supports "Ringlock" mesh. The Coastal Dual Use Path would have approximately 30 kilometres of this style of fencing alone. The cost to install this fencing type averages about \$10 per metre, this cost can have a small variation dependent on the terrain and how many corners are required at the fence's location.

A draw back with any style of fencing that uses pine posts in its construction is the flammability of the timber in the circumstance of a bushfire. This problem can be

exacerbated because in the case of fire, the burning timbers can give off toxic fumes from the chemicals used to preserve the posts at the time of manufacture. To overcome this problem Operational Staff endeavour to cut native vegetation away from fencing to form a break of about one metre. This pruning regime has been common practice along the Coastal Dual Use Path for a number of years. A number of members of the Joondalup Community Coast Care Forum have raised concerns at this form of pruning and would prefer that non flammable fencing materials be used. This would allow native vegetation to grow closer to the fence and reduce the pruning requirement and also negate the requirement for the gap between the vegetation and the fence, which can be an area for weeds to grow. It is worth noting that the City has an obligation not to allow vegetation to grow in such a manner that it impedes people using the pathway or obscures vision. Indeed, it is particularly important that fast moving cyclists can be seen by other path users.

An alternative to the use of treated pine posts could be the use of recycled plastic posts. These are more fire retardant, but can be damaged by sustained proximity to a heat source. Recycled plastic fence posts have a life span greater than that of pine posts.

The cost of fencing using the recycled plastic post option is \$30 per metre. The cost of using pine posts is \$10 per metre.

The cost to replace the current form of coastal fencing with the recycled plastic post would be approximately \$900,000.

Link to Strategic Plan:

Key Focus Area

Caring for the environment.

Outcomes

The City is environmentally responsible in its activities.

Objectives

To plan and manage the City's natural resources to ensure environmental sustainability.

Strategies

- 2.1.1 Maintain and protect natural assets to retain biodiversity.
- 2.1.2 Further develop environmentally effective and energy-efficient programs.
- 2.1.3 Develop a coordinated environmental framework, including community education.

Legislation – Statutory Provisions:

The Local Government Act 1995 allows a Council to establish committees to assist a council to exercise the powers and discharge duties that can be delegated to a committee.

Risk Management considerations:

Not Applicable

Financial/Budget Implications:

Not Applicable

Policy implications:

Not Applicable

Regional Significance:

Not Applicable

Sustainability implications:Environmental

Conservation Advisory Committee objective - “To make recommendations to Council for the Conservation of the City’s natural biodiversity”.

Social

To promote partnerships between Council and the Community to protect the City’s natural biodiversity as contained within its various natural areas (bushland, wetlands and the coastal environment).

Consultation:

The Conservation Advisory Committee provides a forum for community consultation and engagement on natural areas.

COMMENT

It is considered that the current post and “Ringlock” style of coastal fencing continues to be a serviceable and cost effective form of fencing for the Coastal Dual Use Path, and that replacing or phasing out this form of fencing at this time would not be an effective use of Council funds and resources.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

RECOMMENDATION

That the Conservation Advisory Committee RECEIVES the report titled “Bushland fencing”.



**APPENDICES FOR AGENDA OF
CONSERVATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

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