

Agenda **Conservation Advisory Committee**

A MEETING WILL BE HELD IN

**CONFERENCE ROOM 2
JOONDALUP CIVIC CENTRE
BOAS AVENUE, JOONDALUP**

ON

WEDNESDAY, 29 APRIL 2009

COMMENCING AT

6.00 pm

Note:

Clause 77 of the City's Standing Orders Local Law 2005 states:

"Unless otherwise provided in this local law, the provisions of this local law shall apply to meetings of committees with the exception of:

- (a) clause 29 (Members seating;) and**
- (b) clause 54 (Limitation on members speaking.)"**

GARRY HUNT
Chief Executive Officer
17 April 2009

www.joondalup.wa.gov.au

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, 29 APRIL 2009** commencing at **6.00 pm**.

GARRY HUNT
Chief Executive Officer
17 April 2009

Joondalup
Western Australia

AGENDA

Committee Members (14)

Cr Mike Norman	Presiding Person
Cr Sue Hart	Deputy Presiding Person
Cr Fiona Diaz	
Cr Marie Macdonald	
Mr John Chester	Community Representative
Mrs Marilyn Zakrevsky	Community Representative
Ms Suzi Greenway	Community Representative
Mr Barry Fitzsimmons	Community Representative
Ms Phyllis Robertson	Community Representative
Dr Marjorie Apthorpe	Community Representative
Mr Tim Argus	Community Representative
Mr Steve Magyar	Community Representative
Mr Gary Tate	Community Representative
Ms Dorothy Lullfitz	Community Representative

Quorum for meetings (7)

The quorum for a meeting is to be at least 50% of the number of offices (whether vacant or not) of members of the committee.

Simple majority:

A simple majority is to be more than 50% of those members present at the meeting.

Absolute majority: (8)

An absolute majority is to be more than 50% of the number of offices (whether vacant or not) of the committee.

Casting vote:

In the event that the vote on a motion is tied, the presiding person must cast a second vote.

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 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 25 FEBRUARY 2009****RECOMMENDATION**

That the minutes of the meeting of the Conservation Advisory Committee held on 25 February 2009 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**

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MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN**REQUESTS FOR REPORTS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION****CLOSURE**

ITEM 1 BUSHLAND VOLUNTEERS

WARD: All

RESPONSIBLE Mr Martyn Glover
DIRECTOR: Infrastructure Services

PURPOSE

To present the Council Report entitled CJ059-03/09 Bushland Volunteers to the Conservation Advisory Committee for comment.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Report CJ059-03/09 was presented to the Ordinary Council Meeting of 17 March 2009. It was resolved that Council:

- 1 *NOTES the Report titled Bushland Volunteers;*
- 2 *REFERS the Report titled Bushland Volunteers to the Conservation Advisory for its consideration.*

It is recommended that the Conservation Advisory Committee CONSIDERS the content of Report CJ059-03/09 Bushland Volunteers.

BACKGROUND

The Report CJ059-03/09 was written following a request from Council at its 30 September 2008 meeting.

DETAILS

In line with Council's decision of 30 September 2008 Report CJ059-03/09 is submitted for noting by the Conservation Advisory Committee. Attachment 1 refers.

Legislation – Statutory Provisions:

Refer to Report CJ059-03/09

Policy implications:

Not Applicable.

Regional Significance:

Not Applicable.

Sustainability implications:

Not Applicable.

Consultation:

Not Applicable.

COMMENT

Not Applicable.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 Report CJ059 – 03/09 Bushland Volunteers

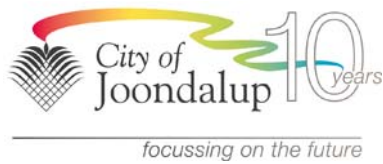
VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple majority.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Conservation Advisory Committee CONSIDERS the content of Report CJ059-03/09 Bushland Volunteers.

Appendix 1 refers



APPENDICES FOR AGENDA OF CONSERVATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

ITEM	TITLE	APPENDIX	PAGE
Item 1	Bushland Volunteers <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Attachment 1 – Council Report CJ059-03/09 Bushland Volunteers	1	1

CJ059-03/09 BUSHLAND VOLUNTEERS – [06812]

WARD: All

**RESPONSIBLE
DIRECTOR:** Mr Martyn Glover
Infrastructure Services

PURPOSE

To inform Council on matters relating to bushland volunteers working in City Reserves.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report considers two matters relating to volunteers working in natural area reserves managed by the City of Joondalup, as follows:

1. The City's insurance cover offered to volunteers working in natural area reserves.
2. A proposal by the Conservation Advisory Committee (CAC) for Bushland Friends Groups to become involved in local schools' community service programs.

It is recommended that Council:

- 1 *NOTES the report titled Bushland Volunteers;*
- 2 *REFERS the report titled Bushland Volunteers to the Conservation Advisory Committee for its consideration.*

BACKGROUND

Minutes of the Conservation Advisory Committee held on 27 August 2008 were presented to the Council Meeting on 30 September 2008, whereby the following decisions were made:

"That Council:

- 3 *ENDORSES the Conservation Advisory Committees request for a report on insurance arrangements for volunteers working under Friends Group supervision at Friends Group events within the City of Joondalup;*
- 4 *ENDORSES the Conservation Advisory Committee request for a report that provides information on the process by which Friends Groups can engage school students under the community service program or any aged group students working in bushland."*

As both topics are closely linked, they are being considered in the one report.

DETAILS

The City currently has management responsibility for over 500 hectares of natural areas (this is land containing bushland). The term also encompasses coastal heath, wetlands and coastal dune systems. These natural areas are contained within 108 separate reserves.

There are volunteers from twelve bush care groups that assist the City with management activities within these reserves. The friends groups hold a number of planting and weed removal days per year and the community are invited to participate in such events. All of the participants over the age of sixteen are covered by the City's Insurance Policy. The City of Joondalup currently maintains a number of insurance policies for volunteers, as follows:

- The City's Public Liability Insurance covers volunteers for damage they may cause to third parties.
- Personal Accident Insurance covers volunteers if they injure themselves.
- Copies of a certificate of currency for Public Liability (upper limit \$100,000), and Personal Accident Liability (upper limit \$500,000), have been forwarded to Friends group representatives, upon request.

Discussions were held at the August 2008 CAC meeting on the topic of volunteers' insurance cover, which revealed concerns that children working as volunteers on bushland projects may not have insurance cover. The current status regarding volunteer insurance cover is that children over sixteen are covered by the City's policy, while working in City reserves. The City has commenced discussions with its insurance brokers to consider the extension of this cover to younger children.

School Pupil Bushland Volunteers

At the CAC meeting held in August 2008, Committee members discussed the possibility of engaging high school children to work as volunteers on bushland rehabilitation projects. Currently, all year ten, eleven and twelve pupils are required to commit to twenty hours of community service prior to their graduation. The CAC felt this was a potential resource for bushland projects.

The City has run an environmental program with local schools for nearly ten years. The Adopt a Coastline Program has proven to be very popular and has always been oversubscribed. The program consists of pupils learning about coastal processes and ecology in the formal setting of the classroom. This is followed by working with their teachers and City staff on coastal bushland rehabilitation projects in Joondalup's coastal reserves. An information sheet on the "Adopt a Coastline" program is included as Attachment 1.

In these instances the school students are insured by the Department of Education and Training, and the projects are sanctioned by the School and the City.

School children have also been involved in assisting Friends volunteers in bushland reserves on a more informal basis. The removal of weeds in Porteous Park, Sorrento, in conjunction with a local friends group, is an example of this cooperation.

The Department of Education and Training has recently introduced the Give 20 Community Service Program. Through this program, students must complete a minimum of 20 hours service between years 10 and 12 of secondary school. From 2009, students will need to have completed 20 hours of community service to gain the WA Certificate of Education.

A wide range of activities can be undertaken for community service. These activities can be:

- School or community oriented
- Done in school or out of school
- Linked to one or more learning area programs
- One off or long-term
- Direct, eg visiting the elderly, coaching, supporting refugees

- Indirect, eg food drives, fundraising activities

This program will give bushland friends groups an opportunity to be assisted by students undertaking the Give 20 community service program.

Bushland friends groups or any community group wishing to participate will need to contact the Community Service Program Coordinator at any secondary school.

This type of arrangement with schools completing their community service obligations could be a 'win-win' situation for the City, schools and the community. However, any such project would require approval and monitoring by City personnel to ensure potential safety issues are effectively managed. This process, in cooperation with the school's staff, takes into account any working with children certification requirements.

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.

Risk Management considerations:

Not Applicable.

Financial/Budget Implications:

Not Applicable.

Policy Implications:

Not Applicable.

Regional Significance:

Not Applicable.

Sustainability Implications:

Not Applicable.

Consultation:

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

COMMENT

Bushland volunteers contribute a significant number of hours annually to conserve Joondalup's bushland. It is in the City's best interest to ensure adequate insurance cover during volunteer activities.

The participation of bushland friends' groups and the City in the Department of Education and Training's Give 20 Community Service Program is fully supported. It would help students gain an appreciation of their local bushland biodiversity and assist friends' groups and the City achieve effective management of the City's natural areas.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 Information for Site Visits – Adopt a Coastline

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

MOVED Cr Norman, SECONDED Cr Young that Council:

- 1 NOTES the report titled Bushland Volunteers;**
- 2 REFERS the report titled Bushland Volunteers to the Conservation Advisory Committee for its consideration.**

The Motion was Put and

CARRIED (10/0)

In favour of the Motion: Mayor Pickard, Crs Amphlett, Corr, Diaz, Fishwick, Hollywood, Macdonald, McLean, Norman and Young