

CITY OF JOONDALUP

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD IN CONFERENCE ROOM 2 ON THURSDAY 22 MARCH 2001 AT 5.30 PM.

Cr Magyar declared the meeting open at 17hrs 40 min, with a quorum of 8 members present.

1. ATTENDANCES AND APOLOGIES

Attendance

<i>Cr S Magyar</i>	Councillor/Chairperson
<i>Cr A Nixon (from 18:00)</i>	Councillor
<i>Cr C Mackintosh</i>	Councillor
<i>Mr J Goldsmith</i>	Local Agenda 21 Officer
<i>Mr V Harman</i>	Community Representative
<i>Mr D Wake (from 17:45)</i>	Community Representative
<i>Dr R France (from 17:55)</i>	Community Representative
<i>Mr S Hawkins</i>	Community Representative
<i>Mr J Prefumo</i>	Community Representative

Apologies

<i>Mr J Kirton</i>	Manager Organisational & Strategic Development
<i>Mr C Merry</i>	Community Representative
<i>Mrs J Richards</i>	Community Representative

Action (Mr J Goldsmith): Council Support Services to be queried regarding attendance requirements of Committee members.

2. DECLARATIONS OF FINANCIAL INTEREST

Nil.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

3.1 Minutes of the Environmental Advisory Committee held on 22 February 2001.

MOVED Mr V Harman SECONDED Cr Mackintosh that the minutes of the Environmental Advisory Committee meeting held on 22 February 2001 be accepted as a true and accurate record.

The Motion was Put and

CARRIED

3.2 Sub Committee Minutes and Other Reports.

Minutes of the Conservation Advisory Committee meeting held on 15 March 2001 were tabled at the meeting.

MOVED that the Environmental Advisory Committee NOTES the Minutes of the Conservation Advisory Committee meeting held on 15 March 2001 and forwards the Minutes for noting by Council to the meeting to be held on 10 April 2001.

CARRIED

The following minutes from community groups were noted.

- Joondalup Community Coast Care Forum meeting, 27 November 2000;
- Yellagonga Catchment Group meeting held on 25 January 2001.

MOVED V Harman SECONDED C Mackintosh that the Environmental Advisory Committee NOTES the minutes of the Joondalup Community Coast Care Forum (27 November 2001) and the Yellagonga Catchment Group (25 January 2001).

The Motion was Put and

CARRIED

4. BUSINESS OUTSTANDING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

4.1 Documents Received; (Refer Item 5.6 of Meeting of 22 February 2001)

Summary of Commonwealth Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 provided, refer to Attachment 1.

MOVED Cr S Magyar SECONDED Cr A Nixon that the Environmental Advisory Committee NOTES the Summary of Commonwealth Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.

The Motion was Put and

CARRIED

4.2 Seminars and Conferences- Environmental Advisory Committee members.

Council Support Services was queried as to whether committee members can attend seminars, conferences and workshops on behalf of the City of Joondalup, and whether there is funding assistance for members associated with seminar charges etc. The advice received was that the City of Joondalup can not provide financial assistance for community representative committee members to attend such events, unless approved by Council.

ACTION (All committee members): Committee members to advise City of Joondalup Administration of any workshops, seminars or conferences.

5. ITEMS OF BUSINESS

5.1 Working Group Report on Revised Workplan for Environmental Advisory Committee, 2001

A working group comprising Mrs Richards, Mrs Wood and Mr Goldsmith met on Tuesday 13 March 2001, to review the draft 2001 Work Plan and set priorities and timeframes. The working group prepared a revised Work Plan (Attachment 2 refers).

Discussion followed regarding the revised Work Plan.

Committee members were invited to submit specific comments on the revised workplan to Mr Goldsmith (john.goldsmith@joondalup.wa.gov.au), for consideration and adoption at the next committee meeting. It was agreed that the column "Budget/Resource Requirements" will be deleted.

5.2 Documents Available for Public Comment

Nil received.

5.3 Seminars/Conferences

Table 1 provides a listing of recent seminars and conferences and contact details.

Table 1

Title	Venue/Date	Cost \$	Contact
Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act Seminar and Hypothetical – Environmental Defender's Office	Conference room Lotteries House, 2 Delhi St, West Perth Monday 19 March 6.30 - 8.30 pm	Cost: \$11 Community groups / \$33 Agency/professionals (includes materials and GST)	For further information and to RSVP, contact June Lowe: ph 9221 3030 or e-mail jlowe.edowa@edo.org.au
Taking Care of the Bush Nature Conservation on Private Land	Subiaco Theatre Centre Subiaco, Perth, Western Australia 21-23 March, 2001 Time: Forum starts at 8.30am each morning and concludes at approximately 5.00pm each afternoon.	Standard - \$192.50 (\$175 GST) Community based / non profit organisation - \$165 (\$150 + GST) Volunteer / private land owner - \$110 (\$100 +GST) Day pass - \$77 per day (\$70 +GST)	Program and Registration Form for the National Forum is available on the National Trust of Australia (WA) web site at www.ntwa.com.au or contact Forum Convener, Kim Ramsay on (08) 9212 1125 for a registration form or any queries. Contact: Kim Ramsay National Trust of Australia (WA) (08) 9212 1125

The Motion was Put and

CARRIED

5.4 A Summary of Triple Bottom Line reporting; Economic, Social and Environmental Performance Reporting

A summary regarding Triple Bottom Line reporting was requested at the Environmental Committee meeting held on 22 February 2001.

Triple Bottom Line reporting is reporting which provides information about the economic, environmental and social performance of an entity.

Craig Deegan, Professor of Accounting from the University of Southern Queensland describes Triple Bottom Line reporting as;

“...a term coined by management consultant and author John Elkington, is reporting which provides information about the economic, environmental and social performance of an entity. Triple bottom line reporting represents a departure from traditional approaches that focus solely on an entity’s financial or economic performance. The notion of also reporting on an entity’s environmental and social performance is directly tied to the concept of sustainable development”.

(Source; Triple Bottom Line Reporting, A new reporting approach for the sustainable organisation).

- There is a demonstrated need for some form of public reporting on the performance of the City, particularly in terms of social and environmental sustainability. The City already provides well developed financial reporting for the organisation. There is further opportunity to develop economic performance reporting.
- There is presently no legislative requirement for organisations in Western Australia to publicly report their environmental performance.
- However, organisations are increasingly reporting on performance, as part of annual reviews.
- Triple Bottom Line is one model for reporting components of sustainable development.
- Various management systems exist (eg. Quality systems ISO 9000; Environmental Management Systems ISO 14000) which can be used to guide reporting.
- Triple Bottom Line reporting is not limited to environmental reporting or “State of the Environment” reporting. It comprises the three essential elements of economic, social and environmental performance reporting.
- The City of Joondalup State of the Environment Report, prepared by Chambers and Galloway (1999) has incorporated the key components of Triple Bottom Line reporting, via the development of economic, social and environmental indicators.

- There are several issues associated with Triple Bottom Line reporting which need further detailed investigation, particularly from a financial perspective.

Demand for publicly accessible information is demonstrated in part by the number and range of questionnaires received by the City on a wide range of subjects. Requests for information include statutory based ABS surveys and other surveys including sustainability, environmental performance, energy usage, transportation, population and growth statistics, indicators, Greenhouse gas emissions, street-lighting statistics, urban bushland management, etc.

Issues requiring detailed investigation include;

- The selection of appropriate and useful economic, social and environmental indicators.
- The selection of measurement units ie. Monetary value or other measurements.
- Resourcing and funding for data collection and reporting.
- No standard approach for Local Government.
- The differing needs of TBL reporting for different users, ie. general public, Senior Administration, Councillors, External Agencies etc.
- The public review of the Strategic Plan identified a community need for greater consultation/communication (information flow) and the pursuit of sustainability. An appropriate model for reporting to assist in this process is requested.

City of Joondalup State of the Environment and Sustainability Indicators Report

In January 1999, Chambers and Galloway & Associates submitted a report to the City entitled "State of the Environment and Sustainability Indicators Report". The aim of this study was to begin the process of reporting on the state of the environment, of the then City of Wanneroo. Major elements of the study included:

- An assessment of prevailing biological and physical environmental conditions and sustainability indicators based on available information.
- Identification of further investigations needed to complete an effective statement of prevailing biological and physical environmental conditions.
- Identification of available information relevant to the City's social and economic environment and to the development of sustainability indicators, and the further information required to enable an effective statement of prevailing social and economic environmental conditions and sustainability indicators to be developed.

A consultant brief has recently been issued, seeking quotations for the revision and updating of the State of the Environment/Sustainability Indicators report.

A selected bibliography is provided in Attachment 3.

MOVED S Hawkins SECONDED R France that the Environmental Advisory Committee NOTES the summary regarding Triple Bottom Line (Economic, Social and Environmental Performance) reporting.

The Motion was Put and

CARRIED

5.5 Working Group Report on the Perth Air Quality Management Plan

A Review of the Perth Air Quality Management Plan (PAQMP), Department of Environmental Protection (2000), was requested at the Environmental Committee meeting held on 22 February 2001. Mr Goldsmith presented the results of the PAQMP Working Group (comprising Mr C Merry, Mr J Goldsmith and Mr D Wake), to the City of Joondalup Environmental Advisory Committee.

Background

The state government of Western Australia instigated the Perth Air Quality Management Plan (PAQMP) to address issues of air quality in the Perth metropolitan region. The PAQMP seeks to outline strategies necessary to ensure clean air in the Perth region for the next thirty years; having been fundamentally based on both the Perth Photochemical Smog Study, and the Perth Haze Study of 1996.

The value of the PAQMP is in its extensive reporting of past, present and future trends relative to Perth ambient air quality. The PAQMP has been compiled and presented in a format that can be easily understood by a wide audience (students, academics, local government, technicians, and the lay person).

The Perth Air Quality Management Plan details Perth air quality objectives, strategies and actions, in the following key areas;

- Health Effects Research.
- Monitoring, Modeling and Research.
- Land Use and Transport Planning.
- Vehicle Emissions Management.
- Domestic Activities Emissions.
- Burning Emissions Management.
- Industry Emissions Management.
- Community Information and Education.

The PAQMP's strength of purpose is that it seeks to encourage the broader community to become actively involved in the implementation of the plan. It directs the reader to the three most prevalent factors that are likely to further impact on ambient air quality, namely, increased vehicle use, ageing vehicle condition, and domestic fuel heaters.

The PAQMP's content provides the reader with proficient technical research data, detailed historical summaries of aspects pertaining to the plan, together with a plethora of tables, graphs, and other statistical analysis. In support of its appeal to a wider audience, many good descriptions of relevant ambient air quality factors are presented in clear understandable detail for the reader. An example, it is noted that "many airborne contaminants are in much higher concentrations within the home". This is followed by the statement that "this ultimately has the potential to affect the health of susceptible groups in the population".

Action Implementation Plan

The PAQMP includes 126 actions as part of the action implementation plan. Local Government is identified as a "support agency" in 46 actions, in relation to the agency responsible for implementing the actions. Local Government is identified as the joint responsible agency for two actions;

- Action LTP1.10, Manage regional parking in key destinations (CBD and strategic regional centres). Responsible agency includes Transport and Local Government.
- Action DAE 2.2. Promote effective green waste collection and reprocessing services and support a coordinated approach by all local government authorities in Perth. Responsible agency Department of Environmental Protection and Local Government.

In relation to Action LTP1.10, the City of Joondalup is presently undertaking a study into City parking.

The key areas considered to have the most impact on air quality in the short term are;

- Changing commuter behaviour to reduce the reliance on private car use;
- Reduce vehicle emissions.
- Managing industrial emissions.

The PAQMP notes that;

"During the next year, the Department of Environmental Protection will work closely with the relevant lead and supporting agencies to develop detailed project specifications for each action, which will include resourcing requirements and the expected impact on air quality, and to develop detailed implementation plans for implementation."

Conclusion

The PAQMP should be viewed by Perth municipal governments as a valuable consultative guide on matters relating to future trends in predicting air quality, and air quality management. Although certain data analysis may prove somewhat difficult for the lay person, the following extrapolations from the data presented are justifiably upheld.

- Ozone concentrations may rise in the future
- Smog days may rise in the future
- Nitrogen dioxide and Sulphur dioxide levels are tending to decrease
- Carbon monoxide and lead levels are in decline

The PAQMP strongly suggests that the two main areas of concern in terms of air toxicity for Perth are high benzene levels, and vehicle/domestic fuel heater emissions. These were noted as being the biggest causes of declining air quality. In general, the PAQMP attempts to convey to the reader details of a plan that is well structured and well researched in the area of ambient air quality. The authors' consistency in presenting unbiased comment and relevant research data is evident throughout the report. Nevertheless, it is sometimes difficult to disseminate clear understandable text from areas of highly scientific data. This on occasion only sought to confuse its audience where it was not necessary to do so. Putting minor criticism aside, it is recommended that the City of Joondalup consider the PAQMP as an important document for consideration relative to policy in this area.

MOVED V Harman SECONDED Cr Mackintosh that the Environmental Advisory Committee seeks Council endorsement for gaining assistance from the Western Australian Municipal Association and the Department of Environmental Protection, to progress the development of detailed project specifications for relevant actions for the City of Joondalup, including resourcing requirements, the expected impact on air quality, and the development of detailed implementation plans for implementation.

The Motion was Put and

CARRIED

6. OTHER BUSINESS

6.1 Craigie Open Space Draft Study

Mr Cluning addressed the Committee regarding the Craigie Open Space Study. Mr Cluning referred to a memorandum from the Manager Urban Design and Policy Services, inviting the Environmental Advisory Committee to comment on the draft document, before the finalisation of the report and presentation to Council.

Copies of the draft study were circulated to Committee members.

6.2 Articles & Poster

Mr Prefumo tabled an article "Salinity Hits The Suburbs" & "Insects Home In On Replanted Natives" (Attachment 4) and a poster "Frogs of the South West" for the information of Committee members.

6.3 Joondalup Festival

Mr Goldsmith invited committee members to attend the Joondalup Festival (24-25 March 2001) at which the City has prepared a range of displays relating to environmental activities, including a display on sustainability.

6.4 Community Funding

Mr Goldsmith advised committee members of the 2nd round of the Community Funding Programme, which closes on 30 October 2001.

6.5 Precinct Action Planning

Mr Goldsmith distributed copies of the Precinct Action Planning “Community Visioning” flyer to Committee members. (Attachment 5.)

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Environmental Advisory Committee will be held in Conference Room 3, Joondalup Civic Centre, Boas Avenue, Joondalup on Thursday 19 April 2001 at 5.30 pm.

CLOSURE

Cr Magyar declared the meeting closed at 20.00hrs.

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JG

Attachment 1
Summary of Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999

(Refer to attached digital document).

Attachment 2
Revised 2001 Workplan for the Environmental Advisory Committee

Attachment 3
Selected Bibliography and Web Sites;
Triple Bottom Line and Sustainability Indicators

The Impact of Environmental Matters on the Accountancy Profession Discussion Paper. (Undated) Issued by the Environmental Accounting Task Force, The Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia.

Implementing Triple Bottom Line Performance and Reporting Mechanisms- Further Considerations. (Undated) Craig Deegan. Professor of Accounting, Faculty of Commerce, University of South Queensland.

<http://www.icaa.org.au/charter/may99deegan.html>

Triple Bottom Line Reporting. A New Reporting Approach for the Sustainable Organisation. (Undated) Craig Deegan. Professor of Accounting, Faculty of Commerce, University of South Queensland.

Triple Bottom Line Issues Group

<http://www.icaa.org.au/ICAA/triple/CentreSet.htm>

The International Corporate Environmental Reporting Site

<http://www.enviroreporting.com/>

One World Online <http://www.oneworld.org/> OneWorld is dedicated to promoting human rights and sustainable development by harnessing the democratic potential of the Internet.

“Insight; Business Wakes to TBL as Academe Dozes”

<http://www.oneworld.net/anydoc.cgi?url=http://www.id21.org/insights28/art6.htm>

Centre for Innovation in Corporate Responsibility: CICR announces enhancements to its virtual corporate social and environmental responsibility resource: CICR.net

<http://www.cicr.net/Headlines.html>

Maximizing Sources of Value, Integrating Corporate Social Responsibility with Strategic Management. <http://www.cicr.net/Maximizing.html>

Environmental Management Systems: A Strategic Business Approach to Managing the Environment and the Bottom Line <http://www.cicr.net/EMS.html>

United Nations. Sustainability Indicators;

- Sustainable Development Indicators: Framework and methodologies

http://esl.jrc.it/envind/un_meths/UN_ME.htm

- Sustainable Economic Development indicators

http://esl.jrc.it/envind/un_meths/UN_ME052.htm

- Social Sustainability Indicators

http://esl.jrc.it/envind/un_meths/UN_ME010.htm

- Environmental Sustainability Indicators

http://esl.jrc.it/envind/un_meths/UN_ME076.htm

Attachment 4
Press Articles “Salinity Hits The Suburbs” &
“Insects Home-In On Replanted Natives”
(Refer digital documents.)

Attachment 5
Precinct Action Planning “Community Visioning” Flyer
(Refer digital document.)