

# Minutes

## Koo Wee Rup & Longwarry Flood Protection District Advisory Committee – Meeting 8

<b>Meeting date:</b>	27/05/2021
<b>Meeting time:</b>	1:00pm
<b>Location:</b>	Zoom
<b>Chairperson:</b>	Bruce Turner
<b>Attendees:</b>	Bruce Turner, Ian Anderson, Matthew Coleman, Susan Anderson, Con Raffa, Robert Mure, Teena Mathew (BBSC), Sarah Eggleton (MW), Tom Le Cerf (MW), Stuart Cochrane (MW), Adam Ryan (MW), Evie McGauley-Kennedy (CSC)
<b>Apologies:</b>	Frank Rovers, Jo Fontana, John Hobson, Kevin Carlisle-Stapleton and Kevin Alexander (CSC)
<b>Note taker:</b>	Sarah Eggleton

### 1. Welcome and apologies

We began with an acknowledgement of the contribution of Cr Ray Brown, who had passed away since the last meeting. A number of those present offered their reflections:

- He had been the Station Master in KWR and contributed much to the township, including the pool, community centre etc
- Ready to help anyone
- He had a tough gig as a Councillor but was always good to deal with; he listened to issues, positive and negative and kept people up to date
- He was a gentleman; respectful in all dealings; with quite an interest in development
- He was always really receptive to officer advice, and passionate about protecting his community in KWR; a very sad loss for council and the community.

### 2. Review of actions

Actions from previous meetings	Presenter / status
<b>Action 5.1:</b> MW, Kevin and Teena to collaborate on preparing a presentation and discussion on how planning process should work to address the issue with new, small lot developments, involving relevant experts, for the next meeting. <b>CLOSED</b>	See item 3
<b>Action 7.1:</b> Casey Council to be formally invited by MW to join the Committee - <b>FOLLOW UP</b>	SE
<b>Action 7.2:</b> Bruce and Georgina to collaborate on collating questions/ issues raised at previous meetings on the topic of planning/ development pressures for circulation to Committee members for input. The resulting paper can then be provided to the planning officers to help them prepare to attend the next meeting. <b>DONE</b>	BT
<b>Action 5.2</b> MW to take up illegal camping and recent fire on riverbanks with PV and/or DELWP as the land managers to implement some measure i.e. bollards to prevent access. Are causing some damage to the riverbank. Have been in contact with DELWP. Sue reported that MW's exemplary works in the area has solved the problem <b>CLOSED</b>	TLC

Actions from previous meetings	Presenter / status
<p><b>Action 7.3:</b> MW to circulate a link to the proposed new Guidelines for Camping on Crown Land. <b>Sarah to resend guidelines with the minutes</b> (see below) <b>CLOSED</b>  <a href="https://engage.vic.gov.au/regulated-watercourse-land-regulations">https://engage.vic.gov.au/regulated-watercourse-land-regulations</a>            Sarah said that MW was still trying to understand the implications of the guidelines (new regulations) for MW.</p>	MW
<p><b>Action 4.2 follow up:</b> (re MW guidelines for new culverts) Awaiting update on progress with changing policy to be upfront advice to landowners/ developers, based on principle that bridges are preferred <b>OPEN</b>            Matt recalled the committee's last bus tour where Frank had expressed concern re Murray Rd drain at Cora Lynn which was a culvert. He said at the time we were told that outcome was in line with policy. Sarah confirmed that that would change under the new policy/ guidelines. Matt asked who issued the new permits – MW does. Matt suggested that given we are in the FPD it was important to keep on our agenda/ action list. Sarah noted that the consultation process for the guidelines needed clarifying.</p>	SE
<p><b>Action 7.4:</b> Stuart will organise a time to meet Con on-site to inspect. <b>CLOSED - works to be undertaken in new financial year</b></p>	SC
<p><b>Action 7.5</b> Issues with CSC complaints not getting through – Georgina will follow up with CSC and see what we can find out. Con to provide as much information to enable this. Con rang some of the people concerned and asked they resubmit their complaints. Complaints have been handled <b>CLOSED</b></p>	CR/ MW?
<p><b>Action 7.6</b> Sarah to provide an update on Westernport Coastal Hazard Assessment what we need to do to manage sea level rise.</p>	SE at Item 5
<p><b>Action 7.7</b> Stuart to follow up with asset team and advise of Council's experience with an alternative to gates.</p>	SC at Item 4

### 3. Managing the impacts of development (particularly on small lots)

Evie McGauley-Kennedy (CSC), Teena Mathew (BBSC)

Evie provided most of the information below in discussion with the committee.

#### Planning process for new, small lot developments

- Issue - Water levels stay higher in the drains for longer compared to past. This may be due to development
- Planning schemes that have overlays that apply to particular areas, e.g. KWRLFPD contains Land Subject to Inundation Overlay (LSIO) and Neighbourhood Residential Zone
- There are State and Local policies that guide development of different scales
- KWR township Strategy (CSC) – Development guidelines include site coverage, minimum lot size, character. Objectives relate to being a flood prone area
- Township Strategies don't carry the same weight as schemes, provisions etc, so it's difficult to enforce these things to full extent
- If development is in LSIO – triggers referral to MW for conditions which are very detailed
- Council also applies conditions for onsite stormwater detention. These may be below or above ground
- Permeability/ site coverage is dealt with under building regulations

#### Developments outside of an LSIO

- Onsite detention is still required even if not in an LSIO. The Infrastructure Design Manual (IDM) has regulations around flow detention in infill developments e.g. residential is 5 year events
- When MW receive a development referral it goes to the Flood Services team and Regional Services where a high-level view of what's happening in the broader catchment is applied

- If lot size is more than 2ha then don't have to provide detention in rural areas (unless under LSIO, waterway protection)
- If subdivision requires detentions it is on the s173 Agreement (on title)

**ACTION 8.1:** Sue to send the examples of developments outside the LSIO of concern to her to Evie so Council can provide information on the detention requirements (what was approved) at these sites.

Sue raised the problem for MW in dealing with cumulative impacts. Adam commented that applications would come to him for assessment from a waterway health perspective. He would be looking at the goals MW are trying to achieve for the area. It's about finding a balance between these and what applicants are able to do financially. Sue commented that the cumulative impacts were still not really addressed. She had been hoping to show the committee local examples close to the Bunyip Hall – eg a road now floods that didn't use to pre-development.

#### **Building permits**

- Landscape plans are not adhered to in the long term. Checks are not done at completion
- Council does not have the resourcing to check all buildings at completion. Can raise these examples with Council for follow up.
- Conditions of a permit are enforceable
- Building surveyors issue building permits, without Council being across what's in it. Surveyors sign off on occupancy without all permit conditions being met.

#### **Other comments**

- Cardinia Township planning docs could do with review
- Baw Baw undertaking a review of LSIO and Longwarry Structure plan
- Can comment on Structure plans – we should be better at highlighting these opportunities
- **Pakenham East suburb** Structure plan – <https://vpa.vic.gov.au/project/pakenham-east-ppsp/#supporting-documentation>

**ACTION 8.2:** Matt to put his questions about Pakenham East in an email to Evie who will provide an overview of drainage infrastructure in this development

**ACTION 8.3:** James Hodgson to come along to next meeting to discuss the outcomes from his Officer study

## **4. Works update**

### **Capital works**

Adam – Bunyip River; between 13 Mile Rd and Koo Wee Rup – Nar Nar Good Rd. The removal of the final willow infestation has occurred, willows have been mulched and the mulch has been spread on-site to prepare for re-vegetation works that are to occur in the upcoming planting season.

Sue said she was delighted with the works that have happened at her property. Comment on area of mulching that might be a bit low down the bank. Adam will follow up about mulch.

### **Maintenance works update**

Stuart reported 2021-22 desilt program has been completed – 7 sites:

- Ballarto Rd West Drain Ballarto Rd KWR
- Gum Scrub Lower-Cardinia Rd
- Grays Drain – Redefining drain 1 property
- Holts Drain-Bridge Rd Modella
- Parish Rd Drain Longwarry
- West Boundary Catch Drain KWR
- Dawson Rd Extension Drain Modella

Develop program maintenance on areas where we have taken significant works on, that now need ongoing maintenance programs.

Stuart said he would be spending winter looking at areas where significant works have been done (weed control) so don't need to do significant desilts. Maybe grooming or even desilting will be needed. He noted safety concerns with trees on banks coming down in high wind events where people access water.

He said this was an ongoing issue with trees on Cardinia Creek that were overlooked, but now this work has been done.

Matt queried the source of funding. Adam and Stu indicated the FPD levy is for maintenance and capital is through the MW waterways and drainage charge (ie separate to the levy). Money spent on latter is more from a river health perspective.

Matt said he finds these updates not particularly detailed and recalled that meetings in earlier years looked at how well the spending related to the service levels agreed for each part of the network; to see how well we are performing. Stu said this was still the approach being taken to planning works by MW; using the service level maps. *It was agreed* that it would be helpful to return to presenting to the committee using that approach.

**ACTION 8.4:** (all relating to works)

- Develop Works Map – network with the Level of Service and where works are planned - Stuart and Adam
- Provide budget update at future meetings – Tom
- Follow up with Carlos about mulch at Bunyip Capital works site – Adam

**5. Focus area update** (See attached table for Action Plan project updates)

**Focus Area 1**

**Action 8.5:** Drone footage for next meeting - Tom

**Focus area 2**

(as per **Action 8.3:** James H (MW) come along to next meeting)

**Focus Area 3**

**Action 8.6:** Cardinia FMP discussion at next meeting – Sarah and Kevin

(As per **Action 7.6:** Coastal hazard assessment presentation and discussion; also include salinity impacts)

**Focus area 4**

**Action 8.7:** Send around one pager - Sarah

**6. Community feedback**

Robert raised a question about McKays Drain – The road upgrade and round about installation as part of the Koo Wee Rup bypass saw the realignment of McKays drain to underneath the road. This may be causing some flood impacts at the drain further upstream. Adam is working through the issue to understand cause(s).

Feedback from the community that the river works is going well.

**ACTION 8.8:** Adam followup on a potential social media post on project. Sue to send through some words

**ACTION 8.9:** Stu provide Matt a map of MW drainage assets in his area of interest.

**7. Next meeting**

Thursday 19 August, 1 to 3pm. Location to be advised. Also to consider whether a site visit might be added to this meeting.

It was noted that there are several significant presentations/ consultations to be brought to the group, so MW and the Chair will need to work out the priorities and what is feasible to cover in the two remaining meetings for 2021.

## 8. Optional sites visit

This had to be deferred as the meeting was unable to be held face-to-face.

### Action Plan updates

#### 1. Improving drain functionality

Desired outcomes in 3-5 years	Priorities for this year to begin the journey	Actions	Notes for May meeting
Maintain drain functionality and seeking improvement opportunities	Employ latest knowledge and up-to-date control methods for pest species	Trial drone inspections and reporting on mapping	Have used drone on a number of locations, useful for prioritising work where access is difficult
Better litter management – ownership/responsibility	Drones/mapping	Continuous Improvement - Identify main focuses for current year maintenance program and implement	Key focus for current year practice culvert inspections, program currently underway Managing sediment in Carrier Drains – investigation underway for Cardinia Creek
Review Service Levels Standards across the network - adaptability	Continuous improvement	Map out multiyear priorities for weed control	Delayed due to pricing submission timeframes.
	Continuous customer engagement and Council partnering		

#### 2. Managing impacts of development on flow volumes, amenity, etc

Desired outcomes in 3-5 years	Priorities for this year to begin the journey	Actions	Notes for may meeting
Retarding basins (already planned) for west of Muddy gates Lane needs to be professionally researched and planned	Level of infrastructure needs to keep up with levels of development	Include new agenda item to discuss development	Any upcoming developments further information as requested
Review of impacts of small blocks development which don't require storage – what impact do these additional hard surfaces have?	More information from MW and Council on the planned development and their potential impacts (attending District meetings)	Continue to invite experts and report on upcoming development	Presentation at 27 May meeting

Are the retarding basins working effectively?	Sediment control on development	-Sediment control is council issue –council lead	
Cumulative effects of on-going development considered?			

### 3. Disaster management – climate change, climate extremes, contamination, Fires across swamp, Water pollution event

<b>Desired outcomes in 3-5 years</b>	<b>Priorities for this year to begin the journey</b>	<b>Actions</b>	
Preparedness and operational Response Plan developed	Understanding impact of sea level rise – mitigating and communicating	Seek for funding for above investigation to determine impacts on operations	Presentation planned by MW expert
Climate change scenarios – identify key areas impacted	Business case for investigating – to Identify risks etc	Potential for presentation of MW climate change team	
Emergency response Plan – investigate areas that can be sacrificed to save others e.g. houses vs property.	Past response experience – costs, roles, responsibilities	Presentation of MW EMP	Cardinia FMP renewal underway
Fire – recover costs of assets:		Potential for Council to present on fire management across council area?	

**4. Communication roles and responsibilities – user friendly advice – who’s responsible - boundaries, drains etc**

Focus area	Desired outcomes in 3-5 years	Priorities for this year to begin the journey	Actions
Communication roles and responsibilities – user friendly advice – who’s responsible - boundaries, drains etc	<p>Landholders are clear on their ongoing responsibility</p> <p>MW drains have agreed Service Levels Standards and have been cleaned to meet these - includes weed control on drains</p>	<p>Confirm drain responsibility</p> <p>-MW - Council -Residents</p>	<p>Existing one pager to be circulated. Feedback requested for updates</p>