

Minutes

Title:	Koo Wee Rup Longwarry Flood Protection District Advisory Committee (#4) – Meeting No 4
Meeting date:	Thursday, 1 August 2024
Meeting time:	1.00 – 3.00 pm
Location:	Zoom
Attendees:	Bruce Turner, Garry Oates, Ian Nicolson, Ian Anderson, Matthew Coleman, Susan Anderson, Kate Yeowart, Con Raffa, Ben Lamont and Nev Bayley (Cardinia SC), Paul Rees (MW), Andy Clark (MW), Olivia Tattam (MW Comms & Engagement), and Jen Lovejoy and Kyle Olsen (MW Price Submission Engagement) Apologies: Tom le Cerf (MW), Frank Rovers, Teena Mathew and Angela Farnell (Baw Baw SC), Brendan Nunn (Cardinia SC), Paul Bucys and Kuan Yeoh (Casey),
Chairperson:	Bruce Turner
Note takers:	Paul, Andy and Bruce

1. Welcome, apologies			Presenter
1.00	1.1	Welcome & apologies	Bruce Turner (Chair)
	1.2	Operations and Maintenance role update	MW
Patrick Hook replacing Stuart Cochrane permanently as Operations and Maintenance Officer for the Koo Wee Rup area and surrounds. Patrick's background is in plumbing and drainage, and he also has qualifications in conservation and land management. Stuart is leaving to start his own business. Stuart's last day is 15/8 so please contact Patrick from then onwards. Patrick.Hook@melbournewater.com.au			

2. Communications & Engagement		Presenter
2.1	Update on engagement with the wider community in the district (including feedback on/from online Community Hub, Customer Service Charter update, Pricing Submission process)	Olivia Tattam
Work to date		
2 x new videos, Let's Talk website, information sent out to all properties in the district.		
Updated Customer Service Charter		
Updated FAQs for Melbourne Water Call Centre staff		
Work with Councils and comms and engagement		
Coming up		
Regular updates to the website		
2 nd community newsletter		
Attend 1-2 events		
Support Price Submission		
Continue to utilise local communications channels		
Videos to educate and promote		

Committee Feedback on Communication to Date

- Committee received the newsletter. There has been much better communication since February. Please keep it up.
- Need to be careful around communicating private land drainage responsibilities.
- Price Submission will need good comms and engagement – people may think it's just about putting up rates
- Olivia is open for feedback at any time; also any questions coming from the wider community via the Committee can be addressed in future newsletters

2.2 Pricing Submission Update

Jen Lovejoy and
Kyle Olsen

- Melbourne Water's services, water, sewerage, flood and drainage and waterways and catchments. Main services in KWR are flood & drainage and waterways and catchments.
- Breadth of services and levels of services are what need to be discussed with the community.
- Next pricing period 2026 to 2031.
- Proposed engagement for KWR
 - Mail out to precept customers (Aug 24) including invitation to in-person forum
 - Community forum (Sep/Oct 2024)
 - Mail out survey pack (Oct to Dec 2024)
 - Communications to close the loop (Dec 2024)
- Are there any other considerations we should think of? Does it look right for the community? Any events we can be part of?
- Feedback: Looks good for the existing precept customers. Matt asked if the boundary of the District could be reviewed as part of the process. Would need to engage residents adjacent (e.g. Monomeith drain system) who aren't currently in the District.
- Community forum items for discussion
 - The price submission process
 - Challenges in the broad environment
 - Overview of services MW provides in the District
 - Broad options available for MW services 2026 to 2031
 - Potential review of the FPD boundaries: purpose, ideas on scope and timing
 - Working with other agencies to deliver waterways and drainage services within the FPD.
- Existing services and prices are available on the website.
- Outcomes for the PS26 pricing submission.
- Proportion of cost spent on carrier drains (50% precept, 50% waterways and drainage charge). Can the waterways and drainage charge fund more of the maintenance activity on these drains to reflect impacts from wider region on the carriers? This would free up precept funds for the feeder drains

- KWR pricing submission is part of MW's broader pricing submission.
- What is the process for changing the KWRLW FPD boundary? – will follow up
- When you put the service options out how many options will there be? Options to be developed from community feedback
- Timing of the forum? On the weekend, outside of a sport time. Of an evening. 5pm Zoom meetings work well. Attending markets (Bunyip and/or Longwarry).
- Footy season: Training, Tue, Thur, Games all Saturday.

It was agreed that the presentation slides would be circulated following the meeting (DONE)

3. Actions from previous meetings			Presenter
1.30	3.1	Discussion of spreadsheet of consolidated Actions/ Issues raised by the Committee circulated prior to meeting • Discussion by exception • Bunyip Railway bridge has been removed by VicTrack. • Cora Lynn Ford – Cardinia and MW still discussing management responsibilities; Andy is organising installation of signs and lights (Committee Issues/ Locations #2). • Cora Lynn Ford – Work Order in system to scrape the edge to ensure road obvert is the control level. This activity has been added to a Preventative Maintenance activity to occur twice annually (to occur during desilt activity). (Committee Issue #23; Complete) • Yallock No. 6 Drain. Is it draining backwards. - issue resolved by Cardinia Council. (Issues #14 Complete) • Enticott Drain – on the plan for desilting. (Issue #16 Desilt works to come). • Erosion upstream on Bunyip River – geomorphology study from October 23 complete and survey of that reach to be completed in coming months (Surveyor engaged and waiting on confirmation of date for completion). Andy meeting landholder on site 6/08/24 (Neil Lukies). (Issue #27) • Capital revegetation works by Melbourne Water - Some plants washed away (this is to be expected and is accounted for in the revegetation scope/numbers planted). Plant guard types discussed, mesh guards are an alternative to cardboard or corflute however have additional labour associated with maintenance and removal.	MW

4. MW Works update			Presenter
	4.1	Current Works (maintenance, capital) and - Northwest catch drain – Tree management (Drainage Work Planning #38).	MW

- Woody weed control over the Bunyip River (Drainage Work Planning **#41**)
 - See spreadsheet for detailed breakdown on activities
- 4.2 Future precept works
- Detailed in spreadsheet provided prior to meeting “works planning”.
- 4.3 Flood Modelling Study update
- In progress.
 - Please send through an information about flood events, levee overtopping locations to Melbourne Water for inclusion to assist study.

5. Stakeholder feedback/ general business		Presenter
5.1	New feedback / AOB • Maintenance of drains affecting Riverside Ave, Bunyip (raised by Brendan Nunn). Walley Drain. To be discussed with MW Maintenance officer. (Action 4.1) - Phillips Drain – Ballarto Road ○ Based on available evidence this is a VicRoads roadside drain. Andy to email issue to VicRoads (complete), (12.08.2024) - Vic roads is going to make assessment and reply to Andy – will feedback response when received. (Issue #30) - Beswick St, Garfield – tree clearing – Ben L to refer to Cardinia compliance team. (Action 4.2) - Bayles – Koo Wee Rup Road – south side – is filling illegal? Cardinia Council and MW are aware and discussing, don't believe this has approval. (Action 4.3) - Haul Road, Seven Mile Road end. Filling occurring here. (Action 4.4) - Filling is becoming more common. If you see it, report to MW and Council. MW are the referral agency for works in the floodplain. Landowners should be going to Council for permit, and this will be referred to MW - Martin Road, Longwarry – on list for desilt. – Where blackberries are, Cardinia Shire jurisdiction. Landcare group is applying for some funding to do some control. Can we do some planting to connect up the Bandicoot corridor (included on Committee Issues layer #31). - Sue advised of a new collaboration group called Swampworks – more biodiversity on the swamp, taking into account it is a drainage scheme. DEECA, Councils, MW, Biosphere, Monash University, Royal Botanical Gardens and others are involved. Sue to circulate more info (DONE) - Sue reported that the Cranbourne Botanic Gardens are concerned for critically endangered Swamp Everlasting (<i>Xerochrysum palustre</i>). Present on Mc Alpine/Manks Road Intersection close to blackberries. Could be along other drains and vulnerable under weed spraying.	MW

6. Next meeting			Presenter
2.55	6.1	14 November 2024, 10 am to 2pm (approx.) including shorter (1hr) face-to-face meeting and district tour (Feedback sought on date and issues/ locations of interest)	Bruce Turner
Agenda topics: Price submission update, boundary review.			