

Minutes

Title:	Koo Wee Rup Longwarry Flood Protection District Advisory Committee (#4) – Meeting No 8
Meeting date:	Thursday, 13 November 2025
Meeting time:	10.00 pm to 12.00 noon
Location:	Zoom (see link circulated)
Attendees:	Bruce Turner, Ian Nicolson, Ian Anderson, Matthew Coleman, Susan Anderson, Kate Yeowart, Con Raffa, Teena Mathew and Yi-Ru Chen (Baw Baw SC), Scott Martin (Cardinia SC), Paul Bucys and Kuan Yeoh (Casey), Paul Rees (MW), Tom le Cerf (MW), Sue Finley (MW), Patrick Hook (MW) Apologies: Ben Lamont and Brendan Nunn (Cardinia SC), Angela Farnell (Baw Baw SC), Frank Rovers
Chairperson:	Bruce Turner
Note takers:	MW and Bruce

1. Welcome, apologies			Presenter
1.00	1.1	Welcome & apologies Sue Finley has started as the new Waterways and Land Officer replacing Andy Clark.	Bruce Turner (Chair)
	1.2	New member update (replacement for Garry Oates) Committee will have a think about any other suitable candidates to fill the gap. If we are unable to find one, through this process, they are happy to leave the vacancy to the next refresh (likely late 2026 / early 2027) of the entire Committee.	Tom/ Paul

2. Communications & Engagement		Presenter
2.1	Price Submission update - Carrier Drains proposed to be entirely funded by Waterways and Drainage Charge = \$248,199 - Proposed 10% increase proposed ESC = \$114,815 - Combined, this is a proposed \$363,015 (32%) increase on current funding of \$1,148,102 - Extra resourcing proposed in our bid to Essential Services Commission - We expect a response to our submission in early 2026. In discussion Con asked if the increase would be enough. Paul commented it would certainly allow MW to continue with the current program. Tom said more focus on the ground and on forward thinking would mean MW can become less reactive (and therefore make the best use of funds) over time. Matt commented that a 10% increase in rates was likely the most the ESC would agree to, so achieving the additional funds beyond that would be a good outcome. He went on to ask if a review of the district boundaries was within the scope of the additional funding. Paul responded that that was one of the larger items in the options that were consulted on so could not be included in the 10% increase. However, he said there is no reason why we couldn't discuss how that could be progressed anyway. Updated flood modelling (see	Paul

item 3) will help delineate the boundaries and what should happen next

2.2 **Future engagement program (Customer Satisfaction survey)** MW

- Melbourne Water Communications Team is planning to shift how the customer satisfaction survey within the district is completed.
- This is funded via the Waterways & Drainage charge.
- There is an opportunity to include some educational material about MW's services, landholders responsibilities etc. as part of this.
- The Committee was supportive of this broadening of the survey content.

It was agreed to 'road test' the survey with the Committee before circulating it more widely (Action 8.1)

3. MW Works approach and update	Presenter
3.1 Flood Mapping/ Modelling and Asset Renewal (Service & Asset Lifecycle program) update – including recent consultation and outcomes of District Tour Flood modelling Online and in-person feedback about previous floods was collected. Flood Modelling for the District is in progress. Estimated model completion is 31st Oct 2026. At that point, the process will be at Stage 2 of 6 stages in terms of modelling, consultation and roll out of the changes to the planning scheme. Further community consultation will occur once the flood modelling is complete. Questions: Ian A – could the group have a meeting about this? Paul – yes could ask the modellers to present to the Committee (Action 8.2) Matt – can you play with the inputs to model actual scenarios/ forecasts? Tom – the modellers calibrate it to historic events and then test with 1 in 100 events at specific spots. The hope is that we can refine it for our needs – eg more minor flooding/ maintenance queries. Paul – one of the things we asked to be included is duration of flood events. We can block the system at certain points and test the impact. This can further inform works planning. Tom – also looking at level of service around levees. Matt – that sounds good. But does it also input to planning schemes?! Awareness-raising in MW Over the last 1-2 years we have collectively raised awareness at Senior Levels within Melbourne Water about the District, what makes it distinct and what are some of the challenges faced. We have achieved/ proposed the following outcomes: - Carrier Drains proposed to be entirely funded by Waterways and Drainage Charge = \$248,199	Tom

- In addition, 10% rates increase proposed to the Essential Services Commission (ESC) = \$114,815
- Extra resourcing proposed in our bid to ESC
- Advocated for Flood Modelling for the District
- Let's Talk Koo Wee Rup Website established
- Bunyip River Levee Upgrade Project
- Improved remote sensing of drainage condition
- Progressing an improved asset management approach for the district

Once the flood modelling is complete, that will allow us to make more informed decision and to advocate for improvements at specific locations.

Q: Kate – Proposed changes to State planning laws are unlikely to affect new developments but will affect existing areas within the Committee's area of concern such as established housing in Longwarry. The issue pertains to the proposed removal of a requirement to seek planning permission for additional dwellings on established blocks. There are a great number of properties within the area of consideration for the Committee that could avail themselves of this provision (should it be enacted) that could adversely affect the flood management system. My recommendation is that a limitation be sought for this provision (should it be enacted) that it cannot apply in areas that affect flood management, but that (it) remains within the scope of (approval by) Melbourne Water and the local Councils.

A: Paul is confirming with the MW strategic planning team.
(Action 8.3)

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|-----|---|-----------------|
| 3.2 | Current Works (maintenance, capital, precept) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - See separate presentation for details. - Labertouche Landcare Group has a pest animal team that is qualified and experienced. - Q: Matt – could we remove the bridge on Western Contour Drain? A: Tom – arguably it could be removed but there may be Heritage issues. If we use simple methods including reestablishing access for our mowing etc. this will go a long way to improve the condition without bridge removal. | Patrick and Sue |
| 3.3 | Update on progress with 'Level of Service approach' to prioritising works prior to completion of mapping/ modelling <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Trialling an approach looking at assessing on-ground condition of drains across 20 sites throughout the district. | Tom and Paul |

4. Actions from previous meetings		Presenter
4.1	Refer to minutes of last meeting and spreadsheet circulated prior to meeting • Discussion by exception – what is of most interest in the actions not yet completed?	MW/ all

- Cora Lynn Ford Handover to Council – Scott Martin will check with Council. (**Action already on the Committee issues spreadsheet/ register – ID#2**)
- Erosion on the Bunyip. Melbourne Water has concept designs for rockwork. The Services and Asset Lifecycle team has accepted the recommendations re permanent structures and is currently scoping up the project including detailed designs for the delivery of them.

5. Stakeholder feedback/ general business		Presenter
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5.1	New feedback / AOB	MW
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Added to Committee register:

- West Dalmore Road Drain – Maintenance of mangroves south of the floodgate to the bay – Assigned to Patrick Hook – **Action** drone inspection.
- Phillips Rd Drain – general maintenance enquiry - Assigned to Patrick Hook – **Action** inspection.
- Scanlons Drain - Possible blockage or restriction between McDonalds Rd & Humphries Rd (market garden pushing a large amount of silt into channel) – Assigned to Patrick Hook – **Action** inspection & raise works as required

Works already about to occur, so not added to register.

- Bunyip Landcare have been doing works on Martin Road for Bandicoot. Further works needed along Martin Road (Bastion #1 Drain) – Patrick has worked planned.

6. Next meeting		Presenter
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6.1	Thursday 12 March 2026 (Proposed to be in-person, 10-11am meeting at local venue followed by District Tour with lunch, finishing by 2pm)	Bruce Turner
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Itinerary ideas to investigate:

- Walkers Road Drain, Lovers Lane
- Sue's revegetation property, Sue is happy to host
- Lyall's inlet – not safe to visit in person; can we take some drone footage and have a virtual tour?

Lastly, members wished Teena well for the birth of her new baby, due early December. Yi-Ru will be replacing her while she is on maternity leave.



KWRLFPD Works Update

Patrick Hook

13/11/2025

Overview

- **Retrospective: July – November 2025**
 - Channel weed spraying (Sep – **Complete**)
 - Western Outfall Drain desilt (Oct – **Complete**)
 - Floodgate replacements (Jul – **Ongoing**)
- **Future works 2025-26 FY**
 - Desilts - Precept & Carrier (Dec 25 onward)
 - Upcoming works (Civil, Land Management & NRM)
 - Ongoing preventative maintenance
 - **Update from Waterway & Land Officer, Sue Finley.**



Retrospective: July – November 2025

Channel Weed Spraying

- Targeted management of in-stream vegetation
- Over 120 work orders completed in September / October 2025
- Valuable feedback from contractor RE site access issues, which prevented some works from being completed
- Upgraded spray equipment feasibility investigation – Works Delivery team



Western Outfall Drain – Pre-desilt

Western Outfall Drain

- 70m by 5m
- Works area located 2.4kms south of Ballarto Rd



Yellow polygon indicating works area

Sep 2025, pre-desilt

OFFICIAL

Western Outfall Drain – Post Desilt

Western Outfall Drain

- Blockage identified by landholder
- Prevention of further buildup at historic railway line
- Works completed October 2025
- Material repurposed on site (cost effective)

Oct 2025, post-desilt
& post rainfall

Flood Gate Replacements 25-26FY

Oct 2025, pre-replacement



Oct 2025, post-replacement



- Proactive inspections of 306 floodgates
- 45 floodgates identified in need of repair or replacement
- Steel floodgates replaced with new fibreglass floodgates.
- Some assets require more extensive works such as headwall replacements or new culvert pipes.

Flood Gate Replacements 25-26FY

- Improved flood protection
- Durability and longevity
- Delivery method - capital project
- Works are ongoing

Pre-replacement
Steel floodgate



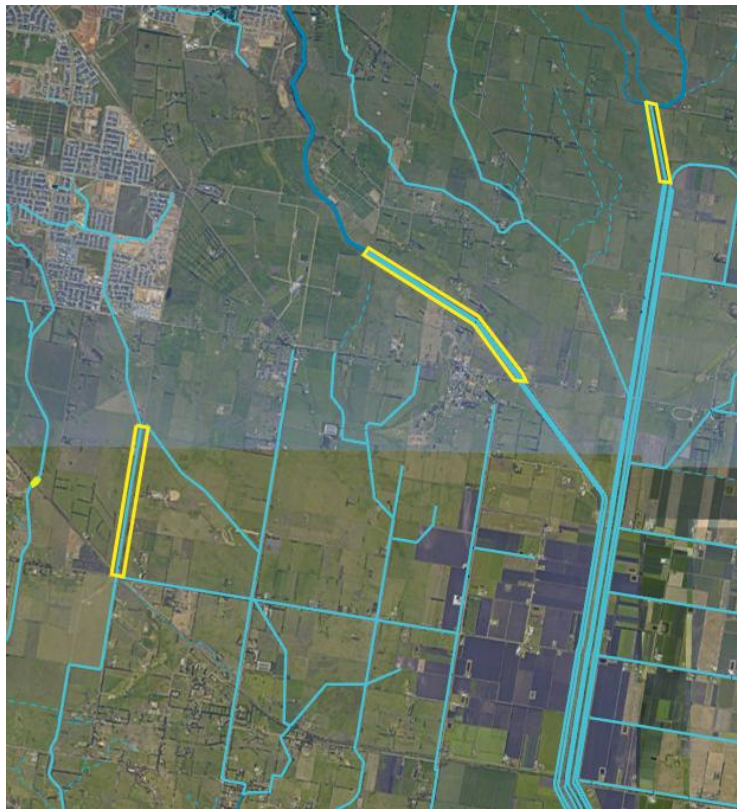
Post-replacement
Fibreglass/stainless steel floodgate



Simpsons Rd Drain - Floodgate Replacement - 2900/FIGate070 (Catani)

Future Works: November onwards

Desilt Locations - 25-26 FY



Desilt Areas Highlighted in Yellow



Planned Desilt Works

- Toomuc Creek (Lower) 1km (Officer South)
- Cardinia Creek (Lower) 1.56kms (*Contingent on Cultural Heritage Permit*)
- Muddy Gates Drain 2kms (Clyde)
- Thirteen Mile Road 675m (Garfield)

Upcoming works

Flood Mitigation / Drainage / Civil Works

- Replacement Of 25 Floodgates – Prime Composite (Fibre Glass, Stainless Steel Construction) **Ongoing**
- McDonalds Catch Drain - Access Track Repairs – Large ruts – 250m **Planning**
- Bunyip Main Outfall Drain - Access Track Repairs **Planning**

Vegetation Control

- Deep Creek Catch Drain - Access Track & Drain Grooming – 3.2kms – **Scheduled Jan 26**
- Bastin #1 Drain – Blackberry Control - Nov – 2.4kms **Scheduled Nov 25**
- North-West Catch Drain – Blackberry Control – Nov 2025 7.1kms – **Scheduled Nov 25**
- Number Seven Yallock Drain - Vegetation Management - Dineen Rd To Toner Rd 1.7kms **Planning**
- Thompson Drain – Longwarry – Veg Management (woody debris instream - mapping work order complete – **follow on work order required**)
- Bunyip Main Outfall Drain - Ballarto Rd To Nine Mile Rd - Tree Management – Dec
- Bunyip Main Outfall Drain - Kwr Road To Ballarto Rd - Tree Management - Dec

General Maintenance

- Lias Rd Drain - Debris / Litter Run 2kms (Pakenham) **Planning**
- Mc Gregors Drain - Removal Of Dumped Rubbish - Koo Wee Rup **Planning**
- Bunyip Main Outfall Drain - Debris Removal For Mowing Access 4.9kms **Planning**

Preventative Maintenance

Ongoing Preventative Maintenance Regime

- Channel Weed Spraying – Sep – In the Koo Wee Rup Longwarry Flood Protection District **Ongoing Maintenance**
- Reach Mowing Jan & May– Scope; Cut Grass within channel, including invert, bank & one slasher cut along the top of bank **Ongoing Maintenance**
- Land Management Preventative Maintenance Regimes – Noxious / invasive weed Control, vegetation management etc. **Ongoing Maintenance**



Update from Waterway & Land Officer, Sue Finley.

Survey Area 1 | Yallock Drains



Approx. Survey Area: 141 Hectares

Colour	Species	Number
■	Deer	3
■	Goats	2
■	Hares	51
■	Rabbits	61
■	Red Foxes	12
	Total feral animals observed in area	129

- Melbourne Water has put a proposal forward to the Australian Government's H5N1 Threat Mitigation Funding bid for the Western Port Ramsar site. H5N1 mitigation actions in Western Port (Ramsar).
- Focus will be on Fox and Deer control at the inlets.
- This has been informed by the Bayles & Yallock Drains Feral & Pest Animal population Census that occurred in August 2025.
- Other NRM works of interest include Threatened fauna surveys on the Yallock Drain.
- Along with ongoing pest plant and revegetation works through out the catchment.



Thank you

Patrick Hook

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Sue Finley

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Waterways & Catchment Service South East

Keep up to date with what's happening

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