



Bush Fire Advisory Committee Minutes – General Meeting
16 July 2020 – 1730hrs
Kalamunda State Emergency Services
20 Raymond Road, Walliston

1.0 Opening of Meeting

Chairperson – Cr. John Giardina welcomed attendees. Good to see everyone back in one piece and healthy.

2.0 Members:

Cr. John Giardina – City of Kalamunda, Councillor – South East Ward
 Brian McGinley – Foreman, Kalamunda Volunteer Fire & Rescue Service
 David Carroll – Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer
 David Stewart – Captain, Kalamunda Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade
 Sean Winter – Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer
 Steve Lake – Acting Kalamunda Community Emergency Services Manager
 Tony Moiler – Captain, Kalamunda Volunteer Fire & Rescue Service

Ex-Officio Members:

Paul Southam - District Officer South East, DFES
 Warwick Martindale – Acting Local Manager State Emergency Service

City Staff:

James Wickens - Manager Environmental Health and Community Safety
 Jamie Hunter – Senior Fire Emergency Management Officer
 Grant Howatson – Fire Emergency Management Officer
 Sonda Alderson - Customer Relations Officer – Health Services

Apologies:

Cr. Lesley Boyd – City of Kalamunda, Councillor – South West Ward
 Michael Hall – Kalamunda Senior Fire Mitigation Officer
 Michael Pasotti – DBCA – Fire Coordinator
 Peter Varelis – Director Development Services
 Mike Ward – Chief Bush Fire Control Officer / Community Emergency Services Manager

3.0 Confirmation of minutes of the previous meeting

Moved: Cr. J Giardina
 Seconded: S Lake

4.0 Matters arising from previous minutes

None

5.0 Correspondence In/Out

None

6.0 General Business

6.1 Fire Hazard Notice 20/21

J Wickens firstly wanted to thank those who put the notice together this year. It is currently available on the website now and will go out soon with the rates to



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residents within the City of Kalamunda. Mike sent around a draft for feedback so thank you for those responses.

S Lake informed that although the recommendations by BFAC members were put forward, they may have fallen out during the approval process through PR, Legal and areas like that.

6.2 Presentation by Jamie Hunter - City of Kalamunda Bushfire Compliance & Enforcement

J Hunter introduced herself as the Senior Fire Emergency Management Officer at the City of Kalamunda.

J Hunter presented a new field pocketbook to assist with data capture during an incident. There was some discussion regarding how it would be utilised format and possible improvements. J Hunter said it was basically a prototype so changes can be made for future versions. There were some queries as to if it was sufficient to be used in court and FOI. It was also raised that essentially the booklet is more of a tool or cheat sheet to assist those in the field.

Action: J Hunter to run booklet pass legal and look at amendments for future versions.

6.3 Ratification of new Kalamunda Bush Fire Brigade Officers

S Lake congratulated the new Captain, David Stewart, who was elected on Tuesday 7 July. The rest of the officers stay as they are.

D Carroll enquired regarding the appointment of FCOs and Deputy Chiefs at BFAC. S Lake advised FCOs are gazetted by the CEO, who is delegated to do so from Council. There is no nomination through BFAC anymore. The list is put forward for BFAC's information.

6.4 Brigade Reports

State Emergency Service - SES

W Martindale reported that their current membership stands quite strong at 52. During the year, the members have put in 9273 hours in total. 3262 of those hours were training. They have attended 54 requests for assistance/storm damage requests, both locally and assisting other regions, totalling 832 hours. They attended 18 land searches over the year, which is a high number coming to nearly 450 hours.

18 separate days of fire support that included Yanchep, totalling 1200 hours. This year with covid-19, they did 80 shifts at the Lakes vehicle control point.



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Members put in nearly 1400 hours there so that was a massive effort with half the membership attending despite the risk with the virus. A successful year.

Kalamunda Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade - KVBF

D Stewart informed that they currently have 88 active members and 79 of those members are active firefighters and they have 9 members in a bulk support team. Last fire season, Nov-Dec 2019 was busy for the brigade and then had a big deployment interstate with a consistent rotation of people going to NSW, VIC, and QLD for the rest of the season. The biggest fire was the Yanchep fire. The brigade was deployed on a constant rotation for 6 days and nights. That was a great effort by the brigade.

Total hours came to 16503 hours. 6276 of those hours were incidents, 5359 in training, the number of incidents attended were 73 which varied from small false alarms to larger incidents.

COVID has meant that a lot of restriction were put in place affecting training and meetings. Only now are they starting to return to normal operations.

It was also raised that the hours have tripled for the brigade from the year before which is significant.

Table 6.4.1 Kalamunda Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade Statistics Summary

Type	Hours	Number of Incidents Attended	2019/2020
Training	5359:42	False Alarm- System Initiated	1
Incidents	6276:04	False Call – Good Intent	20
Hazard Reduction	1409:35	False Call – Maliciaou	2
Maintenance	903:36	Fire – Bushfire (Lge)	17
Admin	465:56	Fire Bushfire (Sml)	18
Meetings	1405:54	Fire – Other/Rubbish/Vehicle	11
Bush Fire Ready	189:25	Fire – Structure	1
Community Engagement	346:16	Hazardous Situation	1
Other	146:55	Road Crash & Rescue	1
<u>TOTAL</u>	16503:23	Type of Incident – Other	1
		Total:	73
Membership Stats			
Current total: 88			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9 members Logistical Support Team • 79 active Fire Fighters 			
Operational Officers			
Captain: David Stewart			
Lieutenants: 1. Steve Lake 2. Bryan Martindale			
3. Chris Hannah 4. John Idland 5. Andrew Haselden			



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D Carroll said it is also worth mentioning that due to COVID, operationally they have split the brigade into 2 shifts to avoid the whole brigade becoming unavailable due to the pandemic.

Kalamunda Volunteer Fire and Rescue Services – KVFRS

T Moiler reported that this year has been pretty much the same as previous years. They have rolled out practically the identical amount of calls this year. 158 calls were recorded and a significant number of those were road traffic crashes in the area. They deal with the majority of all the residential issues such as people burning off as it is a gazetted area. There have been no changes in the leadership team, membership has not really fluctuated and is currently sitting at 36. It has been pretty much business as usual.

B McGinley wished to advise the City that last Friday there was another accident on the corner of Railway and Elisabeth Roads which it is believed has been raised with the City before. The statistics are there to prove that this is a high risk and could well be the worst intersection in Kalamunda. To date he believes it has been luck that all the impacts have been relatively low, but something needs to be done to help prevent these crashes before someone gets badly hurt.

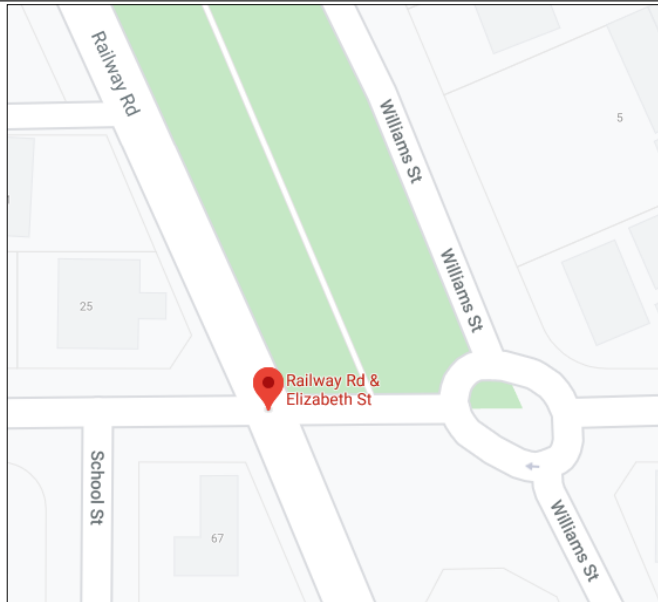
B McGinley added that coming through the round-about from the hospital there is very poor vision North up Railway Road so drivers tend to be concentrating on traffic coming left out of the City Centre, pull out and there's an accident.

S Lake advised that this falls outside the terms of reference of this committee, however a letter to the CEO from the Kalamunda VFRS could potentially assist in a resolution to this problem.

Map 6.4.2



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Action: T Moiler and B McGinley to communicate directly with the City to investigate vision down Railway Road. Cr. J Giardina requested they write to the CEO and to copy him in on it.

7.0 Agency Update

Department of Fire & Emergency Services - DFES

P Southam reported that he has just returned from 10 months out of the position. To touch on the season just gone, it has been an unusual year where the Nation suffered badly in relation to bushfire, which has been somewhat forgotten with situation with Covid-19. He made special mention to the City's volunteer bush fire brigade and the VFERS that deployed to the Eastern States. The reputation of our firefighters was very good. The Department is very proud of their conduct, sacrifice and time given up.

With the situation with COVID they were impacted quite significantly as an agency. Thankfully coming out the other end of that now and return to training and business as usual but there potentially could be some long term operation effects from COVID leading into the new fire season in the way we run things will change. He says it is great to be back in the position.

8:0 Other Matters

S Lake covered the subject of BART Funding. The City of Kalamunda has been funding the BART subscriptions for KVFRS for the last few years. However, this needs to be reassessed as it has been coming out of donations from the CEO



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Rather than it be considered as a donation he would like BFAC to do a resolution for Council to reimburse the KVFRS annual BART licence up to \$700.

Resolution – That BFAC recommend the City of Kalamunda provide an annual contribution to the Kalamunda Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service to reimburse their annual BART Licence up to a value of \$700.

Moved by J Giardina
Seconded S Winter

D Caroll asked J Hunter if all City Rangers were FCOs and have PPE and if they were able to attend fires? J Hunter confirmed yes all are FCOs and are equipped. D Caroll also asked if the City still have 2-way radios in the vehicles and use channel 100, which was used to contact Rangers in the City for years. J Hunter informed no; the vehicles do not have 2-ways in the vehicles. It is now a digital system, 4G. So, to clarify contact would be made out of hours through the normal City phone number or through the Chief. J Wickens suggested looking into the best process for contact out of hours.

Action: J Wickens to report back at next meeting as to the best process to contact City Rangers out of hours.

8.0 Next Meeting
 17 September 2020

9.0 Closure
 Meeting Closed 1805hrs