

## MINUTES

## KALAMUNDA ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING 6PM THURSDAY 16 July 2020 OPERATIONS CENTRE BOARDROOM 10 Raymond Rd Walliston

1.0	<b>OPENING OF MEETING</b> – T	he Presiding Member opened the meeting at 6:05pm
	and welcomed Committee Members, Consultants and Staff. The Presiding Member Informed Committee Members about the resignation of Maria Kelly	
2.0	ATTENDANCE AND APOLO	GIES – Presiding Member
	Attendance	
	Committee Members	
	Kevin Goss	Presiding Member
	Victoria Laurie	Deputy Presiding Member
	Mark Schilling	Community Representative
	Holly Bradley	Community Representative (Online)
	Cara Sheppard	Community Representative (Online)
	Cr Kathy Ritchie	Council Delegate
	Cr Janelle Sewell	Council Delegate
	Peter Forrest	Community Representative
	Rod Strang	Manager Parks & Environmental Services
	Staff	
	Rod Strang	Manager Parks & Environmental Services
	Dallas Lynch	Coordinator Natural Areas
	Preet Komal Singh	Secretary
	Consultants	
	Renata Zelinova	Consultant
	Nicola Hoey	Consultant (Arrived at 6:25 PM)
	Apologies	
	Rupert Duckworth	Community Representative
	Maria Kelly	Community Representative (Resigned)

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3.0	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES	
	Special Committee Meeting 20 February 2020	
	MOTION by Cr Kathy Richie	
	Seconded Mark Schilling	
	CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY	
4.0	DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS	
4.1	Disclosure of Financial and Proximity Interests:	
	a) Members must disclose the nature of their interest in matters to be discussed at the meeting. (Section 5.65 of the <i>Local Government Act 1995</i> )	
	<ul> <li>Employees must disclose the nature of their interest in reports or advice when giving the report or advice to the meeting. (Section 5.7 of the <i>Local</i> <i>Government Act 1995</i>)</li> </ul>	
	Nil	
4.2	Disclosure of Interest Affecting Impartiality	
	a) Members and staff must disclose their interests in matters to be discussed at the meeting in respect of which the member or employee has given or will give advice.	
	Nil	
5.0	CORRESPONDENCE	
	The Committee has received the resignation of Maria Kelly and the City is going through the process of finding another community member.	
6.0	ITEMS FOR COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION	
6.1	LOCAL ENVIRONMENT STRATEGY	
	The Local Environment Strategy expresses the City's and its residents' vision for an environmentally sustainable future and lists actions to achieve that vision. It has been in existence for one year.	
	Discussion	
	KEAC could now review the Strategy's implementation, advise the City accordingly and recommend any adaptive changes that might be made. Two	



	LES actions are on this meeting's agenda – Local Biodiversity Strategy and Urban Forest Strategy. In consultation with some KEAC Members, the Presiding Officer proposes that in future KEAC meetings we set aside time to review progress each of the four LES themes in rotation and advise accordingly
6.2	
6.2.1.	LOCAL BIODIVERSITY STRATEGY (LBS) Local Biodiversity Strategy Review
0.2.1.	The review of the LBS (2008) has been received by KEAC.
	The nominated KEAC member of the LBS working Group will present key findings of the review and present to the Committee and the Consultant for Discussion.
	Presentation:
	Holly Bradley, on behalf of the Working Group, gave a brief presentation on questions that came to her attention for the Local Biodiversity Strategy. She raised the following points:
	<ul> <li>Why was vegetation loss recorded in land set aside for conservation?</li> <li>Why was there no increase in formal protection for targeted vegetation complexes, though this was a goal of the 2008 strategy</li> <li>What stronger protection will be provided for fauna in the new strategy</li> </ul>
	• More information requested on what the City uses as a trigger for seeking adequate ecological assessment
	<ul> <li>Renata Zelinova, the Consultant who has reviewed the 2008 Local Biodiversity Strategy, gave the following replies to queries raised by the Working Group:</li> <li>There is a change in methodology of how vegetation is mapped which accounts for some of the losses in vegetation</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>There was no increase of formally protected areas in the City between 2008 and 2018</li> <li>The scale and criteria used to map the states native vegetation, leads to</li> </ul>
	the exclusion of some of the small areas of vegetation
	<ul> <li>Vegetation mapping was provided by the State.</li> <li>Noted that the primary reason behind vegetation loss recorded is the change in methodology of how vegetation is mapped.</li> </ul>
	140 hectares of Forrestfield complex should get conservation status in its purpose
6.2.2.	Local Biodiversity Strategy Data
	Presentation



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Renata presented new data and associated mapping to KEAC and highlighted following points:
• The City needs to move to a different way of delivering local biodiversity strategy based on precise valid mapping. Any planning decisions will be dictated by the ecological value and the conservation
<ul> <li>status.</li> <li>Maintaining vegetation coverage on private property is difficult, as local government can protect or retain vegetation on its own reserves but does not have control over landowner actions. Therefore, land owner incentive strategies are recommended, to support land owners maintaining vegetation.</li> </ul>
Discussion
<ul> <li>KEAC members noted: <ol> <li>16 bushland reserves have disappeared over the last 10 years</li> <li>40 hectares of Forrestfield complex should receive conversation status</li> <li>That KEAC commences a review of the Local Environment Strategy, one theme at a time, to assess whether further advice may be given to the City about priorities for implementation</li> <li>State vegetation clearing act and regulation does not provide significant protection</li> <li>Recommend the additional category of local conservation reserve in the local planning scheme.</li> </ol> </li> </ul>
KEAC noted that precise valid mapping is important to support the new Local Biodiversity Strategy and it is equally important for how the Committee is engaged with the strategy.
While considering the draft Local Biodiversity Strategy in the next meeting, the Committee requested that there should be an indicative resourcing assessment to implement it.
<ul> <li>The committee set the following objectives for the new draft strategy –</li> <li>to increase protection status of priority areas in the City</li> <li>to appropriately manage local natural areas to reduce threats</li> <li>to increase the viability and resilience of Local Natural Areas by establishing buffers and ecological linkages</li> <li>Biodiversity strategy should be used by all business units of the City when</li> </ul>
consideration of reserves is being undertaken. KEAC made note of the following points:
Refiel made note of the following points.



	<ul> <li>To preserve vegetation and to preserve Local Natural Areas, the process and the conditions under which development will be allowed needs to be figured out.</li> <li>The State's vegetation clearing act and regulations do not provide significant protection</li> <li>Only a handful of reserves are reserved for the purpose of conservation</li> <li>Need to move to a different methodology for displaying biodiversity status based on precise valid mapping</li> <li>Planning decisions in the City for developer/land holder will be dictated by ecological value and conversation status</li> <li>City of Kalamunda will have the maps in the future to use for planning policies and decisions. All the Committee members accepted the approach in principle</li> </ul>
6.2.3	Draft Local Biodiversity Strategy
	Note: The draft Local Biodiversity Strategy was not available for presentation.
6.3	URBAN FOREST STRATEGY
	<b>Presentation</b> Nicola Hoey, the Consultant presented the Urban Forest Strategy mapping to KEAC and highlighted the map that predicted future temperature rises due to differences in the canopy cover between the Swan Coastal Plain and the Hills. The mapping clearly shows that the coastal plain suburbs will suffer future heat stress and in the Hills environment most of the suburbs are relatively cool with significant pockets of heat, at least two to three degrees hotter, in the town centre.
	Dallas Lynch highlighted that the Urban Forest Strategy will support the Council to improve connectivity in corridor systems, through landscaping and targeting different areas with different tree species.
	<b>Discussion</b> In considering the draft strategy. KEAC noted the following points:
	<ul> <li>Urban canopy on private property is important and it makes up a significant percentage in critical areas, its protection is crucial</li> <li>The Committee agreed that when the draft Urban Forest Strategy goes to Council, it should be accompanied by a suggestion that, in considering this strategy, the council should also be considering the resourcing.</li> </ul>



	• There should be ongoing monitoring of the urban heat island impact and of what has been achieved with revegetation.
	Recommendation
	KEAC resolved that: The Draft Urban Forest Strategy goes to Council for consideration in August, subject to the changes discussed in this meeting and subject to the final draft being to the satisfaction of the working group including the two KEAC representatives.
	MOVED: Victoria Laurie SECONDED: Cr Kathy Richie CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
6.4	WORK SCHEDULE
	<ul> <li>Background</li> <li>A draft work schedule was prepared for KEAC in February for KEAC consideration. However, the timetable was disrupted by the COVID-19 emergency and the City has since referred other items for consideration: <ul> <li>Action Plan for climate emergency</li> <li>Waste Management</li> <li>Non-potable Water Action Plan</li> <li>Tonkin Highway Corridor upgrade (Main Roads Western Australia)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	Discussion Although a draft task list was tabled, there was not adequate time for discussion.
7.0	URGENT BUSINESS WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE PRESIDING MEMBER
7.1	Meeting dates for Special MeetingsA Special meeting to be scheduled on Wednesday, the 19th of August. 2020 for the discussion of the Urban Forest Strategy and Local Biodiversity Strategy. Relevant parts of the Local Environment Strategy will also be looked at in the next meeting.
8.0	DATE OF NEXT MEETING
	Next scheduled ordinary meeting – 15 October 2020.
9.0	CLOSURE