

**MINUTES of the meeting of Victor Harbor Coastcare
held in the Old School Building on Wednesday 16th Feb 2022 at 7.00 pm**

1) Welcome and present

Richard House (Chairman), Loreto Cameron, Tina Michell, Harry Rake, Eric Everitt, Trevor Brand, Derek Conroy, Rosene Edwards, Richard Edwards, Anita Leak, Andrew Leak. Welcome was extended to council staff members Heather Mullan, Volunteer Co-ordinator, and Lee Jeffery, Environmental Project Officer.

2) Apologies Barbara Bond, Jeff McEvoy, Di Sinclair-Warren, John Ray, Barb Francis, Nigel Ibbotson.

3) Heather Mullan

Heather advised that council have not (yet) mandated that current Coastcare 'workers' be fully vaccinated. There will be a consultation process where Andrew Comas and Richard House conduct a risk assessment to go to council for approval. However, Heather encouraged working bee volunteers to advise council now of their vaccination status. That is, email covid vaccination certificates to covidcertificate@victor.sa.gov.au or advise 'not vaccinated'. Heather is happy to help if anyone is having difficulties emailing certificates or wants to discuss the council policy rationale.

Rules for working bees may differ from rules for meetings. Members who are not fully vaccinated may need N95 masks.

Heather issued updated copies of the council's COVID-19 Vaccination Policy.

4) Lee Jeffery

- a) Bluff revegetation. Drooping sheoaks (50) ordered to be planted in the vicinity of the poisoned suckering sheoaks which may be left to break down naturally. Another fenced off rocky area will be planted with grasses and small plants.
- b) Sea wheat grass. Huge increase recognised. Concern over steeper foredunes. LandscapeSA are directing their eradication and replacement with spinifex programs to places where it is expected to benefit hooded plovers. CVH intend starting similar programs near the Hindmarsh River and Inman River estuaries and Coastcare members present indicated their willingness to be involved in spinifex plantings.
- c) Current situation re the Coastal Adaptation Strategy. The Strategy is available on the council website. It was endorsed by Council in December 2021. Widening of the bikeway on Franklin Parade is to be redesigned to fit in with the Adaptation Strategy.
- d) Storm drain activity near our Esplanade plantings. This is part of the Main Street Stage 4 development. Will not affect the plantings that Coastcare have been watering. Some myoporums will need to be removed. It was suggested that tamarisks could be removed at the same time if large machinery is involved.
- e) Possible planting locations for pigface plants propagated by our members. Soldiers Memorial Reserve Dunes, Kent Reserve, Flinders Parade North. Lee to help assess the existing pigface at the Sea Rescue Squadron location.
- f) GS Read Reserve (Esplanade). Vegetation to be increased as part of the Adaptation Strategy. Lee and Richard House to visit.

5) Minutes of the previous meeting 17th November 2021.

<i>Motion</i>	The previous meeting minutes were accepted as an accurate record.			
<i>Proposed</i>	Tina Michell	<i>Seconded</i>	Derek Conroy	<i>Carried</i>

- 6) Business arising from the minutes** (not covered by other items on the agenda).
- a) Circulation of award book Wildlife of Greater Adelaide. Currently with Geof Cope.
 - b) Work done by contractor Nick Anderson at Bluff on casuarina glauca project.
 - a. Nick's final days Tues 1 Mar to Thurs 3 Mar.
 - b. It was agreed to buy a Stihl Pruner saw. Kit \$279, spare battery \$62.
Anita Leak to discuss possible SCEC contribution with Gayl Males.
 - c) Rubbish and fire on Tom Stephens Reserve. Council Public Safety Officer to discuss the situation with the Deputy Principal at the VH Primary School.
 - d) Wednesday 2nd March, visit Scrub Savers Openlight (Toc H) bushcare site. Walk and morning tea. Richard House to email visit details to members and obtain numbers for catering.
 - e) Sunday 6th March. Clean Up Australia Day participation. 8.45 for 9am start from Causeway café. 15 participants already registered.
 - f) Thursday 31st March SA Landcare Awards announcement. VH Coastcare one of three finalists in the Coastcare award category. Thanks to Lee Jeffery for the nomination. Richard House to work with Anita Leak and Gary Juleff (Fleurieu Multimedia) to produce a video synopsis to be presented at the awards ceremony.
 - g) Date of AGM – Wednesday 27th April
 - h) *Hook, Line and Thinker*. Nothing further to report.

7) Financial report

Andrew Leak

- a) Balance \$1,316.95 (= last meeting balance – expenses approved last meeting \$3.50)

Term deposit with Beyond Bank \$2,363.40 @ 0.55% maturing 28/8/2022

- b) Membership 45 (= last meeting)
Derek Sim resignation.

- c) Expenses Richard House \$52.00 (CleanUp Aus Day donation)
Anita Leak \$17.00 (morning tea supplies Dec \$10/Jan \$3.50/Feb \$3.50)
Andrew Leak \$14.75 (Website expenses)

Motion: that the above expenses of \$83.75 be approved

Proposed Andrew Leak *Seconded* Rosene Edwards *Carried*

8) Publicity

- a) Publicity Anita Leak

Anita reported that she has submitted an article about the eradication of casuarina glauca at the Bluff to the *Times* after getting the ok from Andrew Comas, Lee Jeffery and the Council Communications Officer. It appeared on the *Times* website Feb 4 with the title 'Victor Harbor Coastcare protecting the biodiversity of the Bluff and plan for Clean Up Australia Day'. No comments yet on website. It may appear in a future printed version of the *Times*.

- b) Facebook Andrew Leak

Posted the *Times* Bluff article on our page. No comments there either.

Posted after working bees on Nov 24, Dec 8, Jan 12 and Feb 9.

Gayl Males posted a Trees For Life notice about a local bushcare workshop to be held on Feb 18.

Posted a Happy New Year message and 2022 calendar on Dec 27.

- c) Website Andrew Leak

Coming Events on home page maintained. November minutes added. 2022 Calendar loaded.

9) Beach Pole Report

Andrew Leak reported that the sand heights at all the beachpole beaches are at historically good levels. Since November, there has been minimal change in the sand heights at all the beachpole beaches except for the Esplanade which has continued to improve and is in particularly good shape although this could be related to the increased sea wheat grass. At the Croquet Club beach a 1m high ledge was formed by erosion in December between the Yacht Club and the skate park. David Thorn remarked on the erosion on both sides of the causeway boat ramp. Richard Edwards reported that the walkway at Kent Reserve Point has been washed away again and removed.

2021 beachpole data has been sent to Anthony Virag at DEW (Coast Protection Board).

10) Working bees

- a) Watering Plants opposite Hotel Victor and at Bus Stop 3
Lee Jeffery advised that rabbit baiting will recommence in about three weeks.
- b) Work done
 - i) **Sunday 24th November** WA 1G The Bluff – Encounter Bay slope
Continuation of Casuarina glauca control
 - ii) **Wednesdays 8th December, 12th January and 9th February**
WA 11 Playground to Causeway
Continuation of tamarisk control along the Esplanade.
- c) Work planned.
 - i) **Sunday 27th February** WA 1G The Bluff – Encounter Bay slope
Continuation of casuarina glauca control on the Bluff.
Meet in the car park behind the Whalers apartments. 10 am.
 - ii) **Wednesday 9th March** WA 11 Playground to Causeway
Continuation of tamarisk control along the Esplanade. Meet opposite Hotel Victor. 9 am.

11) Any Other Business

- a) Derek Conroy expressed concern about the acacia cyclops in the area of the Crozier Road, Armstrong Road intersection. Lee Jeffery explained that the pond area was an SA Water responsibility.
- b) David Thorn reported that the local hooded plover season had been relatively successful with 15 fledglings flying. Richard House acknowledged the phenomenal effort of the hooded plover volunteers.
- c) Richard Edwards pointed out that paint is being peeled off one of the Ocean Street buildings and will eventually end up in the sea. Lee Jeffery to mention it to the council building inspector.
- d) Richard Edwards reported that three of the five toilets at Bridge Point have broken locks. He will report it to council.
- e) Richard Edwards displayed part of a 3m snake skin that he found on the sea side of Bridge Point. Lee Jeffery warned about snakes curled up inside plant guards.
- f) Richard House reported that the plaque at Bridge Point commemorating 'The Encounter' mysteriously vanished then was returned to the council and has been reinstalled.
- g) Trevor Brand reported that the water tanker was not at full capacity at a recent watering. It was suggested plants be watered for a shorter time and then re-watered if there is water remaining.
- h) Trevor initiated a discussion about the difficulty of killing the larger suckering sheoaks on the Bluff.
- i) Gayl Males and South Coast Environment Centre were thanked for buying a thermos flask to replace the previous flask that was donated by Richard and Rosene Edwards.
- j) The techniques of poisoning tamarisks were discussed. Cutting the trunk and drilling down with finer (size 8) bits will be trialled. A spade bit and a spur point drill bit will also be trialled for situations when the drill bit skids off the wood.
- k) Council is again offering the Volunteer Week Small Grants Program. It was agreed to apply for the same grant as 2021 when the funds were put towards morning tees for working bee volunteers for the entire year.

- l) Andrew Leak was reminded to follow up Andrew Comas's offer of a contribution to a Coastcare event to thank volunteers in place of the Council's covid-cancelled end of year event in 2021.

12) Correspondence

- a) Emails received and forwarded to members.
 - i) DEW announcement appointment of Kerri Bartley to Birdlife Australia. .
- b) Other emails
 - i) Correspondence with Lee Jeffery re Coastal award.
 - ii) Correspondence with Nick Anderson re Bluff work.
 - iii) Correspondence with Heather Mullan re Council's COVID-19 policy.
 - iv) Friends of Hindmarsh Estuary circulars

13) Hours worked

Richard House 34, Derek Conroy 10.5, Richard Edwards 20.5, Loreto Cameron 12.5, Trevor Brand 13, Andrew Leak 15.5, Anita Leak 6.5, Bill Eden 5, Zoriana Lam 6, Geof Cope 3, Eric Everitt 6, Harry Rake 3, Christina Michell 7, David Thorn 2.

14) Next Meeting Wednesday 16th March 2022 7 pm