

**MINUTES of the meeting of Victor Harbor Coastcare
held in the Old School Building on Wednesday 15th February 2023 at 7.00 pm**

- 1) **Welcome and Present.** Richard House, Richard and Rosene Edwards, Barb Francis, Sue Robertson, Loreto Cameron, Anita and Andrew Leak, Harry Rake, David Thorn, Jen Priddle, Geoff Cope, Derek Conroy, Lee Jeffery.
A special welcome was extended to Lee Jeffery, City of VH Environmental Project Officer, topics addressed included:
Leadership Excellence Awards. The community partnership between Victor Harbor Council and Victor Harbor Coastcare is currently being judged and the winner of this award will be announced in May.
Bluff Master Plan Draft. Victor Harbor Council looked at the feedback from the proposed draft on Monday night. Thanks were extended to Victor Harbor Coastcare for their thorough submission. The final plan should be available by March/April.
Biodiversity Workshop. Volunteer groups met with Victor Harbor Council to prioritize areas of concern and have provided valuable feedback. A draft plan will be devised in a few months and will be available for public consultation in May.
Irrigation pipes opposite the Victor Hotel have been chewed by either rabbits or rats. Council will be implementing a baiting program from the causeway to the caravan park in the next few weeks.
Richard Edwards alerted Lee to the presence of caterpillars on Quandong trees on the Bluff and she has identified them as a native butterfly. Lee will look into the possibility of more Quandong plantings.
Friends of the Hindmarsh River Estuary will be erecting signs with QR codes about bird species near the estuary.
- 2) **Apologies** Jeff McEvoy, Di Sinclair-Warren, John Ray, Nigel Ibbotson. Bill Eden, Eric Everitt, Tina Michell.
- 3) **Minutes of the previous meeting** 16th November 2022.
Motion The minutes of the meeting held 16.11.2022 is an accurate record.
Proposed Anita Leak *Seconded* Derek Conroy *Carried*
- 4) **Business arising from the minutes** (not covered by other items on the agenda).
- a) Circulation of award book Wildlife of Greater Adelaide. Jen Priddle has returned the book and it is currently in the display in the library window.
- b) Christmas break-up party. Wednesday 7th December. Thanks were extended to Barb and Colin Francis for their hospitality.
- c) Clean Up Australia Day, Sunday 5th March 2023. Loreto Cameron will be co-ordinating this event and will be emailing members. Loreto took a note of the people present who said that they would be attending the function. Please contact Loreto if you can attend.
- d) Seeds for Snapper project. Presentation by Anita Leak.
Seagrass meadows provide valuable ecosystem services such as protecting our shorelines from erosion and storms by stabilising sand; sequestering atmospheric carbon and nutrients; improving water quality by reducing nutrients and turbidity. They are also important foraging and nursery grounds for fish species including baby pink snapper, whiting, blue swimmer crabs, prawns, King George whiting, garfish, squid, and leafy sea dragons.
Seeds and seedlings (or rhizomes) were collected by volunteers (beachcombers and boaters) after they had been washed ashore or collected on the water by local fishers as the seeds are dispersed by tides and ocean currents. Once collected the seeds were stored in collection tanks, processed and planted into sand bags using techniques designed for the community and supported by the latest science to be placed in the ocean at the right depth and location. The Big Duck assisted with this.
The project will result in the rehabilitation trial of degraded coastal seagrass areas in Encounter Bay and near the Yacht Club. It is also being done in the Normanville to Carrickalinga areas (depending on seed and rhizome availability), South Australia. Each year in late November to early January Posidonia seagrass produces a fruiting body that floats to the sea surface.
The Seeds for Snapper project is supported by the Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board, Ozfish, City of Victor Harbor, Yankalilla and Alexandrina Councils, with funding from the South Australian Government's Landscape Priorities Fund.
- e) 2022/23 Community Participation Grant (DEW, Coast & Marine Branch) Geoff Cope has written and submitted a grant application to DEW to implement "CoastSnap" with accompanying quotes for professional services from Mark Western to recommend specific locations and support letter from Victor Harbor Council. The decision process may take 10-12 weeks. Geoff's time and

meticulous effort are much appreciated. CoastSnap is a permanent post where the public can use their mobile phone to photograph a designated site and upload the photos for monitoring how the shoreline is varying. See attachment for more details.

- f) Casuarina glauca control follow-up work on the Bluff by Nick Anderson. 2 further days of work were undertaken by Nick recently. Regular monitoring of this area will continue.
- g) Kings Beach lookout plants/weeding maintenance. This area had been damaged by rain events and has become unsightly with weeds. Signage has also been damaged. Council have concentrated on repair work at this stage and we will continue to monitor re weeding and plant control.
- h) Marking of yellow pigface near Sea Rescue Squadron site for later removal (previously done June 2022) Can the members who are on the watering roster please take note of any YELLOW flowering pigface adjacent to this area and mark each plant with a bamboo stake for later removal.
- i) Responsibility for looking after equipment at working bees.
Recently a fold up saw was left in the dunes following a working bee and miraculously Richard Edwards found it afterwards. Thanks Richard for your eagle eye! Richard House has requested that we are more vigilant in monitoring the equipment in our allocated tool box please.

5) Financial Report

Andrew Leak

- a) Balance \$877.78 [= last meeting balance – expenses approved last meeting \$136.25
- Expenses approved in principle last meeting \$1059.35
+ Donation from the Irvines \$500 (\$200 for social gatherings)]

Term deposits with Beyond Bank:

1. \$2,376.40 @ 3.05% maturing 28/8/2023
2. \$7,000.00 @ 2.80% maturing 4/4/2023 Make decision next month.

- b) Expenses

Expenses approved in principle last meeting:

Anita Leak reimbursement for Dec morning tea supplies	\$9.00
Andrew Leak reimbursement for Christmas lunch drinks	\$60.35
Nick Anderson Coastal Bushcare	\$990.00
Total	\$1,059.35

New expenses:

Anita Leak reimbursement for Richard House flowers	\$25.00
Anita Leak reimbursement for Jan morning tea supplies	\$4.25
Anita Leak reimbursement for display laminating	\$13.00
Andrew Leak reimbursement for website domain renewal	\$15.95
Andrew Leak reimbursement for printer cartridge for display	\$39.00
Anita Leak reimbursement for Feb morning tea supplies	\$10.25
Loreto reimbursement for CUA Day donation	\$50.00
Total	\$157.45

Motion that the above expenses of \$157.45 be approved

Proposed Andrew Leak *Seconded* Geoff Cope *Carried*

Suggested that the policy of the \$10 membership fee for new members joining January to March will cover them for those months plus the fee for the following year – i.e. up to 15 months. All in agreement.

A special promotion for members joining before 31/3/2023 will be to pay nothing until 1/4/2024. All in agreement.

Council are again offering ‘Volunteer Week’ small grants of \$150 for groups greater than 20 members. This can be used to fund celebrations such as a special morning tea or lunch, or a small gift. Celebrations will need to be held during National Volunteer Week, 15-21 May 2023. Agreed that Andrew Leak will apply for this grant. A proposed ‘happy hour’ to be hosted by Anita and Andrew Leak during this week.

6) Publicity Reports

- a) Publicity. Anita Leak

A Victor Harbor Coastcare display has been erected by Anita Leak and Loreto Cameron in the Council foyer (window of Library) and will be there for one month. Information about new membership has been provided. Thanks to Anita and Loreto.

Anita Leak and Loreto Cameron have attended a Landscape SA Volunteer Recruitment Workshop in Belair recently and have decided to promote recruitment around “what volunteering offers to the individual” rather than focusing on “what we do”. Anita has written an article for the Fleurieu Sun promoting Coastcare using this approach.

Article published in the 24 November issue of the *Fleurieu Sun* regarding the Yorke Coastal Forum. Also, in same issue an article about the \$518k grant awarded to the Council for work on Franklin Parade that included a Coastcare perspective.

- b) Facebook and web site. Andrew Leak
Facebook Posts: Dec 7 Laying irrigation pipes
Dec 7 End of year lunch at Barb and Colin's
Dec 14 Pruning walking tracks near lagoon
Dec 14 Richard House's undies illustrating what good soil has done to them.
Feb 1 Library display
Website: Changed \$10 membership to not apply to new members.
Maintained usual Coming Events, minutes etc.
- c) Instagram Geoff Cope
Working bee posts.

7) Membership Report Loreto Cameron

- a) Report No further applications for membership.
b) New member, Tom Griffiths will be available for Sunday bees at this stage. Welcome Tom.
c) Landscape SA Volunteer Recruitment Workshop (as above)

8) Beach Pole Report Geoff Cope

Geoff reports very little movement of sand recently with fluctuations of approximately 50mms.

9) Working bees

- a) Work done
- i) **Sunday 27th November** WA 22 Lagoon Circuit
Pruning along pathways around the Hindmarsh lagoon circuit.
- ii) **Wednesday 14th December** WA 24 Lagoon End Embankment.
Pruning along pathways along the tracks from Hayward Court steps to the lagoon, and along pathways to the beach.
- iii) **Wednesday 28th December** WA 16 Bridge Point and the spit
Special extra bee to tidy up Bridge Point garden.
- iv) **Wednesdays 11th January and 8th February** WA 11 Playground to Causeway
Tamarisk and olive control.
- v) **Thursdays fortnightly** WA 14 Bridge Terrace Lawns
Rostered watering (Council water cart) of plants planted opposite Sea Rescue Squadron.
- vi) **Weekly** WA 11 Playground to Causeway
Special bee for the installation of the dripper system circuit, and then rostered weekly watering of plants at car park opposite Hotel Victor.
(1) Problems with rabbits and/or rats nibbling through the old 13mm hose pipe.
(2) Problems with tree guards.
The ones that look like cardboard, change shape and can split when wet.
The ones that have a message on them that they are not plastic, rip in windy conditions.
- vii) **Special bee** WA 10 Esplanade to Playground
Special extra bee to remove tree guards from the seedlings planted by Council between King Street roundabout and G S Reid Reserve.
- viii) **Site meeting on the Bluff 6th Feb** with Council staff Andrew Comas and Lee Jeffery
(1) WA 1C Between the tracks
Site meeting near Car Park 1 to see how nearby mature coastal tea trees are self-propagating near Car Park 1.
Council to do some heavy pruning on Wednesday 12th April (after the action on 1G below).
(2) WA 1G Encounter Bay slope
Site visit to see the success of the pruning and treatment of casuarina glauca in April 2022.
Andrew Comas agreed to repeat this approach on more trees on Wednesday 12th April which is when VHC members can attend for their working bee.
- b) Work planned.
- i) **Sunday 26th February** WA 1G Encounter Bay slope
Casuarina glauca follow-up of the regrowth in the copse that we dealt with in 2022.
If completed, then do control of the Melaleuca Armillaris in the same copse.
- ii) **Wednesday 8th March** WA 11 Playground to Causeway
Tamarisk control.
- iii) **Sunday 26th March** TBA

- iv) **Wednesday 12th April** WA 1G Encounter Bay slope
Council staff to fell more of the large casuarina glaucas. VHC members to do vertical drilling into the stumps, and move prunings into agreed location.

10) Any Other Business

- i) First Aid training. Repeat of snake bite demonstration to be held on site immediately before the working bee on Sunday 26th February.
- ii) Beach wash-ups
 - (1) Sea cucumbers, early December
 - (2) Fish, mid January. Alexandrina council experiencing worse conditions
- iii) Council Draft Master Plan for the Bluff, previously covered.
- iv) Council submission by Lee Jeffery for Local Government Professionals Australia, Annual Leadership Excellence Award for *Community Partnerships and Collaboration* submission, previously covered.
- v) 2nd Feb 2023. Council workshop Biodiversity and Natural Assets Management Plan, previously covered.
- vi) Friends of the Inman River. Attempt by Rotary Victor Harbor to form a group. Lee Jeffery reports that Victor Harbor Council are unable to assist at this stage due to the lack of strong leadership from the volunteer group and the necessary council input needed to support an emerging group.
- vii) A list of Council staff who are attending alternate VHC meetings for the remainder of 2023 has been collated.
- viii) Trees for Life Bushcare Workshops are currently available. Details have been recently emailed. Loreto has booked for a workshop.
- ix) Lee Jeffery reports that the Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board have been spraying sea wheat grass recently and replacing with spinifex.
- x) Derek Conroy informs us he will be limiting his working bee activities within his health limits.
- xi) Anita Leak is organising a celebration of Richard House's 20 year service as chairperson of VHC on 21.4.23 at the Anchorage.
- xii) David Thorn would like the temporary fencing around Hooded Plover nesting areas near the Croquet club to be more permanent. Lee Jeffery to investigate possibilities.
- xiii) Richard Edwards reports that the Bridge Point plants are flourishing. Credit goes to Richard Edwards, Eric Everitt and Derek Conroy for their watering and maintenance of this area. Some pigface in the adjacent area is dying and may need to be replaced with another planting. Richard has observed that DEW has recently been monitoring saltbush in the dunes near the Victor Hotel area.
A 'Poison' gun which injects a poison pellet into a plant has been developed. Lee Jeffrey to approach Corey Jackson re this.
Richard has noticed that the signage near the Victor Harbor Boat ramp is covered with Boobiolla. Lee Jeffery to follow up.
- xiv) Sue Robertson has noted that Flinders' University has divers studying ship wrecks in Encounter Bay recently.

11) Correspondence

- a) Emails received and forwarded to members.
 - i) Council's Bluff Draft Master Plan material.
 - ii) Bluff marina concept by Mark Taplin
 - iii) Council's Biodiversity workshop material, and workshop summary from Lee Jeffery.
 - iv) Landscape South Australia beachcombing id chart, and appeal for tubes for growing seedlings.
 - v) Trees for Life Bushcare Workshops.
- b) Other emails
 - i) Emails re attempt to form Friends of Inman River.
 - ii) Copy of email sent by Marcie Durand (weekender at 6 Kent Drive) to Council re state of the River Inman.

10) Hours worked

Richard House 50, Andrew Leak 22, Anita Leak 31.5, Loreto Cameron 30.5, Harry Rake 16, Derek Conroy 22, Jen Priddle 11, Geoff Cope 28, Barb Francis 9, Sue Robertson 6, Trevor Brand 6, Christina Michell 8, Eric Everitt 8, Bob Jeffery 2, Jenny Jeffery 2, Sam Blight 2, Rosene Edwards 2, David Thorn 2, Total 260.

11) Next Meeting

Wednesday 15th March 2023.