

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

1. **Welcome and Present.** Loreto Cameron, Tina Michell, David Thorn, Rosene and Richard Edwards, Barb Francis, Geoff Cope, Trevor Brand, Harry Rake, Andrew and Anita Leak, Janine Hurley, Richard House, Sue Robertson, Eric Everitt, Sally St George.
A special welcome to Kathy Hayter, Director of Environment and Infrastructure, Victor Harbor Council.
Kathy's report is attached. Questions following include:
Richard House commended the work and enthusiasm of Bronson Symmonds and his contribution to Coastcare activities.
Trevor Brand reported on the poor condition of Wright Island being overrun by Box Thorn and roosting pigeons and enquired about the introduction of lizards to control pigeons.
Tina Michell suggested more public education re Gazania control and appropriate plantings for rate payers.
Kathy was thanked for her informative report and presented with a small gift.
2. **Apologies** Jeff McEvoy, Di Sinclair-Warren, John Ray, Nigel Ibbotson, Bill Eden, Margie Fredberg and Jen Priddle.
3. **Minutes of previous meeting** 18th October 2023
Motion The minutes of the meeting held 18.10.2023 is an accurate record.
Proposed Anita Leak *Seconded* Tina Michell *Carried*
4. **Business arising from the minutes** (not covered by other items on the agenda).
 - a) **Follow up treatment on the suckering sheoaks on the Bluff.**
Richard House and Loreto Cameron met with Bronson Symmons and Sophie Rawson on the Bluff. Bronson is going to review the area as a whole regarding the Casuarina Glauca problem and will get back to us once he has a plan of how to tackle it. In the mean-time we will continue with follow up treatment on re-growth areas.
The large copse of old suckering sheoaks that we have been treating in conjunction with Council over the last two years will continue and we have agreed to set this up again in April 2024.
It was noticed that a large area directly in front of the picnic setting in front of the first car park had Coastal tee-trees and suckers from the adjacent sheoaks emerging throughout. Bronson will delay cutting/slashing the grass in this area until we have had a working bee to treat as much as possible in this patch. With this in mind, it will be our next working bee on the Sunday 26th November.
 - b) **Xmas lunch 6.12.2023.** Barb Francis will now send out invitations. Anita and Andrew Leak are organising some drinks.
 - c) **Richard House's Dune Book.** The Encounter Bay Rotary club have funded an updated version of Richards Dune Book which VHCC is most grateful for. Thank you to Andrew and Anita Leak who instigated the approach to Rotary for funding this publication. It is a most informative resource for our members.
Richard reports that more 'weeds' have been added to the book as years of clearing Coastal Tea Tree have allowed us to access and see more weed species.
Richard also presented examples of male and female Spinifex for identification.
 - d) **Working Kits \$1000 Grant.** For this grant application it was a requirement that Geoff Cope become "an authorised representative of the Applicant" or, if this application is a joint/consortium application, an "authorised representative of the lead organisation"
The Dept of Social Services Grants guidelines state "The authorised representative should be a person who is empowered to enter into contracts and commitments on behalf of the Applicant."
Motion Geoff Cope is authorised to complete required work for grant applications and undertake direct contact with stakeholders to implement mutually beneficial arrangements, subject to keeping the Chairperson informed during and on completion of an application.
Proposed Janine Hurley *Seconded* Rosene Edwards *Carried*

This authorisation will be re-confirmed at the annual AGM for Geoff Cope and/or other persons who may be completing this type of work on behalf of Victor Harbor Coastcare.

- e) **Watering Roster.** As per circulated email, rabbits have been chewing the pipes in the Causeway Foreshore dune watering system again. Care is needed to check the running system, if the summer is going to be hot and dry as all forecasts are indicating, we will lose plants if the water is not reaching them. Any issues please contact Loreto Cameron or Richard House. Andrew Leak is happy to show those of you who are not familiar with this process or area, just let Andrew know if and when you would like to meet there.

5. Financial Report

Andrew Leak

Balance \$1,468.47 [= last meeting balance
- expenses previously approved including a \$500 donation to Biodiversity VH
+ \$525 grant from the Rotary Club of Encounter Bay
- \$753.50 SA Design and Print (Richard's Dune Plants Guide reprint)
Term deposit with Beyond Bank:
\$7,500 @ 4.95% maturing 4/10/2024

Expenses SA Design and Print \$753.50 reprint plants guide
VentraIP \$132.00 website hosting
Motion: that the above expenses of \$885.50 be approved.
Moved Andrew Leak *Seconded* Rosene Edwards Carried

6. Publicity Reports

a) Publicity.

Anita Leak

An article 'Coastsnap arrives in Victor' appeared in the Fleurieu Sun on October 26.

A Coastcare display continues in the library. Flyers have been replenished.

Richard House, Loreto Cameron, Anita and Andrew Leak met with Rotary's President Elect, Peter Francis, on November 11 to conclude the grant. Richard presented Peter Francis with a signed copy of the book.

An article has been written about the Plants Guide reprint to be sent to Michael Simmons with a photo for potential inclusion in the local paper.

A copy of the Guide is available for viewing at the Library.

b) Facebook

Andrew Leak

Facebook posts Oct 23 and Nov 9 following working bees, Nov 3 re Bluff protest, and Nov 11 re Rotary grant.

c) Web site. Jen Priddle (Reported per Andrew Leak in Jen Priddle's absence)

Usual website maintenance.

Expansion of the Dune Plants section will be resolved shortly.

d) Instagram

Geoff Cope.

Posts on recent working bees

7. Membership Report

Loreto Cameron

No further members.

8. Beach Pole Report

Geoff Cope

Beach pole measurements updated on 13th November as follows.

Yacht Club- increase 10mm

Memorial Park- decrease 10mm

Willis St- increase 10mm

King St- no change

Esplanade- increase 10mm

Weed level remains relatively low at around 10%

We note the although dune height has not changed significantly at the 3 Willis, King and Esplanade locations there is an increase to the surrounding vegetation and that is slowly building dune volumes.

9. Working bees

a) Work done.

i) Sunday 22nd October

WA 16 Bridge Point

Pruning and weeding. Bridge Point has had a good tidy up. Bowls were dug around recent plantings and the area prepared for mulching.

ii) Wednesday 8th November

WA 16 Bridge Point

Mulching. 2 loads delivered by Council and spread over old and new plantings. Richard Edwards pruned plants overhanging path areas and Trevor and Richard removed Coastal Tea-trees they found, also, a cache of succulents that had been dumped under shrubs nearby which were then removed.

b) Work planned.

i) Sunday 26th November

WA 1C The Bluff

We will be working through the patch directly in front of the 1st carpark picnic area, locating Coastal Tea-trees and small Suckering Sheoaks and treating them. We will endeavour to cover as much as possible of this area before Council come and slash/cut for the summer. If we finish this area early, we will then continue treatment on re-growth where the contractor was working last summer.

It was agreed that if the temperature is forecast to be high, that Loreto will send an email asking for a 0900 start instead of 1000. Please check your emails the night prior to the working bee.

ii) Wednesday 13th December

WA Kings Beach Lookout area

This area is in need of a general tidy-up ready for the summer. Loreto will arrange the water cart for this working bee so we can give it a good 'once-over'. It will be a lovely spot to end our working year with morning tea looking over this beautiful bay.

iii) Wednesday 10th January 2024 – WA 11 Causeway Dunes – Weeding around the new plantings and treating the Tamarisks.

iv) Wednesday 14th February 2024 – WA 11 Causeway Dunes – General weeding focussing on Euphorbias in the area and treating the Tamarisks.

10. Other Business

a) New Dog By-Laws.

Loreto Cameron received a call from Michael Quinton asking that VHCC members review the latest by-laws installed by VH Council regarding dog control around both the two river estuaries and the lagoon area which is such a fragile environment. He asked if we could perhaps endorse these controls on the VHC website under "Have your say" and the survey attached. We witnessed the Council trying to get the correct message across regarding this matter at our last working bee.

b) Biodiversity Victor Harbor.

Richard Owen from Hindmarsh Island Landcare Group has issued an invitation to all who are interested to attend a propagation working bee at his nursery on the 21st November. There are a few who will be attending this informative activity, please let Loreto Cameron know if you are going to attend and she will notify them of our numbers on the day. Currently Loreto, Tina, Anita, Andrew and Janine are attending.

c) Annual Coastcare week 4-10 December.

Anita Leak will write an article for the local papers, including interviews of members and their experiences of Coastcare and 'Seeds for Snapper' Tina Michell will aid Anita with this. Loreto has forwarded the correspondence received about this on to all of our members regarding the volunteer information session to be held on the 30th November in Encounter Bay for 'OzFish' and their community driven project collecting the seagrass seeds again this year.

d) Bridge Point signage maintenance and update.

Richard House has very generously offered to update and replace all of the signage at Bridge Point, he will also match up the little plaques with the larger sign and replant those plants that are no longer there but are on the signage. Many thanks for attending to this Richard. Trevor Brand suggested planting some native grasses in this area.

e) Bronson Symmons and Sophie Rawson have supplied us with the planting list for VHCC to install during the planting season of 2024. They have asked for feedback regarding the plants and areas selected. Trevor and Richard House will review and get back to Loreto.

f) Anita Leak will supply a Christmas themed morning tea for our last working bee for 2023. Thanks as always Anita.

- g) **David Thorn** reports that only 1 Hooded Plover fledgling has survived in the area between Goolwa to Deep Creek. The surviving one was from a nest in front of the Croquet club. There were a total of 16 pairs of Plovers with 31 nests. High tides and swells, magpies and foxes have all contributed to their demise.
- h) **Richard Edwards** has reported to the council that trees are being axed down in the Tom Stevens reserve at the Hindmarsh River
 - i) **Equipment Purchases.** Loreto Cameron suggests that members think about any further purchases of equipment for the new year. Richard Edwards has suggested perhaps a Whipper Snipper.

11. Correspondence

- a) Emails received and forwarded to members – Landscape SA re Fleurieu’s Seabirds and shorebirds workshop
- b) Emails received from Bio-Diversity Victor Harbor – meeting dates and planned workshop at Hindmarsh Island Nursery and meetings with the Vegetation Site Manager for the new development opposite Urimbirra.
- c) Email received from Rachel Williams re Seeds for Snapper in the Fleurieu again this year.
- d) A thankyou letter and acquittal report was sent to the Rotary Club of Encounter Bay in relation to the grant to reprint Richard’s Dune Plants Guide

12. Hours worked – Loreto Cameron 22; Geoff Cope 7; Christina Michell 5 ½; Andrew Leak 7; Anita Leak 8; Sally St George 1; Eric Everitt 1; David Thorn 1; Derek Conroy 3½; Bill Eden 1½; Jen Priddle 1½ ; Margie Fredberg 3½ ; Richard Edwards 7; Barb Francis 7; Trevor Brand 5; Harry Rake 2½ ; Janine Hurley 3½ ; Richard House 18; Kevin McCarthy 1½; Gavin Dally 2; Jenny Dally 2; Lara Geach 2; Tom Griffiths 2; Sue Robertson 3 = **118 Hours**

13. Next Meeting Wednesday 21st February 2024