

**MINUTES for the meeting of Victor Harbor Coastcare held in the Old School Building
on Wednesday 17 July 2024 at 7.00 pm**

1. Welcome and Present

Loreto Cameron (Chair), Christina Michell, Jen Priddle, Derek Conroy, Bill Eden, Geoff Cope, Andrew Leak, Anita Leak, Richard House, Richard Edwards, Rosene Edwards, Janine Hurley, Lara Geach, Sue Robertson, Trevor Brand, Sally St George, Eric Everitt, Lee Philp, Harry Rake.

2. Special welcome to Guest Speaker Andrew Comas – Victor Harbor Council (Open Space Biodiversity and Conservation)

Andrew is leaving and we extend our thanks and best wishes to him and his family for his new endeavours in the Barossa Valley.

Capital Projects 2024-2025

These projects are of particular interest to the Coastcare group:

Beach Access

Last year Bronson was successful in three beach access upgrades – two of them at Investigator carpark and one at the Alexander St access point.

- Hayward Court steps are deemed to be unsafe. They will be relocated away from the bend and towards Chiton Rocks due to Steamranger management concerns about lack of visibility at the present crossing. The new location will take the Encounter bikeway into consideration.
- A disabled access ramp at Soldiers Memorial Reserve is being installed and will link the disabled toilet block to the beach when completed.
- Harbourview Terrace steps will be moved further back from the beach

Encounter Pathway

Alexandrina Council recently approved the pathway alignment to pass by Seagull Ave adjacent to the Steamranger line and into the Investigator carpark area. VH strategic planner, David Reid, is working on the future link from the carpark into the CBD of Victor Harbor.

Franklin Parade – Coastal Protection

Coastal seawalls between Charles Street and Fell Street have been funded by Council to the amount of \$2.8 million this financial year and Council hope this will leverage grant funding to help complete the work. Bronson and the Council's Infrastructure and Environment team are doing the main planning and design work on this.

Between Yilki and The Bluff there is also funding for a seawall to the amount of \$150,000 this financial year.

Further capital projects, not directly related to Coastcare:

- Council is also upgrading the stormwater drainage at the bottom of Jagger Road and contractors will be allowed to use a portion of Black Reserve for equipment and material storage.
- The Bluff reserve development above Petrel Cove at \$155,000 has been designed by Bronson and is at Stage 1, awaiting approval by SA Tenders and consultation with indigenous groups is yet to occur. The hope is that it can begin this financial year.
- The Investigator carpark toilet block is funded to \$85,000.

Ongoing

- **Bronson and Sophie** will be our main contacts
- **Karina** is the key contact in administration
- **Geoff Booth**, formerly at the Botanic Gardens, is taking Andrew's role and starts on Monday
- **Scott Pearsons** is the main contact for reserve volunteers.
- Bronson has **Mac Hort** recommencing work on the Cape ivy in coastal sites next week.

Andrew thanked the Coastcare group for 25 years of invaluable work and for liaising so well with the Victor Harbor Council over that time. Major achievements include Bus stop 3, Bridge Point, The Bluff and the Esplanade.

Andrew handed around a tray of cakes in thanks for the group's work.

Presentation

Richard House thanked Andrew for all his work liaising with Coastcare over the last 18 plus years and presented him with a Fleurieu hamper as a token of our group's appreciation.

3. Apologies

Jeff McEvoy, Di Sinclair-Warren, John Ray, Nigel Ibbotson, David Thorn, Barb Francis, Bruce Lindqvist

4. Minutes of previous meeting 15th May 2024

Motion: The minutes of the VHCC meeting held 15th May 2024 be accepted as an accurate record.

Proposed Jen Priddle *Seconded* Derek Conroy ***Carried***

5. Business arising from the minutes (not covered by other items on the agenda)

a) Grant Application – Tool Kits

Money has been deposited in our account for this.

b) **Whalefest event** – Loreto thanked Richard House sincerely for a most successful evening in which attendees gained knowledge and understanding of our dunes, presented in an interesting manner.

c) **Watering roster** – Thank you to all watering roster volunteers for their efforts over summer. They made an arduous task much easier.

d) **Irrigation system** – Thank you to Richard House for monitoring the dripper system for any problems. Richard will liaise with Jen Priddle when he is working on extending the dripper system to new plants in the Causeway dunes.

e) **Bridge Point** – Thank you to volunteers who take such great care of the garden. We hope that the late winter extends itself to late rains for us all.

6. Treasurer's Report

Geoff Cope

a) Balance

Beyond Bank Term Deposit

\$7,500 @ 4.95% due to mature on 4/10

Signatories have been updated

CBA Working account

Opening balance **\$1955.21**

Deposits \$5 – plant book sale

\$1000 – tools grant

Expenses \$14.46 - expenses as approved at last meeting

\$142.31 - expenses for Volunteers Morning Tea

Closing Balance **\$2953.44**

New expenses for authorisation - \$37.19 for morning tea supplies

Motion: That the above expenses of \$37.19 be approved and that payment completed in May of \$142.31 for the Volunteers morning tea event be confirmed and accepted.

Moved: Derek Conroy *Seconded:* Anita Leak ***Carried***

7. Publicity Reports

a) Publicity Anita Leak

Two articles have been published – in The Times and The Fleurieu Sun - about the volunteers morning tea held at the Anchorage Hotel during Volunteers Week. The photos have been put into the Coastcare scrapbook.

Guests at Richard's Whalefest talk enjoyed glasses of wine with biscuits and cheese prior to the informative event.

Publicity in the new digital Entertainment Book gives Coastcare a \$14 donation from each book purchase. Many local businesses in Victor Harbor are offering 25% off purchases and events. The discounts apply for 12 months from date of purchase.

- b) Facebook Andrew Leak
Four posts have been placed for the various working bees and one for the Whalefest event.
- c) Web site Jen Priddle
Updates ongoing.
- d) Instagram Geoff Cope
News of the four recent working bees and photos were posted.
A photo of Loreto at the Ladies Lunch in Bay Village will be posted this week.

8. **Membership Report** Loreto Cameron

Loreto extended an official welcome to Lee Philp and thanked her for attending working bees prior to her induction to the group.

9. **Beach Pole Report** Geoff Cope

This summary covers the last two months. The last readings were taken on 15th July. Relatively small variations at all locations.

Yacht Club	10mm increase
Memorial Park	40mm increase (restoring part of April reduction)
Wills Street	No change
King Street	No change
Esplanade	No change

Seaweed levels were marginally increased at Wills St and King Street areas.

A meeting was held with Bronson Symmonds on 15th July to determine an action plan for the installation of the new poles. Initial contact has been made with surveyors who can be on-site within a week's notice. Some key questions have been referred to Ali at DEW including possible monitoring at Hayborough and responses will determine the next steps.

11. **Working bees**

a) **Work done.**

i) **Special Working Bee – Tuesday 21st May 2024 – WA 16 – Bridge Point Garden signage etc**

A team of 5 members worked very hard removing the old signage and replacing it with the new. A large Olearia was removed to make room for the Leucopogons supplied by Corey Jackson who visited the site on the day also. Grasses will be planted here to fill in some of the area left bare by the removal of the Olearia as well as some Muehlenbekia (yet to be supplied by Council).

ii) **Sunday 26^h May 2024 - WA 13 – Club dunes in front of Croquet Club – Hooded Plover area**

In front of the Croquet Club lawns, planting out of 40 seedlings and removal of euphorbias and gazanias in this newly fenced area. Guards were placed around those plants that were in the path that the public use to cut through to the beach, thus redirecting them to the proper path. There were not enough plants, so have requested another 40 plants from the supply Council are providing for Bridge Point slope dunes to complete the revegetation project here. Trevor Brand also removed an outbreak of gazanias in the lawned area next to the Sea Rescue Squadron. Loreto asked Sophie Rawson to select 40 plants for this area.

iii) **Wednesday 12th June 2024 – Bridge Terrace and Club dunes – planting with guards – WA 16 and WA 13**

A great effort also. A team were sent back to the Croquet Club to plant the extra 40 seedlings needed to finish the revegetation of this area. The rest of the working bee

group installed a further 60 plants in the Bridge Point Garden and also on the slopes in front of the toilet block and on the sea side of the garden. The Muehlenbekias requested by Richard House for this display garden are currently unavailable and Sophie Rawson is endeavouring to locate some for us. Buckthorn and ivy were removed in this location on the day also.

iv) **Sunday 23rd June 2024 – Causeway Dunes – 67 plants with guards – WA 11**

This planting was successful. It was noted that there are quite a few tamarisks, that were previously difficult to cut low enough to fully poison, have substantial regrowth. Trevor Brand tackled quite a few by removing their very large root systems. However, this will be high on our agenda once the summer arrives again – to eliminate these persistent plants.

v) **Wednesday 10th July 2024 – Joint planting with FoHRE – Tom Stephens Reserve – 125 plants**

It was mostly Gahnia Filum grasses that were planted out in the same area as last year for the Yellowish Sedge Skipper Butterfly recovery programme. A few melaleuca and other shrubs were included. The grass is spreading itself well, with the wind dispersing the seeds throughout the area. Gazania removal was also done along with a significant collection of litter. Richard Edwards found a buckthorn and an olive which he was preparing for treatment by Ann of FoHRE.

Loreto thanked Jen Priddle and Richard Edwards for coordinating the working bees during her absence.

b) **Work planned.** -

i) **Sunday 28th July – Planting of 100 plants**

To be planted above the train tracks, down from Yandra Terrace (Oliver's Parade Reserve) near the stormwater outlet. The location is directly at the end of Yandra Terrace down from the steps there, in an area that had been cleared by Council while upgrading the stormwater outlet, it is now ready for revegetation.

ii) **Wednesday 14th August – Planting for Plovers**

We will be planting another 200 plants near the Inman River inlet. Joining us on the day will be Wendy White and Kerri Bartley (Birdlife Australia) and a few Hooded Plover volunteers. All going well, we should have enough volunteers to get the job done. It is hoped that there will be agreement to plant further back in the dune to avoid washouts from high tides.

10. Other Business

- Council sent out a survey on how residents want Victor Harbor to grow to 2050. Responses would be valued.
- Bay Village held a raffle at their Ladies Lunch on Tuesday 16th July. Loreto spoke at the lunch and the proceeds from the raffle were donated to Coastcare - \$120. The corporate owners of Bay Village, "Lavande", are offering Coastcare a donation of \$100 if we can identify specific tools that we would like purchased before the end of July.
- Anita and others will be working as "Scrub Savers" with Sophie Rawson from Council to plant out the former Toc H site.

11. Hours worked

Lara Geach 3, Rosene Edwards 1, Christina Michell 10, Jen Priddle 7, Derek Conroy 7, Lee Philp 7, Bill Eden 7, Harry Rake 6.5, Janine Hurley 9, Anita Leak 7, Sue Robertson 4, Eric Everitt 5, Barb Francis 3, Bruce Lindqvist 7, Margie Fredberg 4, David Thorn 3, Sue Thorn 3, Richard Edwards 17, Sally St George 15, Trevor Brand 9, Geoff Cope 13, Richard House 7, Andrew Leak 7, Gavin Dally 3, Jenny Dally 3, Tom Griffiths 2, Charlotte Leak 2, Loreto Cameron 29
= Total 200.5 hours

12. Next Meeting

Wednesday 21st August 2024 7pm at the Old School House