

**MINUTES for the meeting of Victor Harbor Coastcare
held in the Old School Building on Wednesday 21st August 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, Janine Hurley, Lara Geach, Sue Robertson, Sally St George, Eric Everitt, Lee Philp, Heather Castle, Harry Rake, David Thorn, Bruce Lindqvist.

2. Apologies: Jeff McEvoy, Di Sinclair-Warren, John Ray, Nigel Ibbotson, Barb Francis, Rosene Edwards.

3. Minutes of previous meeting 17th July 2024

Motion: The minutes of the VHCC meeting held 17th July 2024 be accepted as an accurate record.

Moved: Janine Hurley *Seconded:* Anita Leak **Carried**

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

a) Geoff has the tools which were donated and presented to VHCC by the corporate owners of Bay Village, Lavande, to the value of \$100 for our toolkits. Thank you to Richard House who sourced and priced the tools needed for these new kits.

5. Financial Report Geoff Cope

a) Balance

Beyond Bank Term Deposit
\$7,500 @ 4.95% due to mature on 4/10

CBA Working account

Opening balance **\$2953.44**

Deposits \$120.00 Donation from Bay Village Ladies' Lunch

 \$10.00 Subscription

b) Expenses \$37.19 Morning tea supplies approved at last meeting

 \$860.70 Tools purchased as part of grant received, comprising 3 drills and some drill bits

Closing Balance **\$2185.55**

New expenses for authorisation - \$30.70 for morning tea supplies.

Motion: That the above expense of \$30.70 be approved and that payment be accepted.

Moved: Derek Conroy *Seconded:* Sue Robertson **Carried**

Richard House will be spending more of the grant money on tools once the toolboxes he is working on have been finished. Andrew Leak has offered Richard his 5% Bunnings discount card to make the money go further.

6. Publicity Reports

a) Publicity Anita Leak

An article has been submitted to The Fleurieu Sun entitled "Planting for Plovers".

b) Facebook Andrew Leak

Photos have been posted on Facebook – one of Andrew Comas, guest speaker at the last meeting and two working bee photos.

c) Web site Jen Priddle

Maintenance is ongoing

d) Instagram Geoff Cope

Photos of the working bees and one of Loreto attending the Ladies' Lunch at Bay Village have been posted.

7. Membership Report Loreto Cameron

Nothing to report currently.

8. Beach Pole Report Geoff Cope

The last readings were taken on Thursday, 15th August.

Relatively small variations at all locations.

Yacht Club 10mm increase

Memorial Park 10mm increase

Wills Street 10mm increase

King Street No change

Esplanade 10mm reduction

Seaweed levels were unusually low, almost nil, at the Yacht Club and Memorial Park and reduced by half at Wills St.

Geoff advised that Ali Turner, Bronson Simmonds and others will be visiting the area tomorrow at 10.30am, mainly looking at the Hindmarsh River estuary, to do a survey of the amount of variation occurring there and to determine the location of a new beach pole. This is in addition to what is being done in other locations.

The pole has received grant funding and will be installed by Council, with the possible assistance of an excavator.

9. Working bees

a) **Work done.**

i) **Sunday 28th July 2024 – WA 42 – Yandra Terrace dune and stormwater**

A total of 165 plants were installed – 100 in the dune above the trainline and a further 65 below the trainline in the mesh area where revegetation had already begun by Council.

A couple of buckthorns were worked on by Richard Edwards and Eric Everitt trimmed back the overgrowth all the way down the Yandra stairs. An outbreak of the Dolichos pea was noted and tagged for Sophie Rawson to investigate and treat. Loreto thanked Richard Edwards and Christina Michell who co-ordinated the working bee during her absence.

ii) **Wednesday 14th July 2024 – WA 9 – Inman Lagoon**

Planting for Plovers – 200 plants installed in the Inman Lagoon area following on from previous planting in this location. All plants had a growth tablet placed at the bottom of a deep hole dug by Corey Jackson and seaweed placed around them. Corey Jackson noted that the previous year's planting where seaweed had been used, the plants had survived with good growth. The group finished up very early as Corey had pre-dug the holes for us so the group then set about removing all the euphorbia within this planting location. Trevor, Richard and others dug up a boxthorn and removed other woody weeds near the lagoon and Kevin did a litter collection. Thanks to Anita and Andrew for bringing a table and supplies for morning tea.

b) **Work planned**

i) **Sunday 25th August 2024 – WA10 – Esplanade to Playground (GS Reid Reserve)**

300 seedlings in the dune system around the GS Reid Reserve area continuing the revegetation project in this area by Victor Harbor Council. Keeping in mind that this is an area we are going to be watering this coming summer with the water cart. The main goal is to fill in areas where people are cutting through the dunes. Sophie from Council has advised placing rabbit guards around plants behind the shrubs but other areas should be fine.

ii) **Wednesday 11th September – WA1F – The Bluff**

We will meet at the first carpark and depending on the number of volunteers breaking up into working groups tackling a few jobs at the same time.

- Removal of old tree guards around grasses and trees
- Removal of Coastal T-trees
- Removal of Olive trees (there are quite a significant number present)
- General weed removal (gazania, euphorbia, agapanthus etc)
- Melaleuca seedlings in previous areas where we have removed them
- Continuation of removal of woody weeds

10. Correspondence

- a) Letter from Landscape SA re upcoming workshop on Hoodies and Native Rats. Flyers are available for those interested.
- b) Letter from Shane Johansen regarding a Community Grants programme. Geoff Cope advised that he proposes to apply for a grant (along the lines of a previous Coastcare application) to contract an excavator to do some heavy clearance work prior to planting on The Bluff. Applications close on 20th September. Bronson has said that Council will support the application.
- c) Letter sent to Bay Village by Loreto thanking them for their fundraising activities for Coastcare.

11. Other Business

- a) Meeting with Bronson and Sophie Rawson – The Bluff 7th August
The Victor Harbor planting programme for 2025 was discussed for a section of the Bluff where Council is planning to fence and revegetate areas that have been denuded by mountain bikers. Coastcare will assist in planting at these locations. Bronson and Sophie are working out species and numbers of seedlings for that planting season.
- b) Sophie asked whether Coastcare would need any new seedlings propagated for the Bridge Terrace Garden but Richard House and Loreto agreed that no more were required. The two Muehlenbeckia seedlings for that area have been donated by Pauline at Hindmarsh Nursery.
- c) Loreto expressed her gratitude on behalf of the group to Richard House who has been building and painting three tool boxes for the group in his own time, the costs being covered by a grant received.
- d) **Plover Report** - David Thorn reported on the Hooded Plovers and the fox activity in the local area. Increased fox activity has been observed in the Yilkie area with many beach tracks and one fox approached a resident, presumably looking for food. Sue and David Thorn are still waiting for the report, and a map, showing the location of fox dens found by the specially trained dog, "Nessie", who was brought in last year. Foxes will travel kilometres to find food and there have been reports of confrontations with foxes in Goolwa. David advised that foxes can live close to humans – under sheds and houses. Foxes have been trapped by using cat food as bait. Hoodie update: the first Hooded Plover egg for the season was found at Watson's Gap on 22/8.
- e) Irrigation at the Esplanade dunes – Richard House and Richard Edwards have installed the main irrigation hose extension through dense shrubbery, passing under the boardwalk by means of utilising the Council's existing large polypipe. The side drippers are yet to be installed and volunteers are requested to help with this work. Richard House to contact Loreto to set this in place.

12. Hours worked

Christina Michell 6, Harry Rake 3, Derek Conroy 1, Sue Robertson 5, Sally St George 5, Andrew Leak 3, Richard House 15, Eric Everitt 5, Kevin Howard 2, David Thorn 3, Margie Fredberg 2, Gavin Dally 2, Trevor Brand 2, Lara Geach 3, Heather Castle 3, Bill Eden 1, Janine Hurley 3, Geoff Cope 8, Anita Leak 5, Richard Edwards 10, Lee Philp 6, Jen Pridle 4, Bruce Lindqvist 3, Loreto Cameron 16 = 116 Hours

13. Next Meeting

Wednesday 18th September 7pm – Old School House

Guest speaker – Bronson Symmonds Victor Harbor Council