

**MINUTES for the meeting of Victor Harbor Coastcare
held in the Old School Building on
Wednesday 16th October 2024 at 7.00 pm**

1. Welcome and Present

Loreto Cameron (Chair), Geoff Cope, Jen Priddle, Anita Leak, Andrew Leak, Richard House, Richard Edwards, Rosene Edwards, Eric Everitt, David Thorn, Lee Philp, Bruce Lindqvist, Sally St George, Harry Rake, Derek Conroy

2. Special Welcome – Ali Bloomfield – Fleurieu Marine Education

Ali gave a PowerPoint presentation giving us an overview of the scope of the programmes she and her business partner Renee Newman have offered since the inception of their business in 2022. Supported by a passionate and well qualified team, Ali and Renee create fun and educational programmes for children of all ages - visiting schools during term and working with the general public during school holidays. Their programmes have covered topics such as:

- **Amazing Marine Animals**
- **Whaley Spectacular**
- **Beach Kindy**
- **Winter Whale fest**
- **Whale Spotter Programme**
- **Park of the Month**
- **Book Week “Walk of the Whales”** – working with 300 children over several sessions
- **Hooded Plover programmes** with Birdlife Australia at Yankalilla
- **Excursions and Incursions** with schools
- **Educational Stalls** at the Yankalilla Show
- **Guided Walking Tours** of Granite Island – held during the day to educate children about fairy penguins
- **Coastal Adventures for Youth, “Explore, Discover, Learn”**

Their future plans include educating children about microplastics in the environment. For further information, Ali and Renee may be contacted through their website ‘Fleurieu Marine Education,’ the Victor Harbor information Centre or the Whale Centre.

3. Apologies: Jeff McEvoy, Di Sinclair-Warren, John Ray, Nigel Ibbotson, Christina Michell, Bill Eden, Margie Fredberg, Barb Francis, Trevor Brand

4. Minutes of previous meeting 18th September 2024

Please note that Barb Francis was present at the meeting on 18th September 2024. Her name should stand in place of Jen Priddle who was an apology.

Motion: That the minutes of the VHCC meeting held 18th September 2024 be accepted as an accurate record with the above amendment.

Moved: Anita Leak *Seconded:* Andrew Leak **Carried**

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

a) **Ausmap** - Lee Philp has identified a location at #24 The Esplanade for this project to begin. The extent of the site is marked by date palms. Three volunteers will be asked to take measurements 3 times a year at, or soon after, high tide. Each session will take approximately 1.5 hours. Lee asked for ‘in principle’ support from the group for her to purchase the kit at her own expense.

Motion: That Coastcare supports Lee Philp in this Ausmap project and agrees that she purchase the kit required.

Moved: Jen Priddle *Seconded:* Eric Everitt **Carried**

b) **Watering** – Printed rosters were available at the meeting for those who wish to take one. Richard House has made a few adjustments to the dripper system which is now up and running well. Thank you, Richard. Please note, **the watercart watering is being done in front of 38A The Esplanade**, where we did our last large planting, not in front of the Sea Rescue Squadron where we have been for the last few summers. Due to the exceedingly dry season, all the watering has begun earlier than usual. If there are any issues, please do not hesitate to contact Loreto. Loreto is planning to arrange a meeting in November with Bronson, Sophie, Richard House, and

Scott regarding the already established sprinkler system which is not currently being used on the Esplanade.

6. Financial Report Geoff Cope

Beyond Bank

Term deposit of \$7,500 has been renewed for 7 months and will mature on 4th May 2025. Interest to the sum of \$427.88 is being held in an on-call community account.

CBA Working account

a) Balance		
Opening balance	\$1715.59	
Deposits	N/A	
b) Expenses	\$86.79	Tool kits
	\$28.39	Irrigation items
Closing Balance	\$1600.41	

Amounts foreshadowed to be paid include: \$18.50 for morning tea supplies.

Motion: That this month's financial report be accepted

Moved: Derek Conway *Seconded:* Jen Priddle **Carried**

7. Publicity Reports

- a) Publicity Anita Leak
Anita advised that gluten free options will be available at morning teas in the future.
- b) Facebook Andrew Leak
Two working bee posts
- c) Web site Jen Priddle
A few updates have been made to the website
- d) Instagram Geoff Cope
Two working bee photos and one of beach pole measurements

8. Membership Report Loreto Cameron

Nothing to report

9. Plover Report David Thorn

- a) Croquet Club chicks hatched yesterday and the signs are being changed to reflect that. Franklin Parade Plovers now have a nest. That area and the Fleurieu in general is having a problem with marauding ravens. Middleton East chicks have hatched. Tokuremoar West has a 2-egg nest
- b) Bi-annual bird count 16th-17th November
Leaders have been allocated along the southern coast for the bird count. There are concerns about Public Liability insurance but it is hoped that friends of the leaders will be allowed to assist with transport and some observations. Details to be advised next month.

10. Beach Pole Report Geoff Cope

The last readings were taken on 9th October 2024

Yacht Club	40mm increase
Memorial Park	20mm increase
Wills Street	No change
King Street	No change
Esplanade	10mm increase

Strong southeasterly winds have contributed to an increase in the dunes in places. Very high tides and associated swells have washed over the plantings done last year and up onto the bike path and almost into the Croquet Club car park. Seaweed was reported to have been washed up to the boat sheds of the Sea Rescue Squadron. Seaweed levels are presently quite low compared with levels 12-18 months ago.

11. Working bees

a) Work done.

i) **Sunday 22nd September 2024 – WA1A/1G/1C – The Bluff**

Removal of melaleuca seedlings in the same location as last year, also, spot removal throughout in general. Ground was very hard to work, will try to get up there earlier next year. Tree guard removal was continued and a great many were cut away and collected.

ii) **Wednesday 9th October 2024 – WA22/25/26 - Lagoon Circuit and end dunes**

Pathway pruned from the beginning of Hayward Court steps up to and including the lagoon circuit. The pathways leading to the beach along this stretch were also covered, along with the removal of 3 Acacia cyclops by Richard Edwards.

iii) **Extra small working bee #1** - Richard House was assisted by Andrew and Anita Leak in planting out pigface that Richard had propagated. They were planted in an area not too far from the lagoon on the beach side of the track. Thank you to all involved.

iv) **Extra small working bee #2** – Several volunteers helped Richard House to complete the installation of the dripper system in the new area near the Causeway. Again, thank you to all involved.

v) **Richard Edwards** – returned to the lagoon circuit and treated the Watsonia that were difficult to remove and also contacted Bronson for yellow paint to touch up the tops of the indication posts along this walking path and the posts leading to the beach. Thank you, Richard.

b) Work planned

i) **Sunday 27th October - WA 16 Bridge Point garden and slope area**

Mulch has been requested from council – 2 loads are to be spread throughout the new planting in the slope area at Bridge Point.

ii) **Wednesday 13th November 2024 – WA 14 – Sea Rescue Squadron**

Continuation of the removal of euphorbia working from the front of the lawned area moving towards Bridge point in the foreshore dune system.

12. Other Business

a) **Biodiversity Victor Harbor**

This group has now achieved its goal of putting together a temporary nursery at Crow's Nest Rd. They have been given a list of plants to have propagated by mid-2025 and purchased by Victor Harbor Council. At this point in time, they are on track to realise this goal.

b) **The calendar for VHCC 2025** is available now and will be sent out with the minutes.

c) **Gavin Dally** – has expressed an interest in obtaining a chainsaw certificate on behalf of VHCC. Loreto has made enquiries to Council regarding the requirements. Sophie from Council has reported back that, as we are an external volunteer group, we should forward our request to Landscape SA and/or D.E.W. There are serious concerns about insurance cover as we are no longer under Council's banner. Anything requiring a chainsaw currently can be referred to Council workers, Loreto will seek further advice from Landscape SA.

d) **Rat workshop** Loreto attended this workshop at the Willunga Environment Centre and found it to be very informative. The rat runs on the Bluff are made by the protected native swamp rats who keep their runs meticulously clean and well maintained.

Historical note - Victor Harbor no longer has an Environment Centre due to a lack of funding. Anita, who was involved in the VH centre, told us it had to close due to high demand for services, that required an annual budget of \$85,000, and a shortfall in the funding offered by Council, namely \$32,000. This funding was then redistributed to Strathalbyn and Willunga.

e) **Xmas lunch** – Barb Francis has once again very generously agreed for this to be at her home. Many thanks Barb and Colin. This party will be extra special to celebrate 25 years of Coastcare.

f) **Seeds for Snapper** – Loreto asked members to keep a look out for seeds when walking on the beach from early December so we can notify those who run the programme.

g) **Euphorbia** – Richard House suggested that we have at least one working bee devoted to removing euphorbia. With the consensus of the meeting, it was decided to convert the working bee on 13 November from Tamarisk treatment to Euphorbia removal.

13. Correspondence

Letter from Landscape SA - re Steam Ranger notification to spray vegetation along the rail corridor between Port Elliot and the Hindmarsh River estuary. Up to 5m from the nearest rail of all vegetation other than native ground covers and native grasses will be sprayed to achieve their standard clearance envelope. Council have also been notified.

14. Hours worked:

Christina Michell 6; Margie Fredberg 4; Chelsea Cameron 2; Jen Priddle 6; Richard Edwards 9; Geoff Cope 7; Richard House 11; Harry Rake 3; Lee Philp 5; Andrew Leak 7; Anita Leak 5 ½; Eric Everitt 5; Bruce Lindqvist 1; Rosene Edwards 1; Sally St George 6; Derek Conroy 1; David Thorn 1; Jenny Dally 2; Gavin Dally 2; Janine Hurley 4; Loreto Cameron 22 = **Total 110 ½ Hours**

15. Next Meeting

Wednesday 20th November 2024 7pm – Old School House

***Guest speaker – Jodi Roberts – Director Environment and Infrastructure
Victor Harbor Council.***