Environment and Sustainability Advisory Committee

Minutes



Date: Wednesday 18 April 2018

Time: 7.00pm

Venue: Manna Gum Meeting Rooms, Nillumbik Council Office, Civic Drive

Greensborough

Chair: Cr Grant Brooker

Minute taker: Joseph Emmanuel

1. Present

Present: Cr Grant Brooker, Ian Culbard, Narelle Campbell, Alan Thatcher, John Huff, David Turner, Tom Fisher, Stephen Hadley, Areej Hahsmi-Weyman,

Apologies: Cr Jane Ashton, Kate Tancredi, Lisa Pittle

2. Conflict of interest

The following potential conflict of interest was noted:

Narelle Campbell due to her role in State Government.

ACTION (07/02/18): Joseph Emmanuel to seek advice from Council's governance department on the status of this potential conflict and how information and materials are to be handled moving forward.

OUTCOME: Moving forward all materials provided to committee members will be watermarked with the relevant sensitivity status (i.e. normal or confidential). This is intended to provide committee members with confidence as to how the materials can be used and if the information can be distributed to the community.

3. Confirmation of minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 7 February 29018 were confirmed by Tom Fisher and second by Narelle Campbell

Feedback on ESAC priorities

Sub-Committee members to provide updates on progress:

4. Green Wedge Management Plan (40 min) - Alan Thatcher, Narelle Campbell, Tom Fisher and John Huff – Update on Mosaic Lab presentation on 28/03/18

The Sub-committee discussed and reflected on the presentation by Kimbra from Mosaic Lab given at Edendale Farm on 28 March 2018.

As a summary the following opportunity for involved by ESAC was noted at this presentation;

a) Two members of ESAC have been invited to participate in a stakeholder forum tasked to:

- Understand who do we want to participate in the wider engagement;
- Determine how to get people in the community interested and involved in the wider engagement; and
- Determine what questions will give us the best understanding of what's important to the people in the community and why it's important.
- b) Contribute as a member of the community as part of the broader community engagement process.
- c) Contribute as a Committee of Council and make a submission as part of the broader engagement.
- d) Provided the same opportunity to become a member of the citizen's panel as all residents within the Nillumbik community.
- e) Post the selection of the panel, have the opportunity to observe (as part of a gallery) any of the five citizen panel days by registering your interest.
- f) If elected and agreed to by the citizens panel, ESAC may have the opportunity to present information and suggestions direct to the citizens panel. This opportunity is completely in the hands of the citizen's panel.
- g) Comment on the proposed draft Green Wedge Management Plan that Council places out during the final community consultation phase.

There was also some discussion of ongoing fears and concerns as listed below:

- a) There was a level of discomfort expressed about the rural / urban split. The process is suggesting 50 / 50 however it was noted that this should be more heavily weighted to the rural fraction. This is likely to present an inherent risk to the project of an outcome where non green wedge land owning residents may influence outcomes which impact and effect green wedge land owning residents.
- b) The Remit statement "What is the best way for us to manage Nillumbik's green wedge, now and in the future" should be changed to "What is the best way for us to plan and manage Nillumbik's green wedge, now and in the future". The emphasis here is the removal of 'for us' as 'us' would need to be defined. I.e. is it the community? Is it the land owner? Or is it Council? Further emphasis was placed on including the word 'plan' in the remit. This was to capture the strategic component of the Green Wedge Management Plan.

The committee were also presented with an opportunity to evaluate the high and medium priority actions from the current Green Wedge Management Plan. This will become a resource that Council Officers may use in the project.

ACTION (07/02/18): The GWMP subcommittee are to develop questions / concerns to be provided to Council Officers for consideration as part of the project kick-off meeting with MosaicLab on 16 February.

OUTCOME: This list of questions was developed and brought and discussed at the meeting on 28/03/18 with MosaicLab.

ACTION (07/02/18): Joseph Emmanuel to seek a response to recommendation 1 (from the minutes of the 7 February 2018 meeting) from Council Officers.

OUTCOME: Request for a response has been sent and not received to date.

ACTION: Joseph Emmanuel follow-up on request for a response to recommendation 1 (from the minutes of the 7 February 2018 meeting) from Council Officers.

ACTION: The Committee are to determine which two members are to represent ESAC at the Stakeholder Forum. Joseph Emmanuel to report back who the members are.

OUTCOME: It was unanimously agreed that Alan Thatcher and John Huff would represent the committee.

ACTION: Joseph Emmanuel to circulate a spreadsheet of the high and medium priority actions from the current Greenwedge Management Plan to the committee for evaluation. The sub-committee will undertake the evaluation and report the feedback at the next committee meeting.

5. 10 minute break

6. Energy/Climate Change (15min)- David Turner and Tom Fisher

David Turner presented a literature review on sustainable energy practices in the United States of America and how these may be applied in Nillumbik. The full presentation is enclosed as a reference to these minutes.

David concluded that the main practices that have the best opportunity for implementation in the Nillumbik Shire include:

- Microgrids a system which produces a local source of electricity that may be accessed by a network of homes / businesses. The source is connected to the national grid, however allowing it to function independently.
- Net Metering Ability to receive credits (financial reimbursement) for surplus electricity produced by a residential property / business when added back into the national grid.
- Peer-to-Peer energy trading programs Similar to well-known peer-to-peer services such as Airbnb and EBay, peer-to-peer energy trading programs enabling property owners / business to trade (and set pricing) for electricity they generate on their sites.

ACTION (06/12/17): David to forward Ian a list of questions with respect to the Climate Change Action Plan for further investigation.

ACTION (06/12/17): Consideration for a member of Clean Energy Nillumbik presenting to the committee or alternatively a member of ESAC attending the upcoming Clean Energy Nillumbik meeting.

ACTION (07/02/18): the subcommittee to undertake a literature review on projects around the world relating to energy and climate change.

OUTCOME: David delivered his literature review on 18 April 2018.

ACTION (07/02/18): the subcommittee to undertake a literature review on projects in Australia and Europe on energy and climate change and how these can be best applied in the Nillumbik Shire.

7. Biodiversity (15 min) – Stephen Hadley and Alan Thatcher

No presentation was provided however a request to follow on a response to the priority actions listed below was made.

ACTION (07/02/18): Joseph Emmanuel to circulate priority actions to relevant Council officers seeking a response.

OUTCOME: Request for a response has been sent and not received to date.

ACTION: Joseph Emmanuel follow-up on request for a response to these priority actions (from the minutes of the 7 February 2018 meeting) from Council Officers.

8. Sustainable Water Management (15 min) - Areej Hahsmi-Weyman and Kate Tancredi

Areej provided a presentation on the key priority actions from Council's Sustainable Water Management Plan and Stormwater Management Action Plan previously provided to the subcommittee.

Some of the key areas included understanding;

- The irrigation water source for various ovals throughout the municipality.
- What is the current mechanism Council uses to allocate funding (if any) to connecting public facilities to rainwater?
- What the proposal is to manage swimming pool backwash form the Diamond Creek Swimming Pool and the schedule for implementing any actions?

ACTION: Joseph Emmanuel to circulate priority actions to relevant Council officers seeking a response.

ACTION: Areej Hahsmi-Weyman determine the top five priority actions relating to sustainable water management and circulate as an email to the committee members and Joseph Emmanuel for follow up.

- 9. Setting the agenda for future ESAC meetings (5 mins)
- 10. Opportunity to share information about community environment and sustainability initiatives (10 mins)
- 11. Other business
- 12. Next meeting is scheduled for 20 June 2018 at 7pm.

ACTION PLAN - ESAC

Category	Date Received	Description	Responsible	Date Completed
GWMP	07/2/18	ACTION (07/02/18): Joseph Emmanuel to seek a response to recommendation 1 (from the minutes of the 7 February 2018 meeting) from Council Officers.	JE	
		OUTCOME: Request for a response has been sent and not received to date.		
		ACTION: Joseph Emmanuel follow- up on request for a response to recommendation 1 (from the minutes of the 7 February 2018 meeting) from Council Officers.		
GWMP	07/2/18	ACTION: Joseph Emmanuel to circulate a spreadsheet of the high and medium priority actions from the current Greenwedge Management Plan to the committee for evaluation. The sub-committee will undertake the evaluation and report the feedback at the next committee meeting.	JE and Sub- Committee	
Energy and Climate	06/12/17	ACTION: David to forward Ian a list of questions with respect to the Climate Change Action Plan for further investigation.	DT	
Energy and Climate	06/12/17	ACTION: Consideration for a member of Clean Energy Nillumbik presenting to the committee or alternatively a member of ESAC attending the upcoming Clean Energy Nillumbik meeting.	Sub- Committee	
Energy and Climate	18/04/18	ACTION: the subcommittee to undertake a literature review on projects in Australia and Europe on energy and climate change and how these can be best applied in the Nillumbik Shire.	Sub- Committee	

Category	Date Received	Description	Responsible	Date Completed
Biodiversit y	07/02/18	ACTION: Joseph Emmanuel to circulate priority actions to relevant Council officers seeking a response.	JE	
		OUTCOME: Request for a response has been sent and not received to date.		
		ACTION (18/04/18): Joseph Emmanuel follow-up on request for a response to these priority actions (from the minutes of the 7 February 2018 meeting) from Council Officers.		
Sustainab le Water Managem ent	18/04/18	ACTION: Joseph Emmanuel to circulate priority actions to relevant Council officers seeking a response.	JE	
Sustainab le Water Managem ent	18/04/18	ACTION: Areej Hahsmi-Weyman determine the top five priority actions relating to sustainable water management and circulate as an email to the committee members and Joseph Emmanuel for follow up.	AHW and JE	

COMPLETED ACTIONS - ESAC

Category	Date Received	Description	Responsible	Date Completed
Conflict of Interest	07/02/18	ACTION: Joseph Emmanuel to seek advice from Council's governance department on the status of this potential conflict and how information and materials are to be handled moving forward.	JE	01/03/18
		outcome: Moving forward all materials provided to committee members will be watermarked with the relevant sensitivity status (i.e. normal or confidential). This is intended to provide committee members with confidence as to how the materials can be used and if the information can be distributed to the community.		
GWMP	07/02/18	ACTION: The GWMP subcommittee are to develop questions / concerns to be provided to Council Officers for consideration as part of the project kick-off meeting with MosaicLab on 16 February. OUTCOME: This list of questions was developed and brought to and discussed at the meeting on 28/03/18	Sub- Committee	28/03/18
		with MosaicLab.		
GWMP	18/04/18	ACTION: The Committee are to determine which two members are to represent ESAC at the Stakeholder Forum. Joseph Emmanuel to report back who the members are.	Sub Committee and JE	18/04/18
		OUTCOME: It was unanimously agreed that Alan Thatcher and John Huff would represent the committee.		
Energy and Climate	07/02/18	ACTION (07/02/18): the subcommittee to undertake a literature review on projects around the world relating to energy and climate change.	DT	18/04/18
		OUTCOME: David delivered his literature review on 18 April 2018.		