

# Environment and Sustainability Advisory Committee

## Minutes



**Date:** Wednesday 6 December 2017  
**Time:** 7.00pm  
**Venue:** Candlebark Meeting Rooms, Nillumbik Council Office, Civic Drive  
Greensborough  
**Chair:** Cr Jane Ashton  
**Minute taker:** Joseph Emmanuel

### 1. Present

Present: Cr Jane Ashton, Lisa Pittle, Ian Culbard, Narelle Campbell, Alan Thatcher, John Huf, David Turner, Tom Fisher, Stephen Hadley

Apologies: Cr Grant Brooker, Kate Tancredi, Areej Hahsmi-Weyman,

### 2. Conflict of interest

The following potential conflict of interests was noted:

- Narelle Campbell due to her role in State Government.
- Lisa Pittle due to her position as a Director of Practical Ecology which has conducted some environmental works within the municipality.
- Cr Jane Ashton due to running a horse business within the municipality.

### 3. Confirmation of minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 20 September 2017 were confirmed unanimously with a minor amendment as detailed below;

*Section 7c Feedback on ESAC Priorities* relating to the *Green Wedge Management Plan* that John Huf will also be providing feedback on this matter. Updated minutes to be circulated.

### 4. Green Wedge Management Plan review process

Joseph Emmanuel presented an overview of the GWMP review process. The project is still very much in the planning phase. Council has placed a request for quote seeking a suitable consultant to assist in the community engagement piece. This will be conducted in two stages:

Stage 1 is a broad scan of the community with a focus on co-designing an engagement process and

Stage 2 will be a deliberative process (citizen's jury) to make recommendations to Council.

Two documents were tabled:

- i. Questions from ESAC to Geoff Lawler regarding the review of the Nillumbik Green Wedge Management Plan – provided by Tom Fisher (Attachment 1).

It was unanimously agreed that the questions tabled covered the range of concerns expressed by members of the committee and would be presented to Geoff Lawson with minor changes. The meeting with Geoff is scheduled for Friday 8 December at 2pm with Tom Fisher and Narelle Campbell proposed to be in attendance.

- ii. Draft Nillumbik Council ESAC Summary Report Nillumbik Green Wedge Management Plan – provided by Narelle Campbell (Attachment 2)

## 5. **Community Environment Recovery Action Plans (CERAPs) for Christmas Hills, Strathewen and St Andrews**

The CERAP documents were discussed in the context of forming a referencing resource for the Green Wedge Management Plan review process. It was noted by Alan that the maps in particular provide a reference with respect to assets within the areas of Christmas Hills, St Andrews and Strathewen. Further conversation developed highlighting the importance of the reference material to be used as part of the GWMP review process and more specifically the validity of this information. A link to the CERAPs was also to be distributed.

Christmas Hills - [Christmas Hills CERAP\(PDF, 4MB\)](#)

St Andrews - [St Andrews CERAP\(PDF, 4MB\)](#)

Strathewen - [Strathewen CERAP\(PDF, 4MB\)](#)

## 6. **10 minute break**

## 7. **Feedback on ESAC priorities (40 min)**

- a. **Energy/Climate Change** - David Turner and Tom Fisher

David presented on his findings with respect to reviewing Council's Climate Change Action Plan 2016-20(CCAP)

The full presentation can be viewed via the drop box link

([https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1Qe\\_OSMyyq7yBTW7rYRbkjDVFb\\_c16WVm?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1Qe_OSMyyq7yBTW7rYRbkjDVFb_c16WVm?usp=sharing)) with a summary of Actions below:

### Mitigation

- Continual Council and residential electricity and gas usage
- Transport meta-data
- rational behind selection of reduction targets
- Long term targets - 2030, 2040 and 2040+

### Adaptation

- Latest climate modelling
- Latest impact modelling

The following points were also discussed:

- Before we implement a project (in the context of the solar farm) being clear as to why we are doing it...what is the purpose?

- Does the data within the CCAP make sense at a community level?
- What is council's capacity/ resource to work with schools/ community relating to the CCAP?
- Tom raised a project known as Repowering London as something that potentially could be considered within Nillumbik. Link below; <https://www.repowering.org.uk>
- The connection between the energy / climate change interest of ESAC and Clean Energy Nillumbik

**ACTION:** David to forward Ian a list of questions with respect to the Climate Change Action Plan for further investigation.

**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.

b. **Biodiversity** – Stephen Hadley and Alan Thatcher

Stephen presented on Council's Biodiversity Strategy 2012 and the top 7 actions as summarised below:

A conversation emerged around connecting with the community on the various environment and sustainability topics. Lisa discussed emerging trends around the limited hits on the Council website on environment and sustainability matters driven.

The potential to utilise Nillumbik News was discussed and Cr Jane Ashton indicated her willingness to follow this up with Council's Corporate Affairs team. Fringe Focus was also mentioned as a communication tool. A link to Fringe Focus is below: [Edition 10 October](#)

c. **Green Wedge Management Plan** – Alan Thatcher, Narelle Campbell, Tom Fisher, John Huf

As discussed as part of agenda item 5

d. **Sustainable Water Management** - Areej Hahsmi-Weyman and Kate Tancredi

No presentation was made with respect to this item

**8. Setting the agenda for future ESAC meetings (15 mins)**

Next agenda to include an item dedicated to detailing ideas, concerns etc with respect to the Green Wedge Management Plan review.

**9. Opportunity to share information about community environment and sustainability initiatives**

**10. Other business**

**11. Next meeting is scheduled for 7 February 2018 at 7pm**

## **ATTACHMENT 1 - Questions from ESAC to Geoff Lawler regarding the review of the Nillumbik Green Wedge Management Plan**

### **Questions from ESAC to Geoff Lawler regarding the review of the Nillumbik Green Wedge Management Plan (NGWMP)**

Question 1: What are the Terms of reference for the forthcoming review – what will be measured and how?

Question 2: What is the status of the review of the NGWMP by Glossop Town Planning completed two years ago<sup>1</sup> and to what extent will it be included within the scope of the new ~~review~~ of the NGWMP?

Question 3: What was the relationship between Council and the State Government in the decision to include the Shire in the Green Wedge Management Plan, and is it still the intention of the GWMP to include it?

Question 4: What communications and engagement processes will support the forthcoming Review of the NGWMP and to what extent will it address the following issues:

- a) How will the proposed 'Citizens' Jury' be constituted and what role will it play?
- b) How will the following groups inform the Review with respect to the strategies, action and priorities for privately owned land within the GW:
  1. GW landowners and residents?
  2. Other stakeholders?
  3. Township landowners and residents

Question 5: Is it envisaged that the Review include consideration of the Melbourne Water land release in Christmas Hills, and, if so, will the communication and engagement plan for the review include consideration of this release?

Question 6: Given the deep divisions that appeared within the GW community regarding proposed amendments to the NGWMP in 2016, how is the review going to ensure that GW landowner and resident values, views and needs are appropriately collected, acknowledged and represented in the review so that proposed changes promote cohesion, not division, across the green wedge?

Question 7: How is the Council going to ensure that the community involved in the review of the NGWMP are aware of the requirements of the *State Planning Policy Framework (SPPF)*, e.g. Plan Melbourne 2017-2050 which all planning authorities must consider?

Question 8: How is the Council going to ensure that the community involved in the review of the GWMP is aware of the *Local Planning Policy Framework (LPPF)* and, in particular, the *Municipal Strategic Statement (MSS)*, which provides the detailed vision for all future land use and development decisions in the Shire of Nillumbik?

Question 9: How is the Council going to ensure that the review stays focused on the existing NGWMP and addresses the questions about whether the vision, role and purpose, strategies and articulated strategic directions are still appropriate and, if not, why not?

Question 10: How can ESAC help the Review?

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<sup>1</sup> *Nillumbik Green Wedge Management Plan Review* (Nillumbik Shire Council November 2015), 44 pp.

**ATTACHMENT 2 – HAS BEEN INCLUDED AS AN ATTACHMENT IN THE EMAIL CIRCULATED WITH THE MINUTES.**