



Bushfire Advisory Committee Annual General Meeting Minutes

Held on

Thursday, 26 April 2018

Commencing at 7.32pm

In the Council Chambers

Cnr Bentley and Collins Streets, Donnybrook WA 6239

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ben Rose".

**Ben Rose
Chief Executive Officer**

4 May 2018

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BUSHFIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

26th April 2018

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SHIRE OF DONNYBROOK BALINGUP

BUSHFIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Held in the Council Chambers on Thursday, 26 April 2018

1 DECLARATION OF OPENING / ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

The Chairperson declared the meeting open at 7.32pm, welcomed the public gallery and advised them of the meeting procedures.

2 ATTENDANCE

MEMBERS PRESENT

FIRE CONTROL OFFICERS	BRIGADE	GUESTS	STAFF
B Dix (Chair)	Upper Capel	D Mosconi (DFES)	Tyler Winter CESM
N Gubler	Mullalyup	D Peachey (DPaW)	Jess Cooper
M Walker	Ferndale	J Cooper (VFRS)	(Ranger)
N Clifford	Thomson Brook	Cr Wringe	
T Thamo	Munro	D Denham	
N Thompson	Mumballup		
S Simmonds	Beelerup		
D Tooke	Donnybrook		
M Anderson	Lowden		
C Wringe	Kirup/Brazier		
T Winter	Balingup/Shire		

PUBLIC GALLERY

Nil

APOLOGIES

I Ralph
T McNab
G Foan
B Anderson
P Robins

3 ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

Office	Nomination	Moved	Seconded
Chairperson	B Dix	C Wringe	N Gubler
Chief Bushfire Control Officer	M Walker	D Tooke	S Simmonds
Deputy Chief Bushfire Control Officer	D Tooke	M Walker	B Dix
Deputy Chief Bushfire Control Officer	I Ralph	M Walker	N Thompson
Communications Officer	M Webb	M Anderson	B Dix
Training Co-ordinator	T Winter	D Tooke	N Gubler
Fire Weather Officer	M Webb	B Dix	S Simmonds

Carried 11/0

4 DECLARATIONS FROM THE PRESIDING MEMBER

Nil

5 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

C Wringe advised the committee that he has a business interest in vehicle maintenance.

6 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Nil

7 PRESENTATIONS

Acting Supt D Mosconi – Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) presented information relating to the Rural Fire Division (RFD) and handed out talking points. Available on the DFES website.

8 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Moved: D Tooke

Seconded: B Dix

That the Minutes of the Bushfire Advisory Committee Meeting held on 19 October 2017 be confirmed.

Carried 11/0

9 REPORTS OF OFFICERS

Nil

10 REPORTS

10.1 Chief Bush Fire Control Officer - Max Walker

- This has been the quietest season for many years.
- Since 5th August, 2017 our brigades have attended 17 fires in the shire.
- Thank you extended to Deputies David and Ian, all FCO's, Captains and members for support throughout the year.
- Special thankyou extended to Ranger Paul for three years of service and Range Jess. Very much appreciated.
- Congratulations extended to Argyle/Irish Town Brigade for receiving Community Award.
- Thank you extended to Phil Brandrett and Steve Ward for solid support and many phone calls to help solve problems.
- Thank you extended to Donnybrook Fire & Rescue, SES, Parks and Wildlife-Kirup and Police, for support.
- Welcome to Tyler Winter – CSEM. "Has made a great impact already".
- Looking forward to working with all in the 218/2019 season.

10.2 Community Emergency Services Manager – Tyler Winter

- Introduction of Group Call / SMS Service
- Weekly training by CESM
- Bushfire Mitigation Works – Brigade funds
- LGGS Funding issues

10.3 Senior Ranger / Training Coordinator – Paul Robins

Thankyou extended to everyone for their support and assistance over the last two and a half years. The training completed since the last Bush Fire Advisory Meeting is as follows:

- 10th November 2017 FCO refresher training completed
- 12th and 18 November 2017 Burn over and AVL training completed
- 24th January 2018 radio training Beelerup completed
- 30th January 2018 radio training Balingup completed
- 24th and 25th February 2018 BFF training completed
- 23rd March 2018 E Academy training conducted
- 24 March 2018 Intro to Structural Fire Fighting completed

The following report was read by J Cooper on behalf of Paul Robins.

The 2017/2018 fire season was very quiet with minimal incidents occurring and for those incidents; we had a quick response from all Brigades involved, which minimized any possible escalation of incidents.

ARC Infrastructure (Brookfield Rail) have been issued a section 33 under the Bush Fires Act instructing them to do mitigation works along Beelerup rail corridor adjacent to all communities.

The Shire gained funding for bush fire mitigation works to be completed by the 30th of June 2018, this work has already commenced on Shire reserves identified around the Shire, with the installation of firebreaks and mulching. Ben Anderson, Greg Hamlyn (DFES) and myself had to complete this in a very short time frame to have the grant application submitted and approved. Greg Hamlyn has organized the contractors to do all of the mitigation work. Once the work is completed fuel reduction burns can be carried out.

The compliance on the 2017/2018 Fire Break order was quite high considering the changes made to the Fire Break Order for this last year for mineral earth breaks to be installed. We did not seem to receive any negative feedback that we are aware of.

The Shire has also introduced an instant text messaging system and group call messaging, some Brigades have taken this up and I would encourage all Brigades to follow suit. Forty-seven permits to burn were issued from 1 November to 14 December 2017 inclusive. This was considerably less due to the new local health law relating to not allowing the burning of garden refuse in town sites.

Once again I would like to thank you all again for all your assistance over my time in this role. I would also like to thank Phil Brandrett, Pete Thomas, Steve Ward and Donna Virgo for all of their assistance along with the other staff from the DFES LSW office.

Paul Robins
Snr Ranger

10.4 Department of Parks and Wildlife – D Peachey

- Overview of upcoming burning activity. Thanked Bushfire Brigades and Shire for support.
- Total of 81 Fires - 17 in Shire of Donnybrook Balingup and 3 in Shire of Capel near border.

10.5 Fire Control Officers

- Kirup FCO C Wringe - reports they are progressing the Kirup Fire Station extensions with the ESL grant with the CESM assisting.
- Upper Capel FCO B Dix – requests people take care when attending fires to be aware of potential ignition points and tape off as required for investigators.

11 OTHER BUSINESS

11.1 Arc Infrastructure and rail corridor

T Winter (CESM) provided update on rail corridor – ongoing discussion with ARC Infrastructure. FCOs advised that any high risk sections of track to discuss with CESM for possible section 33 notice to be issued.

11.2 Balingup Race Course reserve

T Winter (CESM) stated Shire plans to burn the Balingup Race Course reserve and requested brigades assistance.

11.3 Main roads to assist with flooded road

M Anderson (Lowden FCO) advised issues with raising main roads to assist with flooded road. CESM to investigate mobilising requirement for main roads.

12 CLOSURE OF MEETING

The Chairperson advised that the next Bushfire Advisory Committee meeting to be held 18th October 2018.

The Chairperson declared the meeting closed at 8:39pm.
