



WaterWorks Valley Landcare Group

Convener: Craig Airey
Treasurer: Dave Graddon

Meeting Minutes

Monday 20 November 2006
8pm Dave & Jo Graddon's place
Notes prepared by Craig Airey

1. Present: Dave Graddon, Craig Airey, Suzanne Lockhart, George Crozier
2. Apologies: Robert Rands
3. Previous minutes: not available, confirm minutes of September and October meetings at next meeting
4. Business arising: nil
5. Correspondence: Australian Landcare newsletter, computer arrived from State Education Department, HCC nomination form for adult and young citizen awards, HCC letter of reply (from Glenn Doyle) about linear park proposal along Sandy Bay Rivulet.
6. Finance: no issues had arisen, balance unchanged since AGM
7. General Business
 - a) Newsletter – group to prepare a newsletter (half A4 size) for letter dropping in mid-late December. Contributions welcome from all members. Craig to prepare draft story about seeking community input into landscape design proposal for Quarry. Also newsletter could include details about proposed events for 2007 and seeking input from members about what they would like to see the group undertake in the future (eg. identify and removal of weeds such as boneseed, broom, gorse and blackberry from private landholders).
Any other suggestions?
 - b) On site meeting about landscape plan for Quarry – Craig met Landscape Architect from HCC Tecton Division at Quarry to discuss consultancy brief the Architect has recently received about preparing a Landscape plan for the Quarry. Craig suggested that he will speak to the WVLG about this and said that it would be a good idea to seek community input through WVLG Newsletter and possibly an insert in the general notices in the Mercury Newspaper. Craig also asked for a copy of the consultancy brief and a small report about the quarry that the architect had with him. At meeting members agreed that an article in the newsletter would be a good idea and that the newsletter should be letter dropped before xmas. Also, the idea of organising an on-site meeting to give the community an opportunity (besides phoning and/or writing to the landcare group about the quarry) to raise their ideas about the development of the quarry. Ideas discussed at the meeting

for the landscape plan included native garden displaying local plant species, interpretation board for local plants in the quarry and common weeds in the valley, details about fauna in the quarry such as the mountain lizard, open area versus a more closed area that had play equipment/bike riding area, and dog exercise area. **Craig** to follow-up about consultancy brief and report on quarry

- c) Hydro contractor pruning under powerlines – Craig mentioned details about the Mt. Knocklofty Group undertaking pruning contract work for Hydro under powerlines in the Mt. Knocklofty Reserve. The \$\$ the group receives for the work is then redirected into other restoration works in the reserve. Also, the contractors do not butcher the vegetation under the lines, instead the group removes taller species and maintain native shrubby vegetation under the lines. Craig suggested that maybe the WVLG may want to see if there is any possibilities for the group to do such work in the Reserve and any \$\$ obtained to be redirected into projects such as the Quarry. The concerns raised at the meeting about such works, included whether the group has the resources (ie. members actively involved in working bees) and what were the members getting out of such a project (i.e. what is the reward for doing work for HCC/hydro!). Group to explore in 2007 whether there is an opportunity to do such works in the Reserve and quantify both hours in work and \$\$ the group would obtain for undertaking the pruning contract.
- d) Waterwatch – did not go ahead on Sunday 5th November. **George** to contact Tom Kresinsky at DPIW about setting a new date for the group to do waterwatch in the new year (maybe march 2007). Also, **George** to ask about previous data collected and collate info for group.
- e) Letter to HCC requesting permission for WVLG to insert HCC website link to Bandicoot Times, Bushcare Working Bees Newsletter and other info HCC website has (eg. native fauna and flora, and significant weeds). **Dave Graddon** to prepare letter.
- f) Risk Assessment report for activities that members undertake in the valley. **Group** to implement a brief RA report in the 2007 in order to identify risks and how they can be removed or minimised. This report/document does not have to be long or complicated and Craig already has a template for such a document.
- g) HCC to finish up the cleaning of the torched car at the quarry that occurred in October. **Dave Graddon** to phone HCC.
- h) Photo points of new site below 52-66 waterworks road and lower dam site to be collated and put onto wvlg website. **Dave Graddon** to see what photograph's his mother took at the new site and see if anyone else may have some old photographs of the lower dam site before weeding/native planting works occurred.
- i) Christine Corbett's Action Plan for new site – **Craig** to submit draft copy to council with amendments asap.
- j) Funding from HCC – Craig mentioned that Kerry Heatley from HCC called and that there was approx. \$2,000 available to the group for works in the valley and asked what the group would like to be done. Suzanne suggested that the money be directed to the new site, in particular followup of gorse removal and making a start on spraying largest infestations of blackberries and other weeds (eg. periwinkle) in riparian zone. This work is in line with Christine's

report for work to be undertaken by HCC in 2007/08. **Craig** to call Kerry and discuss the above.

- k) FoSBR – Suzanne informed us that FoSBR were unsuccessful in their grant application.
- l) Meeting with Mark Phillips HCC at lower dam site – HCC is looking at redirecting the steep section of track that drops down from the lower dam to the rivulet and the small bridge. **George and/or Robert** to meet Mark on site.
- m) Landcare notice about funding opportunities. **Dave Graddon, George and Suzanne** to look at 4 page document provided by Landcare on potential funding opportunities and identify areas that they believe the group should look at in 2007.
- n) Birdwatch and BBQ – Dave Graddon mentioned that he will be in Melbourne that weekend and will not be able to organise BBQ, **maybe Robert and David Edwards may like to help out here?** Dave suggested catering for about 20 people and say \$70-100. BBQ is available from Dave's place and might need gas. Also, **Robert** to confirm time and place with Don Knowler and book BBQ site.
- o) Other issues previously discussed at September and October meetings
 - 1. Speed humps for Waterworks Road – **Craig** to contact Mark Broadley again to see if funding has been set aside by HCC for this project.
 - 2. Blackberry weed control program – **Craig** to bring details along to next meeting
 - 3. Landcare Fees paid ? – **Dave** to confirm at next meeting
 - 4. Orchid walk – small turnout to the annual orchid walk, but a very successful day for those attending as there were numerous orchids flowering. **Group** to explore the possibility of compiling a list of orchids discovered in the valley and placing on website with pics taken from members/residents and maybe provide links to other sites about a particular orchid etc.
 - 5. Logbook – **Group** to purchase A4 logbook for compiling a members list with contact details (including phone, mailing address and/or email contact) and a brief comment on what they would like to do and/or see the wvlg undertake in the future.
- 8. Next meeting – Group to confirm December date and place.
- 9. Meeting closed 10.25pm