



Minutes from meeting 2nd June 2016

Present: Neville Cooper (NC), Beth Mellick (BM), Paul Hampton (PH), Paul Foreman (PF), Chris McKenzie (CM)

1. Minutes:

We move a motion to accept the minutes from 19/02/2016 as a true and accurate account of the meeting.
Moved: DG Seconded: CM

2. Membership:

Three new members plus Steiner School

NC to give a form to Craig Marshall, Trevor Butcher, golf club, aiming for 25 members by the next meeting

3. Correspondence:

PH received a phone message from Coliban Water about the waste water from the bacon factory that goes to the golf course, but he's lost the details. BM has put in a call to Coliban Water to follow up. DG was involved in this issue years ago, so maybe pass on to him.

BS paid annual public liability insurance to Austcover for \$380

4. Weed Project:

Current weed grant (\$3,000) MASC still underway with contractor Matt McEachran. Still one area left to be treated in August before the grant finished. NC and DG travelled around with Matt to see the work done. BM following up with MASC about mapping the works and having those maps available to other agencies, and to the group to help with future planning. BS has fully paid invoices relating to this grant.

A grant has been given to the Tarrengower Wheel Cactus Control Group to start a wheel cactus taskforce, and part of their work will be community engagement and community awareness in Muckleford. There will be opportunities to partner and be involved.

Connecting Country has the Green Army team coming and we are on the list for work to be undertaken. They could tackle the big clumps of blackberry on Creasy's Road and along the creek. BM to follow up with PH and pass on details to Connecting Country.

5. Connecting Country reptile monitoring project:

Asha from Connecting Country has laid out terracotta tiles on BM and NC's property, as well as on the Steiner school as part of the monitoring project. They will be checked in September.

6. Connecting Country Landcare and School Projects:

The day for all schools getting together for a Landcare day is 13th September at Vaughan Springs. There is the opportunity to do a 'lead up' day with either Winters Flat or Steiner. No-one can think of anything we could do, so we'll just be involved in the 13th.

7. Community education program:

The next event in our program is the public reserves field trip – where are the public/nature reserves in Muckleford catchment? Walmer Conservation Reserve, another Walmer one, the gravel reserve on the Old School Road. The day will include nest box monitoring in Walmer Conservation Reserve.

- BM to organise some-one from Connecting Country like Max to help with checking the boxes and equipment.
- NC and DG to do a rec and have a look.
- Need to come up with a catchy name like Spring Field Trip – wonders of the Muckleford Flora Reserve.
- Organise getting the bus from MASC. We might have to use cars if we can't get bus.
- Book Miles Geldard as the guest presenter. BM to follow up.
- CM to organise food – 2 BBQs on the back of the ute, bangers, salad etc
- Sunday 18th September

8. History Project:

PH already done a fair bit of work on the history of the Muckleford area and farming. Looking to form a community history group to meet and share information, and work out what to do with this information eg a website or a book on an environmental history.

- Robyn Ballinger keen to be involved.
- PH to advertise in local papers, book speakers, organise catering, come up with catchy title.
- 19th July at the Ray Bradfield room or at the fire station in Walmer.

9. Finance

Treasurer, BS, reports that the group currently has \$3,254.66. A motion is passed to approve the financial report as a true and accurate record of our current financial position:

Moved: DG Seconded: BS

10. Any other Business:

PF reports about deer on his property. DG says the numbers are stable and they've been in the landscape for a long time.

PH also reports that about 70-80 kangaroos that are resident on his property which seems out of whack. Again, DG doesn't think the numbers are increasing. NC to contact Dja Dja Wurrung Corporation to see if they are dealing with this issue elsewhere. Put on agenda for the next meeting.

Connecting Country has put in a Threatened Species grant application for a buloke project in Muckleford. They will work with Muckleford Landcare to plant out on landholders properties.

Next Meeting and AGM:

August Thursday 18th, 6.30pm at the Community Hall in Muckleford

BM to book the venue. People to come up with ideas for a speaker at the start of the meeting, and ask Asha from Connecting Country to officiate the AGM.