

# Community and Environment Advisory Committee Minutes



Meeting held: 4:00pm, Thursday 30 November 2017 at the Education Pod (Summerlands)

<b>1</b>	<b>Welcome and Apologies</b>		
1.1	<p>The Chair declared the meeting open at 4:0 pm.  Attendance / Apologies are listed below:  <b>Environment Committee:</b> Shelley Lavender (CHAIR and Board), Diana Whittington (Bass Coast Shire Council), Gil Smith, Penny Manning, Mike Cleeland  <b>Community Committee:</b> Stephen Davie (CHAIR and Board), Jane Daly, Yvette Tancheff, Jan Fleming, Margaret Hancock,  <b>In Attendance:</b> Jeff Floyd (Board Chair), Kay Spierings (Board Member), Kevin Love (Board Member), Liz Stinson (Board Member), Danielle Auldist (Board Member), Andrew Paxton (Board Member), Catherine Basterfield (CEO), Paul Sandells (Chief Operating Officer), Jessica McKelson (Conservation Manager), Hayley Smith (Executive Assistant - Minutes).  <b>Apologies:</b> Deirdre Griepsma, Cr Stephen Fullarton, Deborah Holland, Pauline Taylor, Anne Davie, Patsy Hunt, Bessie Tyers, Gareth Kennedy, Joel Geoghegan, Gavan O'Connor, Kim Storey, Christine Grayden, Steve Parker.</p>		
<b>2</b>	<b>Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners</b>		
2.1	The Chair acknowledged the traditional custodians of this land and paid respect to their elders past and present.		
<b>3</b>	<b>Minutes from Previous Meetings</b>	<b>ACTIONS</b>	<b>STATUS</b>
3.1	The minutes of the Community and Environment Advisory Committee meeting held 31 August 2017 were accepted as a true and correct record.		
<b>4</b>	<b>Matters Arising from Previous Minutes</b>	<b>ACTIONS</b>	<b>STATUS</b>
4.1	<p>FROM AUGUST 2017 MEETING  <b>Comment:</b> Bessie Tyers enquired regarding rehabilitation of the Rhyll Transfer Station site and asked if there will an opportunity for people to go walking in there soon.  <b>Update (November 2017): Nature Parks has made arrangements with Council for a community walking tour in early 2018.</b></p>	Environment Manager to discuss with Council the possibility of a community visit to the Rhyll Transfer Station site.	Postponed to early 2018. Date TBA.
4.2	Committee Members noted the status of matters from the previous minutes and no other matters were raised.		
<b>5</b>	<b>Phillip Island Nature Parks Update</b>	<b>ACTIONS</b>	<b>STATUS</b>
5.1	The CEO welcomed new Nature Parks Conservation Manager, Jessica McKelson. Jessica provided an overview on her background (habitat-based conservation in Indonesia). New Nature Parks Visitor Experience Manager, Kate Adams has also commenced with the Nature Parks.		
5.2	<p>The CEO provided a brief verbal update which included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Penguin Parade closure in September – YTD visitation is still positive despite the closure and limited access during the building repair period.</li> <li>Management Team recruitment is in progress for the Operations Manager and Commercial Manager roles.</li> <li>The New Conservation Department, incorporating Research and Environment, forms part of the new Organisational Structure.</li> </ul> <p>The Chair advised that there would be an announcement early in the new year to celebrate commencement of construction of the new Penguin Parade Building. The Board welcomes feedback from community members on all areas of the project.</p>		

5.3	<p><u>Conservation Department Update</u></p> <p>The Conservation Manager provided a verbal summary of highlights from the November 2017 Conservation Update which had been circulated to Committee Members and provided in hard copy at the meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The CEO confirmed that feral cat traps were available for loan from the Nature Parks and the Conservation Manager will report back regarding Nature Parks assistance with removal.</li> <li>• Committee Members noted that Scenic Estate construction works would commence next week (week of 4 December). Vegetation will be removed a new boardwalk built. The site will still be open to public.</li> <li>• Management noted feedback from community member Phil Wright which was passed on by a committee member including suggested improvements to signage, concerns regarding non-compliance with regulations for off-leash dogs, ideas for development and use for the recently acquired land adjacent to the Penguin Parade and suggestion to adopt a user-pays model to fund environmental management of non-paying areas.</li> <li>• There was a suggestion that Nature Parks consider the land currently for sale at Kitty Miller Bay (adjacent to Swan Lake) which is significant wetland for waterbirds.</li> </ul>	Conservation Manager to report back regarding Nature Parks assistance with feral cat removal from loaned traps.	
<b>6</b>	<b>Country Fire Authority (CFA) Bass Coast Update</b>	<b>ACTIONS</b>	<b>STATUS</b>
6.1	Postponed to 2018 due to fires.		.
<b>7</b>	<b>Draft Strategic Plan 2018-23 Workshop</b>		
7.1	<p>The CEO presented to the committees a summary of the draft Strategic Plan 2018-23. Committee Members provided feedback on 'Key Aspirations' and 'Program' categories which was noted by the Board and Management Team. A summary of comments is included as <b>Attachment 1</b>.</p> <p>There was concern raised regarding recommendations in the Summerland Peninsula Trails Master Plan of future changes to vehicle access along a section of the South Coast Road. Further information and discussion on the changes was requested and it was noted that this would be actioned outside the meeting.</p> <p>Further Strategic Plan consultation including targeting holiday home owners was suggested.</p> <p>The CEO advised that there would be a follow up meeting to discuss feedback received.</p>		
<b>8</b>	<b>Other Business</b>		
8.1	None.		
<b>9</b>	<b>Next Meeting</b>		
9.1	<p>Committee Members noted the date of the next meeting (Friday 3 March 2018).</p> <p>The Chair thanked Committee Members and the Management Team for their contribution.</p>		
<b>10</b>	<b>Meeting Close</b>		
10.1	The meeting was closed at 5:58pm.		

**Phillip Island Nature Parks DRAFT Strategic Plan 2018-2023**  
**Community and Environment Advisory Committees Session**  
**Key comment summary:**

**1. Summary of comments**

Area	Comment
<b>Programs</b>	
	Use 'partner' ('leadership' feels superior)
<b>Key Aspirations</b>	
	'Our threatened species' – should state 'The Island'.
<b>Conservation</b>	
	Ensure there is focus on stability of the penguin population and re-establishing the colonies on the Island.
	Promote living with wildlife to encourage it.
	Include Zero carbon/waste emissions
	Consider installation/generating of our own alternative energy (wind)
	7 – use 'custodians'
	Suggest add: Staff training to maintain organisational excellence and best standards.
<b>Visitor Experiences</b>	
	Enhanced interps about Nature Parks history, achievements, its activities and projects. Important to explain why.
	More interps about conservation projects
	Future vision: for visitors to see more penguins.
	Local community access to non-paying venues is important – emphasise these places as much as paid attractions.
	The daytime role of the new Penguin Parade visitor centre is just as important as night
	Major initiatives from other plans
	Roadside habitat along South Coast Road is at risk due to busses stopping.
	Keeping the South Coast Road open is important for the community
<b>Community</b>	
	Community Leadership heading - rather 'engagement' or 'relationships'
	Roadkill is an issue and there is not enough signage.
<b>Sustainability</b>	
	Suggest Island-wide parking permit.
<b>Organisation</b>	
	None.