



#### DRYANDRA COUNTRY VISITOR CENTRE



#### Park & Fairway Streets NARROGIN 6312

Ph: 9881 2064 Fax: 9881 2094

Email: narrogin.tourist@westnet.com.au

Gavin Pollock Chief Executive Officer Shire of Pingelly 17 Queen Street PINGELLY 6308

SHIRE OF PINC	GELLY
FILE 00237	NO. HOLLOW THE RESERVE THE RES
DATE 0 8 APR 20	15
Officer COO	
Copy to	

Dear Gavin

Financial Support Dryandra Country Visitor Centre 2015/16

The Dryandra Country Visitor Centre thanks the Shire of Pingelly for the financial contribution toward the employment of the Visitor Centre Manager and the DCVC Marketing Strategy.

We continue to offer a high level of customer service in the promotion of Pingelly and the Dryandra area with a loyal team of volunteers dispensing information to travellers and local residents.

The last year has seen some positive changes to the organisation with the employment of a dedicated Tourism Development Officer (Geire Kami) who is responsible for regional promotion. Working with the manager, Geire has developed a brochure for Dryandra Country which is the first brochure to be dedicated to the Dryandra area. She is currently working on a new website for DCVC in order to create cohesive marketing in multimedia.

A portion of the Marketing Strategy funds have been used to sponsor the Dryandra Country Art, Food & Wine Trail for 2015. This has been utilised for brochure production and online marketing of the event into which Geire has input.

The funding also enabled DCVC to have a presence at the Perth Caravan & Camping Show which had record attendance figures in 2015.

The DCVC committee has discussed your financial contribution at length, and feels that an increase of \$500 is in line with a rise in costs and services, therefore we thank you for a contribution in 2015/16 of \$6,000 (GST included).

Yours sincerely

Brian Seale

President DVC Committee

April 2015



# MARKETING STRATEGY EXPENDITURE TO DATE:

DATE	AMOUNT	PROMOTION
9/7/14	200	Senior Scene Magazine
30/8/14	150	AGO/ West Australian Advert
30/10/14	995	AGO Holiday Planner advertising
16/12/14	1750	Advert with AGO –West Australian Nov 15 <sup>th</sup> 'Short & Sweet'
27/1/15	2261	DCAFWT Brochure print costs
	412	DCAFWT Brochure print costs
4/3/15	605	Accommodation C & C Show
	800	Travel & meal allowance
16/3/15	200	Banner
30/3/15	1300	AGO Exhibition Space C & C Show
30/3/15	1200	Advert – Beautiful South
31/3/15	913.27	Advert with AGO- Sunday Times Escape Magazine March 15 <sup>th</sup>
26/3/15	2896.30	Dryandra brochure Print & Freight ( 10,000 copies )
31/3/15	220	Radio West Broadcast-regional promotion
April	2000	DCAFWT- Facebook
Sub-total	15,347.57	
Balance	4,652.43	
	1,0021.10	
		Abbreviations:
		AGO- Australia's Golden Outback
		DCAFWT- Dryandra Country Art Food & Wine Trail
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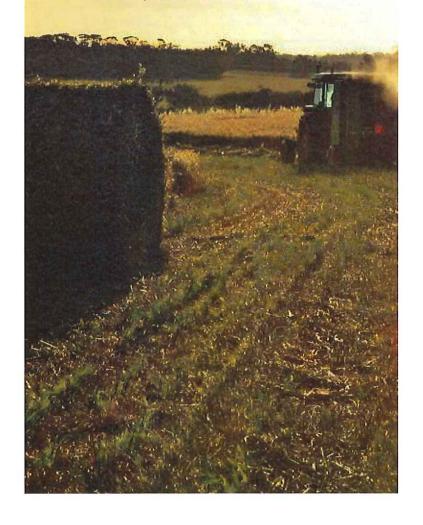


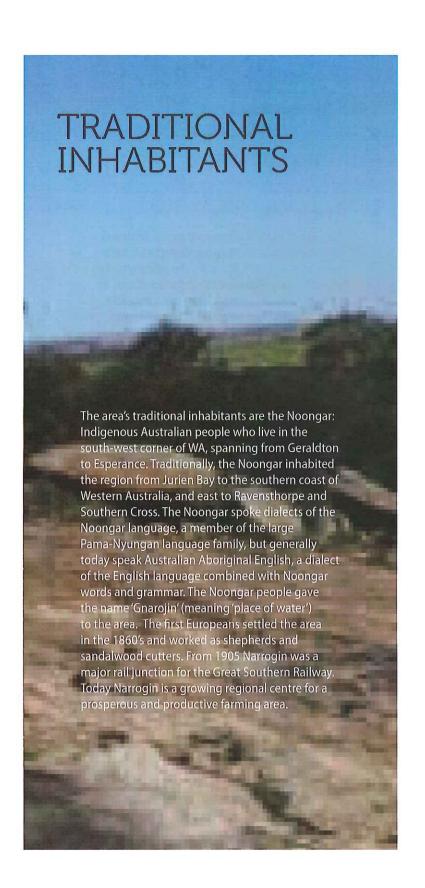
# **NARROGIN**

'LOVE THE LIFE'

## LOCATION

Narrogin is 190 kilometres southeast of Perth and covers an area of 1,618 square kilometres. It has a population of over 5,000 and is the gateway to the internationally renowned Dryandra Woodlands. Its main commercial centre is located in the middle of some of Western Australia's richest and most productive agricultural land. It is an RV friendly town and has many facilities available to travellers.





# **EVENTS**

# art, food & Wine trail

The Dryandra Art, Food and Wine Trail attracts people from all over the country. Held annually on Mother's Day weekend in May, it is comprised of a self-drive tour, with significant stops to sample local fare and peruse the beautiful and unique work of local artisans. For a copy of the map, and to plan your way around the trail visit W: facebook.com/DryandraArtTrail

#### NARROGIN AGRICULTURAL SHOW

The Narrogin Agricultural Show has a long history. Usually held in mid October, it has all the fun of the fair coupled with a country show: side show alley, farm machinery, stalls, show bags, and equestrian competitions run by students from the Narrogin College of Agriculture. To check dates and schedules W: narroginagsociety.com.au



#### **REVHEADS**

Revheads falls on the 3rd weekend in November annually, and has attracted visitors from the likes of the founders of Crusty Demons to some of Australia's premier burnout and show car heroes. Now in its third decade Revheads has a large programme of competitions to enter, and people attend from across Australia. It's a massive weekend, which just keeps growing. Bring your earplugs! W: narroginrevheads.com.au



#### NARROGIN RACE AND PACE CLUB

Horse racing and pacing from September through to July.



#### NARROGIN SPRING FESTIVAL

The Narrogin Spring Festival is held annually in October. It has developed a huge following of green thumbs interested in peeking at the exquisite open gardens, some of which have been prepared for the festival for over a year. But the Spring Festival is so much more than that! It has a street parade, children's activities, entertainers, stalls showcasing local wares, and lots more. W: narroginspringfestival.org.au





THE DRYANDRA REGION
OFFERS A HOST OF THINGS
TO SEE AND DO FOR ALL AGES
AND INTERESTS, WHETHER
YOU ARE PASSING THROUGH,
OR LIVE AND WORK HERE, YOU
WON'T BE DISAPPOINTED!

The Dryandra Country Visitor Centre is the local accredited Visitor Centre, and your complete guide to the Dryandra region. We are a not for profit, membership based organisation that represents local businesses by providing information to visitors to the Dryandra region. We are the first port of call for visitor servicing, and engage in destination promotion, including providing information on accommodation, tours and attractions.

Our incredible team of volunteers are always happy to help you in store from: Monday - Friday 8:30am - 5pm Saturday 10am - 4pm Sunday & Public Holidays 11am – 3pm

We are closed on Good Friday and Christmas Day.

#### Contact

The Visitor Centre is located on the corner of Park and Fairway Streets, Narrogin 6312. T: (08) 9881 2064 W: dryandratourism.org.au

We have an RV dump at the rear of the building, wheelchair access and public toilets.









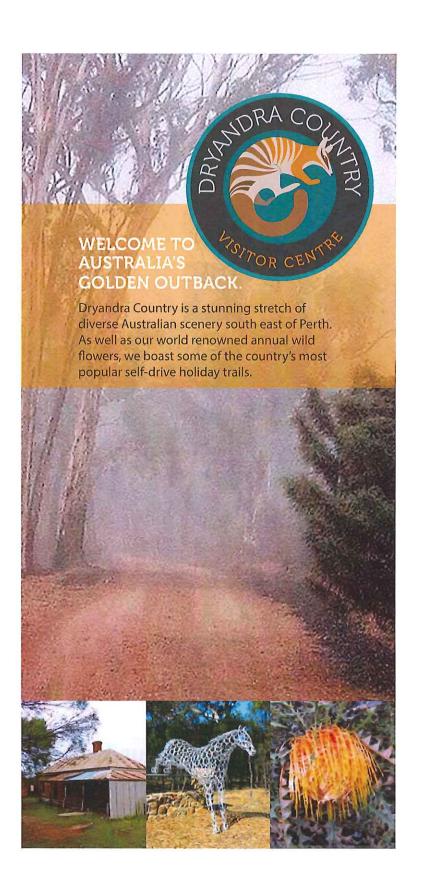












#### NARROGIN

# **ATTRACTIONS**

#### FOXES LAIR NATURE PARK

A 60 hectare bush land area within the Narrogin town boundary draws travellers and flora and fauna buffs from all across the globe. Foxes Lair is unique for its spectacular array of rare wildflowers and orchids, as well as beautiful endemic wildlife and incredible bird life. The Arboretum has over 70 species of eucalypts. Colour coded walking tracks are identified at information bays inside the two entry points. One track is wheelchair accessible. Entry into Foxes Lair is well signed. Enter either on the north side from Williams Road opposite the caravan park or from the corner of Floreat Street and Range Road.



#### NARROGIN PARK

At Narrogin Park visitors can walk or ride the 1.5km heritage trail. 100 black granite tiles depict events since Narrogin was settled in 1892. Many of the tiles portray important historical events, and give an interesting overview of life in historical and modern day Narrogin. The trail starts near Kipling and Gordon Streets, and follows along beside the creek to Herald Street. Along the way find a playground, artwork, the Noongar Dreaming Site, and the skate park.



#### OLD COURTHOUSE MUSEUM

The Old Courthouse Museum displays an eclectic mix of historical memorabilia, photos, and locally produced objet d'art. The Museum boasts a large and fascinating collection of pieces, which have undergone significant cataloguing. Find the museum on the corner of Earl and Egerton Streets.

Mon-Fri 10am-4pm
Sat 10am-12pm
T. 9881 6758



#### NARROGIN REGIONAL LEISURE CENTRE

The Narrogin Regional Leisure Centre has two superb pools: a large indoor heated pool with an observation bridge, kid's waterfalls, and shallow pond and a 50 metre Olympic size outdoor pool. There is a kiosk, a large state of the art gym, squash, basketball and netball courts and Narrogin's nationally recognised international standard synthetic turf hockey pitch (home of the Upper Great Southern Hockey Association).

Mon-Fri 6am-9pm Sat 8am-5pm
T: 9881 2651



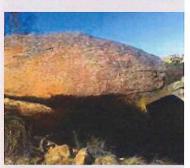
#### NARROGIN GLIDING CLUB

Spread your wings and get a glimpse of Dryandra from the air. The Narrogin Gliding Club have an Air Experience Flight on any weekend and most public holidays, weather permitting. Make sure you book!
W: narroginglidingclub.org.au
T: 0407 088 314



#### YILLIMINNING ROCK

A hot spot for its orchids, Yilliminning Rock is located 17 kilometres from Narrogin (head east on Herald Street towards Harrismith). It has a spectacular view! Enjoy a short hike up the 48 metre high rock for panoramic vistas of the farmlands below. The area boasts seasonal wildflowers and plenty of sightings of lizards and wildlife. There is a picnic bench, so take a packed lunch and enjoy the scenery. A self- drive trail takes in the old Yilliminning town-site and Marramucking Well.



#### BARNA MIA NOCTURNAL ANIMAL SANCTUARY

Barna Mia Nocturnal Animal Sanctuary is one of the jewels in Dryandra's crown. Consistently given highest ranking on TripAdvisor by visitors, this unique sanctuary is nestled within the Dryandra Woodland. Barna Mia is a sanctuary for endangered marsupials. Tourists and locals alike flock at sunset to take a guided nocturnal tour with the chance to view rare and endangered bilbies, boodies, quendas, malas and woylies. Bookings are essential as the tours fill up quickly. Contact the Department of Parks and Wildlife: 9881 9200. Tours run Mon, Wed, Fri, Sat in autumn, winter and spring. Fri and Sat in summer. Campers are welcome at the Congelin campsite, or alternatively you can stay overnight in the Lions Dryandra Woodland Village.
T: 9884 5231 W: dryandravillage.org.au



#### For all tourist enquiries contact:

The Dryandra Country Visitors Centre Tel: 9881 2064.

Cnr Park and Fairway Streets Narrogin

- maps, books, internet, fax and photocopying, souvenirs, conference

Open Monday to Friday 9-5, Saturday 10-4 Sundays and Public Holidays 11-3.

#### NARROGIN

# **ACCOMMODATION**

#### HOTEL/MOTEL



Duke of York Hotel T: 9881 1008

#### **FARMSTAY**



Gumnut Cottage Farmstay T: 9882 4030 or 0428 824 030



Hordern Hotel T: 9881 1015



Chuckem Farmstay and B&B T: 9881 1188 or 0409 379 353



Albert Facey Motel T: 9881 1899



Eden Valley Farmstay T: 9881 5864



Narrogin Motel T: 9881 1660

## CARAVAN PARK



Narrogin Caravan Park T: 0427 478 333

For more information contact the Dryandra Country Visitor Centre T: 9881 2064 E: narrogin.tourist@westnet.com.au W: dryandratourism.org.au







# **CUBALLING**

## 'A PLACE TO GROW'

The name Cuballing came from "Cooballing Pool" which was discovered in 1870 by John Forrest. In 1889 it was recorded that Cuballing had eleven residences, including the tavern.

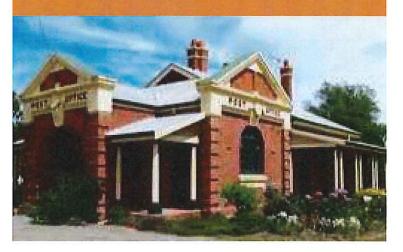
The Shire of Cuballing incorporates three areas, all of which have names that are hard to say (but are nice places to stay). Popanyinning, Yornaning, and Cuballing.

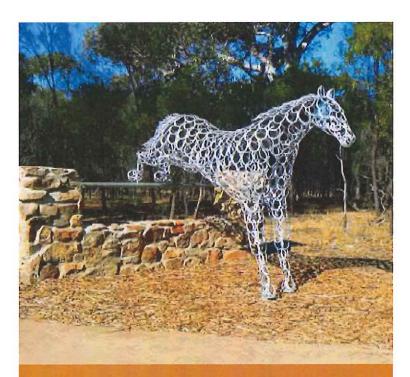
#### LOCATION

Located 192 kilometres south east of Perth in the heart of the Wheatbelt area, Cuballing has a number of heritage buildings which have been lovingly restored. Its facilities include the Cuby Roadhouse with petrol and refreshments available, an enclosed children's playground with gas BBQ's, public toilets, an RV area with RV dump, picnic tables and solar lighting.

#### **HISTORY**

The Railway Cottage was built in 1905 and is the last component of the old Railway Station precinct. The Cuballing Tavern was built in 1892 and has been restored to its original design. The Cuballing Post Office and the Agricultural Hall were built in 1912, St Peters Church in 1911 and the Western Australia Bank at the turn of the last century. All these buildings can be seen in a pleasant walk around the town along with samples of old farm machinery which were sandblasted and are regularly oiled to maintain their patina. A collection of machinery is also housed in the RV area.





Cuballing is the home of the Dryandra Regional Equestrian Association, which attracts thousands of competitive horse riders to show jumping, dressage, events, and clinics at the world class facility every year. Keep your eyes peeled for the jumping horse mascot on the Great Southern Highwayl Many people stop to take photos with the beautiful piece, created out of horseshoes.



# POPANYINNING

## **TOWN AND NATURE TRAILS**



Popanyinning was originally named 'Popaning' which means waterhole in the local Aboriginal language. The waterhole was used by aborigines, and wild brumbies from around the district.

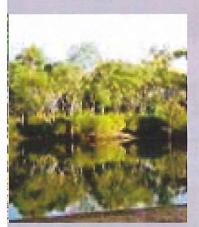
The birth of the township of Popanyinning can be attributed to both the construction of the Great Southern Railway and the desire of pioneers to settle within the perimeter of the town site, being approximately 3.4 miles north and south and 14 miles east and west. Records show that the first pioneers arrived in 1893, and in 1898 pioneer railway construction workers and their families arrived.

Popanyinning is situated 19kms north of Cuballing and has a population of approximately 150 people. Public toilet facilities including a shower are available opposite the general store which is open 7 days a week.

The Popo Nature Trail is divided into seven sections, which form a circular route through the beautiful woodland surrounding the town. The total length of the trail is 5.5kms. Maps can be collected at the general store.

The Heritage Trail is well signed & takes in 19 different points of interest, from the old Rosella Building constructed in 1920, Fettlers' Cottages, and the site of the Blacksmith's (circa 1905).

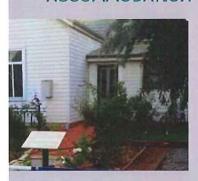
## YORANANING DAM



Yornaning Dam is the ideal place for a picnic or BBQ. There is a nature reserve and the area has picnic tables, gas BBQ's, toilets, and playground facilities.

For further information you can contact: Cuballing Shire Office T: 9883 6031

## **ACCOMMODATION**



#### POPANYINNIG BED & BREAKFAST

The Popo B&B is managed by the General Store. It's self-contained, with two double bedrooms and a lounge area. Located in the main street, it is very easy to find. Pop in to enquire about availability or call 0499 875 562.

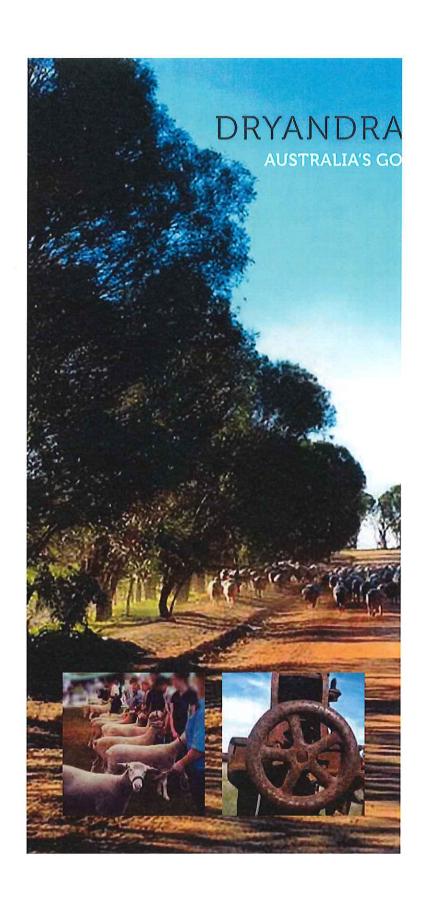


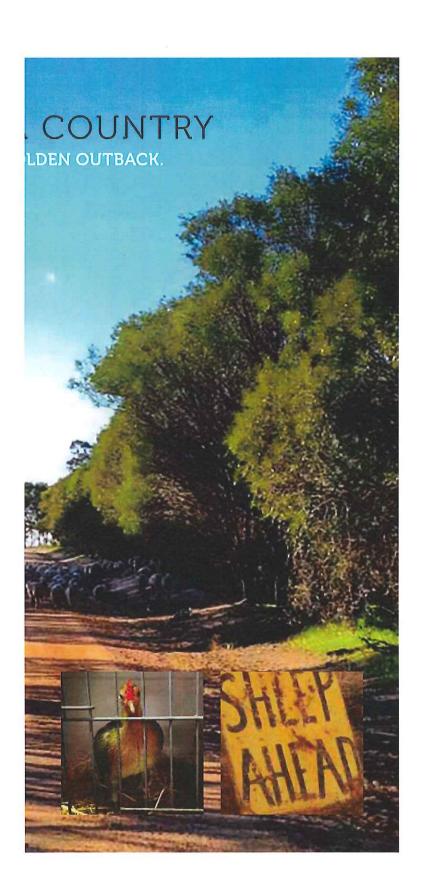
#### LAZEAWAY CARAVAN PARK

Laze Away Caravan Park and Holiday Farm is located just south of the town on the banks of the Hotham River.

Contact T: 9887 5027, or

Dryandra Country Visitor Centre T: 9881 2064 W: dryandratourism.org.au







'A RICH FARMING HISTORY'



#### HISTORY

The town was first settled in 1846 and was named in 1889. The name Pingelly derives from an aboriginal name 'pingeculling' meaning 'small gully of water'.

#### **ATTRACTIONS**

#### HERITAGE BUILDINGS

Pingelly has a number of interesting heritage buildings and during wildflower season (August and September) boasts some of the richest and most diverse floral areas on the country. The nearby Mooriumbine townsite just 8km away was settled in 1864 and has a Heritage Trail that takes walkers or drivers through the area past sites of historical significance including old settler's cottages as well as 5t Patrick's Anglican Church which was consecrated in 1873 and is still in use today.



# BOYAGIN ROCK

Situated 26km north-west of Pingelly, Boyagin Rock rises 50 metres above the surrounding countryside and is a very popular scenic area with a profusion of wildflowers in spring. It is one of the last preserves of the native wildlife and plants which once dominated the area with stands of powderbark, jarrah and marri.



### FLORA & FAUNA

# TUTANNING FLORA AND FALINA RESERVE

The Tutanning Flora and Fauna Reserve is 22.5 kilometres east of Pingelly, and is recognized as one of the richest conservation areas in Western Australia. The reserve contains over 750 flora species and is home to a number of endangered species. In 1906 botanist Guy Shorteridge collected over 400 species of plants for the British Museum from Tutanning Reserve. It covers about 2000ha, and is of high experimental importance. Visitors can arrange to stay overnight at the research station through the Department of Parks and Wildlife.



#### BARNA MIA

Pingelly is approximately 40 kilometres from Dryandra Woodland, where you can visit Barna Mia Animal Sanctuary.

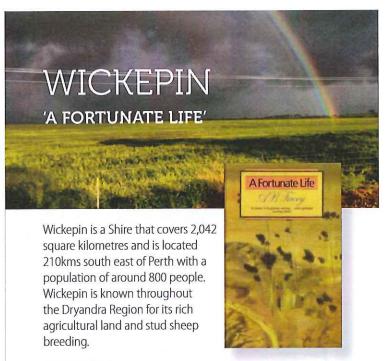


# ACCOMMODATION



Pingelly Caravan Park T: 9887 1352





#### **HISTORY**

Settled in 1893 the locality began as a water point and was used by early sandalwood cutters.

Wickepin is famous as the home town of A. B. Facey, author of the bestselling book 'A Fortunate Life' (and the feature film adaptation). The book provides an incredible view of life in Western Australia at the beginning of the 20th Century. In a stroke of unintended pathos readers of the autobiography, which was written by a man who taught himself to read as an adult, might find that in fact Albert Facey's life was far less than fortunate, but locals still have stories about Mr. Facey's positive attitude towards life and adversity, and he is a much loved local figure. His 1924 homestead has been relocated to the centre of town and is open to the public. Marvel at the rustic way these settlers lived in the first few decades of the 1900's. The Facey family lived 16km south of the town and were forced by the Great Depression and the rabbit scourge to leave the farm in 1934 and move to the city. For further information contact: Wickepin Shire Office T: 9888 1005

Albert Facey Homestead T: 9888 4050
Dryandra Country Visitor Centre T: 9881 2064
W: dryandratourism.org.au



#### ALBERT FACEY HOMESTEAD AND MUSEUM

Albert Facey Homestead and Museum - a unique opportunity to view the harsh and simple lifestyle of a small Wheatbelt farmer in the 1920's.

#### WICKEPIN ART PRIZE

Wickepin has a thriving artistic community. Every October Wickepin hosts a large art competition with several categories. It draws a crowd from far and wide, and if you are in the area when the exhibition is on, it's a must see.

#### MALYALLING ROCK

Malyalling Rock – a short drive out of town this is a perfect place for a picnic or bush walk. Rich with wildflowers in the spring – spider and donkey orchids are prevalent. You can still see the old cricket pitch and the Malyalling sports club known to the locals as the 'MCG'.

#### HARRISMITH

Harrismith – is internationally recognized for the wide variety of wildflowers found in season. In spring take a walk along the wildflower trail and look for orchids, verticordias, grevilleas, and banksias. The Harrismith Oasis Hotel is renowned as the local watering hole, and has true country hospitality.





#### **AMENITIES**

Wickepin and Yealering are RV friendly.
Wickepin Caravan Park caravan and camping facilities T: 9888 1089
Harrismith Caravan Park T: 9883 1010
Yealering Caravan Park T: 9888 7106
Wickepin District Resource and Telecentre T: 9888 1500
E: wickepintc@westnet.com.au

#### **ACHIEVEMENTS**

Wickepin has developed a regional recycling program, has been the winner of the Wheatbelt Tidy Towns award and a Golden West Network Tourism Town Award.



#### YARLING BROOK

Yarling Brook – across the railway line from the Facey Homestead a heritage walk features some charming buildings including the Old Police Station, the Railway Station, and the Arts and Crafts Centre.

#### LAKE TOOLIBIN

Lake Toolibin is the only remaining example in Southwest Australia of a wetland with extensive living thickets of swamp sheoak and paperbarks on the lake fringes and bed - one of the main wetland types in the region prior to agricultural development there. Flooded gum, acorn banksia and rock sheoak woodland occur on the higher ground and deep sands surrounding the lake. The vegetation includes submerged aquatic plants and sedges around the lake.



The vegetation community provides habitat for woodland birds and other animals. Toolibin supports more breeding waterbird species - up to 25, including the rare Freckled Duck, cormorants, egrets, night herons and spoonbills - than any other inland wetland in south-western Australia. It also supports a population of the endangered red-tailed phascogale.

#### LAKE YEALERING

Lake Yealering – and the Yealering town site are north on the Wickepin-Corrigin Road. Call into the Yealering Hotel which was featured in the 'Waltz through the Hills' television miniseries. The Yealering Caravan Park overlooking the lake can be contacted on 9888 7013 or 9888 7014.



#### DRYANDRA COUNTRY VISITORS CENTRE

#### MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING - 23rd April 2015

Held at the Dryandra Country Visitors Centre

WELCOME: Vice President Lyn Chadwick welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 1.45pm

**PRESENT:** Lyn Chadwick (Vice President), Helen Elliott (Manager), Helen Grainger (Secretary), Rex Hayes (Downderry Wines), Shirley Lange (Pingelly Shire President), Deb Hughes – Owen (Committee Member), Jeanette Robb (Committee Member), Geire Kami (DCVC Tourism Development Officer)

**APOLOGIES:** Brian Seale (DCVC President), Joy Meharry (Committee Member), Scott Ballantyne (Cuballing Shire CIIr), Eliza Dowling (Cuballing Shire CIIr), Gary Sherry (Cuballing Shire CEO), Mark Hook (Wickepin Shire CEO)

#### **CONFLICT OF INTEREST: NIL**

#### MINUTES MEETING 26th February 2015:

Correction: Funding to Shires/Town for 2015:

**Motion** 'that we request an increase of \$500 funding from the Shires and Town on last year's **requested** contribution'. **Moved** by Shirley Lange **Seconded** by Janice Sieber **Carried** 

#### CORRESPONDENCE OUT:

- 1. Email to TON re water charges
- 2. Letter of support for Arts Narrogin -Country Arts WA Grant Application.
- 3. Annual funding requests to local government (Shire of Cuballing-Shire of Narrogin- Shire of Pingelly-Shire of Wickepin-Town of Narrogin)
- 4. Letter of thanks to Wren Design
- 5. Email response to Cuballing

#### CORRESPONDENCE IN:

- 1. Letter from TON in regard to water charges: The water charges have been investigated. It was found that the a/c was incorrectly assessed and a credit notice was attached. The new water bill has been itemized correctly.
- 2. Email from Cuballing requesting clarification of funding request.
- 3. Letter from TON re: funding request: There was discussion on the letter and Helen Elliott was given guidance on the response. The DCVC is well on track to spend the allocated funding before the end of the financial year. An information sheet on the Marketing Strategy expenditure to date will also be sent.
- 4. Funding response from Wickepin: \$5000 will be allocated to DCVC in the budget which is yet to be passed.

Motion moved 'that correspondence be accepted'. Rex Hayes Seconded: Jeanette Robb Carried

#### **BUSINESS ARISING:**

1. Treasurer's situation: Still an ongoing problem. Rex Hayes will contact someone who has the qualifications for the position to see if they are interested in filling the position.

There was further discussion and it was suggested that Helen Elliott send letters to local accountants to see if anyone would take on the treasurer's job pro bono.

- **2. Dryandra Brochure**: The brochure was circulated and discussed. The quality and content of the finished product was appreciated by the committee. Minor corrections were noted for future prints. The brochure is now available for regional and metro distribution.
- 3. Auskey Report: Nothing to report yet. Brian Seale to be contacted.
- **4. Membership Fees:** Membership for 2015/16 will remain the same. \$60 for a business and \$30 for an individual.
- 5. CONSTITUTION: There will be a special meeting to be held on the 28<sup>th</sup> of May at 4.00pm to discuss and revise the Constitution.

TREASURERS REPORT: No report was available.

#### MANAGER'S REPORT: Helen Elliott

Visitor numbers for February and March have been substantially lower than previous years and April appears to be following the same trend.

- The Caravan & Camping Show was an interesting experience. Thank you to Lyn Chadwick for volunteering her time on the Saturday and Sunday. We distributed approximately 600 brochures over 5 days.
- The Dryandra brochure finally arrived and TMP are distributing them to 50 metro outlets and visitor centres throughout WA. This is at a cost to us and will be taken out of the Marketing Strategy budget.
- I was approached by Telstra to bundle our Internet and phone and fax together for one low price, which we have now done. This has reduced our communication costs by \$50 per month. To say the process was not as easy as Telstra promised, is an understatement.
- Joy and Sharna had a training session in March as part of the Treasurer induction.
- Pingelly Tourism Group is now incorporated and had their first AGM in March. I was unable to attend due to the Caravan & Camping Show and was not elected as a committee member. I still receive correspondence and minutes of meetings which facilitates communication.

PERTH CARAVAN & CAMPING SHOW 2015-Our display incorporating the new logo and banner



#### DCVC TOURISM DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS REPORT: Geire Kami

Foxes Lair website (<a href="www.foxeslair.org">www.foxeslair.org</a>) design is now complete. It was launched to coincide with the Narrogin Observer article last week, which mentions Dryandra Country Visitor Centre. The website is great, and has already shown a good amount of traffic from all over the world. It has lots of great content, and we have had visitors to the DCVC asking about how they can add to the website, and to pick up maps and make general enquiries.

- Caravan and Camping Show was a success.
- More social media targeted advertising for the Arts Trail. At this time we have around \$700 spent on targeted advertising, with \$600 allocated as of today (no results yet as ads are pending approval).



• I made a short ad-like video for the Arts Trail and it was promoted by the participant. Although DCVC didn't pay for this promotion it was very successful (for a \$26 investment).





- I designed the banner for Cuballing Shire's entry into the annual Banners in the Terrace Competition. Although I worked on it largely in my own time, some time was spent vectoring it at work to prepare it for digital printing.
- I have been researching Search Engine Optimisation. It is very complicated. SEO is basically internet marketing, and it is the process which affects the visibility of a website in a search engine's unpaid results. A company will usually pay for SEO optimisation, and for the DCVC's new website (pending), it would mean that we would appear high on a search related to travelling in WA. SEO optimisation can cost a lot of money, and I'd really like to be able to do this for us, so allocating a bit of time to research.
- Also promoting the DCVC members through social media and seeing them get added interest from the general public.

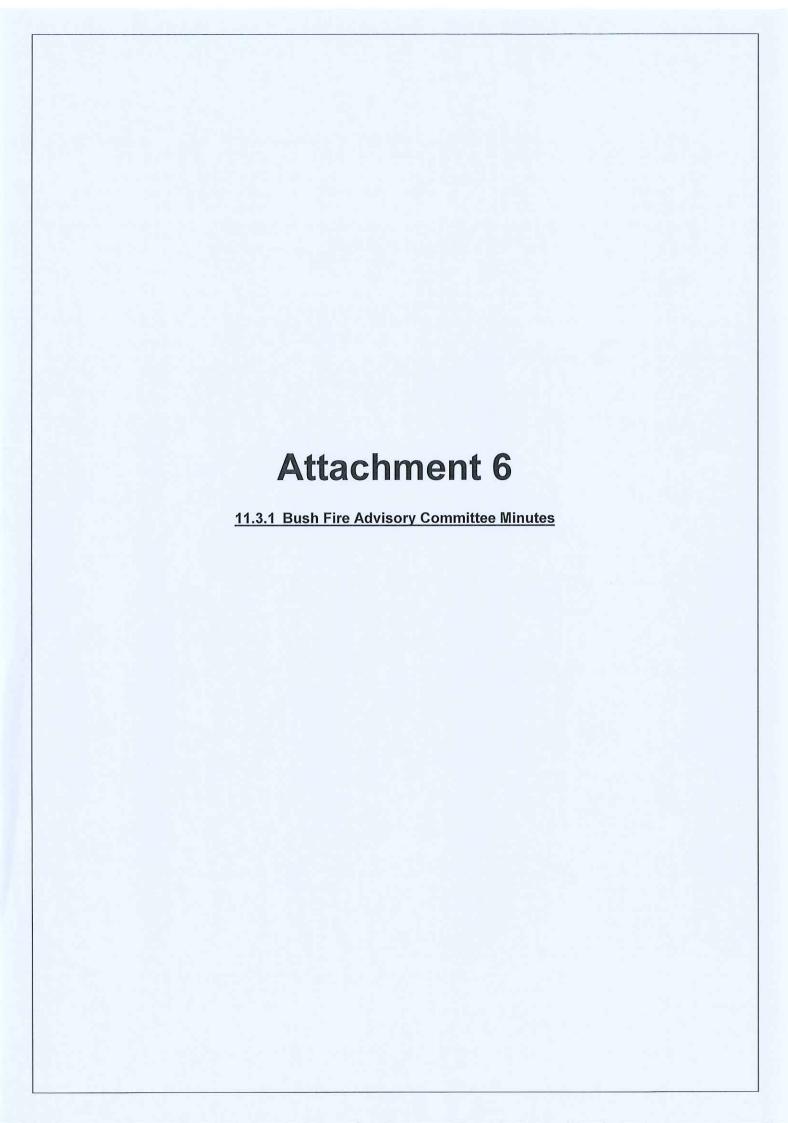
#### **GENERAL BUSINESS:**

- **1. Art Trail:** The Art Trail to be held on the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of May is well on the way to being organized. TV ads are now running to promote the weekend.
- 2. Rex Hayes advised the meeting that there will be a band playing at Downderry Winery on the Mother's Day weekend.

MEETING CLOSED: 3.15pm

SPECIAL CONSTITUTION MEETING: Thursday 28th May at 4.00pm

NEXT GENERAL MEETING: Thursday 25th June at 1.30pm





# Shire of Pingelly

Minutes

Bushfire Advisory Committee Meeting 8 April 2015

Minutes of the Bushfire Advisory Committee Meeting of the Shire of Pingelly held in the Council Chambers, 17 Queen Street, Pingelly on 8 April 2015.

#### **Charter (Item 10.6 – 17 March 2010):**

Is to advise Council on all matters relating to:

- the prevention, controlling and extinguishing of bush fires;
- · prosecutions for breaches of the Bush Fires Act;
- the formation and de-formation of bush fire brigades;
- · the co-ordination of the efforts and activities of the bush fire brigades; and
- any other matter relating to bush fire control.

#### Membership

- Cr D Freebairn
- Brigade representative
- FCOs

General Deputy - Cr A Morton

#### **Table of Contents**

1.	OPENING & ANNOUCEMENTS	2
<b>2.</b> 2.1 2.2 2.3.	ATTENDANCE & APOLOGIES  Attendance Observers & Visitors Apologies	2
3.	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	2
4.	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES	2
5.	NOMINATION OF OFFICERS	3
6.	FIRE CONTROL ORDER 2015/16	8
7.	REPORTS	11
7.1 7.2	Chief Bushfire Control Officer's Report Brigade Reports	11
	7.2.1 West Pingelly Brigade	
	7.2.3 East Pingelly Brigade	16
7.3 7.4	DPAW Report	17
7 8.	GENERAL BUSINESS	
8.1	Fire Breaks	19
8.2 8.3	Training DPAW Prescribed Burns(00145)	
8.4	Review Existing Brigade Members	20
8.5 8.6	Auxiliary MembersESL Funding	
8.7	Replacement Equipment	
8.8	Servicing of Radios	22
8.9 8.10	Bushfire-Prone Area Mapping Standard – Vegetation Key Review	
8.1 <sup>2</sup>		
0	CI OCUDE	25

#### 1. OPENING & ANNOUCEMENTS

The CBFCO, Mr Rod Shaddick, declared the meeting open at 7.00 pm.

#### 2. ATTENDANCE & APOLOGIES

#### 2.1 Attendance

Council Cr Raymond Marshall for Cr David Freebairn

West Pingelly Mr Allan Parsons

Mr Anthony Turton

Moorumbine-Noonebin Mr Rodney Shaddick

East Brigade

Mr Andrew Marshall Mr Peter Narducci

Town

Mrs Sheryl Squiers (Admin FCO)

Mr Barry Gibbs (EMEDS)

Mr Russell Dyer (Works Supervisor)

DFES Mr Paul Blechynden

#### 2.2 Observers & Visitors

#### 2.3. Apologies

Cr David Freebairn Mr Matthew Sharpe Mr Gavin Pollock Mr Adam Watts Mr Jeff Edwards Mr Damien Spencer Mr Robert Kirk

#### 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nii

#### 4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Minutes of the Shire of Pingelly Bushfire Advisory Committee meeting held on 27 October 2014 have been circulated.

#### Statutory Environment:

Section 5.22 of the *Local Government Act* provides that minutes of all meetings to be kept and submitted to the next ordinary meeting of the council or the committee, as the case requires, for confirmation.

#### Recommendation:

That the Minutes of the Shire of Pingelly Bushfire Advisory Meeting held in the Council Chamber on 27 October 2014 be confirmed.

#### 11326 - Moved Peter Narducci, Seconded Barry Gibbs

That the Minutes of the Shire of Pingelly Bushfire Advisory Meeting held in the Council Chamber on 27 October 2014 be confirmed.

**CARRIED** 

#### NOMINATION OF OFFICERS

Officers nominated at the meeting on 15 April 2014 and appointed by Council on 21 April 2014 were:

Chief Fire Control Officer **Deputy Chief Fire Control Officer Neville Gordon Giles** Training Officer

Rodney Leonard Shaddick Shire of Pingelly

Fire Control Officers

Jeffrey Bernard Edwards Scott Kimberlev Packer

East Pingelly Brigade Victor Arthur Lee

Andrew Augustin Marshall

Moorumbine -Noonebin Brigade Rodney Leonard Shaddick Neville Gordon Giles Andrew Todd Pauley

Malcolm Leslie Cunningham

Boyagin - Hotham Brigade

Alan William Parsons **Anthony Turton** Adam Lindsay Watts

Town Brigade/VFR

Robert Alexander Kirk

Peter Narducci

Sheryl Frances Squiers

Fire Weather Officers

(Harvest & Vehicle movement ban) Neville Gordon Giles

Rodney Leonard Shaddick Scott Kimberley Packer Graeme Alex Watts

**Dual Fire Control Officers** 

Brookton:

Rodney Leonard Shaddick Neville Gordon Giles Adam Lindsay Watts Jeffrey Bernard Edwards

Victor Arthur Lee

Malcolm Leslie Cunningham

Wickepin:

Rodney Leonard Shaddick Neville Gordon Giles

Victor Arthur Lee

Andrew Augustin Marshall

Cuballing:

Rodney Leonard Shaddick Neville Gordon Giles Alan William Parsons **Anthony Turton** Robert Alexander Kirk Andrew Augustin Marshall

Corrigin:

Rodney Leonard Shaddick Neville Gordon Giles Jeffrey Bernard Edwards

Victor Arthur Lee

Wandering: Rodney Leonard Shaddick

Neville Gordon Giles Alan William Parsons Anthony Turton Adam Lindsay Watts

Malcolm Leslie Cunningham

#### Legislation:

Section 38 of the Bush Fires Act provides that:

- (1) A local government may from time to time appoint such persons as it thinks necessary to be its bush fire control officers under and for the purposes of this Act, and of those officers shall subject to section 38A(2) appoint 2 as the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer and the Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer who shall be first and second in seniority of those officers, and subject thereto may determine the respective seniority of the other bush fire control officers appointed by it.
- (2) (a) The local government shall cause notice of an appointment made under the provisions of subsection (1) to be published at least once in a newspaper circulating in its district.
  - (c) The local government shall fill any vacancy occurring in the office of Chief Bush Fire Control Officer or Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer within one month after the vacancy occurs and if the local government fails or neglects to do so within that time, the Authority may by notice in writing require the local government to appoint a person to the vacant office within one month after service on it of such notice.
  - (d) Where a local government that has been served with a notice pursuant to paragraph (c) fails or neglects to comply with the requirements of that notice, the Authority may appoint a person who is not a member of staff (as defined in the DFES Act) to the vacant office.
  - (e) A bush fire control officer appointed by a local government under the provisions of this section shall be issued with a certificate of appointment by the local government or, if he is appointed by the Authority, by the Authority.
- (3) The local government may, in respect to bush fire control officers appointed under the provisions of this section, exercise so far as they can be made applicable the same powers as it may exercise in respect to its other officers, under the provisions of the Acts under which those other officers are appointed.
- (4) A bush fire control officer appointed under the provisions of this section shall, subject to such directions as may be given by the local government, and subject to this Act take such measures as appear to him to be necessary or expedient and practicable for
  - (a) carrying out normal brigade activities;
  - (d) exercising an authority or carrying out a duty conferred or imposed upon him by any of the provisions of Part III;
  - (e) procuring the due observance by all persons of the provision of Part III.
- (5) (a) A local government may issue directions to a bush fire control officer appointed by the local government, or to an officer of a bush fire brigade registered by the local government to burn, subject to the provisions of this Act, bush on, or at the margins of, streets, roads, and ways, under the care, control and management of the local government.
  - (b) The bush fire control officer, or officer of the bush fire brigade, may by authority of any directions so issued carry out the directions but subject to the provisions of this Act.
  - (c) The provisions of this subsection are not in derogation of those of subsection (4).
- (6) (a) In this section
  - approved local government means a local government approved under paragraph (b) by the Authority.
  - (b) If it appears to the Authority that the standard of efficiency of a local government in fire prevention and control justifies the Authority doing so, the Authority, by notice published in the *Government Gazette*
    - (i) may approve the local government as one to which this subsection applies; and

- (ii) may from time to time cancel or vary any previous approval given under this paragraph.
- (c) An approved local government may appoint to the office of fire weather officer such number of senior bush fire control officers as it thinks necessary.
- (ca) Where more than one fire weather officer is appointed by a local government the local government shall define a part of its district in which each fire weather officer shall have the exclusive right to exercise the power conferred by paragraph (h).
- (cb) An approved local government may appoint one or more persons, as it thinks necessary, to be the deputy or deputies, as the case may be, of a fire weather officer appointed by the local government and where 2 or more deputies are so appointed they shall have seniority in the order determined by the local government.
- (cc) Where the office of a fire weather officer is vacant or whilst the occupant is absent or unable to act in the discharge of the duties of the office, any deputy appointed in respect of that office under paragraph (cb) is, subject to paragraph (cd), entitled to act in the discharge of the duties of that office.
- (cd) A deputy who is one of 2 or more deputies of a fire weather officer is not entitled to act in the discharge of the duties of the office of that fire weather officer if a deputy who has precedence over him in the order of seniority determined under paragraph (cb) is available and able to discharge those duties.
- (d) The local government shall give notice of an appointment made under paragraph (c) or (cb) to the Authority and cause notice of the appointment to be published at least once in a newspaper circulating in its district and the Authority shall cause notice of the appointment to be published once in the Government Gazette.
- (e) An approved local government may appoint a committee for the purpose of advising and assisting a fire weather officer or any deputy of a fire weather officer acting in the place of that officer under this subsection.
- (f) Where a committee is appointed, a fire weather officer, or, as the case may be, a deputy of a fire weather officer while acting in the place of that officer, may exercise the authority conferred on him by paragraph (h), notwithstanding the advice and assistance tendered to him by the committee.
- (g) The provisions of this subsection are not in derogation of those of any other subsection of this section.
- (h) A fire weather officer of an approved local government, or a deputy of that fire weather officer while acting in the place of that officer, may authorise a person who has received a permit under section 18(6)(a), to burn the bush in the district of the local government notwithstanding that for any day, or any period of a day, specified in the notice the fire danger forecast issued by the Bureau of Meteorology in Perth, in respect to the locality where the bush proposed to be burnt is situated, is "catastrophic", "extreme", "severe" or "very high", and upon the authority being given the person, if he has otherwise complied with the conditions prescribed for the purposes of section 18, may burn the bush.
- (i) This subsection does not authorise the burning of bush
  - (i) during the prohibited burning times; or
  - (ii) during the period in which, and in the area of the State in respect of which, a total fire ban is declared under section 22A to have effect.

# Section 38A of the Bush Fires Act provides that:

- (1) At the request of a local government the Authority may appoint a member of staff (as defined in the DFES Act) to be the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer for the district of that local government.
- (2) Where a Chief Bush Fire Control Officer has been appointed under subsection (1) for a district the local government is not to appoint a Chief Bush Fire Control Officer under section 38(1).
- (3) The provisions of this Act, other than section 38(3), (4) and (5) apply to and in relation to the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer appointed under this section as if he or she were a Chief Bush Fire Control Officer appointed under section 38 by the local government.
- (4) Section 38(3), (4) and (5) apply to and in relation to the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer appointed under this section as if —

Page 6

(a) he or she were a Chief Bush Fire Control Officer appointed under section 38 by the local government; and

(b) the references in those subsections to the local government were references to the Authority.

Section 40 of the Bush Fires Act provides that:

- (1) Two or more local governments may by agreement join in appointing, employing and remunerating bush fire control officers for the purposes of this Act.
- (2) Bush fire control officers so appointed may exercise their powers and authorities and shall perform their duties under this Act in each and every one of the districts of the local governments which have joined in appointing them.

#### Policy:

Council's Policy provides that:

- 1. Council will not appoint or reappoint a person as a Fire Control Officer unless they have completed a Fire Control Officer's training course certified by DFES within the previous ten years. Proof of satisfactory completion of the course is required.
- It is desirous that Dual Fire Control Officers nominated by neighbouring Shires have completed a Fire Control Officer's training course certified by DFES within the previous ten years. The Chief Executive Officer is to seek training status details from the nominating Shire.

#### Recommendation:

That a recommendation be made to Council nominating people to be appointed to the various Offices.

#### 11327 - Moved Allan Parsons, Seconded Peter Narducci That:

**Chief Fire Control Officer** Deputy Chief Fire Control Officer Robert Alexander Kirk

**Training Officer** 

**Rodney Leonard Shaddick** 

Shire of Pingelly

**Fire Control Officers** 

East Pingelly Brigade

**Jeffrey Bernard Edwards** 

Victor Arthur Lee

**Andrew Augustin Marshall** 

Moorumbine -Noonebin Brigade **Rodney Leonard Shaddick Andrew Todd Pauley** 

Brodie Cunningham (on the condition FCO

training is completed)

West Pingelly Brigade

**Alan William Parsons** 

**Anthony Turton Adam Lindsay Watts** 

Malcolm Leslie Cunningham

Town Brigade/VFR

Robert Alexander Kirk (DCBFCO)

**Peter Narducci** 

Damien Spencer (on the condition FCO training

is completed)

**Barry Gibbs (EMEDS)** 

Russell Dyer (Works Supervisor)

**Sheryl Frances Squiers (Shire Administration)** 

Fire Weather Officers (Harvest & Vehicle movement ban)

**Rodney Leonard Shaddick** Robert Alexander Kirk

**Graeme Alex Watts** Sam MacNamara

**Dual Fire Control Officers** 

Brookton:

**Rodney Leonard Shaddick Robert Alexander Kirk** Jeffrey Bernard Edwards

**Victor Arthur Lee** 

**Malcolm Leslie Cunningham** 

**Adam Lindsay Watts** 

Wickepin:

**Rodney Leonard Shaddick** Robert Alexander Kirk **Victor Arthur Lee** 

**Andrew Augustin Marshall** 

**Cuballing:** 

**Rodney Leonard Shaddick Alan William Parsons** 

**Anthony Turton** 

**Robert Alexander Kirk Andrew Augustin Marshall** 

Corrigin:

**Rodney Leonard Shaddick Robert Alexander Kirk Jeffrey Bernard Edwards** 

**Victor Arthur Lee** 

Wandering:

**Rodney Leonard Shaddick Robert Alexander Kirk Alan William Parsons Anthony Turton Adam Lindsay Watts** 

**Malcolm Leslie Cunningham** 

be recommended for appointment to the various Offices.

**CARRIED** 

#### 6. FIRE CONTROL ORDER 2015/16

The 2014/15 Fire Control Order was:

#### **Bush Fires Act 1954**

Pursuant to the powers contained in section 33 of the *Bush Fires Act 1954*, all owners and occupiers of land within the Shire of Pingelly are hereby required to take, provide and/or maintain fire control measures during the firebreak period as follows:

**"Excluded Area"** means an area of rural land not exceeding 30ha, where it is physically impossible to install firebreaks, or where in the owner's or occupier's opinion, the installation of firebreaks would be detrimental to the conservation of remnant or natural vegetation or the establishment of re-afforested areas.

"Farming Land" means all land within the Shire of Pingelly zoned 'Farming' under the Local Planning Scheme No. 3.

"Firebreak Period" means the time between 1 November and 15 April in the following year.

"Firebreak" means ground from which all flammable material has been removed and on which no flammable material is permitted during the firebreak period.

"Flammable Material" means bush (as defined by the Bush Fires Act 1954), timber boxes, cartons, paper and the like flammable materials, rubbish and any combustible matter, but does not include buildings, standing trees or growing bushes or plants in gardens or lawns.

"Rural Residential Land" means all land within the Shire of Pingelly zoned 'Rural Residential' under the Local Planning Scheme No. 3.

"Townsite Land" means all land within the townsite of Pingelly not zoned as 'Rural Residential' under the Local Planning Scheme No. 3.

"Very High Fire Danger" means on days forecast by the Bureau of Meteorology. On days forecast as Very High Fire Danger or above, permits are to be automatically suspended.

## Farming Land

On farming land other than excluded areas, the owner or occupier shall:-

- a) Clear firebreaks not less than 3m wide:
  - i. inside all external boundaries of the land,
  - ii. within 15m of the perimeter of all buildings and remove all flammable material from within the 3m of all such buildings, and
  - iii. so as to divide the land into areas not exceeding 400ha.
- b) remove all flammable material for a continuous distance of 5m immediately surrounding every haystack, hayshed, stationary pump or engine, and
- c) remove all flammable material for a continuous distance of 15m or to the external boundary of the land whichever is nearer, from around fuel depots.

**Note:** Landowners may use a single firebreak on a neighbour's common fenced boundary as long as both parties agree in writing and a copy of the agreement is delivered to the Shire of Pingelly.

All excluded areas remain the owner's or occupier's responsibility and any variation as permitted by the Order does not render null and void any duty otherwise required by law.

#### **Townsite Land**

On townsite land, where a property or adjoining properties having the same ownership or control and are used as a single holding, the owner or occupier, shall:-

- a) where holding is under 2000m² clear by burning, all flammable material likely to be conductive to the outbreak, spread or extensions of a fire from the whole of the land, or
- b) have all flammable material likely to be conductive to the outbreak, spread or extension of fire removed, and the grass maintained to a height not greater than 10cm.
- where the holding is over 2000m² comply with the requirements of farming land.

#### Rural Residential Land

On rural residential land, where a property or adjoining properties having the same ownership or control and are used as a single holding, the owner or occupier shall comply with the requirements of:

- a) farming land where the holding exceeds 10ha in area, or
- b) townsite land, where the holding does not exceed 2000m² in area.
- c) where the holding is 2,000m² to 10ha in area:
  - i clear by burning, all flammable material likely to be conductive to the outbreak, spread or extensions of a fire from the whole of the land, or
  - ii have all flammable material likely to be conductive to the outbreak, spread or extension of fire removed, and the grass maintained to a height not greater than 10cm; or
  - iii comply with the requirements for farming land.

# <u>Use of Mowers & Whipper Snippers/Slashers During The Prohibited</u> <u>Burning Period</u>

- a) not to be used during Harvest Bans, Vehicle Movement Bans or Total Fire Bans on any area
- b) not to be used between 6.00am to 6.00pm from 1 November and during the rest of the prohibited burning period unless on a reticulated area. (This means the grass is "green" and non-combustible).
- c) vegetation that is not green and flammable and that can be reticulated, can be slashed between 6.00am and 6.00pm must must be <u>well watered prior</u> to mowing, whipper snipping or slashing (that is within the hour of watering) so that there is no chance of "sparking" and must remain damp during the operation.
- d) the area in an orchard that is not watered between rows if the trees are reticulated by drippers is not considered to be reticulated.
- e) as an added precaution have a "watcher" on hand with a hose.
- f) the use of disk or slashing type machines for agricultural purposes during the Prohibited Burning Period is to be by specific permit from the Chief Bushfire Control Officer or the Deputy CBFCO.

# Control of Operations Likely to Cause a Fire

Property owners should take care to prevent bush fires. The operation of welding equipment and angle grinders are activities likely to create a fire danger when used in the open air. A person shall provide at least one fire extinguisher at the place where welding or cutting operations are carried out and surround this place with a firebreak which is at least five (5) metres wide.

For updates on Hot Works, Harvest and Movement of Machinery Bans please ring the information line on **9887 1265** (recorded message) or register with the SMS warning system with the Shire to receive a text when a ban is implemented.

#### Firebreaks on Road Reserves

Firebreaks are not permitted on a road reserve.

#### Fire Fighting Units

During any period when harvesting operations are being conducted there shall be provided in the same paddock or within close proximity of that paddock, an operational independent mobile fire fighting unit having an engine driven pump and a water capacity of not less than 450 litres; the tank of the unit shall be kept full of water at all times during harvesting, and the responsibility to supply the unit is that of the landholder. Harvesting operations include the use of mobile augers and seed cleaning units.

Fire fighting trailers for fire suppression are regarded as out dated and dangerous—both to their operators and to other fire fighters on a fire ground. Their use at wild fires is not encouraged.

#### **Clover Harvesting**

Harvesting bans include the harvesting of clover.

#### **Boyagin Rock Picnic Area**

No wood fires are permitted in the Boyagin Rock Picnic Area (Reserve No. 29413) between 1 October each year and 30 April following.

#### General

If it is considered impracticable to clear firebreaks or remove flammable material from the land as required, application may be made in writing to the Council or its duly authorised officer for permission to put in place alternative fire hazard reduction measures. If permission is not granted, the requirements of this Order shall be complied with.

The penalty for failing to comply with this notice is a fine not exceeding \$250 and a person in default is also liable whether prosecuted or not to pay the costs of performing the work directed in this notice if it is not carried out by the owner and/or occupier by the date required by this notice.

As a separate note, the following additional detail was added restricting the use of disk or slashing type machine during the Prohibited Burning Period to by permit:

The use of disk or slashing type machines for agricultural purposes during the Prohibited Burning Period is to be by specific permit from the Chief Bushfire Control Officer or the Deputy CBFCO.

#### Recommendation:

That it be recommended that the 2015/16 Fire Break Order wording be reviewed based on the recommendations for 2014/15 Fire Break Order.

#### 11328 - Moved Sheryl Squiers, Seconded Peter Narducci

That it be recommended that the 2015/16 Fire Break Order wording be based on the 2014/15 Fire Break Order wording with amendments to the Lot size to reflect where a firebreak is required or whether the whole block is required to be slashed. CARRIED

#### 7. REPORTS

#### 7.1 Chief Bushfire Control Officer's Report

Rod Shaddock, Chief Bushfire Control Officer

Fire Advisory Meeting 8th April 2015 Chief Bushfire Control Officers Report

The 2014/2015 fire season has been mild in terms of weather conditions with only a small number of harvest bans being imposed. Although heavy fuel loads have resulted due to a favourable spring, with most of the shire receiving 20 to 30mm of rain over the last few weeks, it would appear unless there is a significant change in the weather pattern the worst of the fire risk has past. However with large amounts of stubble burns still taking place we could be called out to an escaped permitted burn.

A localised storm late in November saw several fires lit by lightning, fortunately there was a small amount of rain received which aided greatly in the suppression of these fires.

There have been several other small fires all of which have been well attended. Of particular concern were several fires which were lit along the Boyagin Road in October, according to DEFES there is no doubt that these fires were lit deliberately, this reinforces the need to be even vigilant.

The past fire season has seen our shire offer assistance in containing several major incidences in other areas. Firstly we assisted Cuballing shire in December. Bullsbrook in January and Boddington in February, from all reports the assistance was appreciated. The local Town Brigade committed a significant number of volunteer hours to both Bullsbrook and Boddington. To Damien and his crews, I thank you for the professional way you represented the shire. Along with the Northcliffe fire, it has once again been demonstrated that large fires can still occur and reinforces in my mind, fire is the greatest natural disaster risk we face in this area.

I would like to acknowledge the efforts of Neville Giles who has performed the role of Deputy Chief Fire Control Officer for approximately 10 years, his assistance to me has been highly valued over this time. Since Neville's relocation, Rob Kirk offered his services, in the interim, to fill the void of Deputy Chief. I thank him for making himself available and his past experience will be a welcome addition.

I also take this opportunity to thank fellow FCOs and brigade personal, along with Shire staff, crew of the bushfire 3.4, VRS, SES, DFES staff and those who serve in fire matters for their continued commitment and cooperation shown in the past 12 months. I welcome any new FCOs and brigade officers who I am sure will serve the district well.

#### 7.2 Brigade Reports

#### 7.2.1 West Pingelly Brigade

SHIRE OF PINGELLY				
FILE				
DATE	0 7 APR 2015			
Officer	EMEDE/ Apr			
Copy to				

#### Boyagin Bushfire Brigade

Annual General Meeting 26 March 2014

#### 1) Attendance

Afan Parsons, Anthony Turton, Adam Watts, Kune Page, Bruce Sewell, Cullem Pech, Sam Lange, Ian Odea, Colin Page, Graeme Watts, Gary Page, Matt Cunningham, Scott Cunningham, Mark Sewell

#### 2) Apologies

Malcolm Cunningham, Tim Watts, Richard Bostock and Paul Blechynden (FESA)

#### 3) Opening & Announcements

Chairman & FCO Alan Parsons welcomed everyone present and declared the Meeting open at 7.07  $\mbox{pm}$ 

#### 4) Confirmation of Minutes

The Minutes of the AGM held on 26 March 2014 were read.

Moved by Graeme Walts "That the AGM Minutes of 26 March 2015 be confirmed as true record" Sec: Adam Walts CARRIED

#### 5) Business Arising from Previous Year Minutes

Alan Parsons radio has been repaired and is functioning

Solar powered charger requested from Fesa to keep the battery in the fast attack unit charged has not been provided. Decision made to get our own charger and apply for reimbursement from shire's Fesa funds. (charger was acquired for \$39,95 from Landmark Pingelly and paid for by Mark Sewell can shire please reimburse. Invoice attached)

#### 6) Election of Office Bearers

Role	Person Nominated	Moved	Seconded
Sec / Treasurer	Mark Sewell	Graeme Watts	lan Odea
Captain	Gary Page	Mark Sewell	Adam Watts
Lieutenants	Kim Hughes Luke Hardie Ian Odea Des Morrison	Bruce Sewell	Graeme Watts
FCOs	Malcolm Cunningham Anthony Turton Adam Watts Alan Parsons	Gary Page	Kane Page

- 10 November 2014 Zig Zag Rd, West Pingelly Lightning strike
  - Fire started by lightning
  - o Burnt area 30m x 30m
  - Quick response from farmers
- 10 November 2014 Ivanhoe Rd, West Pingelly Lightning strike
  - Lightning strike ignited tree on roadside which lit up the following afternoon and burnt along Ivanhoe Rd
  - Lindsay Lange saw smoke, he attended and phoned TIm Watts and Ian Odea for assistance
  - o Comment: Fire extinguished quickly with no damage to property
- Tim Watts' property, West Pingelly Lightning strike, fire put out then fire became out of control again
  - Initial fire started around 6,30am due to lightning. Fire put out quite quickly.
  - o Fire units departed, Tim Watts went back harvesting.
  - Fire continued to smoulder in canola stubble and wind came up and fire became out of control again approximately 2pm
  - Fire burnt much larger area, took a long time to control and eventually controlled via attendance of large number of units
  - Comment: Needed to be vigilant and continue to watch fire for longer even after it was controlled as with wind they will easily develop again. Even if a roster used.
- Fire at Rodney Eva's property, West Pingelly

#### 10) General Business

- Query on whether Western Power are monitoring vehicle total movement bans when doing pole replacements. It was thought they are.
- Query regarding whether the shire is updating the hotiline and advising the ABC radio immediately when total movement bans come into force as farmers working in low coverage areas do not receive the SMS. Need to ensure the hotiline and ABC radio are still being used.
- Query around burning during and after Easter. At this stage there is no burning allowed through Easter and permits are still required after Easter.
- When gear is ordered and it is available to be picked up the shire need to let
  people know. Sam Lange advised their jacket and pants had still not been
  received. Was ordered quite a while ago. Question raised: Are things like goggles
  and gloves able to be picked up at anytime. Answer: Given there is gear stored
  at the shire it should be available to be picked up when required but overalls,
  jacket and pants would probably need to be ordered in. Furthermore could we

have gloves, goggles etc on hand at the meetings so members can take required  $\,\cdot\,$  gear there and then.

Can we get some clarification on this as Tim Watts fire was very windy and proper eye protection would have been very useful?

#### 11) Meeting Closed 7.55 pm

Alan Parsons thanked everyone for their attendance.

Mark Sewell - Sec/Treas

#### 7.2.2 Moorumbine-Noonebin Brigade

00/35

#### Moorumbine-Noonebine BFB Minutes General Meeting 24/10/2014

Meeting opened at 5,15pm

Present: Richard L, Lindsay J, Lindsay D, Rod S, Courtney S, Jeff O, Lachie S, Mitchell S, Campbell D, Andrew P, Ed B, Brad J, Graham T, Bob E, Steven K, John H.

Apologies: Alan C, Brodie C, Steven L, Ricky O, Clinton D, Neville G,

Minutes read from previous meeting: Moved Graham T Seconded Jeff O.

Business Arising: NII.

Correspondence: 24/7 and Charity stuff.

Treasures Report: \$353.53 Moved Lindsay J, Seconded Andrew P

Captains Report: Nil

FCO Report: Ranger in town checking town breaks and permits.

**General Business:** Captain asked has everyone got uniforms (Mitchell Smith, Campbell Draper and Chris Pauley need uniforms).

Graham will check the fast fill trailer.

Make sure you have water when you go to a fire.

Rod suggests maybe a map of farms or where to set up fast fill trailer in a fire. Communicate to FCO where to set up fast fill trailer (local knowledge you or your neighbours).

Fire breaks to be done and up to standard by 1st Nov 14.

Fuel-loading high this year. We hope we are as prepared as our neighbours.

Mopping up is mopping up not standing under a tree as this is very important. Get onto it (fire) quick, a lot easier early rather than later.

Clear back of Ute, put fire gear on before arriving, and check fuel in Ute and the unit in the morning rather than onto the way to the fire.

Have a discussion at start of season about who to call, and what to do (call 000 first), then your neighbours. Make sure you give good directions to the operator.

Maybe check conditions and where you are when harvesting. If stormy maybe not everyone turns out to fire, you might need some people to stay around in case.

Maybe push to have a fast attack unit out of the town.

Maybe apply to have a bushfire truck in our area but manning it could be an issue.

#### Moorumbine Noonebin Bushfire Brigade AGM 26/03/2015

Meeting opened at 5.25pm

Present: A Cunningham, E Blechynden B Eva, B Cunningham, S Kolb, L Draper, R

Shaddick, G Townsend, R Overington, L Johns, R Leake, B Jennings.

Apologies: J Overington, S Leake.

#### **Election of Officers:**

Secretary – Lindsay Johns Chairman – G Townsend 1st LT – Lachie Smith 2nd LT – Ricky Overington FCO – Rod Shaddick FCO – Brodie Cunningham

Moved Alan Cunningham, Seconded Rod Shaddick.

Meeting closed at 5.40 pm

## Moorumbine-Noonebine Bushfire Brigade General Meeting 26/03/2015

Meeting Opened at 5:41 pm

**Present:** R Leake, L Johns, G Townsend, R Shaddick, E Blechynden, L Draper, C Draper, B Jennings, S Kolb, A Cunningham, B Cunningham, B Eva, R Overington.

Apologies: J Overington, S Leake.

Previous Minutes moved L Draper Seconded C Draper

Correspondence: Read

Treasury: \$353.53 moved L Johns, seconded G Townsend.

**Captains Report:** Few fires due to Lightening. A lot on same day. 4-5 April Fires at LD's, Lance, Rod, Ray Allen and out west.

**FCO Report:** Big wind caused those fires, lucky we had enough resources. Boddington and Northcliffe had all state resources down there. No burning over Easter or Sunday's. Permits may be extended.

**General Business:** Maybe bring next meeting forward to 16/10/2015 at LD's. The Bushfire truck will need 3 People to man it and maintain it. It will need to be kept in a lock up shed. It will need someone to be in charge of it. Motion to be submitted to council.

Rob Kirk is now DCBFCO.

Richard Leake is stepping down as Captain. We thank Richard for his service over the last few years.

Meeting closed at 6:25pm

# Motion to council for new Bushfire Truck For Moorumbine-Noonebine Bushfire Brigade

The Moorumbine-Noonebine Bushfire Brigade would like to put a request get a 3.4 rural or a 4.4 rural bushfire truck to add to the town assets. We would like the Shire and local advisory to support this.

Lindsay Johns, Secretary: On behalf of the Moorumbine-Noonebine Bushfire Brigade members.

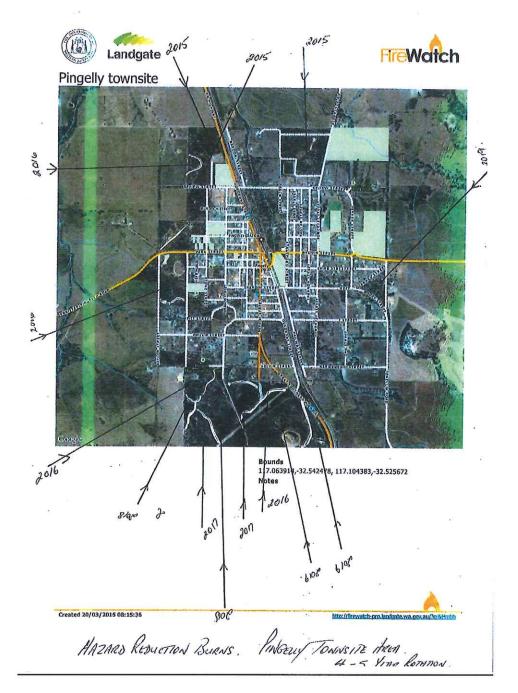
#### 7.2.3 East Pingelly Brigade

Nil

#### 7.2.4 Pingelly Brigade

Peter Narducci reported:

Pingelly VFRS have developed a Hazard Reduction Burn Plan for the reserves surrounding the Pingelly Townsite Area, this plan will run on a 5-7 year rotation and will also be used as a training plan for their volunteer firefighters



There was in increase in the number of fire incidents attended for the 2014/15 season with between 29-30 incidents attended by the Pingelly Volunteer Fire & Rescue Service including the following:

- Pole top fire at S MacNamara's property Bullaring Rd.
- Several fires throughout the Shire caused by lightening strikes
- Fire at Yornanning started by machinery
- Bullsbrook fire
- Boddington/Quindanning fire

The reduction burns requested by residents were not all completed before the 15 December 2014 due to conditions too windy, these will be completed at the end of the restricted burning period in April 2015.

#### 7.3 DFES Report

Paul Blechynden reported that:

- Simon Vogel was promoted from Area Officer to District Officer for the Narrogin District, with Grant Hansen becoming the Narrogin East Area Officer and Paul Blechynden coming in as the Narrogin West District Officer.
- He attended the 19 March District Operations Advisory Committee Meeting in Narrogin.
- WAERN Radios more radios and hand held radios required within the Bush Fire Brigades and requests may be put into DFES for these.
- Gave a review on the Boddington and Northcliffe fires.
- The Bushfires Act is currently undergoing review, there are no significant changes being proposed in the way Bushfires are managed in Western Australia.

#### 7.4 DPAW Report

Nil

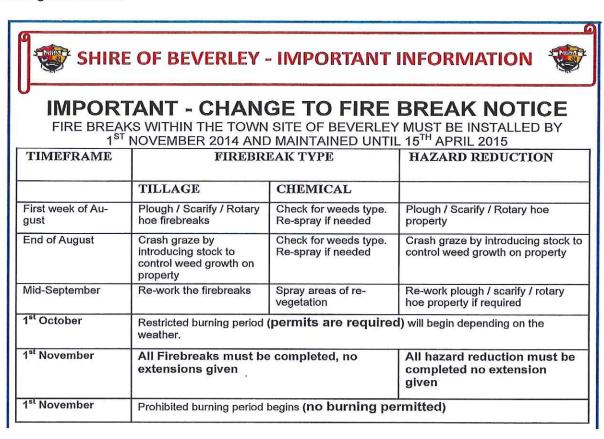
#### 8. GENERAL BUSINESS

#### 8.1 Fire Breaks

Council's Policy provides that Fire Control Officers are to report any rural firebreaks not in compliance with the Firebreaks Order to the Chief Executive Officer, as soon as possible, for action.

In 2014 one rural property owner had the breaks forcibly installed by the Shire of Pingelly and was charged accordingly. Five residential property owners also had infringements issued along with one rural property owner. Seven properties had fire hazard reduction clearing done by the Shire of Pingelly and owners were also charged accordingly. Department of Lands properties had fire hazard reduction done and charged accordingly. Two deceased estates the Shire of Pingelly completed fire hazard reduction. Two rural property owners received letters of non-compliance.

To start advertising in August guidelines for property owners to reduce the fire hazard on their properties well before the 31 October deadline e.g. similar to what the Shire of Beverley have got as below:



#### Recommended:

That the information be received and discussion on fire break installation.

Discussion on the early advertising of guidelines for early preparation leading up to the 31 October for the fire season. To look into funding for fridge magnets

#### 11329 – Moved Andrew Marshall, Seconded Sheryl Squiers

That the information be received and that early advertising in the Pingelly Times to prepare residents well ahead of the fire season.

CARRIED

#### 8.2 Training

Shire of Pingelly Depot Staff have completed a Bush Fire Awareness training course.

Volunteer Firefighter 1 Pathway to training.

#### Recommended:

That the information be received

#### Discussion

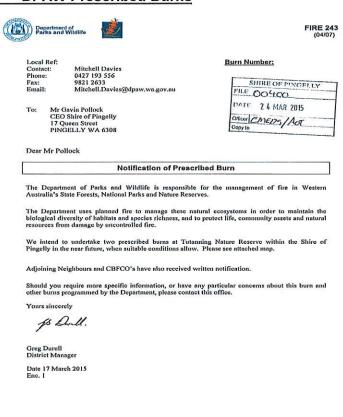
The SES has completed a Bushfire Awareness training course.

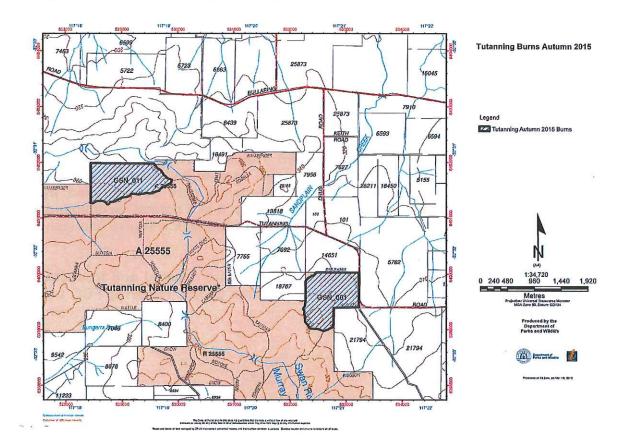
A training Pathway has been developed for entry level for volunteers. Packs for each Brigade have been set up with the 2015 DFES Training Calendar and the currently registered volunteers of all the brigades, these will need to be looked at and sort out who requires training. Recognition of prior experience may be approved by the CFBCO and attending a training may not be necessary. It is a normal recommendation that FCO training be completed every 10 years. Rod Shaddick will give assistance in this project.

The Shire is to offer training to volunteers with all costs covered and to encourage training at every possibility. There are currently three people requiring FCO training for their respective brigades.

#### 8.3 DPAW Prescribed Burns

Custodian: Principal Fire Planning Officer





#### Recommended:

That the information be received

#### 8.4 Review Existing Members

Look at reviewing existing brigade members and updating membership register

#### Recommended:

Discussion

#### Discussion:

That the current members list be reviewed and to remove any one from the list that is no longer in the Shire or no longer wants to be listed as a Volunteer Fire Fighter or Auxiliary Member.

#### 8.5 Auxiliary Members

CBFCO Rod has put forward the question if the women that are auxiliary members of our BFB's and may at times need to attend the fire ground with food are they required to be covered and do they remain in the register as an auxiliary member. The question was sent to Paul Blechynden with the response as below:

The detail will rest with the insurance policy the Shire holds; some shires have insurance that covers individual members, others have a number of fire fighters per incident without naming individuals or distinguishing between active and auxiliary members.

It is understand that people who are not a member of the brigade who attend bushfires are covered providing they have been accepted at the fire by the person in control, therefore auxiliary members who are accepted at the fire will be covered. This understanding is supported by the *Bush Fires Act 1954* defining a volunteer fire fighter as a bush fire control officer, a person who is a registered member of a bush fire brigade established under this Act or a person working under the direction of that officer or member.

The Act at Section 37 refers to these volunteer fire fighters being insured by local government. **37.** Local government to insure certain persons (1) A local government that maintains a bush fire brigade shall obtain and keep current (a) a policy of insurance that insures volunteer fire fighters for compensation, payable in accordance with subsection (2) for injury caused to them while they are engaged under this Act in normal brigade activities;

#### Recommended:

Discussion on auxiliary members remaining in the register.

#### Discussion:

A discussion on whether to keep existing Auxiliary members listed as a volunteer was had and it was decided as these people volunteered to be an Auxiliary Member of their respective brigade that they remain on the list.

The Bushfires Act provides framework for spontaneous volunteers and any brigade FCO or member can accept them onto a fire ground as a volunteer.

To look at insurance policy to see whether there is a cap for the number of volunteers insured.

#### 8.6 ESL Funding

More funding is needed to cover protective firefighting clothing purchases and other requisites required by brigades.

#### Recommended:

Discussion

#### Discussion:

Barry Gibbs has applied for extra funding for the next financial year up to \$53,000 from previous \$20,000, to maintain equipment and for replacement clothing.

#### 8.7 Replacement Equipment

Need to look at acquiring a light tanker for the West Pingelly Brigade.

#### Recommended:

Discussion

#### Discussion:

An application has been submitted to DFES for a light tanker for the West Pingelly Brigade. This application has been approved at District level.

It is recommended that an application for a High Season Allocation for a large capacity tanker for the Noonebin-Moorumbine Brigade with looking at applying for a permanent tanker for this brigade.

Would it be possible for the High Season Allocation be a flexible period instead of having to return tankers on a particular date especially when burning periods may have been extended beyond this date.

Look at getting electric hose reels for the Pingelly Brigade Bush Fire Truck and also equipment such as snatch straps and chainsaws.

#### 8.8 Servicing of Radio's

There have still been ongoing issues with the servicing of radio's and the removal and installation of radio's from one vehicle to another. Trying to contact DFES and to get dates for services to be done is near on impossible, and the response to requests for this service is not sufficient.

#### Recommended:

This issue needs to be dealt with.

#### Discussion:

Paul Blechynden has been asked to provide a list of approved installers for DFES as the process going through the Comms department takes too long, when FCO's require a radio removed from one vehicle to another.

Scott Packer's radio will be installed when a new FCO for the East Pingelly Brigade is appointed.

#### 8.9 Bushfire-Prone Area Mapping Standard - Vegetation Key Review

A review is currently being undertaken of the Bushfire-Prone Area Mapping Standard for Western Australia.

#### Recommended:

Discussion

#### Discussion:

The Bushfire-Prone Area Mapping Standard is being finalised.

#### 8.10 Replacement of Old PPE Gear

Look at replacing firefighting safety clothing that is too old.

#### Recommended:

Discussion

#### Discussion:

When requesting a new set of PPE gear it is requested that the old set be handed in to identify the actual wear and tear to warrant a replacement set.

#### 8.11 Other General Business:

Rod Shaddick requested that a letter be sent to Neville Giles thanking him for his many years of service in his capacity as a Volunteer Bush Fire Fighter including 10 years as the DCBFCO.

To review Policy 6.12 Permits to Burn – Public Holidays and Sundays current Policy6.12 Permits To Burn – Public Holidays & Sundays

That as a matter of Policy, Fire Control Officers be instructed not to issue Permits to Burn for public holidays and Sundays

To change Policy to:

That as a matter of Policy, Fire Control Officers be instructed that within the Restricted Burning Period, Permits to Burn may be issued on Public Holidays and Sundays with the exception of Easter falling within this period.

#### 11330: Moved - Andrew Marshall, Seconded: Anthony Turton

The Shire have been looking at installing remote weather stations available through Pentair. Two additional stations are being sourced for the Shire. These stations automatically trigger an SMS when the weather is getting to fire danger conditions.

**CARRIED** 

<u>9. CLOSURE</u>The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

These minutes were confirmed by the Committee at the Meeting held on 20 May 2015	
Signed	
Presiding Person at the meeting at which the minutes we confirmed.	re

