

Northern Grampians Shire Council

Walkers Lake Advisory Group

Meeting held at 10.30am on Tuesday 27 March 2018
at Walkers Lake

Minutes

1. **Present** - Cr Kevin Erwin (Chair), Cr Tony Driscoll, Cr Murray Emerson, Prue McAllister, Joan Barratt (Proxy for Jason), Wayne Robbins, Colin Coates, Trevor Baldock, Tanya Clark (Proxy for Michelle), Austin Freeman, Tony Dark (NGSC)
2. **Apologies** - Jason Barratt, Michelle Clark, Rob Loats
Apologies accepted: Moved Wayne Robbins and Seconded Colin Coates
3. **Disclosures of Interest & Declarations of Conflict of Interest.** Nil
4. **Confirmation of Minutes from the previous meeting.** Recieved notes from November 2017 meeting

5 Matters Arising from the Minutes.

- Costing for infrastructure to support portable toilets to be explored (refer below Easter)
- Colin to find out what is obstructing fire trucks around the lake and advise Council
Action: Will form part of council works plan and will liasie with CFA.
- Signage for no/beware camping under red gums/trees - Need an assessment for risk in relation to camping in designated camping areas
Action: Will be an outcome of management plan
- Report from Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation - Report recieved by Landcare and Council. Extracts to be distributed for reference once approved by Dja Dja Wurrung. Tony contacted Jon Marshallsay from Dja Dja Wurrung and council will meet with him over the next couple of months to enable feed into management plan and discussions with advisory group.

6. General Business

Duck Opening

- Tanya Clark provided feedback. There were approximately 6 camps with 20 to 30 people not all duck shooters. Minimal ducks taken from the lake. Fisheries officer David Lanyon visited a couple of times. Prue did a walk around and there was minimal rubbish left on site. Water temperature is about 20 degrees.

Easter holidays.

- Key to storage cupboard code 3478 for any members to access for toilet roll replacement if required.
- Discussed requirements for extra Toilets at Easter and it was decided that there is a need. Cr Driscoll contacted local provider and there will be 2 toilets set up in 2 locations on the eastern side of the lake and cost of approx \$50 each for the weekend. Trevor Baldock will be there over Easter and he will have his own toilet for his camp.
This will be a trial only to ascertain levels of use, issues of waste, location suitability and general acceptance.

Water level and plans for top up if required

- Level is currently 2 meters
- Currently being topped up at approximately 2 megs per day

Management Plan review.

- Review is in progress and Dja Dja Wurrung report important for reference. Completion due by June 2018. A group meeting at Banyena Hall to work through the plan document will be organised.
- Advertise for public comment as a part of the process.

Revegetation/Tree planting/Weeds

- Landcare to apply for funding to complete some projects involving revegetation Weed and Pest Control, Bird boxes, Direct Seeding of Trees and Signage at Walkers Lake once the plan is finalised.

Other items

- Toilets - Need to look at the toilet pan for cleaning and use. Possibly biodegradable liners. Need to consider extra toilets for specific weekends, Need to program an annual empty.
- Discussion items for the management plan such as fire pits and permanent tables/chairs.
- Tony to check with Dja Dja Wurrung about front fence replacement.
- Trevor advised that St Arnaud local Bruce Hando would like to set up a club that is specifically in place for fundraising and activities at Walkers lake. It could be a ski/fishing type club and all funds raised would go towards the upkeep/projects at Walkers Lake with approval of council.
- Mental Health needs to be included in the management plan given the importance of Walkers Lake and recreational values for the health and wellbeing of our rural communities.

8. Next Meeting – TBC

9. Meeting Closed - 11.30am