

Northern Grampians Shire Council

Walkers Lake Advisory Group

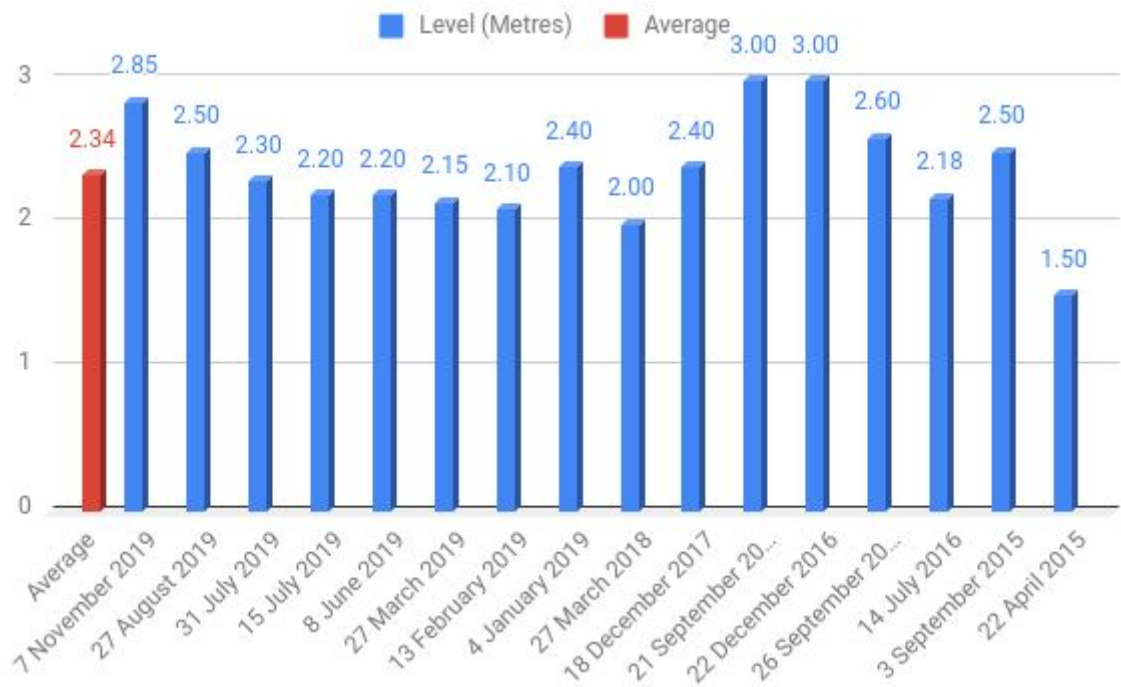
Meeting held at 6pm on Wednesday 20 November 2019
at Walkers Lake

Minutes

1. **Present** - Cr Tony Driscoll, Prue McAllister, Colin Coates, Tony Dark.
2. **Apologies** – Chad Frost, Wayne Robbins, Michelle Clark, Cr Kevin Erwin, Austin Freeman, Trevor Baldock, Steve Jesse, Tony Hand, Rob Loats,
3. **Disclosures of Interest & Declarations of Conflict of Interest.** Nil
4. **Confirmation of Minutes from the previous meeting.** 27 March 2019
- 5 **Matters Arising from the Minutes.**
6. **General Business**

1. Water level and Algae

Water level is at 2.8 metres following the top up of 200 megs delivered August/September. Prue expressed concern with the fluctuations and the health of the trees along the shoreline so we will need to monitor the levels as usual and the health of the trees. Details of levels as follows:



Blue Green Algae is present and it appears well spread throughout the lake water column and although the lake remains open, signs have been erected to warn visitors of the hazard. Media will be advised to make community aware.

2. Cultural Heritage report

Cultural Heritage Due Diligence Assessment has been completed (As per Tony Dark's email 5 September 2019) and a preliminary report has been submitted and we are awaiting a full report. To clarify, the assessment was required to provide professional advice in relation to future projects including fencing, track management, second toilet block, campfire structures etc to assist the approval process and guidance on suitability of sites.

There has been a change in staff at Dja Dja Wurrung and Tony Dark will be meeting with representative John Marshall on 12 December to update him on Walkers Lake.

3. Projects Update

Access Tracks - Gravel sheeting has been completed on a section of the track from the boat ramp to the southern part of the lake finishing at the old boat launching area to include repairing the erosion site.

Second Toilet - Toilet has been ordered and construction expected early 2020 following consent from all parties. Location will be beside the existing toilet.

Constructed Campfire Structures - Installation program is to be confirmed but at this stage will be planned for early 2020 following consent from all parties. This will be a staged project subject to budget and resourcing.

Signage and Education - Signage details to be finalised to include rules for the reserve and Advisory Group members are requested to provide input into what rules we need (see information sheet attached to minutes) and signs will be created. This will be a staged process depending on budget and resourcing and design will be completed by an industry professional with input from the Advisory Group. Signs will vary but will comprise of Rules, Recreation Values, Cultural Heritage and Biodiversity values etc.

Education and Awareness programs are to be determined.

The Advisory Group will be updated on all projects and will be included in providing recommendations for implementation.

4. **Toilet Cleaning** - Roster will be placed on hold at this stage as Tony Dark is working on having this included in Council's cleaning schedule. Updates will be provided as soon as possible. In the meantime can all members monitor toilets for cleanliness, toilet paper supplies - Key access code is 3478. Please Tony Dark on 53588700 of any needs.
5. **Advisory Group Review** - Current Advisory Group has been in place for 4 years and there is a major consensus from members to continue. Council will undertake a review.

Other Items

With christmas period coming up we need to monitor the need for portable toilets based on increased numbers that may be expected to visit the lake.

Would like to see a new toilet pan for existing toilet for ease of cleaning.

Need a contact telephone number located in the toilet to enable council to be advised of issues.

8. **Next Meeting** - Prior to Easter 2020 TBC
9. **Meeting Closed** - 6.45pm