



MINUTES

Bushfire Advisory Committee Annual General Meeting

Held on

Thursday, 2nd June 2016

Commencing at 7.37pm

In the Seniors Room

Cnr Bentley and Emerald Streets, Donnybrook WA 6239



John Attwood
Chief Executive Officer

9 June 2016

Disclaimer

The advice and information contained herein is given by and to the Council without liability or responsibility for its accuracy. Before placing any reliance on this advice or information, a written inquiry should be made to the Council giving entire reasons for seeking the advice or information and how it is proposed to be used.

Please note these minutes contain recommendations which have not yet been adopted by Council.



BUSHFIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE AGM MEETING MINUTES

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SHIRE OF DONNYBROOK-BALINGUP

BUSHFIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Held in the Seniors Room, Donnybrook Community Library
on Thursday, 2nd June 2016

The Manager Development and Environmental Services declared the meeting open at 7.37 pm advised the members present of the meeting procedures.

MEMBERS PRESENT

FIRE CONTROL OFFICERS	BRIGADE	GUESTS	STAFF
N Gubler (Chair)	Mullalyup	P Brandrette - DFES	P Robins (Ranger)
M Walker	Ferndale	J Borison – DFES	L Guthridge (MDES)
N Clifford	Thomson Brook	G Hamlyn - DFES	
D Tooke	Donnybrook	D Peachey (DPAW)	
G Foan	Thomson Brook	M Webb (Delta Charlie Base)	
D Denholm -Proxy	Beelerup		

PUBLIC GALLERY

M Aldridge - Upper Balingup	B Dix - Upper Capel	R Pankhurst
C Wringe Kirup/Brazier	M Anderson – Lowden	P Hearman
L Hollis	S Simmonds	

APOLOGIES

I Ralph N Thompson B Hearman

1 ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

Office	Nomination	Moved	Seconded	Carried
Chairperson	N Gubler	N Clifford	G Foan	6/0
Chief Bushfire Control Officer	M Walker	D Tooke	G Foan	6/0
Deputy Chief Bushfire Control Officer	D Tooke	M Walker	N Clifford	6/0

Office	Nomination	Moved	Seconded	Carried
Deputy Chief Bushfire Control Officer	I Ralph	M Walker	D Tooke	6/0
Communications Officer	M Webb	M Walker	D Tooke	6/0
Training Co- ordinator	P Robins	G FOan	D Tooke	6/0
Fire Weather Officer	J Fry	G Foan	N Clifford	6/0
Deputy Fire Weather Officer	M Webb	D Tooke	N Gubler	6/0
Strategic Planning Committee	To be appointed at the October 2016 meeting of the Bushfire Advisory Committee.			

2 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Nil

3 DECLARATION OF FINANCIAL/IMPARTIALITY INTEREST

Division 6: Sub-Division 1 of the *Local Government Act 1995*. Care should be taken by all Committee members to ensure that a financial/impartiality interest is declared and that they refrain from voting on any matter, which is considered to come within the ambit of the Act.

Nil

4 PETITIONS/DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

The representatives from DFES provided a background and information about the Bushfire Risk Management Planning process and how this will be a new approach for fire management agencies on managing the threat of fire taking into account fire risk, protection of assets and resourcing etc.

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Moved: M Walker

Seconded: D Tooke

That the Minutes of the Bushfire Advisory Committee Meeting held on 15th October 2015 be confirmed.

Carried 6/0

6 CORRESPONDENCE

Nil

7 REPORTS OF OFFICERS

7.1 Manager Development and Environmental Services

7.1.1	SUBJECT:	FIRE BREAK ORDER
	Location:	Shire Donnybrook-Balingup
	Applicants:	Shire Donnybrook-Balingup
	Zone:	N/A
	File Ref:	FRC 04/2 FIRE BREAK ORDER
	Author:	Leigh Guthridge – Manager Development and Environmental Services (<i>Paul Robins – Senior Ranger</i>)
	Report Date:	1 May 2016
	Attachment:	7.1.1 - 2015/2016 Fire Break Order

Background

A review of the Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup's Fire Break Order is undertaken annually. A copy is attached for consideration and comment.

Comment

Normal modifications including date changes, updating changes to Fire Control Officer details and rectifying grammar or errors will be required.

There are two other matters requiring consideration and/or modifications to the Fire Break Order including:

- Specifying fire hazard mitigation controls of occupiers of rail corridor land; and
- Determining if gas guns should be deemed equipment that cannot be used during a total fire ban.

Rail Corridor Land

Rail corridor land is Crown land. The Shire has received legal advice that the *Bush Fires Act 1954* (the Act) does not have jurisdiction over the Crown or government agencies that are deemed owners of Crown land, however the provisions of the Act do apply to occupiers of Crown land. The current custodian of rail corridor land is Brookfield Rail and is deemed to be occupiers of the rail corridor land.

The Shire can include provisions in its Fire Break Order on what the Shire requires from occupiers of rail corridor land for fire hazard mitigation on rail corridor land.

Brookfield Rail advise that they manage rail corridor land in the following manner:

- On track spraying of weeds to produce a 7m weed free swath (Line 75).
- Maintenance of firebreaks at the edge of the rail corridor.
- Slashing of vegetation at certain locations close to and within rural town sites.
- Off track control of noxious weeds (bamboo, cotton bush and blackberry at certain locations throughout the Shire).

Bushfire Risk Assessment – A Tenure Blind and Integrated Approach

Following the recommendations made by the Perth Hills Bush Fire Review 2011 (Keelty Report) the *State Emergency Management Plan for Fire (Westplan Fire)* requires an integrated Bushfire Risk Management Plan (BRMP) be developed for each local government outlining a strategy to treat bushfire related risk across all land tenures.

The Shire of Donnybrook Balingup has recently appointed a Bushfire Risk Management Planning Coordinator (DFES funded) and is currently developing its BRMP in accordance with the requirements of *Westplan Fire* and the *Bushfire Risk Management Planning - Guidelines for Preparing a Bushfire Risk Management Plan* (BRMP Guidelines).

The risk management processes used to develop the BRMP is consistent with the key principles of *AS/NZS ISO 31000:2009 Risk management – Principle and Guidelines* as described in the Second Edition of the *National Emergency Risk Assessment Guidelines* (NERAG 2014).

The BRMP will be a strategic document that identifies assets at risk from bushfire and their priority for treatment. The Treatment Schedule will set out a broad program of coordinated multi-agency treatments to address risks identified in the BRMP. Government agencies and other land managers with responsibility for implementing treatments will participate in the BRMP process to ensure treatment strategies are collaborative and efficient; regardless of land tenure. It is 'tenure blind'. This is effectively a new approach for fire management agencies on how they will manage the threat of fire taking into account fire risk, protection of assets and resourcing etc.

Whilst the planning for the BRMP is yet to be completed advice has been sought from Greg Hamlyn – Bushfire Risk Management Officer from DFES to apply risk management principles to determine what is a reasonable expectation of occupiers of rail corridor land in respect to fire hazard mitigation on rail corridor land.

The level of Bushfire threat for an asset is calculated within Bushfire Risk Management System (BRMS) using a quantified bushfire threat assessment model. The model uses the methodology set out in *AS 3959-2009 - Construction of Buildings in Bushfire Prone Areas* that is used to undertake a Bushfire Attack Level (BAL) assessment. The methodology is based on a set of bushfire behaviour and radiant heat flux prediction models, incorporating bushfire research findings. Basically, likelihood vs consequence = **Risk**.

Within the BRMS there are four asset definitions:

- Human Settlement;
- Economical;
- Environmental; and
- Cultural.

The BRMP Guidelines confirm that the 'railway lines' asset is categorised as 'economic' and on assessing an economic asset, the consequence rating is evaluated by the level of impact (local/regional/state) and the recovery costs (high/moderate/low).

Under the economic category for rail corridor land to have a forested area with fuel loads that create a hazard higher than low under the Bushfire Risk Management Guidelines the level of impact would need to rate in the 'regional' category. In most cases rail corridors would not meet the impact to fit in this category.

In general terms of risk however, land tenure should not be looked at individually to determine the risk. Combined land parcels can have an enormous effect on the severity of the 'consequence'. In the event a fire was to start on a rail corridor, which is a low risk given it is an inactive rail line at present the consequence may increase depending on the adjoining land parcels and fuel loads noting a maximum rate of spread is not possible until a fire has run a minimum of 100 metres.

If all land owners were to comply with an effective firebreak order the risk of large fire runs will be reduced and access for response will be improved. With this in mind any consideration to changes of the firebreak orders should apply a tenure blind approach.

In analysing risk for fire for rail corridor land the following is considered:

- Risk of ignition within the rail corridor – rail line is currently inactive within the Shire;
- The low importance of the rail infrastructure in respect to the effect on the community if asset losses on the rail corridor are incurred from fire as compared to other major infrastructure in the locality, region or state;
- The land configuration of the rail corridor land and inconsistent vegetation patterns and associated fuel loads within the corridor. The BRMP Guidelines state that continuous high level fuels within a minimum net area of 1 hectare represents a high fire risk;
- Fuel loads on adjoining lands and associated different tenures; and
- What the Shire requires of adjoining land owners/managers of rail corridor land and the need to be consistent across all tenures.

The Shire's Bushfire Risk Management Plan will not be completed before the Shire sets its fire break order for the 2016/17 bushfire season. In the interim the Shire can specify what fire hazard controls it wants to place on occupiers of rail corridor land for the 2016/2017 fire season via its Fire break Order based on the information that it has to date based on the position that rail corridor does not pose a high risk to the community.

It is recommended that the following additional provisions be inserted in the Fire break Order that aligns with what the Shire requires of adjoining land owners of rail corridor land (where the Shire has jurisdiction) namely rural, rural residential and townsite land.

Rail Corridor Land

The occupier shall:

- *Provide and maintain a firebreak of no less than two metres wide (where machine accessible) within the rail corridor reserve on one side of the rail infrastructure formation; and*
- *Maintain the track free from fire hazards/weeds to produce a 7m weed free swath from the centre of the rail track line (line 75); and*
- *Maintain all flammable material to a minimum height at ground level of 100mm within the entire length and width of the rail reserve 100 metres from either end and within the town sites of Donnybrook, Balingup, Kirup, Mullalyup and Noggerup.*

Total Fire Ban - Gas Guns

A member of the public lodged a complaint with Council stating that gas guns should be prohibited from being used if a total fire ban is declared within the Shire.

Gas guns are acoustical bird scaring devices and are generally used by orchardists within the Shire to scare birds. The issue of the potential fire risk from the use of gas guns is subject of evaluation by Council.

The Shires Fire Break order currently specifies the following with respect to gas guns:

"A cleared area of all flammable material of at least a 3 metre radius shall be provided around an operational gas gun and that the owner of the gas gun shall ensure that the gas gun is secured in an upright position"

Typically, gas guns are placed at ground level within the orchard. Many commercial orchards are irrigated so the fruit growing trees and the understory are green. In this instance the risk of fire ignition from a gas gun is considered low.

However where gas guns are used in areas where this no green understory (non-irrigated areas) where dry matter is likely to exist, the risk of fire ignition is higher. In this instance it is recommended that gas guns be prohibited during a total fire ban.

It is recommended that the Shire modify its Fire Break Order and declare that gas guns are prohibited equipment during a declared total fire ban unless they are used in low fire risk areas such as irrigated orchards with a green understory.

Policy/Statutory/Voting Implications

Policy

N/A

Statutory

Section 33 of the Bush Fire Act 1954-79 provides Council with the controls to adopt a Fire Break Order to ensure that land owners maintain their properties to protect the district from fire risk.

Voting

Simple majority

Financial Implications

N/A

Strategic Implications

Outcome 2.7 - Improving fire prevention and hazard reduction activities.

Officer's Recommended Resolution

Moved:

Seconded:

That Council effect the following modifications to its Fire Break Order for fire season 2016/2017:

1. **Update the annual date changes and Fire Control Officers; and**
2. **Add an additional provision to "Section 1 – Rural Land" as follows:**
"(e) If a total Fire Ban is declared by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services in accordance with the Bush Fires Act 1954 the use of gas guns are prohibited unless they are used in low fire risk areas such as in orchards with irrigated green understory as determined by the local government.
3. **Add an additional "Section 8 – Rail Corridor Land" as follows:**
The Occupier shall:
 - *Provide and maintain a firebreak of no less than two metres wide (where machine accessible) within the rail corridor reserve on one side of the rail infrastructure formation; and*
 - *Maintain the track free from fire hazards/weeds to produce a 7m weed free swath from the centre of the rail track line (line 75); and*

- **Maintain all flammable material to a minimum height at ground level of 100mm within the entire length and width of the rail reserve 100 metres from either end and within the town sites of Donnybrook, Balingup, Kirup, Mullalyup and Noggerup**

The Officer's recommendation was not supported as the risk of creating a fire from gas gun use is considered high. The members of the meeting proposed to break down and amend the resolution:

Committee's Recommended Resolution

Moved: N Clifford

Seconded: M Walker

That Council effect the following modifications to its Fire Break Order for fire season 2016/2017:

1. Update the annual date changes and Fire Control Officers; and
2. Add an additional provision to "Section 1 – Rural Land" as follows:

“(e) If a total Fire Ban is declared by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services in accordance with the Bush Fires Act 1954 the use of gas guns are prohibited within the Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup

Carried 6/0

Justification:

1. the rail corridor has a low bushfire risk in accordance with Bushfire Risk Management planning
2. The committee preferred the Shire work collaboratively with occupiers of rail corridor land to manage and address areas of higher bushfire risk rather than a 'big stick' approach through the legislative framework of a firebreak order.
3. Did not wish to single out a Government Service Provider

7.1.2	SUBJECT:	PROPOSED NAME CHANGE FOR THE UPPER BALINGUP BUSHFIRE BRIGADE
	Location:	Shire of Donnybrook – Balingup
	Applicants:	Upper Balingup Bush Fire Brigade
	Zone:	N/A
	File Ref:	FRC 02/1
	Author:	Leigh Guthridge – Manager Development and Environmental Services
	Report Date:	20 April 2016
	Attachment:	Nil

Background

A proposed name change for the Upper Balingup Bush Fire Brigade was discussed by the Bushfire Advisory Committee and subsequently Council at its ordinary meetings held in October and November 2015.

Council at its November 2015 meeting resolved the following:

“That the motion lay on the table until the next Bushfire Advisory Committee meeting scheduled for April 2016 and that the name ‘Upper Balingup Bushfire Brigade’ remain unchanged until the end of the approaching fire season where the Firebreak Order and associated Brigade details has been released to the community and to allow further monitoring of the issue of radio confusion.”

Comment

The 2015/2016 fire season has now passed and review of any radio confusion can be considered as part of any decision to change the name of the Upper Balingup Bushfire Brigade to Munroe Bushfire Brigade.

Staff are asked for comment from all the Brigades via their Fire Control Officers on the 7th April 2016.

Comments received were as follows:

Brigade Name	Radio Confusion - 2015/2016 Season yes/no	Comment
Argyle/Irishtown	No	Stated that at the Morgan Road Fire tested this issue and no confusion occurred
Upper Balingup	Yes	Supports the name change because of the general safety issue of radio confusion
Kirup/Brazier	No	Stated that at the Morgan Road Fire tested this issue and no confusion occurred
Beelerup	No	Has not observed any issues via radio
Balingup	N/A	The Secretary of the Balingup Brigade requested comment from Mr Douglas Gordon - a retired electrician and has apparent experience with radio communications who supports the name change for reasons of safety, speed and simplicity of communications

Based on the number of comments received there does not appear to be a clear position on whether the existing name of the Upper Balingup Bushfire Brigade and associated use of the two-way radio creating confusion and a safety issue amongst the collective brigade network as 6 brigades did not provide comment. This can be further evaluated during discussion at the Bushfire Advisory Committee (BAC) meeting.

In the absence of the Brigade network supporting the name change, the fact remains that the Upper Balingup Bushfire Brigade name has had association in the area for in excess of 50 years, both when it was a brigade in its own right and when it was amalgamated to form part of the Balingup Brigade in 2006. The name ‘Upper Balingup’ for obvious reasons delivers an accurate description or sense of place for the area where typically brigade names align with locality names.

This needs to be balanced against the apparent level of confusion that occurs during two way radio use and the wishes of the Upper Balingup Bushfire Brigade to change the name to Munroe Bushfire Brigade.

Consultation

No formal consultation having occurred with this application. If the name change is approved by Council staff will:

- *Place a notice on the Shire Website;*
- *Write to all other Brigades in the Shire of Donnybrook – Balingup; and*
- *Write to the local offices of the Department of Parks and Wildlife and Department of Fire and Emergency Services.*

Policy/Statutory/Voting Implications

Statutory

The *Shire of Donnybrook – Balingup Bush Fire Brigades Local Law* provides authority for the Shire to name brigades in its district.

Voting

Simple Majority

Financial Implications

If the name change is approved by Council there will be costs involved to modify all relevant brigade information including mapping, signage on the appliance and shed at Prowse Road.

Strategic Implications

Outcome 2.7 of the Shire's Strategic Community Plan: Improving Fire Prevention and Hazard Reduction facilities.

Officer's Recommended Resolution

Moved: M Walker

Seconded: D Tooke

That Council not approve the name change of the Upper Balingup Bush Fire Brigade to the Munroe Bush Fire Brigade.

Carried 6/0

7.1.3

SUBJECT: APPOINTMENT OF FIRE CONTROL OFFICERS

Location: Donnybrook - Balingup
Applicants: Upper Balingup and Kirup Brazier Bushfire Brigades
Zone: N/A
File Ref: FRC 05
Author: Leigh Guthridge - Manager Development and Environmental Services (*Paul Robins - Senior Ranger*)
Report Date: 5 May 2016
Attachments: Nil

Background

The Upper Balingup, Upper Capel, Lowden and Kirup/Brazier Bushfire Brigades recently held their Annual General Meeting and have nominated changes to personnel that hold the position of Fire Control Officer (FCO) within their Brigades.

Council is required to appoint FCO's for its Bushfire Brigades in accordance with the Shire of Donnybrook – Balingup Bush Fire Brigade Local Law and *Bush Fires Act 1954*.

Comment

Details of the nominations are as follows:

Upper Balingup

Mr Mathew Aldridge has been nominated as FCO for the Upper Balingup Bushfire Brigade. Mr Aldridge has been a volunteer bushfire member for 7 years, holds the position of Captain at the Upper Balingup Bushfire Brigade and has the adequate training and experience to proceed to the position of FCO.

Kirup/Brazier

Mr Chris Wringe has been nominated as FCO for the the Kirup/Brazier Bushfire Brigade. Mr Wringe has been a volunteer bushfire member for 16 years, holds the position of Captain at the Kirup/Brazier Bushfire Brigade and has the adequate training and experience to proceed to the position of FCO.

Upper Capel

Mr Bevan Dix has been nominated as FCO for the Upper Capel Bushfire Brigade. Mr Dix has been a volunteer bushfire member for 9 years, holds the position of Lieutenant at the Upper Capel Bushfire Brigade and has the adequate training and experience to proceed to the position of FCO.

Lowden

Mr Michael Anderson has been nominated as FCO for the Lowden Bushfire Brigade. Mr Anderson has been a volunteer bushfire member for 16 years, holds the position of Captain for the Lowden Bushfire Brigade and has the adequate training and experience to proceed to FCO.

The Shire in conjunction with the Department of Fire and Emergency Services will be conducting training for Fire Control Officers prior to the 2016/2017 fire season.

Consultation

Nil

Policy/Statutory/Voting Implications

Statutory

Council may appoint persons to the position of Fire Control Officer under the provisions of the *Bush Fires Act 1954*.

Voting

Simple Majority.

Financial Implications

Nil.

Strategic Implications

The FCO appointment will assist the Shire to achieve Outcome 2.7.3 of the Shire's *Strategic Community Plan*: Continue to support and encourage participation in local bushfire brigades.

Officer's Recommended Resolution

Moved: M Walker

Seconded: G Foan

That Council appoints:

- 1. Mr Matt Aldridge as Fire Control Officer for the Upper Balingup Bush Fire Brigade;**
- 2. Mr Chris Wringe as Fire Control Officer for the Kirup/Brazier Bush Fire Brigade;**
- 3. Mr Bevan Dix as Fire Control Officer for the Upper Capel Bush Fire Brigade; and**
- 4. Mr Michael Anderson as Fire Control Officer for the Lowden Bush Fire Brigade.**

Carried 6/0

8 REPORTS

8.1 Chief Bush Fire Control Officer – M Walker

This year is probably the busiest season I have encountered in my 12 years as Chief. We had 46 fires for the season. The first call out commenced 28 July 2015 and the last call out was on 23 April 2016. Much appreciated to all brigades for your quick response when requested.

I would like to acknowledge the retiring FCO's - Brad, Trevor, John. Many thanks for your years of service.

I was very disappointed in the way Council went against our advice on the name change of Upper Balingup to Munro and also the handling of the incident at Balingup. Due to this incident Brad Anderson has resigned from Deputy and Training Officer. Thankyou Brad for your time over the years. Thankyou to all FCO's that supported me in this stance that we took for Brad.

Welcome to the new FCO's - Chris Wringe, Michael Anderson, Matt Aldridge and Bevan Dix.

Thankyou to all for your very strong support in assisting me this season - DFES Manjimup, DBK Fire & Rescue, DPAW Kirup, DBK SES, Paul our new Ranger, David and Brad for training and Murray for the sched calls.

I enjoyed the invitation to Brigades AGM. It is great to see the support you have created in each area.

Hopefully DFES will return the Hi-season 3.4 this coming season. It was used at many fires within the Shire and outside areas.

As you have probably heard through the media, the talk of all Volunteer Fire Brigades going under the control of DFES. There is a lot of conflicting reports out there of what is going to happen. Maybe our DFES representative here tonight maybe able to fill us in on what is happening?

I would like to acknowledge our CEO John Attwood for his support over the past 12 years. Thanks John - enjoy your retirement.

Looking forward for the season to come (that is if I am elected) and your strong support and commitment to your Brigades.

Max Walker

8.2 Fire Report – P Robins /Training Coordinator

FIRE INCIDENTS

Description	Amount Recorded
Incidents Attended	55
Suspicious	14
Re-Ignitions	24
Accidental	6
Escaped Burns	11

Please Note: The above data is gathered from Incident Report Sheets. A further 6 incidents occurred but the reports have not been submitted.

Morgan Road Fire on the 28/12/2016 – Level 2 incident.

The incident was well managed by all concerned. Most brigades were involved along with DPaW and other Brigades from out of the district. Thanks to DFES for their management and assistance with the fire. On this particular day all resources were stretched as we also had

Balingup and Upper Balingup turn out to a fire at Hay Road. On this same day we also had another level 2 incident at Hay road which was attended by Balingup and Upper Balingup BFB. The combination of both fires did stretch the Shires resources

Waroona Fire

Five Brigades, Ferndale, Kirup, Lowden, Thompson Brook and Mullyalup were asked to assist at the Waroona fire in January 2016 and from all reports the help was greatly appreciated. A personal thank you was passed on by the Harvey Chief, Phil Penny. A letter was received from John Tillman on 21 January 2016 thanking all brigades and members for their hard work and effort over the 2016 fire season which was extremely busy at different stages. We had the two level 2 incidents in our own area during the same time and managed to send crews to the Waroona Fire.

Training

Bush Fire Brigade training will pick up again shortly now that the fire season is over. AIMS Awareness was run at Mullyallup Bushfire Brigade on 3 May 2016 with approximately 22 attendees. David Tooke is looking at running an Introduction to Firefighting on 11 June 2016 and will most likely be held at Balingup Fire Station. We have an assurance from DFES of their ongoing support to assist with training when required.

At this point I would like to thank Brad Anderson for his years of support as one of our trainers; Brad has decided to take a well-earned break from the roll to pursue other activities.

8.3 Department of Fire and Emergency Services – P Brandrette

Season Review

This season has been busy with incident deployments of regional volunteers and staff in support of numerous major bushfires out of region (Esperance, Waroona Complex, Bridgetown, Myalup and Meelon recently). Thanks to the Donnybrook – Balingup Shire and brigades for their support in resourcing taskforce requests to these incidents.

Incidents

Taskforces and staff from the Lower South West were deployed to the Esperance and Waroona Level 3 fires. A bus ran twice daily from Northcliffe to the Harvey Division of the Waroona incident and has been an improvement in service. This was successful in ferrying crews for day and nightshifts. The Greenbushes light tanker and Donnybrook 3.4 high season appliances were utilised during the incident.

- 18th November 2015 Esperance Complex level 3 fires – Taskforce deployments
- 22nd December, Tweed Rd Winnejuip – supported by DFES LSW
- 28th December Hay Rd Fire Greenbushes - supported by DFES LSW
- 6th January - The Waroona Fire during which an Emergency Situation declaration (sect 50 EM Act 2005) was made for shire of Harvey and Waroona.

In the course of the incident to town of Yarloop was heavily impacted with tragic loss of life and substantial property losses. DFES & DP&W will conduct a major incident review of the complex of fires occurring within these two shires. This Major Incident Review will inform the Public Sector Commissioner's Public Enquiry. The review team has been established at the DFES Belmont SIMCEN.

- 7th February Myalup Bushfire also was a level 3 incident which threatened the towns of Uduc and Wokalup.
- 14th – 17th March – Teasdale Level 2 bushfire – IMT & taskforce deployments from LSW region

Programs

- E Academy
 - The E Academy is now live and requires volunteers to register on the Volunteer Portal then enrol in a training Pathway. Once a volunteer has enrolled in a pathway they will have visibility of any courses relevant to that pathway and can nominate.
- Bushfire Risk Management Program
 - Joy Borison & Greg Hamlyn presentation information on BRMP at BFAC
- Training Calendar
 - The LSW training calendar 2016 has been provided to all local governments
- Fleet crew protection program
 - Regional resources of Manjimup & Bridgetown Shire have commenced the retrofitting of crew protection systems (deluge, in cab air, and weight compliancy). It is expected each appliance would take 3 – 4 weeks to be fitted. Standby appliances have been provided whilst these appliances return to Perth for fit out and remediation.
 - In preparation for appliances returning from crew protection fit outs, a training video and process has been developed to ensure crews are familiar with the burn over procedure utilising the new systems. This important safety training is required for all firefighters.
- Aerial Display and training exercises
 - 21st March. Approval has been granted for ground controller training and practical demonstration using a helitac in the shire of Boyup Brook. Invite to designated ground controllers, FCO's & CBFCO.

8.4 Department of Parks and Wildlife

An update was not provided by Department of Parks and Wildlife

8.5 FCO Reports

The Fire Control Officers did not provide individual reports.

9 OTHER BUSINESS

Nil

10 CLOSURE OF MEETING

The Chairperson advised that the next Bushfire Advisory Committee meeting will be held during October 2016 at a date and location to be advised.

The Chairperson declared the meeting closed at 9.25 pm.

These Minutes were confirmed as a true and accurate record at the Bushfire Advisory Committee Meeting held on _____

Shire President

Presiding Member