



# **Bushfire Advisory Committee Meeting - Minutes**

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Held on

Thursday, 19 October 2017

**Commencing at 7.30pm**

In the Seniors Room

Cnr Bentley and Collins Streets, Donnybrook WA 6239

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ben Rose".

**Ben Rose**  
**Chief Executive Officer**

**23 October 2017**

## **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.

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# BUSHFIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

19<sup>th</sup> October 2017

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# SHIRE OF DONNYBROOK BALINGUP

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## BUSHFIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

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Held in the Seniors Room on Thursday, 19 October 2017

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### 1 DECLARATION OF OPENING / ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

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The Chairperson declared the meeting open at 7.30pm, welcomed the public gallery and advised them of the meeting procedures.

### 2 ATTENDANCE

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#### MEMBERS PRESENT

FIRE CONTROL OFFICERS	BRIGADE	GUESTS	STAFF
B Dix (Chair)	Upper Capel	S Ward (DFES)	Leigh Guthridge
N Gubler	Mullalyup	D Peachey (DPaW)	(MDES)
M Walker	Ferndale	B Anderson (VFRS)	Paul Robins(Snr
I Ralph	Argyle/Irishtown	Cr Logiudice	Ranger)
N Clifford	Thomson Brook	D Denham	Jess Cooper (Ranger)
T Thamo	Munro	M Webb	
N Thompson	Mumballup	A Rohrbach	
S Simmonds	Beelerup	T McNabb	
G Foan	Thomson Brook	G Hatch	
D Tooke	Donnybrook		
M Anderson	Lowden		
M Zwart (Proxy)	Kirup/Brazier		

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#### PUBLIC GALLERY

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Nil

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#### APOLOGIES

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C Wringe (Kirup Brazier)

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### 3 DECLARATIONS FROM THE PRESIDING MEMBER

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Nil

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#### 4 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

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Nil

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#### 5 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

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Nil

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#### 6 PRESENTATIONS

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Nil

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#### 7 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

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Moved: B Dix

Seconded: I Ralph

That the Minutes of the Bushfire Advisory Committee Annual General Meeting held on 20 April 2017 be confirmed.

Carried 12/0

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#### 8 REPORTS OF OFFICERS

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##### 8.1 *Manager Development and Environmental Services*

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##### 8.1.1 SHIRE OF DONNYBROOK-BALINGUP BUSHFIRE RESPONSE PLAN

<b>Location</b>	Shire of Donnybrook Balingup
<b>Applicant</b>	Shire of Donnybrook Balingup
<b>File Reference</b>	FRC 01
<b>Author</b>	Leigh Guthridge, Manager Development and Environmental Services ( <i>Paul Robins, Senior Ranger</i> )
<b>Attachments</b>	Bush Fire Response Plan – via email
<b>Voting Requirements</b>	Simple Majority
<b>Executive Summary</b>	The report seeks to adopt proposed modifications to the Shire of Donnybrook Balingup Bush Fire Response Plan

#### STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

The proposal aligns with the following objective within the Corporate Business Plan:

Strategy 2.3.3 - Partner with key stakeholders for effective environmental management

#### BACKGROUND

Shire staff has undertaken the annual review of the Shire of Donnybrook Balingup Bushfire Response Plan (the Response Plan).

This year a comprehensive analysis of the document was undertaken by the Manager Development and Environmental Services and Ranger staff.

## **DETAILS**

There are several modifications proposed to the Response Plan as part of the review as follows:

1. Reflect changes of government agency names, brigade membership call signs and personnel contact details;
2. Updates to:
  - a) The training status for each brigade;
  - b) The schedule of existing equipment;
  - c) The ten-year vehicle replacement program. Only two vehicles are due for replacement in coming years;
  - d) The register of capital building improvements;
  - e) The Regional Communications Plan;
  - f) The network channel list;
  - g) The Traffic Management Arrangements; and
3. Insert the amended *Shire of Donnybrook – Balingup Bushfire Brigades Local Law*;
4. Include the Incident Management Teams schedule.

Members can review the modified Bush Fire Response Plan provided under separate cover via email.

## **CONSULTATION**

Staff have undertaken the review. The members of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee have the opportunity to make comment and incorporate any further modifications into the Bush Fire Response Plan by adding items to the recommendation for this report.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Changes to the ten-year replacement program in the Shire's Bushfire Response Plan will need to be budgeted for accordingly. This includes securing funding from the Local Government Grant Scheme in accordance with the application requirements of the Department of Fire and Emergency Services.

## **POLICY COMPLIANCE**

N/A

## **STATUTORY COMPLIANCE**

*Bush Fires Act 1954.*

*Emergency Management Act 2005*

## **CONCLUSION**

Following a comprehensive review undertaken by staff the Bushfire Advisory Committee is advised to endorse the recommendation to make modifications to the Shire of Donnybrook Balingup Bushfire Response Plan.

## RECOMMENDATION

The Bushfire Advisory Committee recommends Council endorse the Shire of Donnybrook Balingup Bushfire Response Plan 2017 with the proposed modifications:

1. Reflect changes of government agency names, brigade membership call signs and personnel contact details;
2. Updates to:
  - a) The training status for each brigade;
  - b) The schedule of existing equipment;
  - c) The ten-year vehicle replacement program;
  - d) The register of capital building improvements;
  - e) The Regional Communications Plan;
  - f) The network channel list;
  - g) The Traffic Management Arrangements;
3. Insert the amended *Shire of Donnybrook Balingup Bushfire Brigades Local Law*; and
4. Include the Incident Management Teams schedule.

### Committee's Recommended Resolution

Moved: S Simmonds

Seconded: I Ralph

The Bushfire Advisory Committee recommends Council endorse the Shire of Donnybrook Balingup Bushfire Response Plan 2017 with the proposed modifications:

1. Reflect changes of government agency names, brigade membership call signs and personnel contact details;
2. Updates to:
  - a) The training status for each brigade;
  - b) The schedule of existing equipment;
  - c) The ten-year vehicle replacement program;
  - d) The register of capital building improvements;
  - e) The Regional Communications Plan;
  - f) The network channel list;
  - g) The Traffic Management Arrangements;
3. Insert the amended *Shire of Donnybrook Balingup Bushfire Brigades Local Law*; and
4. Include the Incident Management Teams schedule.

Carried 12/0

## 8.2 REPORTS

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### 8.2.1 - DBCA Deb Peachey

#### Fire Season 2017/18

- 5 fires in Blackwood 77 hectares - 2 deliberate in last 2 weeks
- On par with past years
- Largest fire of the season in Blackwood was 63ha in Jolly Block
- Thank you for your potential assistance at further burns and fires this summer

#### 2017 Autumn Prescribed Burning – Completed in Blackwood District

There were 4 burns commenced or completed in the Blackwood District.

- BWD\_072 Noggerup\_005 (west of Noggerup Townsite) -169ha (1 cell to complete)
- BWD\_078 Camballan - 1,428ha
- BWD\_079 Upper Capel -5,419 ha
- BWD 039 Nelson - 103ha

Minimal burning was completed in Blackwood District as we were waiting for multiple vineyards to get their grapes off the vines- late finish .

>20km of edging was also completed along Vasse Highway in preparation for Spring 2017

#### 2017 Spring Prescribed Burning - Blackwood District

Blackwood DPaW have planned 24 burns this Spring across the District - 49,934ha

- BWD\_045 Warner\_023 (1,254ha- Patane Rd (north-east of Newlands))
- BWD\_072 Noggerup (169ha to complete)
- BWD\_079 Upper Capel (half in Donnybrook, half in City of Busselton)
- BWD\_091 Mullalyup ~800ha (south of Mullalyup)
- BWD\_092 Ryalls (850ha)
- BWD\_094 Warner ~950ha (west of Kirup)
- BWD\_093 Ryalls ~345ha (Byron Road, Upper Capel Road, Ryalls Road)
- BWD\_1?? Mullalyup ~1,770ha (South of Mailman Road, Gardiner Road)
- BWD\_1?? Warner ~2,700ha (North of Kirup Grimwade Road)

#### Completed so far

- BWD\_067 Butler- 5,375ha (Nannup area)
- BWD\_079 Upper Capel- 4,291ha (Jarrahwood Road/ Vernon Road area)
- BWD\_102 McGregor Millbrook- 10,553ha (Sues Road/Vasse Hwy area)

#### 2017 Autumn Prescribed Burning- Blackwood District

- There are 16 burns planned in the Blackwood District for Spring 2017- 40,185ha. Of these 3 ½ burns are within the Shire of Donnybrook Balingup.
  - BWD\_014 Jolly - 3,984 ha (3 Shires)
  - BWD\_101 Kerr - 1,088ha
  - BWD\_103 Munro - 2,367ha
  - BWD\_108Mullalyup - 2,993ha

This can change depending on what is completed in Autumn 2017. Blackwood DPaW will also assist FPC with their pine heap burning across the District. We will continue to monitor all proposed burns, but will only commence if we have a stable weather pattern and moisture in the leaf and soil profile.

Increased Brigade engagement:

- DPaW is aiming for an increase in brigade engagement for all future burning-
- Increased opportunities for joint burning
- Increased involvement in fire Expos- were at the Apple Festival this year, and several Fire Ready and Brigade Open days organised by DFES across the District.

### **8.2.2 - DFES - Steven Ward**

Steven Ward, Area Officer South – Lower South West introduced himself to the committee and provided a summary of his position with DFES

### **8.2.3 - Chief Bush Fire Control Officer – Max Walker**

- Since the last meeting in March I have received a few calls from the Communications Centre with regards to people burning within their boundary.
- Brigades have been very active with training programs.
- Congratulations to Argyle for winning the award for the ‘Are You Ready?’ campaign
- Permits to burn required from 1 November 2017
- Radio Scheduled Calls to commence 6 November 2017 at 6.45am

### **8.2.4 - Training Officer’s Report**

Training completed:

1. June 2017 Introduction to Bushfire Fighting
2. September 2017 Bushfire Fighting
3. Other Brigade members have completed On Road Driving and Off Road Driving held outside of the Shire.
4. Lowden BFB have completed First Aid Training.

Upcoming Training:

1. FCO Refresher 10 November 2017 at the Donnybrook Town Hall (Lesser Hall @ 0830am.
2. Burn over and AVL Training 12<sup>th</sup> of November Egan Park Donnybrook @ 0900am.
3. Burn Over and AVL Training 18<sup>th</sup> November Balingup Fire Station @ 0800am.

Fire Prevention Banners and Arson signage will be put in place around the Shire in November and will remain in place throughout the entire season. As you have all probably noticed the Fire Break order now has color photographs showing compliant and non-compliant fire breaks. Firebreak inspections will commence on 1 December 2017. This has been advertised through the Shire website and on all community notice boards.



A State Bushfire exercise was held on the 17/10/2017 at the Donnybrook SES building based on the scenario of a level 1 fire moving to level 2 and then level 3, involving including DFES, DPAW, Shire and other relevant State Government Agencies. This was a live desktop exercise with the ROC and SOC monitoring and communicating through.

Permits will commence on the 1<sup>st</sup> November and go through to midnight on the 14 December 2017.

May I suggest if Brigades have not already done this, to have a run through of all of your vehicles to refresh members and any new members you may have, to also check for any problems that may have occurred with the vehicles over the winter months and report back to me to have these issues sorted if any.

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## **9 OTHER BUSINESS**

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### **9.1 Delta Charlie Network Roll Call**

The Delta Charlie network roll call will commence on Monday, 6 November 2017 at 6.45am

### **9.2 Incident Control Vehicle – SES Trailer Conversion**

Ian Ralph from the Argyle/ Irishtown Bushfire Brigade will email all other brigades seeking a donation to fund the upgrade of the SES Trailer. Further funding will need to be obtained from alternative sources if required.

### **9.3 High Band Radio Request**

An update on the additional high band radio request and funding from DFES was provided by shire staff.

### **9.4 Railway Corridors**

Arc Infrastructure (previously Brookfield Rail): Discussion was held about Brigades being able to undertake prescribed burns on Arc Infrastructure property. Arc Infrastructure have now developed an access permission form for third parties to undertake works on the rail corridor thus eliminating the need to sign indemnity forms. Shire staff has sought feedback from LGIS on the permit to enter form.

### **9.5 Mullalyup Bushfire Brigade**

Neil Gubler, FCO Mullalyup Brigade confirmed that their brigade has taken a position of not responding to fires outside of the Shire of Donnybrook Balingup due to the limited action encountered when upon the fire ground. Max Walker, CBFCO, will take this into account when assigning brigades to call-outs.

### **9.6 Lowden Bushfire Brigade**

Dave Denholm, Lowden Bushfire Brigade, updated the committee on the progress of their brigade in setting up a text messaging system.

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## **10 CLOSURE OF MEETING**

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The Chairperson declared the meeting closed at 8.40pm.