

Fotpin Coordinating Committee MINUTES

7.30pm Monday 02-09-2013

- 1) **Welcome** to new members: Denise Hall, Mark Hallam and Keith Thomas and to continuing committee members.
- 2) **Apologies** Mark Hallam
- 3) **Minutes** of the last Coordinating Committee meetings (3 June and 14 July 2013 as circulated and on fotpin website). Both sets of minutes were accepted.
- 4) **Minutes** of AGM 14 July 2013 (refer fotpin website). Accepted.
- 5) **Actions arising** from previous meeting 03.06.13
 - a) *Focal point*

Actions:

- Heather to follow up with Stephen Wilkes at the next PCS meeting asking for written confirmation of the situation;
- John/Heather to email Shane Rattenbury's office in regard to our previous letter
- Both in progress. Refer Item 19.

b) *Guided Walks*

Action: Heather to collate data on Guided walk attendance numbers for the past three years.
Report received. Attendance continues to grow.

c) *Noticeboard*

Action: Heather to contact Coordinating Committee members and or fotpin members for photos for the next thematic display.

Completed.

d) *Other Business*

Actions:

- Pax to seek permission from PCS for fotpins to remove the diagonal fence running between the pump house gate and the Bottom Pinnacle
- Completed. PCS has agreed but Ranger Anthony will be present during the work.
- John to follow up with PCS about sheep moving to inappropriate areas
- Completed: PCS will consider –'roo-flaps' which will provided access for kangaroos between paddocks, but exclude sheep.

6) ***New committee responsibilities***

a) *Office-holders elected at AGM 2013*

It was noted that the following committee members were elected at the AGM.

Convenor: John Brannan

Secretary: Elizabeth Smith

Treasurer: Warren Bond

Coordinator: Vaughn Cox (aka Pax)

Ordinary Members:

Denise Hall

Mark Hallam

Keith Thomas

b) *Reallocation of additional committee responsibilities.*

Due to the changes in membership, committee responsibilities were reallocated as shown in [Attachment A](#).

Re newsletter, Elizabeth to solicit interest via email for issues members would like to have raised in the newsletter, and items they could contribute from time to time.

Action: Elizabeth

c) *Heather's handover list.*

Noted.

i) Financial arrangements have been completed and transferred to Warren.

ii) Heather's proposed short handover meeting to be arranged. Keith to contact Heather. John (Convenor) will be the first point of contact as PCS prefers a single point of contact, and JB will advise Keith about any issues for follow up.

Actions; John B and Keith

iii) Keith to arrange with Heather to transfer shed related emails to a memory stick.

Action; Keith

iv) Fete and archive materials have been transferred to John B.

d) *New/former signatories* to the fotpin account

i) Signing on and off has been done. fotpin is awaiting a response from Beyondbank (formerly CPS Credit Union)

7) **Correspondence** – (Elizabeth)

Correspondence received by email was been previously circulated to members.

a) PCS Landcare and Parkcare Coordinators' meeting 06-08-2013.

i) See comments in Convenor's Report ([Attachment B](#))

ii) Plant species mapping

Rosemary B and John F are working on this project, particularly with a view to proposed new planned burns.

PCS will send their new Plan to John B.

b) PCS/fotpin meeting 06-08-2013.

i) Issues from this meeting are generally covered under relevant items in these minutes, but see also comments in Convenor's Report ([Attachment B](#))

ii) PCS prefers a single point of contact within fotpin, to avoid confusion and overlap. John Brannan will be the initial contact point, with Coordinating Committee members referring issues to PCS through him and vice versa.

ACTION: John B and CC to follow up re initial contact through John B.

8) **Convenor's Report** (John)

The Convenor's report, at [Attachment B](#) was noted. This has been a busy winter with fotpin's third AGM, some changes in CC membership, a new brochure and the reserve being closed for most of July. PCS and fotpin had a productive meeting in August. fotpin also took part in meetings with the Ginninderra Catchment Group and the PCS Landcare and Parkcare Coordinators' meeting.

Heather and Mark Brannan were warmly farewelled with sadness for their departure and best wishes for their new life near Bega. They will be greatly missed by fotpin and its members

a) *PLC Coordinating Committee*

i) A significant outcome of this meeting was the proposal for more detailed mapping of rare and endangered plant species in reserves with particular reference to future burns. Rosemary B and John F area are working on identifying any such species in the Pinnacle.

b) *Eucalyptus funding*

i) Funding is available from the Ginninderra Catchment Group through the Dahl Trust with the broad aim of conserving eucalypts. It can include educational activities, including interpretive signage. John B has submitted an application out of session, as applications were due on 1 September.

9) **Coordinator's Report** (Pax)

a) We can expect an early start to weeding and spraying this year due to the warmer winter. See also specific items in these minutes.

10) **Treasurer's Report** (Warren)

The Treasurer's report was accepted. See [Attachment C](#).

The Committee approved payment of \$83.50 to Pax to replace the damaged Solo Knapsack Spray Wand. Following discussion of the need to consider maintenance and replacement of equipment, the committee agreed to ask Jasmine Foxlee about support from PCS for replacement and repair when incurred.

Moved Warren

Seconded John B.

Action John B

11) **Membership Report** (Warren) ...

Current membership stands at 65 (no increase the June meeting).

The number of other people on our email lists also remains static at 69.

12) **Weed Management** (Warren)

The last 3 months (June to August) have been quiet for weeding, with only seen 58 hours of weeding effort reported, compared with 96 hours in the same three months of the previous season. The reasons for the low numbers include closure of the Reserve for the kangaroo cull, cold weather unsuitable for spraying, as well as the best reason of all, namely that the weed populations were quite low and did not require much effort.

The main effort in this period has been the spraying of Paterson's curse, which started showing signs in June that it was going to be a nuisance again this year and it has received extensive spraying in August.

13) **Native Grass Regeneration Project** (Don)

Nil report. : John B to ask Don Driscoll to continue to provide either written or verbal reports to the Coordinating Committee as fotpin is responsible for the funding for the project. **ACTION: John B.**

14) **Possible funding from Ginninderra Catchment Group** and options for expenditure (John B)

a) See Item 19 (b) above

15) **Revegetation Strategy** (John B)

a) *Belconnen Hills Woodlands Restoration Strategy*

i) fotpin is no longer involved with this strategy as PCS has moved the focus from Belconnen to elsewhere in the Canberra Nature Park.

b) *Plantings*

i) There will be one more planting this season. John B will confirm with PCS and Greening Australia who will augur the holes. **ACTION: John B.**

ii) The Greening Australia plantings in the Top Paddock have died.

iii) The water tank has been moved to the recent lower plantings. John B will ask PCS to refill the water tank. **Action: John B**

16) **Soil and Water Erosion** (includes Assessment Program and works) (Pax)

a) The Coordinating Committee noted that PCS is undertaking maintenance and grading on fire trails in the Pinnacle. Warren B will advise PCS of recognised off-road walking tracks in the reserve.

Action: Warren B.

17) **Rabbit control** (Warren)

a) Fumigation appears to be working quite well. Members who come across new rabbit warrens in the reserve should advise Warren B who will advise PCS.

18) **Kangaroos** (Pax)

a) The kangaroo count on Sunday 25 August was successful with 45 people taking part. The kangaroo count was 660.

19) **Focal Point** (Keith Thomas)

a) The Coordinating Committee thanked Keith Thomas for taking over coordination of this project from Heather Burness.

b) PCS has provided verbal advice that funding for the assessment, let alone the remediation, of the focal point site is well outside PCS' limited budget and it will not go ahead. Other issues include

privacy for the tenants in the house near the shed. John B to request advice in writing re the reasons for not proceeding with the focal point project. ACTION: John B

- c) The purpose of the focal point is to provide shelter, toilets, BBQ facilities, and an educational resource about all aspects of The Pinnacle. The Coordinating Committee discussed alternative sites and facilities. The Committee agreed that the focal point subcommittee would brainstorm and plan for a range of options. ACTION: Keith T to arrange.

20) **Information, outreach and website** (John B)

a) *Newsletter, flyers brochure*

- i) John B has produced a new brochure with Warren B and Beth Thomson (see Convenor's Report)
- ii) John B has produced a DL insert re volunteering for fotpin brochure
- iii) Re Newsletter see

b) *Letterbox drop*

Planned for spring walks.

c) *Guided Walks*

Spring Walks will be conducted by Pax, John B and David Tongway.

d) *School fetes, shopping centre displays etc*

- i) The combined display at Jamieson Shops, 6-8 September was successful, attracting quite a bit of interest from passers-by and strong engagement from fotpin volunteers. It was also a good opportunity to share information with fellow park-carers from other groups.
- ii) The display re volunteering at ANU with the Conservation Council was not well attended, possibly due to the weather.

e) *Noticeboard*

- i) Pax now has the key to the noticeboard.

21) **Website update/priorities** (Warren)

No major changes to the website in the last three months, apart from routine updates of weeding information, etc.

The number of unique visitors in the three months June to Aug 2013 was 592 (compared with 658 for the previous 3 months and 542 for the same months in 2012).

“About The Pinnacle” edged out “Recent Weeding” to be the most accessed page on our site in the last 3 months, probably because of the downturn in weeding activity over winter.

22) **Events (future)**

23) **Other Business**

24) **Agreed date for next Coordinating Committee meeting:** 02 December 2013

Reallocation of Committee members' roles. following AGM 2013

Coordinating Committee Members' roles in leading fotpin activities		
Updated for 2013-2014 Committee membership		
Activity	Coordinating Committee Members responsible	
	<u>lead</u>	<u>backup</u>
Liaison - GCG, MCG, P&C, MLAs		
Liaison – ParkCare and community groups	Convenor	Case by case
Funding applications		
Newsletter, notice board, coordinating letterboxing, posters, flyers	Coordinator and Convenor Noticeboard - Pax Newsletter: Elizabeth	Convenor
Meeting agendas, minutes	Elizabeth	John
Correspondence (including filing), submissions	Elizabeth	Warren
Finances, Membership records and contact details	Treasurer	Pax
Archiving and record keeping	Elizabeth	Warren
Photographic records/collection	Warren	Committee/Convenor
Website	Warren	
Weed management	Pax	Warren
Rabbit management	Warren	Coordinator
Kangaroo management	Pax	Convenor
Erosion management	Coordinator	Warren
Fire management	Don	Pax
Native Grass Restoration Project	Don	Pax
Revegetation	John	Don
Biodiversity surveys, rehabilitation	Convenor	Elizabeth
Schools, Primary, High and College	Pax	Keith
Liaison- First Australians	Keith	Convenor
Guided walks	Convenor	Coordinator
Arts and Culturally related activities	TBC	Convenor

June to August 2013

For a season that's supposed to be quiet, winter has been pretty eventful this year, with a long list of events that included our 3rd AGM, the production of a new Pinnacle brochure, a fond farewell to Heather and Mark, another roo cull that closed the reserve for almost all of July and then a very successful roo count.

Our 3rd AGM was graced by the presence of our guest speaker, Jasmine Foxlee, PCS Parkcare and Volunteer Coordinator, who talked entertainingly about her background, ably assisted by long-time friend, Heather. The AGM outcome was especially pleasing, with three new Coordinating Committee members signing on. Pax, Elizabeth and I were re-appointed in our current roles, while Warren revisits the position of Treasurer vacated by Heather.

It was with great sadness that we learned that Heather and Mark will be moving on later in the year. They have a property down near Bega that they are planning to build on. The farewell party arranged and catered by Pax was a very convivial affair, with about 20 fotpins attending to wish Heather and Mark all the best. Heather and Mark have been key members of fotpin since it was first established, and they will be sorely missed.

Thanks largely to the talent and hard work of our in-house designer Beth Thomson, ably assisted by map-drawing wizard Warren, we now have 3,000 copies of a spiffy new Pinnacle brochure, about half of which have already been snaffled by PCS and Ginninderra Catchment Group (who did pay for it, after all). The brochure was designed to stand us in good stead for many years to come, and will prove very useful as a promotional tool for the reserve.

Despite the efforts of protestors, the annual kangaroo cull in the ACT generally achieved its targets this year. The delay to the start of the cull, due to legal injunctions by the protestors, meant that PCS was forced to completely close the reserve for the duration of the cull, which lasted most of July. Fortunately, this came at a time when our weeding program is largely on hold, so we didn't get too far behind. Less pleasingly, the results of the very successful roo count held in August indicate that roo numbers in the reserve are still well above sustainable levels. Presumably this is due to the very good breeding conditions that have prevailed for the last couple of years. We can only hope that PCS' ongoing kangaroo management program succeeds in getting roo numbers under control in years to come.

Also in August, Warren and I had a very cordial and productive meeting with PCS Ranger Craig Wainwright and Senior Ranger Stephen Wilkes. This was an opportunity for PCS to outline their plans for the coming financial year, including weed spraying, the next round of rabbit eradication and, more disturbingly, the likelihood of a fuel-load reduction burn in the Forest, Hawker, Weetangera and Eastern paddocks this spring. This requires us to urgently do a stock take of any rare or endangered flora in those paddocks so that we can ask for those areas to be excluded. Preparations for this work are already under way.

Weed control is already in full-swing as the warmer weather spurs the weeds along. The Paterson' Curse is flourishing this year, especially in Kama and the North Kama paddocks. The good news is that we are finding very little horehound, and only a few thistles at this point. Only time will tell how the season will develop for other regulars such as St John' Wort and African Lovegrass.

Projects in prospect for the coming spring include our Spring Program of events, a joint Parkcare display with four other local Parkcare groups at Jamison shopping centre, a small spring planting in the woodlands south of the Forest Block and, most recently, the launch of a reptile monitoring project by PCS' Melissa Snape. We're also working with Ginninderra Catchment Group to acquire funding from the Dahl Trust for some interpretive signage, something that the reserve badly needs. As usual, spring is going to be busy.

**Friends of The Pinnacle
Statement of Receipts and Payments
For the period 01-Jul-2013 to 31-Aug-2013**

Opening balance on 01-Jul-2013		\$388.21
Receipts		
Membership donations	\$110.00	\$110.00
Payments		
nil		\$0.00
Surplus of receipts over payments		\$110.00
Closing balance on 31-Aug-2013		\$498.21
Reconciled to:		
"Beyond Bank" Account 03356841	\$229.61	
Petty Cash	\$268.60	\$498.21
Less unrepresented Cheques	\$0.00	\$498.21
Total		\$498.21

Warren Bond
Treasurer
01 Sep 2013