

## Fotpin Coordinating Committee Meeting

3 September 2012, 7.30 pm

The meeting started at 7.40 pm

**In attendance:** Warren Bond, John Brannan, Pax, Elizabeth Smith, and Mat Wolnicki (invited to speak to item 19)

1. **Apologies** – Don Driscoll, Heather Burness
2. **Minutes of the last meeting:** 22 July 2012.
  - a. ACCEPTED; moved John Brannan, seconded Pax.
3. **Outstanding actions** from previous meeting: 22 July 2012
  - a) **Don** has prepared a 4 page report on his project and has circulated it to the Committee a PDF, for comment. Once final, Don will provide the words as text, plus photos, and the PDF formatted version as a design draft to Susan via Pax, to prepare for publication.  
**Done.** NOTED.
  - b) **John Brannan** to follow up publicity for planting day 01 Sept 2012.  
**Done**
  - c) The **incoming CC** will be charged with writing to PCS about putting up notices around reserves, advising that it is illegal to collect firewood in Canberra's Nature Reserves.
    - i) Note. Discussed with Craig Wainwright after the meeting. Subsequent photo op and article in Northside Chronicle with assistance of Mary Porter (see The Canberra Times Chronicle 14\_08\_12, Page 1).  
FOLLOW-UP ACTION: **John B** to email Craig Wainwright re notices in reserves.
  - d) **Outstanding actions from earlier meeting 9 July 2012.** The following actions were referred to the incoming committee for follow-up.
    - i) **Heather** to plan some occasional themed displays on the noticeboard. – Heather's comments provided and **noted**.
    - ii) **All CC members** to contribute information that might be used for these displays
    - iii) **Warren** to investigate using *facebook* and *twitter*  
**Decision:** Facebook, Yes, Twitter. No. **Accepted**
    - iv) **Heather** to get comparative quotes for the printing of 1000 A5 flyers in Black and White and in Colour in preparation for a letterbox drop.  
**Provided**
    - v) **Heather** to coordinate the review and finalizing of the draft OH&S Guidelines.  
**Draft information provided, to be finalised; ACTION CC.**
    - vi) **John** to draw up a plan for seed collection and propagation  
In progress. A life cycle plan is needed. Previous seedlings have been unused to some extent. fotpin CC to consider overall plan to include strategy to pass on seedlings unused by fotpin eg: distribution to GA, fêtes, plantings.  
**FOLLOW UP ACTION John**
    - vii) **Warren/Pax** to remind members leading activities on the Reserve of the need to complete a sign-on form and send the completed form to him in a timely manner for collation.  
**Done**

- viii) **Don** to draft a letter to Minister Corbell thanking the Government for its assistance with burning the plots, and **Pax** to send.  
**Done**
- ix) **Pax** to send a reminder notice along with a formal agenda for the AGM to members.  
**Done**
- x) **Heather** to make inquiries of PCS as to the status of the contaminated site assessment.  
**Done.** NB, funding for assessment provided so far, assessment completion expected by end September. Funding and time for remediation to be confirmed.
- xi) **Heather** to organise dates and the program for Spring Walks by mid-August for the poster to be designed and distributed.  
**Done**
- xii) **Don** to draft a policy position on the appropriateness of grazing in North Kama and circulate it to the Committee.  
**Done and sent to Minister Corbell**

**4. Correspondence** – (Elizabeth) (see [attached](#))  
**Noted**

**5. Convenor's Report** (John) (see [attached.](#))  
**Noted**

**6. Coordinator's Report** (Pax)  
August has been a particularly busy month with major activities every weekend as well as usual scheduled activities.  
**Noted**

**7. Treasurer's Report** (Heather) (see [attached](#))  
**Accepted:** moved Warren, seconded Pax

**8. Membership Report** (Warren)  
Current membership: 57 (no change since July meeting)  
Other interested people on email lists: 50 (1 addition since July meeting)  
**Noted**

## **Programs**

**9. Weed Management** (Warren)  
fotpin has started spraying Patterson's Curse, after a slow winter. A lot of effort has gone into de-hipping briar roses in Bottom Pinnacle recently. There is a lot of saffron thistle in North Kama to be dealt with  
**Noted.**

**10. Native Grass Regeneration Project** (Don)  
Report [attached](#). **Noted**

**11. Biodiversity Monitoring Project** (John)  
John B and Elizabeth attended the Molonglo Catchment Group (MCG) Biodiversity Monitory Workshop follow-up 27-08-2012, which offered useful insights into the progress and challenges of all involved groups. fotpin appears to be progressing well.

## 12. Revegetation Strategy (John)

- a. There hasn't been a great deal of progress on this project. An area in North Kama has been fenced (near the underpass), but some of it is reserved for grazing. Half is expected to be planted next year.

**Noted:** the non-grazing area may be sprayed for Saffron Thistle and Paterson's Curse, subject to confirmation by Parks and City Services (PCS).

- b. The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) has expressed interest in taking part in a planting day in collaboration with fotpin, as part of their corporate environmental responsibility program. Likely to be a weekday, their preferred timing is November which doesn't provide much lead time (May be postponed).

**ACTION:** **John B** to respond to ABS.

## 13. Soil and Water Erosion (includes Assessment Program and works) (Pax):

- a. David T and Scott Wilkinson have surveyed drainage lines in the Bottom Pinnacle.

**Noted**

- b. Coir logs tend to be eaten by kangaroos and need protection as soon as convenient.

**Noted**

**ACTION:** **Pax** to assess status of coir logs, to plan brush moving and installation.

## 14. Rabbit control (Pax)

The fotpin survey is moving to completion. PCS has begun implementing the fumigation.

## 15. Kangaroos (Pax)

The Committee congratulated Pax for his sterling work in organizing people to take part in the successful kangaroo count, despite several false starts out of his control.

## 16. Focal Point (Heather)

PCS has found the finances to complete a Contaminated Site Assessment. We have been advised by Shelley Swain that it should be finished by end September. Heather will be contacting her again this month to follow up. Meanwhile the shed group have had a quiet time due to limited time capacities for some members this past 2 months, and uncertainty about funding for .site assessment and remediation. Things will again mobilize with a visit to Mulligan's Woolshed to be arranged.

**Noted**

## 17. ACT Bushfire Management Plan (Presentation 16 Aug 2012) (John)

Those attending were generally disappointed with the approach of PCS and the Fire Management Unit (FMU), in particular their failure to share the burn plans with Parkcare groups and to acknowledge the useful input that Parkcare groups can have to identifying assets for protection. Earlier discussion. with Neil Cooper had provided a commitment to ecological asset inclusion. Nesting sites for endangered birds and forb regeneration could be provided to PC&S for inclusion in the burn plan.

**Noted**

**ACTION:** **John** to follow up with KellyBehrens of the Ginninderra Catchment Group (GCG).

## 18. Belconnen Hills Woodlands Strategy (John)

John provided a brief report.

**Noted:** It is expected that there will be another Greening Australia planting next year.

**ACTION:** **John** to email Minister Corbell thanking him for taking part in the planting day on 01-09-12, and for his support for the Woodland Strategy.

## 19. International Student Volunteers (ISV): Community led conservation in the ACT.

Member Mat Wolnicki had previously circulated to the Committee a proposal relating to the above. [NB: This item was dealt with at the beginning of the meeting so that Mat could leave]

- a. Mat's detailed proposal was **noted**.
  - i. Volunteers would be university students studying in relevant fields such as ecology and the environment, and could contribute ideas and skills as well as physical effort. Volunteers would be English-speaking (mainly from USA and Canada).
  - ii. The message would be community conservation: what is it, in the ACT.
  - iii. Mat is proposing to take a week off work to assist with coordinating/supervising the work program.
  - iv. **Noted** There is a local supervisor/coordinator 24/7, so fotpins do not need to take on the supervisory role, except for specific work projects.
  - v. **Noted** Timing would probably be in mid – end May 2013 as best suited to fotpin's seasonal schedule. Numbers of volunteers could be 8-14 and probably about 10.
  - vi. Volunteers are funded and provided with an allowance – fotpin would not be expected to pay for this activity except in time, coordination and expertise.
  - vii. **Noted:** the first day is orientation and the last day is debriefing. Fotpin would host the group for a total of 8 days. While the volunteers will have a two-day weekend off this can be flexible, allowing for work on a weekend if needed.
  - viii. **Action:** **Mat** will confirm what if any contractual obligations are involved for fotpin, and will provide a half page summary of the proposed project to circulate to fotpin members and others for expressions of interest in participation.
- b. In addition to the possible activities outlined in Mat's example program, the committee's suggestions included:
  - i. Rabbit warren mapping
  - ii. Focal point help (nb timing uncertain)
  - iii. Greening Australia sponsored plantings
  - iv. Weed chipping
  - v. Setting out (not monitoring) the next Biodiversity monitoring project at the Pinnacle  
**ACTION:** **Elizabeth/ John** to discuss engagement through MCG Biomonitoring Group and whether Sarah Sharp or other could be involved.
  - vi. Visit to Mulligan's Flat (nb, transport?).
  - vii. Possibility of working in other reserves.
- c. **Noted:** ISV will need an expression of interest as soon as possible, and a firm proposal by November or earlier if possible. **ACTION:** **CC** to discuss and decide in principle asap.
- d. **Noted:** The Australian ISV coordinator is expected to visit fotpin by the end of the year.
- e. **ACTIONS:**  
**John** to
  - i. check interest with other Park Care groups, and Ginninderra Catchment Group (query, contact Molonglo Catchment Group?), Belconnen Hills Groups in particular, Greening Australia.
  - ii. confirm agreement with P&CS (Craig Wainwright).

## 20. Reviewing and allocating CC responsibilities as shown in the table on the governance page of the fotpin website (Pax) Refer <http://www.fotpin.org.au/governance.html>

**ACTION:** **CC** To consider and confirm out of session.

## 21. Information, outreach and website (Heather)

### i. Newsletter

It was agreed that there should be a Convenor's update as soon as possible, more importantly than a Newsletter. **ACTION:** **John**

ii. *Letterbox drop, flyers*

After extensive discussion it was decided to proceed with a simple black on white 1/3rd A4 size flyer that can be cheaply produced by CC members using fotpin paper. It was decided that the flyer should be 1/3rd A4 size, have a generic design on one side and a topical message on the other.

It was also decided to hold a sausage sizzle on the Reserve on October 14th, and use the reverse side of the first batch of flyers to promote it.

**ACTION: Pax**

iii. *Guided Walks*

Report [attached](#)

The Spring Program is finalized and has been advertised by posters across the reserve. Thanks go to Sue Cox for her design skills and time. The posters will go up at Hawker and Kippax shops this week.

It has also been advertised on line on our website, the MCG website and some have been advertised on the GCG website.

This week it will also be advertised to Radio Landcare.

iv. *School fetes, shopping centre displays*

Fotpin will play a minimal part in the next Jamison Centre display, providing brochures etc, only.

v. *Noticeboard*

Report [attached](#).

**Action. CC** to further consider proposal for a noticeboard at Dungowan St entrance and at the Boundary of Eastern and Weetangera Paddocks.

vi. *Website update/priorities (Warren)*

Warren reported that there had been no major changes since the last meeting, but continual updates of content. The number of unique visits in July and August was 698 (622 in these months in 2011). He also tabled the list of items that visitors had used the search engine to look for.

**Noted.**

**22. Briefing on Secretariat duties (Heather, Elizabeth)**

**ACTION: CC** to provide advice on Secretary's duties out of session.

Heather's advice **noted** with thanks.

**23. Other Business**

**24. Date of next meeting –to be confirmed.**

**Meeting ended: 9.30 pm**

## **Attachments to agenda: meeting #2012-13, 01: 03 Sept 2012**

### ***Refer Item 4 Correspondence***

#### *Selected Items .*

- a. 12-08-06 Fwd re Solar, cattle etc.txt
- b. 12-08-06 Fwd Spicer's grant available now.txt
- c. 2012-07-12 Contaminated site at Nth Kama woolshed.txt
- d. 2012-08-17 Corbell MR EP Act review.txt
- e. 2012-208-09 African lovegrass workshop Oct... txt
- f. 20120729 C M Abenegoa Solar Faram EPBC Act...COG.txt
- g. 20120831...Chief Min Cattle NK.pdf
- h. Namadgi Study trip Oct 2012.txt
- i. To Corbell on cattle grazing in NK – final.txt

### ***Refer item 5. Convenor's Report***

#### **Convenor's Report July to September 2012**

It's hard to believe it's only been a couple of months since the AGM – so much has happened that it seems like years! Before I accepted the nomination as Convenor, Pax assured me that "the role of Convenor is what you make it – do as little or as much as you like!". I seem to have spent most of my time since then trying to stay on top of an ever-increasing workload, sticking more and more of my fingers into an increasingly leaky dam (Pax standing at the top, shouting directions). Doubtless I'll get better at this in time.

But we've achieved a lot – joining our voice to others in opposing the woefully located Abengoa solar farm proposal, the erosion control work with David Tongway in the Bottom Pinnacle, the meeting with Parks and the FMU to discuss the BOP and fuel reduction burns, our second roo count, a front-page article on vandalism in the Northside Chronicle, the first of the Woodland Restoration Project plantings in the Bottom Pinnacle – 450 plants in the ground and a visit by Minister Corbell into the bargain, rabbit warren surveying, and an early start to weed spraying for the year with Paterson's Curse already posing problems. And in the background the weekly weeding teams continue their good work and Warren beavers away on the website, making our portal to the world even more impressive, Heather has flexed her organizational muscles putting together the Spring Walks program, and Don's project continues to generate interesting outcomes.

Coming months will see us swing into full-on weed-spraying mode as the weather warms up, there's another planting in the offing (perhaps), more erosion control work to be completed, the Spring Walks to look forward to and another round of surveying on Don's plots. I remain optimistic that the dialogue with the FMU initiated by Kelly at the BOP presentation will continue and yield positive outcomes, and our outreach activities are also expanding with an flyer and BBQ planned.

So much to look forward to, and so few fingers...

John Brannan

## Refer Item 7 Treasurer's Report

### Friends of The Pinnacle Statement of Receipts and Payments

For the period 01-Jul-2012 to 31-August-2012

<b>Opening balance on 01-Jul-2012</b>	<b>\$412.08</b>
<b>Receipts</b>	
Donations	10.00
<b>Payments</b>	
MCG Membership Sub Ch # 000006	25.00
(Surplus of receipts over payments)	-15.00)
<b>Closing balance on 31-August-2012</b>	<b>\$397.08</b>

#### Reconciled to:

CPS Account 03356841 at 31 August	283.48
Plus Petty Cash	138.60
Less unrepresented Cheques	25.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$397.08</b>

Heather Burness, Treasurer, Fotpin Committee, 2012

### **Refer item 10. Report for Grass Experiment –Don Driscoll**

Sue Cox completed the layout for the flyer that describes the results from the grass experiment surveys in 2011. The report will be launched at a presentation for volunteers from SEWPaC on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> September at the SEWPaC offices in Allara Street. After that it will be made available through the web site. I will organise a print run and some pamphlet distribution boxes. The boxes will be located at two of the experimental fences, and the general public will be able to take copies of the pamphlets.

“The timing of plant surveys for 2012 will be finalised during September, and sign up forms made available through the web and email, as they were last year.

“I have made enquiries at Fenner about pre-paying for soils analyses, but progressing this requires a body of emails and personal visits before our lab officer becomes motivated to act on requests. This job needs to be completed before the end of this year.

### **Refer Item 21 (iii) *Spring Program* (Heather)**

The Spring Program is finalized and has been advertised by posters across the reserve. Thanks go to Sue Cox for her design skills and time. The posters will go up at Hawker and Kippax shops this week.

It has also been advertised on line on our website, the MCG website and some have been advertised on the GCG website.

The GCG website is limited in upload information. ( not for the minutes- See Warren for details of that one as he has the log in on that site)

This week it will also be advertised to Radio Landcare.

Walks are:

*Drawn from Nature: a walk for children and their creative talents in field ...drawing and seeing with John, Don and Heather. Booked only with limited numbers.*

*Wildflowers at the Pinnacle Nature Reserve..two walks with Rosemary*

*Birds@the Pinnacle with John*

*A Greater Walk: Across the Molonglo Valley with Pax also booked.*

### **Refer Item 21 (v) Noticeboard (Heather)**

I suggest our first approach is a pictorial on our latest efforts.

*What we have been doing.*

Pictures from our coir log installation and Spring planting days. Needs only A4 photos which I can print. I just need the photos if anyone has some.