



Coordinating Committee Meeting

Monday 5th March, 2018 7-30 pm

Minutes

Present: John Brannan (Chair), Warren Bond, Denise Hall, Keith Thomas, Alana Wilkes.

Meeting opened at 1940 and all were warmly welcomed by John. Thanks were expressed for the delicious slice provided by Alana, beverages by Mike Hall. Alana also indicated she would need to leave at 8:30pm to look after her daughter.

1. **Apologies** – No apologies were received.
2. **Minutes of the Last Meeting / Business Arising**

It was moved by John and seconded by Warren, that the Minutes of the FOTPIN CC meeting held 4th December 2017 be accepted as a true and fair record of that meeting. **CARRIED**

Actions arising:

010916/Item 13 Restoration Plan (John)

No further action since the last CC meeting.

Action: Ongoing.

051216/Item 10 Revegetation –

There are some trees (10) that can be planted and John is seeing if they can be used to replace deceased eucalypts. John will arrange a small working bee to do this.

Action: John - Ongoing

051216/Item 11 (e) Ideas for consideration: -

- i. Social Media: Denise has added some photos of recent walks onto the test Facebook presence – more work to be done. It is being set up as a Group Page open to only invited people.

Action: Margo and Denise.

- ii. Member Survey: No action to date.

Action: Warren and Margo to draft a survey to determine members' communication preferences. Ongoing.

- iii. Student involvement: Nothing from Belconnen High School and John to follow up with them No action to date

Action: John

060317/Item 11 (c) Interpretive signage: -

Despite following up Lois Padgham, Mary Gleeson, and Linda Roberts, there has been no action or interest being shown by PCS and ACT Government contacts. It would appear that everything is now on hold until a landscape classification is completed. There is no date for this and so not much can happen here.

Approaching sponsors regarding suitable signage is not suitable at the moment also.

Action: Keith to continue to liaise with whomever about signage.

060317/Item 14 (b) FOMP – Belconnen Hills Strategy

John still talking to Sarah (of FOMP) and whole question is waiting for decisions from PCS at present. No real progress from last meeting.

Action: John - ongoing

050617/Item 14 (b) ACT Heritage Grant

John received a grant for \$1,000 on behalf of FOTPIN. This is being used to fund an Aboriginal heritage walk on 22nd April, 2018

Action: John – Closed.

180917/Item 6 (b) Treasurer's Report

Action: Account signatories to be updated. **Warren** to arrange. - **ongoing**

180917/Item 11 Information and Outreach

Action: Publicity materials to be updated for the Hawker PS fete on 25th March. **John** is dealing with this. – **ongoing**.

3. Correspondence in and out / Business arising (Keith) ([Attachment A](#)).

The report was noted.

A question was raised about FOTPIN's involvement with the organisation of kangaroo counts. It was considered that this is now being done by PCS and FOTPIN needs to step back from active involvement in its organisation. FOTPIN will now just advertise that a count is occurring and inform PCS of this decision.

ACTION: John to inform PCS of this decision.

4. Convenor's Report (John) ([Attachment B](#))

Report was circulated via e-mail and noted by the meeting. The additional article on the Butterfly Walk was considered to be excellent by the meeting. It will be posted on the website and probably on the Facebook page.

- a. The Heritage Grant of \$1,000 is being used for the Aboriginal heritage walk on 22nd April. \$800 is to cover Wally's fees and \$50 is allocated for the design of posters or other promotional materials. An invoice for the latter activity needs to be raised with FOTPIN to account for this work. John will also organize to have full-colour A3 promotional posters printed and laminated, along with some A4 posters to hand out at the Hawker Primary fete.

ACTION: Margo to raise this invoice.

John to arrange for a local printer to print and laminate posters.

- b. The Landcare Australia Corporate Activity day on Thursday 22nd March, 2018 (as indicated by Fiona Spiers) was discussed. A team of corporate volunteers within Landcare Australia are available to do something on the Pinnacle. It was decided that tree guards can be cleared out from Bottom Pinnacle.

ACTION: John to inform Fiona of this possible activity for the Landcare Australia volunteers to do.

5. Coordinator's Report (Warren)

Warren reported verbally that apart from coordinating the spraying of St. John's Wort there had been little activity. Noted.

6. Treasurer's Report (Margo) ([Attachment C](#))

Margo circulated a Treasurer's report via e-mail and this was noted. No decisions were required.

John handed Margo \$29 in cash - \$15 as a donation from Andria Kannane and \$14 as proceeds of brochure sales at the display at the Jamison Centre in September, 2017.

ACTION: Margo to provide a receipt to Andria for \$15.

7. Membership Report (Warren)

Warren reported that our current membership remained at 89, while the net number of other people who have requested to be on our email list increased to 127, bringing the combined total to 216.

8. Weed Management (Warren)

Warren reported that the effort spent on weed control in the three months December to February was 275 hours, 20% less than last year because of the reduced availability of regular weeders. More than 50% of the effort was spent spraying St. John's Wort.

Recent heavy rain has had some influence on weed growth, but mainly in depressions and flatter land because the slopes shed most of the intense rain without it penetrating the soil.

ACTION: John and Warren to encourage more spraying volunteers.

9. Website (Warren)

Warren reported that there were only minor changes and additions (as documented on the [website updates](#) page) in the last 3 months.

The number of unique visitors to the website per month dropped substantially to 112, the lowest value since 2011 and substantially less than the peak of 377 in 2015. The most popular pages in this period were "Recent Weeding" followed by the ever popular "About the Pinnacle" page and walking related pages.

10. Information and outreach (All)

- a. **Social Media** is the focus of this area at the moment.

ACTION: Denise is to look at Facebook sites of other Parkcare Groups

- b. **Hawker Primary School fete** – 25th March 6, 2018 – rosters look healthy and good participation by members.

ACTION: John to pull out display material and see what can be distributed and whether anything needs to be updated.

11. Other Business

- a. **ACT Government Inquiry**

FOTPIN members were encouraged to participate in a Government inquiry into the natural environment for an urbanized Canberra. Rosemary Blemings circulated an e-mail to all Parkcare volunteers, to make a submission to the ACT Government regarding the passive use of Nature Park Reserves. The question here is, are they to remain for passive recreation and conservation or be used in a more active way for recreation.

ACTION: John to send members of the CC the link circulated by Rosemary.

12. Proposed date and place for next meeting

The next meeting will be held on 7th May, 2018 starting at 1930 (7:30pm).

Meeting closed at 2125.

Attachment A. Summary of Major Items of Correspondence between since December meeting**Major items of correspondence – emails only**

Date	Sender	Topic	Summary content
8 th Dec 2017	Michelle Nairn	New Ranger for Pinnacle	Introducing herself to John Brannan as the new Ranger for the PNR
8 th Dec	Reuben Robinson to John Brannan	Draft Landscape Plan	For comment
9 th Dec	John Brannan to Phillip Selmes	New Perspex	Regarding request to replace disfigures Perspex in noticeboards
10 th Dec	Keith Thomas to Linda Roberts	Heritage signage	Follow up on meeting held on 7 th Dec on this topic.
13 th Dec and various other dates	Between John Brannan and Philip Selmes	FotPin Trial of fluoropanate	Details on participating in a trial.
	John Brannan to Michelle Nairn	Slashing	Informing Michelle of slashing being done
14 th Dec	John Brannan to Simon Stratford	Pinnacle Water Main	Responding to a report that the project is about to be signed off.
8 th Jan 2018 and various dates	Between John Brannan and Alison McLeod	Chemical Application update	Discussing status of “low-risk herbicide application” issue
19 th Jan and various dates	Between John Brannan and Michelle Nairn	A couple of requests	Lock on gate and carpark upgrade
20 th Jan and various dates	Between Warren Bond, Michelle Nairn and Simon Stratford	African Lovegrass risk from Springvale Drive Road verge	Raising awareness of the out of control spread of African Lovegrass and requesting feedback on what is happening with spraying it.
1 st Feb and various dates	Between Leigh Crocker and John Brannan	Pipeline update	Progress report on pipeline project
1 st Feb and various dates	Between Katherine Jenkins and John Brannan	Kangaroo count dates	Outlined dates for a number of reserves – Pinnacle on Tuesday 29 th March – got changed to 18 th March
7 th Feb	Linda Roberts to Keith Thomas	Heritage signage	PVS has put a hold on all non-essential signs in all reserves for at least a further 6-12 months.
7 th Feb and various	Keith Thomas to Committee	Heritage Signage	Proposal to go it alone

13 th Feb	Between John Brannan and Philip Selmes and some members	Parkcare meeting followup	Issues on environmental burn schedule
21 st Feb	Suze Carr and John Brannan	Hawker Primary School Fete	Invitation to have a stand at the fete on 25th March
26 th Feb	John Brannan to Ann Milligan	'Roo count	Details of this year's count on 18 th March
26 th Feb	John Brannan to Mary Gleeson	Heritage Grant progress activities	Provided a progress report and list of walks organised in the Pinnacle area

Attachment B. Convenor's Report

Convenor's Report

March 2018

I was thinking the other day that this has been a fairly unusual Summer in terms of the weather, but I'm not sure what constitutes a "normal" Summer any longer. At any rate, we can be grateful that we've now had some decent rain, albeit following a long hot and dry spell that slowed weed growth down considerably. One consequence of the 2017-18 Spring-Summer rainfall pattern is that the native grasses at the reserve have done exceptionally well due to the lack of early rain, which put the brakes on the growth of exotic grasses and left the way open for the later native grasses. This should help to build up the seed bank for future years.

1. Weeding

Events conspired to reduce our weed spraying capacity to the bare minimum this year. As a result, much of the St Johns Wort was very late in getting sprayed and our first pass was not completed until a few weeks ago. The second pass is now under way, and thankfully, the dry weather last month has limited the amount of new growth to be treated. The weekly weeding teams are doing excellent work and I am continually being congratulated by visitors to the reserve on the excellent condition it is in.

2. PCS Coordinator's Meeting

The first PCS Coordinators' meeting for 2018 was held on February 8th at the Stromlo depot, as usual. The key points are as follows:

- Hazard reduction burn — There has been a burn scheduled for the Pinnacle for the last couple of seasons. The burn number is FB370 and it affects the Weetangera and Eastern paddocks. The firies plan to do the burns this Autumn, possibly as soon as the next couple of weeks, as soon as the conditions are suitable. I noticed the other day that some more work has been done clearing the ground around mature trees, so the rain we had recently may have brought moisture levels up into the right range for burning. As and when it does happen, we'll probably get no more than a day or two's notice. The Bushfire Operations Plan (BOP) is downloadable as a Word document or PDF file here: http://www.environment.act.gov.au/ACT-parks-conservation/bushfire_management/fuel_management/bushfire-operations-plan
The relevant map for the Pinnacle is map 6 (BOP-2016-17-Map-6).
- Roo culls — The culls will take place this year sometime between March 1 and July 31, though at this stage it's not clear exactly when the reserves will be closed or whether there will actually be a cull at the Pinnacle.
- Landscape Classification System — This is a new system PCS have adopted for evaluating how landscapes are used and the "naturalness" of those landscapes. Areas are ranked on a scale from 1-9, with 1 being complete wilderness and 9 being the urban environment. Most reserves, including ours, are probably around a 5 or 6. Detailed assessments of all Canberra's reserve will happen in the coming year, and ParkCare/Landcare groups will be asked to help with the process. All signage within reserves is on hold until these assessments have been completed.

3. Butterfly Walk

As you know, we had our first ever Butterfly Walk at the Pinnacle last month, led by local butterfly expert and all-round naturalist Suzi Bond. The walk was hugely successful with a total of 38 people attending, much to Suzi's astonishment, and a write-up (with photos) has been put together by a group of the people who attended. (See separate attachment.)

4. Upcoming Events

- **Kangaroo count**

This year's kangaroo count will be held on Sunday March 18th. PCS initially scheduled the count for Thursday the 22nd, but agree to change the date once I pointed out that getting sufficient volunteers for a mid-week date might be difficult. PCS are also keen for people to sign up using the ParkCare Hub, but are willing -- this year at least -- for people to turn up on the day and sign up in the usual way. A number of people have already contacted me and we currently have about a dozen people signed up, including those who have used the Hub. I'll send out another call for volunteers in the coming week.

- **Hawker Primary School Fete -- Sunday March 25th**

The school contacted me a few weeks ago to ask whether we'd be willing to run a stall at the fete again this year. I replied in the positive and my call for volunteers has already filled pretty much all the slots on the day. I've arranged for some display boards to be set aside, and I'll pick those up beforehand and deliver them to the school on the Sunday morning, along with the display materials. My thanks to everyone who has agreed to help out.

5. Autumn Walks

This Autumn we have two walks planned: the Aboriginal Heritage Walk led by local Ngunawal elder Wally Bell on April 22nd and the Tree Week Bird Walk on May 6th. I asked for people to contact me to sign up for both walks, and I currently have 20 people registered for Wally's walk and 10 people for the bird walk. I conferred with Wally about numbers last month and we agreed to cap attendance on his walk at 25, so anyone who's interested and hasn't yet signed up should probably get onto it pronto. Just email me at convenor@fotpin.org.au or call me on 0405 331 405. I suspect a number of people will just show up on the day, so it's likely to be a busy morning.

As you know, funding for the walk comes through a grant from the ACT Government's Heritage Grants program, and I submitted the required progress report at the end of last month. The \$1,000 we received under the grant is divided into \$800 for Wally's fees (for two walks), with an additional \$200 to cover marketing, design and stationery/printing costs. I'll be visiting a local printer shortly to request some full-colour A3 prints of our current poster for the Autumn Walks Program.

Please note that Beth and I are heading off to Japan for a couple of months later this year. We leave on May 22nd and will be returning on July 27th, so I will not be around for the June CC meeting. I'll be working as usual from June 8th onwards, when we'll be based in Kyoto, and will be available via email throughout the trip, so I can participate at a distance. If we schedule the AGM for July 29th, then I should be able to attend, but somebody else may have to arrange things with Weetangera Primary beforehand so we can use their staff room as the venue again.

Cheers,

John

5 March 2018

Attachment C. Treasurer's Report**Statement of Receipts and Payments
for the period 01-Jul-2017 to 05-Mar-2018**

Opening balance on 01-Jul-2017		\$2,101.11
Receipts		
Membership and donations	\$265.00	
Interest	\$0.10	
	<u>\$265.10</u>	
Payments		
nil	\$0.00	
	<u>\$0.00</u>	
Surplus of receipts over payments		<u>\$265.10</u>
Closing balance on 05-Mar-2018		<u><u>\$2366.21</u></u>
Reconciled to:		
"Beyond Bank" Account 03356841	\$2149.96	
Petty Cash	\$216.25	
		<u>\$2,366.21</u>
Less unrepresented Cheques	\$0.00	
Total		<u><u>\$2,366.21</u></u>

Notes:

1. Funds to the value of \$241-78 (at 30 June 2016) are also held by The Ginninderra Catchment Group for general use by fotpin.
2. Ginninderra Catchment Authority holds and administers in fotpin's name residual funds from the Commonwealth Caring for Country Grant and the Labor Club Grant (both for the Native Grass Regeneration Project) and Spicers (for the 2011 tree planting project).

Margo Hellyer
Treasurer
05 Mar 2018