



## Coordinating Committee Meeting

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March, 2017 7-30 pm

### Minutes

**Present:** John Brannan, Warren Bond, Denise Hall, Margo Hellyer, Keith Thomas.

**Meeting opened** at 7:35pm

1. **Apologies** – none received
2. **Minutes of the Last Meeting / Business Arising**

The Minutes of the FOTPIN CC meeting held 5<sup>th</sup> December, 2016 were accepted as a true and fair record of that meeting.

#### **Actions**

#### **010916/Item 11 (c) Information and outreach – Interpretive signage (Keith)**

**Action:** Document updated and discussed with Lois Padgham and Jasmine Foxlee on 21<sup>st</sup> Feb, 2017. See agenda item 11 (c) for further details.

**Action closed.**

#### **010916/Item 13 Restoration Plan (John)**

**Action:** Site not visited but Ken Hodgkinson still interested in meeting.

**Ongoing - John**

#### **051216/Item 4 (a) Convenor's report to be updated and publicised on webpage (John/Warren)**

**Completed - action closed**

#### **051216/Item 4 (b) John will add more about the PCS Planning Meeting held in September.**

**Completed - action closed**

#### **051216/Item 6 (a) Treasurer's report – Additional income from sale of leaflets (\$62) added.**

**Completed - action closed**

#### **051216/Item 6 (b) Reimbursement for out of pocket expenses to Warren (Denise)**

**Completed – action closed**

#### **051216/Item 10 Revegetation – Proposal still being considered, but, due to unseasonal hot weather, was deferred to Spring.**

**Ongoing - John**

#### **051216/Item 11 (c) Interpretative signage – circulate document and arrange for discussions with PCS early in 2017**

**Completed – action closed**

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

- More regular updates and newsletters (**Margo**)

**Status:** Articles written but not published.

**Action:** Margo to follow up with Elizabeth Smith.

- Involvement of students and other people in some FOTPIN activities (**John**)

**Action:** No action to date; ongoing (**John**)

**051216/Item 12 Pinnacle Extension – Warren** arranging a meeting with Nina Bruns (Senior Ranger, Offsets) about the management of the offset area.

**Action – Meeting with Nina Bruns for 7<sup>th</sup> March.**

**3. Correspondence in and out / Business arising ([attachment A](#))**

All relevant correspondence was circulated to members via e-mail and a summary table provided with the agenda.

Correspondence report noted.

Main discussion was centred around the amount of effort undertaken by FOTPIN as seen in the Parkcare Statistics – well above all other groups except Friends of Mt Majura. It was considered that due recognition should be given to the efforts of FOTPIN members in the form of higher priorities in some PCS considerations (e.g. Interpretive Signage). **Keith** to follow up with Lois Padgham to (subtly) request a higher priority in providing signs on the Pinnacle.

**4. Convenor's Report ([attachment B](#))**

A couple more items were added verbally by John:

- a. There is a quick spray unit available at the Southern ACT Catchment Group. Bookings via Phil Selmes if required;
- b. PCS offering courses as supplements to ChemCert courses

**Report noted and will be used as an update on the Website.**

**5. Coordinator's Report**

Warren reported that weed control was the main activity for the Coordinator in the last 3 months.  
**Noted**

**6. Treasurer's Report / Business arising**

Report circulated by hand ([attachment C](#)) was received and accepted.

**7. Membership Report**

Warren reported that our current membership increased by 1 since the last meeting to a total of 84 and the number of other people who have requested to be on our email remained at 115.  
**Noted.**

**8. Weed Management**

Warren reported that the effort spent on weed control in the last three months was 346 hours, about 75% of the total for this period last season reflecting the absence of Pax's contribution. Of this effort, 95% was spent on the Reserve and was only 6 hours less than the effort spent on the Reserve for this period last season. 70% of the effort was spent on St. John's Wort, Saffron Thistles, Verbascum and Briars, with a further 20% spent on miscellaneous Broadleaf weeds.  
**Noted**

**9. Website**

Warren reported that the addition of the "[Extension Walk 2016](#)" to the photo gallery was the main update to the website in the last 3 months; other minor changes are documented on the [website updates](#) page.

The number of unique visitors to the website in the last 3 months continued the decline shown in previous periods. The most popular pages in this period were the "About the Pinnacle" page and walking related pages.

**Noted**

**10. Revegetation**

Nothing to report, and no action due to hot weather.

## 11. Information and outreach

- a. Clean up the Pinnacle Day and BBQ (John)
  - i. Considered worthwhile doing but better to combine both with another smaller activity (e.g. localized bird walk).
  - ii. Better to run this in Spring – **All to consider it in more detail and finalize a date via email**
- b. Autumn Events Program report (John). Likely events are as follows:
  - i. Kangaroo count – late May – to be confirmed - **John to contact Mel Snape and/or Claire Wimpenny about this.**
  - ii. Hawker PS fete – 2<sup>nd</sup> April - **All**
  - iii. Bird walk – early May - **John**
  - iv. Include school holiday and Easter dates in Minutes – **Keith** – they are: -  
Term 1 school holidays start 8<sup>th</sup> April and finish on 25<sup>th</sup> April  
Easter runs from Friday 14<sup>th</sup> April to Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April
- c. Interpretative signage progress report (Keith)
  - i. Keith to continue discussions with Lois Padgham.
- d. Volunteering activities – invitations by other groups to be involved (John/Warren/Keith)
  - i. Following discussion the policy was agreed as follows:
    - Email traffic to members should be kept to a minimum;
    - FOTPIN activities have first priority;
    - Quite a number of members are on multiple mailing lists; and
    - Invitation to assist should be noted and listed in correspondence report of CC meetings.

## 12. Pinnacle Extension

- Warren has arranged a meeting with Nina Bruns (Senior Ranger, Offsets) about the management of the offset area for Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March.
- Early season weed control was left to PCS, with fotpin recently treating Verbascum, Briars and Spear Thistles.

## 13. Whitlam Pipeline:

Covered in Convenor's Report to the meeting. **John to draft something to go out to the membership during April.**

## 14. Other Business

- MCG Membership
  - A reminder to pay overdue membership dues to the Molonglo Catchment Group was received;
  - As fotpin has negligible involvement with this Group, it was decided not to continue our membership.
- Friends of Mt Painter – Belconnen Hills Strategy development
  - The concept of a coordinated approach to revegetation in the Belconnen Hills reserves by Friends of Aranda Bushland/Mount Painter/the Pinnacle has been raised by Sarah Hnatiuk (FoMP)

- The CC warmly received this concept;
- **John to continue discussion with FOMP and Margo interested in being involved.**
- Hawker Primary School fete – 2<sup>nd</sup> April – call for volunteers to be involved to be made **(John)**
  - **John to review current artwork and update**
- The 25<sup>th</sup> ParkCare Anniversary Seat is now ready for delivery and fotpin has been asked to identify a suitable location for it
  - Some ideas were discussed at the meeting and these included: -
  - Summit of Pinnacle;
  - SE corner of Weetangera paddock;
  - Intersection of Limestone and Valley Track;
  - Half way up Mac Track on side of hill
  - **Warren to put together a map for distribution to members for their input and link to map on website.**
- Fotpin has been notified of the next Chemcert training opportunity– **Warren to coordinate**

#### **15. Proposed date for next meeting**

The next meeting will be held at 7.30pm on 5<sup>th</sup> June, provisionally at Margo Hellyer's home.

**Meeting closed** at 9.40 pm.

**Attachment A. Summary of Major Items of Correspondence between since December 5th meeting**

<b>Date (2016)</b>	<b>Sender</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Action items</b>
06/09	Greening Australia	The Leaf September edition	Publications for circulation
06/10		The Leaf – October edition	Publications for circulation
14/09	Nic Mikhailovich, PCS	Eucalyptus Melliodora planting	In response to a planting suggestion from John
17/11		Spray contractors	Area in Pinnacle being sprayed for Grassy Weeds from 18 <sup>th</sup> Nov.
06/09	Bodhana Szydlak, LDA	Plan for the final alignment of the watermain from the water tanks in Springvale Drive to the new suburb of Whitlam	For information and feedback in response to input from FOTPIN
06/10	Phillip Selmes, PCS	Invitation to threatened species recovery hub showcase – 17 <sup>th</sup> Oct, 16	Attend if interested
06/10	Karissa Preuss, GCG	Invitation to help with citizen science project restoring grasslands	For information and involvement if interested
16/09		GCG General Meeting supporting papers and election platform	For information
10/10		GCG General Meeting outcomes	For information
03/10	Anka Hoefler	Frogwatch Census update	For information
02/03/17	Lois Padgham	Interpretive Signs	Added some comments to notes of meeting – ongoing activity
03/03/17	Alison McLeod	Parkcare Statistics	Alison updated her figures with those provided by John.
05/03/17	John Brannan	Hawker PS fete	Requesting volunteers for stand – 2 <sup>nd</sup> April
05/03/17	John Brannan	FOMP questions about planting from FOMP	Refer agenda item 14
05/03/17	Karissa Preuss	National Park Feasibility Reference Group	Noted
06/03/17	Alison McLeod	Convenor's meeting outcomes	Noted

## **Attachment B. Convenor's Report**

Well, after months of above-average rain, it seems like Nature is redressing the balance, giving us a combination of scorching heat and very low rainfall, turning the once-green paddocks at the reserve into expanses of straw-coloured flattened-down grass. This is quite a contrast with last year, when we had torrential rain in January. While this is torment for gardeners like me, it's been good news on the weeding front as many weeds have simply stopped growing and we can all relax a bit. However, there's still been lots going on and plenty of Autumn events to prepare for.

### **1. Weeding**

This topic has already been comprehensively covered in Warren's report, but I feel I must acknowledge what his report does not mention, namely the huge weeding effort put in by Warren himself. Not only did he spend hundreds of hours trudging round the paddocks spraying St Johns Wort, Verbascum and Briar Rose, he also mixed all the chemicals we used for weed control, and coordinated and logged everyone's effort on the website. And while I'm at it, kudos also to all the other weeders who have continued to head out in the heat and target the weeds in the reserve. An excellent effort all round.

### **2. Whitlam Pipeline**

I attended a meeting with the LDA on December 16th that gave us and other interested parties a broader overview of the future Molonglo development. This included some background to the construction of the pipeline as well as the upgrades to William Hovell Drive and its intersection with John Gorton Drive, which will be the new road that takes the place of the existing Coppins Crossing Road.

The meeting was introduced by Bonnie Jackson, who we have met with previously, and included presentations by Stuart Oxborrow, Gerard Coffey and Patrick Paynter, who is Principal Engineer/Planner with the Chief Minister's Economic Development Directorate and had most to say that was relevant to us. Unfortunately, Leigh Crocker, who is supervising the construction of the pipeline through the reserve, could not be at the meeting for family reasons.

Besides myself, there were representatives from the Conservation Council and several people from community organizations in Weston Creek who were very interested in the future course of John Gorton Drive and how it would impact on traffic levels in their suburbs.

Bonnie provided a detailed summary of the meeting, but the key points to come out of the meeting from our perspective were:

- Construction of John Gorton Drive north of the Molonglo will start in April 2017 to be completed by December 2018.
- The new bridge over the Molonglo is still 5-10 years away at this stage.
- The upgrade to the intersection of William Hovell Drive and Coppins Crossing Road will include widening WH Drive to the west of the intersection, but this will be accommodated within the existing road boundaries and will not impinge on the Bottom Pinnacle or North Kama.

Since some of our concerns could not be addressed at this meeting, we arranged another meeting with Leigh Crocker, which took place at Tilleys in Lyneham on February 23rd. At this meeting, Leigh explained more of the background to the decision to build the water supply main from the Weetangera tanks to the new suburb of Whitlam and brought us up to speed on the progress of the pipeline construction project. The key points were:

- The LDA has selected the contractor to build the project (GHD) and they are on track to begin construction in June or July this year
- The construction will follow the agreed route and will be supervised by the LDA

- More details of the specific construction schedule and methodology will be provided in the coming months
- Remediation of the construction site will probably begin in Autumn 2018, and Leigh will consult with us and with GA on species selection and sourcing seed. He has already consulted with Michael Mulvaney on the issue of seed provenance and we have agreed that there is no particular imperative to source seed in the immediate locality. Provided it comes from this general area, it should be suitable. A degree of genetic diversity may also provide some insurance against climate change in the future.
- The issue of releasing information to the membership was also discussed, and Leigh asked us to hold off any public disclosure until he had talked to Bonnie. In a later email, he said they would have no problem with our going public, but requested that we wait until they have a website link ready. We are now waiting for an email providing us with the link.

### 3. PCS Coordinator's Meeting

The first of the year's PCS Coordinators' meetings was held on February 28th at the Stromlo depot, as usual. The key points are as follows:

- The meeting was chaired by our new "Community Programs Coordinator", Alison McLeod, who takes over what was the ParkCare/Landcare Coordinator position from Phil Selmes. Phil himself is now our new ParkCare Ranger, taking over from Craig Wainwright, who left to take up a position out at Tidbinbilla.
- Signage upgrade -- Lois Padgham was supposed to present this section, but was ill, so Alison filled in, with help from Scott Seymour, who is the PCS Manager for Southside and has been working with Lois on this initiative. This topic will be covered by Keith, so suffice it to say that Alison had little to add that was new, but made it clear that PCS sees the new signs as primarily for "Orientation" (what people need to know) as opposed to "Interpretation" (what people want to know). This suggests that they see little scope for adding interpretive information (historical or otherwise) to the signs. This may explain some of the ambivalence that Lois expressed during our meeting about including our proposed interpretive text on the sign. I did point out that there was room on the back of the sign for contact information for the local ParkCare/Landcare group, and that seemed to be received positively. Clearly, this is still an ongoing conversation within PCS.
- Prescribed burns -- Phil listed the reserves where prescribed burns are planned for the coming year, and the Pinnacle came up twice. He had a copy of the BOP (Bushfire Operations Plan) handy and I looked up the burns he mentioned. One is the anticipated hazard reduction burn in the Weetangera and Eastern paddocks, and the other is an ecological patch burn planned for the northern quadrant of the Pinnacle Extension. This latter burn was news to me, but is presumably an initiative by Nina. The 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](http://www.environment.act.gov.au/ACT-parks-conservation/bushfire_management/fuel_management/bushfire-operations-plan)

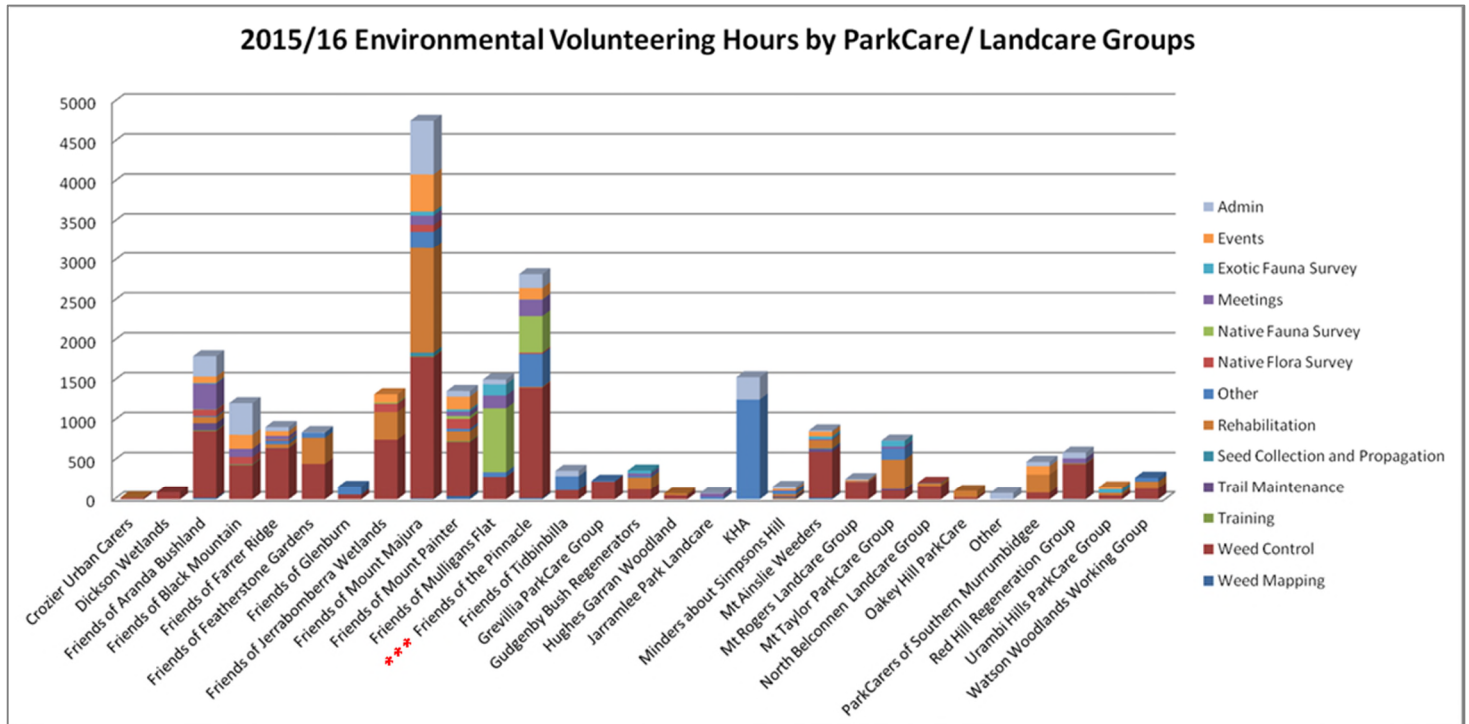
The relevant map for the Pinnacle is map 6 (BOP-2016-17-Map-6). The proposed burns are shown on the map in red and marked as FB370 (Weetangera & Eastern) and FB748 (Extension). Details of the burns are provided on pages 8 and 10 of the plan respectively. From the same web page, you can also download a separate document that explains what the "Ecological Guidelines" are.

Map 6 also shows the other control measures that are being used at the reserve (slashing and "Vegetation Management" (pruning)), and more details of the other activities indicated by codes on the map (FS020, FS021, etc.) are given in the BOP document.

- Kangaroo management plan -- The window for this year's roo control measures is March 1 to July 31, but the reserve closures will be much shorter than this and are yet to be

announced. It also isn't clear yet which reserves will be targeted for culls this time around.

- ParkCare 25th Anniversary benches -- These are now available, and we need to decide on a spot where we want our bench installed. I'll prepare a map to go out to the membership later this month with some suggested locations so we can have a poll.
- ParkCare effort statistics -- Alison put up the chart of the latest figures for volunteer effort on all the urban and peri-urban reserves around Canberra. The latest version makes interesting reading (for more detail see [ParkCare-Effort\\_2016-17.pdf](#)):



**4. Belconnen Hills Vegetation Plan**

I was approached a few months ago by Sarah Hnatiuk, the convenor of the Friends of Mount Painter (FOMP), who wanted to sound us out about the idea of formulating an overall vegetation strategy for all the Belconnen Hills reserves (Aranda Bushland, Mt Painter, The Pinnacle and, potentially, Kama Nature Reserve). These discussions are only in their early stages at this point, but Sarah and I feel that there would be considerable value in formulating such a strategy to guide future revegetation activities in the reserves concerned. (See attached FOMP document.)

**5. Upcoming Events**

**• Hawker Primary School Fete -- Sunday April 2nd**

Once again, we will have a display stall at the school fete and will be calling for volunteers to help staff the stall for a couple of hours during the day. Please think about setting aside some time for this, either to help out on the stall or just to check out what is always a fun and interesting event.

**• Meeting with Nina Bruns**

On Tuesday March 7th we will be meeting with Nina Bruns, the PCS Offsets Ranger, to discuss her latest plans for the Pinnacle extension. It is important that we coordinate our weed control and other activities with Nina to ensure that we're not working at cross-purposes. We also have an obligation to ensure that the Offset Management Plan is being implemented as it should be.

**• Clean-up Day**



We were unable to coordinate our clean-up efforts at the Pinnacle with this year's Clean Up Australia day as we have for the last two years, but rest assured that we will be having a clean-up day once the weather cools down a little more and we're less busy with other activities. This may be accompanied by a BBQ if circumstances permit.

- **Autumn Walks Program**

This is still being finalized, but is likely to include a bird walk (as usual) and possibly another walk through the Pinnacle Extension. This will give people who missed out on the Spring walk a chance to have a look around the new area with some people who can explain the background as well as the wonderful plants and birds that are found down there.

John Brannan

05 Mar 2017

**Attachment C. Treasurer's Report****Statement of Receipts and Payments  
for the period 01-Jul-2016 to 28-Feb-2016**

<b>Opening balance on 01-Jul-2016</b>		<b>\$752.69</b>
<b>Receipts</b>		
Membership and donations	\$40.00	
Interest	0.03	
		<u>\$40.03</u>
<b>Payments</b>		
Fotpin domain name renewal		<u>\$34.95</u>
Surplus of receipts over payments		<u>\$5.08</u>
<b>Closing balance on 30-Nov-2016</b>		<b><u><u>\$757.77</u></u></b>
<b>Reconciled to:</b>		
"Beyond Bank" Account 03356841	\$569.82	
Petty Cash	\$187.95	
		<u>\$757.77</u>
Less unrepresented Cheques	\$0.00	
Total		<b><u><u>\$757.77</u></u></b>

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).

Denise Hall  
Treasurer  
06 Mar 2017