



Coordinating Committee Meeting

Monday 7 September 2015 7-30 pm

Minutes

Present: Vaughn Cox (Pax), John Brannan, Carolynne Parker, Denise Hall, Nathanael Coyne.

1. **Apologies** – Warren Bond, Keith Thomas
2. **Minutes of the Last Meeting / Business Arising**

Moved: John. Seconded: Pax; Accepted

Actions from June meeting (see [Attachment A](#))

3. **Correspondence in and out / Business arising**

In the June to September period, 80 pieces of correspondence were recorded.

The 29 outgoing consisted of responses and coordination on subjects including

- Updates to FOTPIN members
- Weed control in and adjacent to Exclusion Plots
- Offset Management plan
- Volunteering with ParkCare
- FOTPIN 2015 AGM outcomes
- Annual Planning Meeting input
- Spring Walks Program
- Sheep in the Bottom Pinnacle
- Access to South Kama
- Jamison Joint ParkCare display
- New plant for the Pinnacle list

The 51 incoming correspondence included:

- FOTPIN applying for an ACT Landcare award
- Newsletters from various groups including GCG, Friends of Groups, Weeds Digest Frogwatch, Greening Australia, Conservation Council, Yellow Box Dispatch, Woodlands Restoration project
- Sheep in the Bottom Pinnacle
- Community Voice in Reserve Management Symposium
- ACT Enviro Grant – call for support and response
- Jamison Joint ParkCare Display
- Bushcare's Major Day Out
- Jasmine's secondment to Offset team
- GCG Meetings
- Reserve Operational Plans
- TAMS Volunteer Statistics
- New Green Army team

Action (Pax): Business arising from correspondence - We received draft outcomes from the meeting with Parks. Some items need clarification and feedback.

All correspondence has been saved to Dropbox and most was circulated to Committee members.

4. Convenor's Report

Pax reported on the following:

- The Annual Planning with PCS was efficient and beneficial. For more information, see the Coordinator's report. It was agreed that the Green Army will be used to remove some fences in the Bottom Pinnacle, Kama, near the tanks and in the Forest.
- Offset. We should receive a new revised plan for comment soon. There are some concerns about grazing being inconsistent with the plan for fuel hazard reduction.
- Sheep in bottom Pinnacle

5. Coordinator's Report

John tabled the previously circulated Coordinator's Report (see [Attachment B](#)) which included:

- Annual Planning Meeting with PCS
- Spring Walk Program
- Joint ParkCare Display
- ParkCare Forum – Community Voices in the Reserve.

Action: Carolynne to report on the ParkCare forum. Consider actions that we can apply to the Pinnacle, especially woodland restoration.

Additional Items:

- Rabbits.
Action: All members to continue to send GPS locations of active burrows to Warren.
- African Love Grass – significant patches in Kama. Parks have budgetary constraints to address the problem this year.

Noted

6. Treasurer's Report / Business arising

Denise tabled the previously circulated Treasurer's Report ([Attachment C](#)) and moved that it be accepted. Seconded: Carolynne. Accepted.

7. Membership Report

Warren reported that our current membership stands at 77 (no change since the June meeting).

The number of other people who have requested to be on our email lists is 100.

Noted

8. Weed Management

Warren reported that the last three months (June-August) are the quietest time of the season, but 80 hours of effort on weed control has been put in, more than half of which was in June. Of the 80 hours 71% was spent on the Reserve. The main targets were Saffron thistles, followed by miscellaneous broadleaf weeds, Verbascum, and Capeweed.

Noted

10. Website

Warren reported that there have been a number of updates to the website in the last 3 months (see [website updates](#)).

The number of unique visitors to the website in each 3 month period continues to increase steadily. Popular pages in this period were “About the Pinnacle”, “Recent weeding”, walking-related pages, the June Newsletter, the “kangaroos” page and some of the maps pages.

Noted.

11. Native Grass Regeneration Project

Andrew O’Reilly Nugent, a PhD student from the University of Canberra, is continuing the Native Grass Regeneration Project. Recently, Andrew, Pax and Bob Hodgson slashed most of the plots, both within the enclosures and in the adjacent area outside the enclosure. The slashed material was removed. Andrew is interested in the shifting of plant species and what species are advantaged by slashing/grazing. It was acknowledged that the plots represent a good range of conditions and habitats.

12. Revegetation

John reported that this project is on hold until the restoration project has progressed. Recently we have concentrated on improving what has already been done by planting ground covers and understory species. FOTPIN will work with Parks in the Offset area.

13. Focal Point (Keith, by email)

Keith reported that he is starting the requirements study on developing a focal point in the Pinnacle area and will circulate what he develops as soon as he has something for us to consider.

14. Information and outreach (John)

John formally thanked Elizabeth for the work she has done on the noticeboard. She has put a considerable amount of effort into the displays. The committee appreciates Elizabeth’s offer to continue to look after this valuable information sharing resource.

Action: John to officially thank Elizabeth for her work with the notice board display

15. Restoration Planning (Pax)

Pax reported that the restoration planning working group consists of Margo Hellyer, Nathanael Coyne, John Brennan, John Fitz Gerald, David Tongway, Len Taylor, Scott Wilkinson and Pax. The team has common skill sets and interests and is progressing well.

The team is developing objectives, a work plan and action items.

16. Biodiversity Offset in North Kama (Pax)

FOTPIN can expect to receive a revised draft OMP for comment soon – due on October. After consultation is completed the plan will be submitted to the Federal Government for approval.

Action: Warren to set up a web page on the FOTPIN site.

17. Other Business

- Jamison Joint ParkCare display - covered in the Coordinator’s report.
- Spring Walks Program – covered in the Coordinator’s report.

Action: John to email targeted audience to attend Warren’s walk e.g. all other Canberra Parkcare coordinators, Parks staff, GCG, David Tongway, Mark Hallam.

- Spring BBQ – The Committee discussed ways of advertising the proposed social event and the need for someone to organize the BBQ.

Action: Pax to ask Susan to design a template for a banner and a business size card with FOTPIN contact details.

Action: Contact the Chronicle re a story which will also advertise the social event in November.

18. Proposed date for next meeting

The next meeting will be held at **7.30pm on Tuesday 8 December 2015** at Pax's home.

Meeting closed at 9.00 pm.

Attachment A.**Actions arising from the meeting of 26 July 2014****Item 8 Other business: BMX tracks in the Park**

It was suggested that better/more signage detailing what you can and cannot do in a Reserve should be posted at Reserve entrances.

Action: Pax to request signs from ACT Parks.

Completed.

Attachment B. Item 5. Coordinator's Report

1. Annual Planning Meeting

25 August, Mitchell Depot

Present: fotpin: Pax, Warren, John Brannan

PCS: Craig Wainwright (chair), Nina Bruns (Ranger-in-Chief, Northside),
Anthony Hart (Senior Ranger, Northside)

This year's meeting went well, overall.

- We were given copies of the draft Reserve Profile for the Pinnacle, which is an extract from the Canberra Nature Park Management Plan to be formally released later this year. The profile makes interesting reading.
- Cuts to the PCS weed management budget mean that there'll only be funding for tackling African Love Grass (ALG) this year. Anthony will speak to City Services also regarding ALG control along the roadside verges on Springvale and Coulter.
- Rabbit control will be conducted just once, in the Spring. PCS asked us to mark known warrens with orange tape (which they will supply) as well as GPS. When a warren has been treated, the contractor will mark it with blue tape. The contractor used for the last rabbit treatment program will not be used again.
- There will be no hazard reduction burn at the Pinnacle in this financial year (15-16). Craig also assured us that any burn will be an Autumn burn, so the earliest that any burn could now happen is Autumn 2017.
- PCS agreed to remove surplus fencing in 3 locations: South of the ACTEW water tanks, in Bottom Pinnacle just below the pumping station (on Deep Creek), and at the northern end of the Forest. They will enlist Green Army volunteers to help with this work.
- Signage was discussed briefly, and we were encouraged to revisit the idea of interpretive signage for the so-called Nature Trail, a walk that takes in the Red Stringybark forest and the summit of the Pinnacle itself. We were also asked to do a stocktake of the entrance bollards at the various entrances to the reserve.
- The issue of fencing in the Bottom Pinnacle and North Kama was also discussed, and Anthony said he would look into rationalising the current fencing in a way that still allowed controlled grazing of the different paddocks.
- In a discussion of the Fotpin Reserve Restoration Plan, PCS encouraged us to discuss the plan with Kirsty Gould, who supervises the ACT Govt's Woodland Restoration Project, and with Jasmine Foxlee, who now works in the Offsets division.
- In a response to a query from Pax regarding weed control in Kama Nature Reserve (aka "Kama South"), we were explicitly requested not to actively engage in weed control activities in Kama NR. (PCS appears to have some concerns over jurisdiction.) In the meantime, we can explore the viability of setting up a new ParkCare group for Kama NR in anticipation of increased public interest in the reserve as the new Molonglo suburbs are developed.

2. Spring Walks Program

As detailed in my email over the weekend, the Spring program for 2015 is now finalized, comprising my bird walk on Sept 13, Warren's walk on October 18, and a social event/BBQ on November 1.

Several people have already expressed an interest in both my and Warren's walks, so neither of us will be walking solo, at any rate. It is my intention to send out some targeted "marketing" of Warren's walk aimed at PCS, the catchment groups and other Landcare/ParkCare group coordinators, since they are the people who would, I think, derive the greatest benefit/value from Warren's walk.

The BBQ will require some advance planning, both in terms of equipment, food and signage. Weather permitting, I would like to hold the event at the foot of the summit trail, as that is a major focal point for casual visitors to the reserve. There are a few logistical issues with this, but nothing too challenging. However, if it is wet or windy, a less exposed location, such as the previous spot near the notice board, would be better. My plan is to point interested people towards the De Salis St car park and have signs/balloons to direct them from there. Perhaps some letterboxing ahead of the event might be effective.

3. Joint ParkCare Display at Jamison Centre, 4-6 September

This year's event went very well, by all accounts. Jean Geue, who organises the event every year, is still uncomfortable with the idea of a centralised roster, which is an ongoing issue for some of the other groups involved. However, this is not a major hurdle, as the success of the rostering this year demonstrates. Our display was very well received, and the "Then & Now" theme attracted a great deal of interest. Kudos to Elizabeth and Warren for their work in pulling the information/images together.

It is probably too early to say whether there will be any measurable positive outcomes for footpin this year, but the level of community interest in the event is consistently high, and there is certainly value in the exposure gained for all the groups involved. It is also a valuable opportunity to meet and exchange information/knowledge with the members of other Landcare/ParkCare groups.

4. ParkCare Forum -- Community Voices in Reserve Management

11-12 September, Aboriginal Cultural Centre, Yarramundi Reach

This was spawned by last year's 25 year ParkCare anniversary forum, and consists of one day of presentations plus a field trip to Gudgenby Valley the following day. Presenters include various local Landcare/ParkCare groups, Greening Australia, the Conservation Council, PCS and the NSW Office of Environment & Heritage. I have enrolled for this event and am planning to attend, though I cannot make it to the workshops on the Saturday.

Attachment C. Item 6. Treasurer's report

Statement of Receipts and Payments
for the period 01-Jul-2015 to 31-Aug-2015

Opening balance on 01-Jul-2015		\$622.64
Receipts		
Membership and donations	\$100.00	
		<u>\$100.00</u>
Payments		
nil		<u>\$0.00</u>
Surplus of receipts over payments		<u>\$100.00</u>
Closing balance on 31-Aug-2015		<u><u>\$722.64</u></u>
Reconciled to:		
"Beyond Bank" Account 03356841	\$529.74	
Petty Cash	\$192.90	
		<u>\$722.64</u>
Less unpresented Cheques	\$0.00	
Total		<u><u>\$722.64</u></u>

Notes:

1. Funds to the value of \$241-78 (at 30 June 2015) 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
02 September 2015