

**Minutes**  
**fotpin Coordinating Committee Meeting**  
Monday 13 December 2010, 7.30pm

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**Attended:** Vaughn Cox, Heather Burness, Warren Bond, Rosemary Blemings, Don Driscoll  
Also Peter Kalyvas and Brian Dobbs (for item 2.2)

**1. Apologies**

Mark Hallam and Andy Westcott

**2. Guest Speakers**

**2.1** Cancelled because Andy Westcott was unable to be present

**2.2 Peter Kalyvas and Brian Dobbs**, retired teachers from Hawker Primary School presented information regarding a potential program of engagement with local schools.

Peter introduced his proposal regarding an education program from Kindergarten to Years 12 centered on key places in the Pinnacle Nature Reserve. (See Agenda Papers 2.2). Peter was integral to the planting program on the PNR during the 1980's which took place with help from Greening Australia.

He envisages that the curriculum program will take 12 month to develop with the initial phases centering upon pooling information and defining aspects which would interest children/students (possibly also in the tertiary sector). This would allow the application of various bodies of knowledge to the curriculum. There was also a need at the onset to identify a teacher within each of the schools or education institutions that would help develop the program. Peter was open to suggestions as to how the program would evolve. He was looking for fotpin to be involved and to input expertise and knowledge to the program.

The proposal was looked upon very favorably by fotpin CC, for

- its potential for creating a sense of “ownership and connectedness” and consequently the desire to care for the environment in younger people
- its integrated, cross curriculum potential

- its capacity for fotpin to give to the community

The CC thanked Peter and Brian for attending after which they left the meeting.

**Recommendation:**

**The Coordinating Committee fully supports and commends Peter Kalyvas' and Brian Dobbs' proposal and look forward to working and developing PEEP as a mutual program with schools, colleges and possibly tertiary institutions.**

Moved Pax, Seconded Warren Bond; Unanimously agreed

**Actions Arising:**

- Heather to send to PK a list of people with various knowledge, skills, interests and expertise
- Don and Pax undertook to walk on the PNR with Peter and Brian to identify particular areas that illustrate ideas and management issues on a date to be set (probably January)
- Pax to circulate to fotpins this week (before the school holidays) information regarding this program with a view to encouraging fotpin membership to engage with the PEEP program.
- Pax to send an email update to fotpin members about general matters

**3. Minutes of the last meeting/ Business arising**

Moved Heather Burness, seconded Warren Bond

**Item 6.2:** The calendar of activity continues to progress and could develop into an operations plan. Warren stated he wanted to get it onto the website.

**Action Arising**

Warren to contact GCG re the possibility of monthly statements from them showing the status of our grant monies and interest.

**4. Correspondence in and out / Business arising (Selected)**

Moved Heather, seconded Pax

- Notice of funding from Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities, Dept of Agriculture, fisheries and Forestry re our successful grant application for Caring for our Country Community Action Grant
- Minister of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities, The Hon. Tony Burke MP re CoC Community Action Grant
- Application for and notice of funding from Canberra Labour Club
- August Values for bunnies from D. Wong per Pax
- To PCS regarding a bogged vehicle
- To PCS regarding equestrian access, damage to tracks and locks on gates
- ACT government regarding possible fotpin registration as an agency to supervise those with Community Service Orders
- With MCG re costs and license agreement for Lidar DEM
- Woodlands roundtable, invitation and background paper
- -GCG re newsletter information
- MCG re newsletter information

- Radio Landcare re fotpin appearance on the program
- Fencing contractor for NGRP (purchase order)
- GCG re “our most pressing issues as an outcome from a meeting held at the Southern Cross Club”
- GCG coordinator Bonnie Reynolds leaving
- Photography workshop with Chris Holly/ D.Wong as part of Seeing Grasslands
- Bunnings sponsorship of NGRP
- GCG re reporting of acquittals and our funding
- Mervyn Aston re proposal to apply for funds to the National Weeds and-Productivity Program and consequent correspondence to PCS to flag the proposal
- Mervyn Aston re Management Rules
- Doug McKenzie of Terroir Australia re *pro bono* work on mapping program related to the geology of the Pinnacle Nature Reserve
- Raiders Club re possible sponsorship

### **Business arising**

Heather stated that there was a need to take note of why a vehicle was taken into the Pinnacle and therefore became bogged. This had been identified as worker fatigue and the desire to easily carry out the equipment in use.

John Fitzgerald and Rosemary Blemings attended the Seeing Grasslands photography workshop

### **The committee wished to state that-**

Regarding the correspondence from Mervyn Aston, the committee notes that he has lodged a proposal with the National Weeds and-Productivity Program and we are waiting to see the proposal to consider it for possible approval or otherwise.

Moved Don, Seconded Pax; Unanimously stated

### **Actions arising**

- Pax to follow up re access at Dungowan St entrance and to develop and make clear a vehicle access policy
- Pax to finalise an email to Heather re the outcome of acquittal procedures/dates and reporting on various NGRP grant monies

## **5. Treasurers Report/ Business arising**

See report attached below

The Committee approved the payment to MCG for the Lidar Data for \$385.00

Moved WB, seconded HB; Unanimously agreed

### **Action Arising**

Heather to send reminder email to committee members concerning the level of payment amounts agreed to in our first meeting that may be undertaken without approval by the Committee

- 5.1 The committee does not know whether GCG has received monies from Caring for Our Country Community Action Grant for the Native Grass Restoration Project. GCG has received Environment ACT grant monies and Canberra Labor Club monies.

## 6. CC Setting up issues (an initial standing item in the first phase)

- 6.1 **Review of the Draft Management Rules.** Follow up from last meeting, amended wording of rules to be reviewed.

Mark Burness suggested that the CC take the further changes to the members as a new set of Draft Rules with an attached cover letter/email explaining the broad background to our approach. He recommends having Wendy Whitham proofread the rules before they are sent to the members.

Recommended changes appear in the attached document: Draft Management Rule 13.12.2011

### **Recommendation:**

**To not reference the volunteer PCL policy in the Rules, but to only make reference to the ACT Government**

Moved: Pax; Seconded Heather. Unanimously agreed

The Committee also noted Mervyn Aston's comments on the rules in an email to Mark Burness

### **Actions Arising**

- Warren to include on the website more prominently a reminder to members that they may contact the CC to make comments, suggestions etc
- Pax to follow up with Mervyn Aston re his comments on the rules

## 6.2 Working toward an AGM

The committee concluded that there needed to be a CC meeting in late May (possibly the 25<sup>th</sup>) to prepare for an AGM on or near June 19. The CC would then be able to send the current Draft Management Rule to fotpins after its February meeting allowing time for their feedback and the CC to address the consequent responses from them in a meeting in May before the AGM. This would allow fotpins to be more fully appraised of the rules when they attend the AGM.

Other things which need to be determined-

- The process of election of committee members
- Order of events at the meeting
- Who will be a returning officer
- A venue
- Finalize/review the requirements in the Rules for an AGM
- Catering/Rubbish
- Presentations/reports
- Convener's and treasurers reports to be finalized through email processes first

Heather raised the possibility of a Welcome to Country by a Ngunnawal Elder to create connection with the Ngunnawal community as they are closely linked to NRM in the Territory

and education programs in schools concerning Aboriginal NRM activities and cultural practices. She pointed out that if we desired links to the Ngunnawal in the future that certain protocols needed to be followed.

#### **Actions Arising**

- Heather to pursue the possibility of a Welcome to Country by the Ngunnawal
- Mark Burness to review the requirements in the rules for an AGM

#### **7. Community service order placement**

Proposal to register fotpin with the ACT Corrective Services (ACTCS) as eligible to participate in the scheme to provide offenders with opportunities for unpaid community work. See attached paper as background

The committee conversation revolved around the following points

- who would be our likely clients
- the commitment of time from fotpin
- need for a willing fotpin volunteer for the scheme's success
- that the setting up and piloting of the project was subject to a volunteer fotpin supervisor being found and the Dept of Justice finding a suitable person.

#### **Recommendation**

**The Committee agrees to Pax exploring/ consulting with weeders and eventually fotpins generally for feedback on the possibility of this program moving forward as part of our activities**

Moved: Pax; seconded Heather. Unanimously agreed

#### **Action Arising**

Pax to consult with all weeders and send them the contract involved

#### **8. Including the Bottom Pinnacle into the Nature Reserve.**

Proposal that a request be made to the Chief Minister that the Bottom Pinnacle (BP), and a triangular paddock at the southern end of North Kama, be included in The Pinnacle Nature Reserve. See background paper attached.

Rosemary and Heather pointed out that extending the area of the reserve would increase the area to be managed by fotpins therefore increasing workload. They were also aware of the reasons for the proposal.

#### **Recommendation**

**That the Convenor write to the Chief Minister, requesting the Bottom Pinnacle (BP), and a triangular paddock at the southern end of North Kama, be included in The Pinnacle Nature Reserve.**

Moved: Pax; seconded: Don. Agreed unanimously

#### **Action arising**

Pax to write to the Chief Minister as above

## 9. Programs

### 9.1 Grass Restoration Project

Don reported as follows:

- tabled the latest map of the plots with their quadrats
- The fences are not up yet due to the weather, the contractor needing two full weeks of dry weather to be able to access and work on the sites
- he is continuing to identify plants from the survey
- Mat Wolnicki will be doing photo monitoring of the sites
- Further plant surveys will happen in Autumn
- No university students have come forward to work with Don on the project yet but there is still the opportunity for half year intake honours students next year.
- Opportunity for an Autumn 'hands on' event/ walk for the plant surveys that occur then

Rosemary tabled a CD “ *ACT Vegetation Monitoring Manual : a step by step guide to Monitoring Native plant vegetation in the ACT*” Greening Australia, Natural Heritage Trust and PC&S

### 9.2 Weed Management Plan Implementation Status

Warren provided the information below

#### **Effort compared with targets**

Effort from known weeding teams is available on the website and updated at the end of each month and compared with targets in the CWMP [fotpin.org.au/weeds/weed\\_effort.html](http://fotpin.org.au/weeds/weed_effort.html)

At present the comparison is only for total effort but in the near future it will also be available for each species

This information will:

- give us a feel for how we are tracking
- help us prioritise weeding effort for the coming month
- help us refine the targets for future years

At the end of November, overall effort was closer to target (percentage-wise) than at the end of October. This might be due to better weather

Concerted spraying and slashing efforts occurred outside normal weeding times

#### **Issues:**

Need to capture Input by groups other than regular Thursday and Sunday groups in order to ensure an accurate picture

The website makes this easy with [fotpin.org.au/weeds/weed\\_record.html](http://fotpin.org.au/weeds/weed_record.html)

#### **Prioritisation of weeding effort**

- Difficult year with an over-abundance of weed targets
- Disconnect emerged between CWMP priorities and activities on-ground
- Pax has been slowly drawing the weeding teams back to priority targets
- based on weeds with greatest risk, and areas with highest conservation value
- Illustrates the need to continually reinforce prioritization

## **Treatment methods**

- Despite the resources available (eg: PCS's *eWeed Management Guidelines, Nov 2010*, [Molonglo Catchment Group Weed Information Pack](#)), there is often no unanimously agreed treatment method for some weeds, a case in point being St. Johns Wort
- Treatment methods also need to be sympathetic to the local environment of the weed
- There would be value in spending some time (in the off season ?) drawing together the best available information and having an agreed fotpin approach well in advance of treatment time
- There would be value in harvesting the collective wisdom of Canberra's parkcare groups to assist the above objective

As regard prioritization of weeding effort the question was raised through discussion whether the Weed plan needs to be adjusted to include other noxious weeds.

The idea of a workshop between parkcare groups was raised as a method of exploring differences and similarities of weeding treatments across catchments.

Rosemary noted the necessity for a review of what we have done and how we have done it. Warren agreed but stated that we had only anecdotal responses and evidence in some areas. He made the point that we need to tighten our monitoring processes

## **Actions Arising**

- Pax to encourage members to log their weeding effort on the website or by other means in the email update.
- Pax to contact other particularly active parkcare groups and explore their interest in having/ holding/participating in a workshop concerning weeding treatments.

## **9.3 Soil and Water Erosion Assessment Program**

Fotpin intends to return to this program when weather and time permits

## **10. Information outreach and web content**

### **10.1 Brochure about the Pinnacle Nature Reserve**

Rosemary presented several examples of brochures and particularly pointed out the PEG brochure, *The Pinnacle Nature Trail* mapping a walking trail with information about the Pinnacle Nature Reserve.

She introduced the suggestion of a brochure which would map a self guided walk with associated information about the PNR as a publication that fotpin should do.

The committee saw this as very positive idea. It was also pointed out that we need a box at the PNR to distribute/ house the brochure effectively.

The Committee asked Rosemary to develop a proposal for a brochure which would outline what the brochure will do, and looks at its ideas and purpose. This might include developing a sample/example to accompany the proposal.

### **Action Arising**

Rosemary to develop a proposal for a brochure about the PNR that will look at the brochure's purpose, ideas and what its designed to do. This could include making an example of an effective brochure

### **10.2 Summer Newsletter**

Is on its way.

We need to put a copy on the notice board.

### **10.3 fotpin website update**

Content keeps developing and increasing

### **10.4 Guided Walks update**

We will need to factor what we learnt from holding the Spring Program into the development and planning of the Autumn events.

## **11. Membership/volunteer recruitment**

Members: 42 (Interested parties on email lists 2 and 3: 35)

Membership increase since October meeting: 4

## **12. Any other business**

### **12.1 Parkcare Coordinators' meeting 23 Nov**

Pax reported that the Parkcare Coordinator's meeting will not look to develop an Association as such but agreed to to work through existing structures as representatives of their own groups where appropriate.. The group will review this if this strategy is not effective. The meeting was well attended by a representative set of parkcare groups.

### **12.2 Meeting with PCS re a workplan**

The report is substantially the same as the information sent in an email to WB and HB earlier in the last out of session period

### **Action arising**

Pax to circulate this information to the Committee

### **12.3 Holiday period break**

not discussed

### **12.4 Rosemary asked do we have a list of comments about what the PNR needs.**

### **Action Arising**

Warren and Rosemary will draw together all the activities that fotpin has been doing and are planned to be done as a preliminary document for an overall strategic plan.

## **13. Next Meeting/s**

7.30pm 68 Southwell Street Weetangera. 21 February 2011

Further Meeting 25 May 2011

AGM June 19 TBC



#### **14. Summary of Actions arising from the Minutes**

- 1) Heather to send to Peter Kalyvas a list of people with various knowledge, skills, interests and expertise
- 2) Don and Pax undertook to walk on the PNR with Peter and Brian to identify particular areas that illustrate ideas and management issues on a date to be set (probably January)
- 3) Pax to circulate to fotpins this week (before the school holidays) information regarding this program with a view to encouraging fotpin membership to engage with the PEEP program.
- 4) Pax to send an email update to fotpin members about general matters
- 5) Warren to contact GCG re the possibility of monthly statements showing the status of our grant monies and interest.
- 6) Pax to follow up re access @ Dungowan St entrance and to develop and make clear a vehicle access policy
- 7) Pax to finalise an email to Heather re the outcome of acquittal procedures/dates and reporting on various NGRP grant monies
- 8) Heather to send reminder email to committee members concerning the level of payment amounts agreed to in our first meeting that may be undertaken without approval by the Committee
- 9) Warren to include on the website more prominently a reminder to members that they may contact the CC to make comments, suggestions etc
- 10) Pax to follow up with Mervyn Aston re his comments on the rules
- 11) Heather to pursue the possibility of a Welcome to Country by the Ngunnawal
- 12) Mark Burness to review the requirements in the rules for an AGM
- 13) Pax to consult with all weeders and send them the CSO contract involved
- 14) Pax to write to the Chief Minister as per Committee recommendation in agenda item 8
- 15) Pax to encourage members to log their weeding effort on the website or by other means in the email update
- 16) Pax to contact other particularly active parkcare groups and explore their interest in having/holding/participating in a workshop concerning weeding treatments.
- 17) Rosemary to develop a proposal for a brochure about the PNR that will look at the brochure's purpose, ideas and what its designed to do. This could include making an example of an effective brochure
- 18) Pax to circulate information emanating from his meeting with PC&S re the development of a workplan to the Committee
- 19) That Warren and Rosemary will draw together all the activities that fotpin has been doing and are planned to be done as a preliminary document for an overall strategic plan.

## **15. Tabled Reports/papers/ documents**

**15.1** Agenda Item 2.2 Peter Kalyvas

**15.2** [Agenda Item 5 Treasurers Report](#)

**15.3** Agenda Item 6.1 Draft management Rules

**15.4** Agenda Item 6.1 Review of the Draft Management Rules

**15.5** Agenda Item 9.2 Weed Management Plan Implementation Status

15.2 Agenda Item 5 Treasurers Report

**Friends of the Pinnacle  
Statement of Receipts and Payments  
For the period 25-Jul-2010 to 13-Dec-2010**

<b>Opening balance on 25-Jul-2010</b>		<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Receipts</b>		
Donations	\$529.00	
Joining Fees	\$220.00	
Membership	\$236.00	
Interest	0.05	
		<u>\$985.05</u>
<b>Payments</b>		
Bank Charges	\$6.50	
Stationery	\$59.34	
Domain name registration	\$49.00	
LiDAR data	\$385.00	
		<u>\$499.84</u>
Surplus of receipts over payments		<u>\$485.21</u>
<b>Closing balance on 13-Dec-2010</b>		<b><u><u>\$485.21</u></u></b>
<b>Reconciled to:</b>		
CPS Account 03356841	\$775.55	
Petty Cash	\$154.00	
		<u>\$929.55</u>
Less unrepresented Cheques	\$444.34	
Total		<u><u>\$485.21</u></u>

Warren Bond  
Treasurer  
13 Dec 2010

**Payments for Approval at Fotpin Coordinating Committee Meeting 13 Dec 2010**

<b>Payment to</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Molonglo Catchment Group	Fotpin contribution to LiDAR data	\$385.00

Receipts attached