



Mid Murray
Landcare
SA

Mid Murray Landcare SA

Formerly Mid Murray LAP

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Minutes for the meeting held on Thursday 13th of April 2017 at Meldanda 10am

Time started: 9:56am

1. Welcome - The Chairman welcomes those present, calls for apologies and general business items.

1.1. **Present:** Gavin Smith (Chairman), Chris Tugwell (Vice Chairman), Cr Brian Taylor, Rosemary Laucke, Ian Mann, Elisabeth Wood, Cr Steve Wilkinson, Terry Franklin, Sharon Sakko, Cr Adrian Sakko

1.2. **Staff present:** Aimee Linke

1.3. **Apologies:** Tricia Curtis, Helen Crisp

1.4. **Absent:**

2. Confirmation of minutes -.

The minutes of the last meeting dated 9th March 2017 accepted as being a true reflection of the meeting.

Ian Mann **Moved that the Committee accept the minutes.**

Terry Franklin **Seconded the motion. Carried**

3. Business Arising from minutes .

4. Reports

4.1. Staff Activity Report (attached).

4.2. **Financial Report was not available**

Elisabeth Wood **Moved that the Committee accept the staff report**

Chris Tugwell **Seconded the motion. Carried**

5. Correspondence (To be presented at the meeting).

Chris Tugwell **Moved the Committee accepts the correspondence.**

Rose Laucke **Seconded the motion. Carried**

6. General Business:

- a. 20 year anniversary of being an incorporated body, how should we celebrate? In December we will celebrate with a commemoration plaque that may be installed out the front of the office on a stone. At the end of year celebration some committee members may share some stories of the “early days”
- b. AGM speaker idea Matt Barwick – coordinator for the National Carp control program. This was supported as a good idea and the Swan Reach Area school may be a suitable venue

7. Members Reports

Gavin - More Training with Volunteering SA for Customer Service Skills & Communicating with Confidence. Assisted with slashing at Lenger Reserve. Met with Tony Pasin MP with Chris Tugwell - Liberal policy is to fund agriculture as a priority , Landcare will get more funding from some of the defunk Green Army. Work for the Dole program will be changed to "PATH".

Sought clarification from Peter Michelmore on whether the Rhodes grass found in Mid Murray is Feathertop Rhodes Grass that is a priority weed for the SAMDBNRM. Checked with MMC about back yard burning that has begun in Mannum. It is still the Fire Ban Season until 15th April. Back yard burning is banned until then and only allowed in incinerators. Most backyard burning is done on open ground all around the region without education about it.

Sharon – weather has resulted in lots of caltrop

Elisabeth – pomegranate tree fruited well. Attended insect hotel workshop and has one at home under a *Hardenbergia*

Rose – little lorikeets eating blossoms and drink at sheep trough. Bathurst burr still controlling. Gum tree regeneration after floods need protecting before sheep grazing. Sedan Hotel livestock meeting – anti-fracking mining group spoke- also need to maintain “clean green” image. Attended MMC volunteer reception in Keyneton

Terry- used flame thrower on caltrop

Ian – attended MMC volunteer’s reception at Tungkilllo. MDA Waikerie planning for conference, list of priorities from CEO’s which will be classified for each area. Still plenty of water in the system

Steve –Gavin invited him along Long Gully road which he will do, would also like to tag along to other reserves with Aimee when suitable. Spoke to peter Graves to ensure funding available for Landcare

Chris – organised guests Andrew and Jo Cool and Don Bursil from the Astronomical Society (of which there are 650 members) to come to our meeting and discuss the Dark Sky project and collecting darkness measurements with volunteers. Plans were discussed to hold an event to introduce the project and seek support of volunteers to gather measurements across the region, including at Meldanda. The date will tie in with a no moon phase, 3 readings are taken 90 minutes after sunset and then averaged out to get a darkness score. David Hartley from the Mannum Motel runs night photography tours and would be keen to be involved in the project, it has great tourism opportunities for the region. Some of the information that will be required for the application was discussed and the letters of support that will be sought. Peter Graves has offered funding support and will assist in coordinating the upcoming event at Meldanda

8. Any Other Business

None discussed

Date of next meeting: 11th May

Venue: Meldanda at 10am

Meeting Closed: 12:15pm