

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY SUB-COMMITTEE

Meeting held in the Conference Room, Operational Services Area, Level One of Civic Centre, 10 Watson Terrace, Mount Gambier, on Tuesday 7th February 2017 at 7:30 a.m.

MINUTES

PRESENT: Crs I Von Stanke, D Mutton, P Richardson and S Mezinac

COUNCIL OFFICERS: Daryl Sexton, Director - Operational Services
Aaron Izzard, Environmental Sustainability Officer
Carmel Ron, Environmental Sustainability Officer
Sarah Moretti, Administration Officer - Operational Services

COUNCIL MEMBERS

AS OBSERVERS: Nil

WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE BOANDIK PEOPLES AS THE TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF THE LAND WHERE WE MEET TODAY. WE RESPECT THEIR SPIRITUAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE LAND AND RECOGNISE THE DEEP FEELINGS OF ATTACHMENT OUR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES HAVE WITH THIS LAND.

The Director – Operational Services took the chair for the following business:

1. GOVERNANCE - Committees - Election of Environmental Sustainability Sub-Committee Presiding Member - Ref. AF11/858

The Director - Operational Services reported:

- (a) At its meeting on 15th December, 2016 Council confirmed the 1 year appointment of Cr Von Stanke as Environmental Sustainability Sub-Committee Presiding Member from 2nd February 2016.
- (b) In preparation for the expiry of the 1 year appointment term the Environmental Sustainability Sub-Committee and Council may now consider the appointment of a Presiding Member for the period from 7th February 2017.

The election of Presiding Member is by the Committee from amongst its own number.

- (c) The following election process is summarised from Council's C410 Conduct of Meetings Policy:

"If only one nomination is received then that Member is to be declared Presiding Member.

Where more than one nomination is received a secret ballot shall be conducted forthwith without debate. Resolutions will be passed to endorse the voting process and appoint the Chief Executive Officer (or any other Senior Officer present at the meeting) as Returning Officer to declare the result and draw lots (if/as necessary).

- *Any Member present at the meeting may be nominated.*
- *A Member not in his or her seat at the meeting does not vote.*
- *The candidate with the highest number of votes (or where two or more candidates receive the equal highest number of votes to first name drawn in the lot) shall be declared the Presiding Member."*

There is no Conflict of Interest whereby a nominated candidate votes for themselves.

- (d) The Environmental Sustainability Sub-Committee may now accept nominations (and conduct a ballot - if necessary) to determine the Presiding Member from 7th February

Environmental Sustainability Sub-Committee Minutes of 7th February 2017 Cont'd...

2017, for a period of 1 year, or otherwise seek nominations for presentation to a subsequent meeting.

- (e) Environmental Sustainability Sub-Committee meetings from February 2017 will continue to be scheduled monthly on the same days/times as in 2016.

Cr Richardson moved it be recommended:

- (a) The report be received;
- (b) the above process to appoint the Presiding Member for the Environmental Sustainability Sub-Committee be adopted.

Cr Von Stanke seconded

Carried

2. GOVERNANCE - Committees - Environmental Sustainability Sub-Committee - Call for Nominations - Ref. AF11/858

- (a) The Director - Operational Services called for nominations for the position of Presiding Member for the Environmental Sustainability Sub-Committee;
- (b) The following nominations were received:

Cr Richardson nominated Cr Mutton to be Environmental Sustainability Sub-Committee Presiding Member.

- (c) The Returning Officer declared Cr Mutton be elected to the position of Presiding Member for the Environmental Sustainability Sub-Committee on and from 7th February 2017, for a period of 1 year.

Cr Mutton took the Chair for the following business:

APOLOGIES: Nil

MINUTES: Cr Von Stanke moved that the minutes of the previous meeting held on Tuesday, 1st November 2016 be taken as read and confirmed.

Cr Richardson seconded

Carried

QUESTIONS: (a) With Notice - nil submitted.
(b) Without Notice – nil received.

3. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT – Environmental Waste Management and Education Program – Recycle Right Bin Tagging – Initial Round Follow Up - Ref. AF11/408

The Presiding Member reported:

- (a) The Recycle Right Bin Tagging program began as a trial in Mount Gambier in February 2015 with the support of Zero Waste SA and South East Local Government Association. Since this time the City of Mount Gambier Council has endorsed the continuation of this program and conducted an additional two rounds of the program.
- (b) This program has been supported as it demonstrates a reduction in the number of recycling and waste bins presented with contamination as well as reducing the levels of contamination for each bin. These results are achieved through examining bin contents over an 8 week period, each fortnight, and providing direct feedback to each household. Whilst this is labour intensive the initiative has shown to improve recycling behaviours.

Environmental Sustainability Sub-Committee Minutes of 7th February 2017 Cont'd...

- (c) On Tuesday 25th October 2016 Environmental Sustainability Officers conducted an uninformed follow up examination on the properties which participated in the initial round of the Recycle Right Bin Tagging Program. The aim of this undertaking was to assess the behaviour change impacts on participants in the long term, as opposed to an 8 week period.
- (d) To assess the behaviour change impacts the results from the last week of the initial round conducted in April 2015 were compared with the results recorded in October 2016.

In the initial inspection the average number of contaminated recycling bins was 36%, which was maintained at 36% when inspected recently. This resulted in a 2% reduction in contamination over the year, due to the slight change in bins inspected.

- (e) The level of contamination presented in recycling bins was recorded at 1.1 initially and changed to 1.3 recently. This resulted in an 18% increase; meaning that recycling bins that still presented contamination, presented a slightly higher level of contamination. This can be due to the subjectivity of the contamination scale and that for the inspections different officers were involved.
- (f) On first inspection, the average number of contaminated waste bins, predominantly recyclables was 25%, which increased to 38% in the recent inspection. This resulted in a 54% increase in contamination across the two inspections. This increase may be due to the waste bins being fuller in the second inspection, and that households and businesses in the area have changed ownership since the initial round.
- (g) As the aim of the program has always been to reduce the contamination in recycling bins and reduce the number of recyclables going to landfill, these results suggest the program has been able to achieve continued reduction in contamination in recycling bins. In regards to reducing the number of recyclables going to landfill, there is some room for improvement, though the results are still lower than recorded at the beginning of the initial program.
- (h) The following table provides an overview of the results recorded during the initial inspection, at the end of the program and as part of the follow up inspection. These results further highlight the positive changes in recycling behaviour and the potential for the Recycling Right Bin Tagging program to achieve positive outcomes for the community:

	Initial Bin Tagging (February 2015)	After 3 rounds of Bin Tagging (April 2015)	Follow up Inspection after 18 Months (October 2016)
Average Number of Contaminated Recycling Bins	62%	36%	36%
Level of Contamination presented in Recycling Bins	1.4	1.1	1.3
Average Number of Contaminated Waste Bins	46%	25%	38%

- (i) It is recommended that based on these results the Recycle Right Bin Tagging program continue and that follow up inspections should be conducted where the second and third rounds were done. This would provide more information on the effectiveness of the program in the long term. Additionally, maintaining ongoing waste education for the community is important to complement the behaviour change impacts for recycling behaviours of the Mount Gambier community.

Environmental Sustainability Sub-Committee Minutes of 7th February 2017 Cont'd...

Cr Richardson moved it be recommended:

- (a) The report be received;
- (b) Council continue the Bin Tagging Program.

Cr Von Stanke seconded

Carried

4. ENVIRONMENTAL Sustainability Report No. 1/2017 – Environmental Management – Council Carbon Emissions – City of Mount Gambier 2015-2016 Greenhouse Gas Emissions – Ref. AF12/388

Cr Von Stanke moved it be recommended:

- (a) Environmental Sustainability Report No. 1/2017 be received;
- (b) Council allocate an amount of \$15,000 in the 2017-2018 budget to purchase foreign carbon offsets to cover the 11,156 GHG's emitted in 2015-2016
- (c) Council engage Dr Tim Moore to assist with the development of a long term carbon mitigation strategy and to review the measuring and reporting approach for the Carbon Report with relevant staff
- (d) Council undertake an ongoing educational campaign regarding organics and recycling in order to divert waste to landfill and improve point source segregation to assist with appropriate waste diversion at the Waste Transfer Centre
- (e) Council continue to investigate the feasibility of a 3 bin kerbside collection system (i.e. weekly organics collection, fortnightly recycling and general refuse collection)
- (f) Council continue to roll out energy efficiency and renewable energy measures within the organisation and the community within budget constraints
- (g) Council continue educational campaigns to assist residents and businesses with reducing carbon emissions across the City.

Cr Meziniec seconded

Carried

5. ENVIRONMENTAL Sustainability Report No. 2/2017 – Environmental Management – Environmental Sustainability Initiatives – Carbon Conscious Community Buildings Program – Ref. AF11/407

Cr Von Stanke moved it be recommended:

- (a) Environmental Sustainability Report No. 2/2017 be received;
- (b) Council refer \$30,000 in the 2017/2018 budget, for the establishment of the Carbon Conscious Community Buildings Program.

Cr Meziniec seconded

Carried

6. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT - Environmental Sustainability Sub-Committee - Reports for Information - Ref. AF12/377

The Presiding Member reported:

- (a) Environmental Sustainability Program 2017 - Project Progress

Environmental Sustainability Sub-Committee Minutes of 7th February 2017 Cont'd...

The current table outlining projects for 2017 was attached to the agenda for Members information.

Cr Von Stanke moved it be recommended:

- (a) The report be received;**
- (b) item (a) as above be received and noted for information.**

Cr Richardson seconded

Carried

MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE - Nil

The meeting closed at 8:02 a.m.

7 February 2017
AF12/377
SM

CONFIRMED THIS

DAY OF

2017.

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PRESIDING MEMBER