Shire of Denmark





### **BUSH FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

TO BE HELD AT THE SHIRE OF DENMARK RECEPTION ROOM THURSDAY 22<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2021, COMMENCING AT 6.30PM

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#### 1. DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

The Presiding Person opened the meeting at 6.30pm.

#### 2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/APPROVED LEAVE OF ABSENCE

	Mr Lez Baines	CBFCO
	Mr Bryce Edwards	DCBFCO
	Mr Nigel Marsh	DCBFCO
	Cr Mark Allen	Council Delegate / Chairman
	Cr Roger Seeney	Council Delegate
	Mr Mike Hills	Harewood FCO
	Mr Craig Lilley	Kordabup FCO
	Mr Murray Brooker	Mt Lindesay FCO
	Mr Hank Alberts	Ocean Beach FCO
	Mr Trevor Brown	Peaceful Bay Captain
	Mr Callum Baxter	Somerset Hill FCO
	Mr Alex Williams	Hazelvale FCO
	Mr Brian Vigus	Tingledale FCO
	Mr Kevin Hard	Parryville FCO
	Mr Lee Shelley	VFRS Captain
	Mr Paul Harbron	VFRS
	Mr Adrian Kranendonk	Fire Weather Officer
	Mr Neville Brass	Nornalup FCO
	Mr Simon Coppock	William Bay FCO
	Mr Craig Hughes	Carmarthen FCO
	Mr Carl Wesley	Mt Shadforth FCO
	Mr Paul Moncrieff	Mehniup FCO
	Mr William Miller	East Denmark FCO
MEMBERS:		(Non-Voting)
_		

DFES Area Officer DBCA Australian Bluegum Plantations

(Non-Voting)

Manager of Community Services Acting Community Emergency Services Manager Senior Ranger Bushfire Risk Planning Coordinator

Scotsdale BFB Denmark Support

Mt Lindesay FCO Parryville FCO

Council Delegate DBCA

### VISITORS:

STAFF:

Bart Lebbing

Mr Wes BailyeNikki Rouse

Mr Paul Ashton

□ Ms Renee Wiggins

□ Ms Charmaine Shelley

□ Ms Melanie Haymont

□ Mr Lee Shelley

Richard Stanley

#### APOLOGIES:

- □ Mr Murray Brooker
- Mr Kevin Hard

#### ABSENT:

- □ Cr Roger Seeney
- Nikki Rouse

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: Nil

#### 3. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PERSON PRESIDING

**3.1** Cr Allen Noted the passing of Scotsdale FCO Sid Marshall and his valuable contribution to the community and his service not only with the Scotsdale Bushfire Brigade but with the Denmark Surf Lifesaving. Sid will be greatly missed.

#### 4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

#### 4.1 Committee Meeting Minutes

#### OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

**ITEM 4.1** 

**Moved:** Adrian Kranendonk **Seconded**: William Miller That the minutes of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee Meeting held on the 14<sup>th</sup>January, be confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

Carried: Unanimously

#### 5. OFFICER REPORTS

#### 5.1 Department of Fire and Emergency Services

AO Rural Wes Bayle Reported

- A RUI exercise will be held at Goode Beach Albany 30<sup>th</sup> May all FCOs are welcome to attend please send RSVP to Denmark CESM
- There have been a couple of regional incidents with crews deployed
- High season appliances are slowly transitioning back to Perth for redeployment
- Burn Smart workshops are going ahead please contact Wes Bayle at DFES Albany for more information
- There has been some staff changes at Albany Regional Office
- DFES is again offering a Flu Vaccination subsidy

#### 5.2 Department of Biodiversity Conservation & Attractions - Nil Report

#### 5.2.1 Australian Bluegum Plantations

- A quiet season thus far
- One fire on Private Property was contained to the property
- No problems with this year programmed harvest

#### 5.4 Chief Bushfire Control Officer Report

The Chief Bush Fire Control Officer provided the following report which was tabled at the meeting.

"Not too much has happened since the last BFAC meeting regarding incidents:

#### Greaterex Road, Kentdale.

Grass Fire started from an exhaust spark from a tractor moving stock. Luckily the property owner saw the smoke and had a Fire Unit on site. This fast response plus dialling 000 saved probably several days' work chasing what could have been a large bush fire which had the potential to follow the river down towards South Coast Hwy and the Kenton Estate.

Exceptional turn out from Brigades and thanks to DBCA for having the Water Bombers on standby plus the SES for re-loading.

However, should it be proposed that property owners who own a parcel of land over a certain area be required to have a Fire Response trailer in working order?

#### Nutt Road, Nornalup.

This was thought to have been the result of a lightning strike. Nornalup and Peaceful Bay turned out.

#### 25k Vehicle Fire on Mt Barker Road ..... False alarm.

#### Cnr Cotswold Dve/Ocean Beach Rd.

Owner was BBQing chops!!!! Thanks to O.B. for investigating.

#### Peaceful Bay Inlet.

Thankfully in DBCA land, handed over to Walpole and offer of assistance by BFB was made.

#### Ocean Beach Caravan Park.

Illegal camp fire attended by myself, matter is being handled by the Rangers.

AGMs are commencing so if you would like the Chief, Deputy or CESM to attend please let us know.

Please could FCO's speak to me regarding any area's where they would like to do a Hazard Reduction Burn so that we can put a plan into action for either completing burns now or in Spring. DBCA have also asked if any Brigades would like to burn Private Properties next to where they are proposing to burn.

On the cards so far is the Water Corp burn which is being looked at on May 1<sup>st</sup> should the conditions be favourable.

We are also looking to do several Shire reserves in Peaceful Bay plus 2 Hazard Reduction Burns on Private Property in Peaceful Bay.

I am aware that Ocean Beach is also conducting a burn very shortly."

#### 5.5 Acting Community Emergency Services Manager

Mr Lee Shelley provided the following report to the committee

#### Community Engagement;

#### Preparedness

- PPC and PPE are on order and awaiting delivery there has a long lead time for delivery of some items
- FCO's with any concerns with properties in their area regarding the lack fire
  preparedness and mitigation please liaise call and speak to one of the ranger
  team.
- Brigade AGMs are upon us, please forward your BFB updated committee contact details and AGM minutes through to me as soon as they are finalised, I will attempt to attend as many AGMs as possible
- LG BFB Monthly Report Membership details, please amend your BFB membership lists to reflect current members, The CBFCO and myself are happy to come out and go through the process with you
- DFES are promoting Bushfire Ready Groups and have upcoming workshops please promote this through your networks
- Fire Management Notice an initial draft attached

- Hazard Reduction Burn the Water Corp Burn is scheduled for the late April
   weather permitting
- Burn Smart are launching the 2021 program this will include community workshops and a 4-part Video series. It accompanies the existing Burn SMART resources which include:
  - Burn SMART A planned burning guide for small landholders (Burn SMART Guide) attached
  - Burn SMART Checklist
  - Burn SMART Leaf moisture method
  - Burn SMART Planned burning fact sheet

#### Training

- Hay-Mazing race was well attended by the eastern zone brigades. Well done to Will Miller East Denmark FCO for putting on a great training exercise which was well received by the volunteers that attended
- Great so see some brigades increasing their training to monthly and some cases weekly
- Volunteer Hub and Eacademy. There is increasingly more course availability, all volunteers are encouraged to access the Hub and Eacademy to assist in their access to information and training.

#### **Response**

 There have been no major incidents recorded in the shire of Denmark during the last reporting period

#### 5.6 Bushfire Risk Planning Coordinator

Ms Melanie Haymont provided the following report to the committee

- 85/90% of the \$500,000 2020/21 MAF program has been completed with the balance on schedule to be completed within this financial year. The 4 contractors engaged in these works have been working well.
- The Ocean Beach Rd component of the mitigation works have been well received by the public
- 2021/22 MAF program will be submitted in May 2021, \$500,000 of works have been identified and hopefully approved, predominately for retreatment work.
- Some positive learning outcomes were achieved with the BRIGS Program, a report is available on the Shire website

#### 6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

#### 6.1 Burning on Road Verges

#### <u>Response</u>

Presently the Shire Sustainability Officer is progressing the Road Verge Policy once completed the Roadside Verge Burning Policy can be finalised. Shire officers are working through this complex issue once the internal process is developed it will need to go to council for endorsement.

#### 6.2 Driveway Crossover Compliance

Who is responsible for this section of driveway? It being Shire land, is the Shire responsible for seeing that the driveway comes up to the standard required for safe

access of a fire vehicle, does it have the clearance required as laid down in the Shire Fire Break Notice? If not the Shire's responsibility, can the property owner bring the driveway up to the Shires Firebreak Notice standard, that is can the property owner clear vegetation, cut down or fall trees & do earthworks to bring the driveway up to the Shires Firebreak Notice standard? If this is the case, is the property owner required to have a Clearing Permit to do this work on Shire owned land? Is there a policy on this?

Neville Brass Nornalup FCO

#### <u>Response</u>

An authorised officer can request the property owner/occupier to comply under the Shire of Denmark Fire Management Notice which meets:

- Appendix 2, 3A of the State Planning Policy 3.7 Guidelines for Planning in Bushfire Prone Areas
- Regulation 5, Item 21A of the UNDER PART V OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT 1986 allows for clearing to construct a crossover.
- An Application for a Permit to Undertake Crossover Construction Works within a Council road reserve would need to be submitted to the shire for consideration

#### 6.3 Volunteer Insurance

 Question on notice. Mike Hills Harewood FCO requested further information on pre-existing medical conditions and legal support if needed around and incident. Response will be tabled at June 17 BFAC

#### 6.4 Fire Management Notice 2021/22

- Please see a revised DRAFT Fire Management Notice attached for discussion.
- It is proposed that the FMN will go before council for endorsement at the June council meeting

Discussion around the management notice ensued and it was resolved that

- A subcommittee to be convened to review Mike Hills, Lez Baines, Nigel Marsh, CESM, Senior Ranger, Renee Wiggins with the meeting to be arranged in the week of 27<sup>th</sup> April
- It is envisaged that FMN will be presented to June Council meeting for endorsement,
- The FMN will be sent out with the 2021/22 Rates Notice

#### 7. GENERAL BUSINESS

#### 7.1 Paul Moncrief to talk to alternative road side fire Permit/Notification signage

- The Shires engineering dept. is currently conducting a Shire wide sign audit
- CESM to investigate alternate Fire/Permit/Campfire signage and alternate funding streams

#### 7.2 Neville Brass to talk to costs associated with Brigade burns on Private Property

- Discussion ensued, the Request to conduct a Hazard Reduction Burn on Private Property Form allows for discretion on fees, ultimately the CBFCO has final say
- Training burns are to be shared around the community on a case-by-case basis with approval of the CBFCO
- 7.3 Lez Baines Is it possible to compel rural land holders to have fire units on their property at all times? CESM, Table at next BFAC
- **7.4** Adrian Kranendonk- is the Airport burn going ahead? CESM, Yes burned for 2021 spring MAF funded

7.5 Neville Brass- Will the CBFCO consider introducing Zones for altering burning times

CBFCO, No not at this time

- 7.6 Callum Baxter Somerset Hill have a slip-on unit they lend to brigade members
- 7.7 Brian Vigus Requested information on the LGGS Shed and vehicle replacement program CESM to research and report to June BFAC
- 7.8 Alex Williams- Raised concerns of the Shire of Denmark's endorsement of WA Forrest Alliance
- 7.9 Craig Hughes is there a possibility of a guide to accompany the FMN for FCO's
- 7.10 Simon Coppock compulsory water tank couplings for fire fighting
- 7.11 Paul Harbron a few people are not seeking permits but waiting until the season opens
   CESM- this does not absolve them of their responsibilities under the Bush Fire Act 1954
- 7.12 Will Miller Thanked those brigades that attended the Hay-Mazing Race, congratulations to Mt Lindesay who won the day
- 7.13 Carl Wesley A Bushfire Ready Group facilitators and coordinators sundowner will be held at the Shire offices on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2021 all FCO's and Captains welcome to attend, further details will be email at a later date

#### 8. NEXT MEETING

It is recommended that the next meeting of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee be held on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2021 at the Shire of Denmark Reception Room that will commence at 6.30pm.

#### **9.** AGM BUSH FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE Committee be held on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2021 at the Shire of Denmark Reception Room that will commence at 6.00pm.

#### **10. CLOSURE OF MEETING**

There being no further business to discuss the Presiding Person closed the meeting at 8.45pm.

#### These minutes were confirmed at the meeting of the \_\_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_

(Presiding Person at the meeting at which the minutes were confirmed)

# Shire of Denmark Minutes



## **BUSH FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

HELD IN COUNCIL RECEPTION ROOM 953 SOUTH COAST HIGHWAY, DENMARK THURSDAY 17<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2021

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#### 1. DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

The Chair opened the meeting at 6:15 pm.

Cr Allen acknowledged the land on which this meeting is being held on and the traditional custodians of the land, the Bibbulmun and Minang people and paid his respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

#### 2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/APPROVED LEAVE OF ABSENCE

MEMBERS: (Voting) Cr Mark Allen (Council Delegate / Chairman) Mr Nigel Marsh (DCBFCO) Mr Craig Lilley (Kordabup FCO) Mr Kevin Hard (Parryville FCO) Mr Murray Brooker (Mt Lindesay FCO) Mr Hank Williams (Ocean Beach FCO) Mr Callum Baxter (Somerset Hill FCO) Mr Lee Shelley (VFRS Captain) Mr Neville Brass (Nornalup FCO) Mr Paul Moncrief (Mehniup FCO) Mr Simon CoppocK (William Bay FCO) Mr Craig Hughes (Carmarthen FCO) arrived 6:30pm Mr Carl Wesley (Mt Shadforth FCO) Mr Will Miller (East Denmark FCO) Mr Paul Harbron (Denmark VFRS / Town FCO)

<u>ATTENDEES:</u> (Non-Voting)

Cr Roger Seeney (Deputy Council Delegate) Mr Wes Bailye (DFES Area Officer) Mr Paul Ashton (Australian Bluegum Plantations)

STAFF: (Non-Voting)

 Mr Lee Shelley (Acting Community Emergency Services Manager) *Please note: Mr Shelley is also noted above as a voting member in his capacity as the FCO for the Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service (VFRS).* 
 Ms Renee Wiggins (Acting Manager of Community Services) Mrs Charmaine Shelley (Senior Ranger) Ms Melanie Haymont (Bushfire Risk Planning Coordinator)

VISITORS:

Mr Richard Stanley (Denmark Support) Mr Ian Thompson (Harewood Bushfire Brigade (incoming FCO)) Francis Amess (Parryville (incoming Captain)) Cr Geoff Bowley (Denmark Shire Councillor)

APOLOGIES:

Mr Brian Vigus (Tingledale FCO) Alex Williams (Hazelvale FCO) Mr Adrian Kranendonk (Fire Weather Officer) Mr Lez Baines (CBFCO) Mr Bryce Edwards (DCBFCO) Mr Mike Hills (Harewood FCO) MS Nikki Rouse (DBCA)

ABSENT: Nil

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: Nil

#### 3. ELECTION OF OFFICERS – CHAIRMAN AND DEPUTY CHAIRMAN

Section 67(2) of the Bush Fires Act 1954 states that the Bush Fire Advisory Committee shall elect one of their members to be Chair. The following Council Policy relates.

"P040235 - Presiding Members of Council Committees

**Objectives** 

- To maximise the adherence of Council Committees and Working Groups to adopted policies and procedures;
- To maximise the likelihood of Council Committees and Working Groups having continuity of a Presiding Person for the duration of its term; and
- To maximise the efficiency and effectiveness of Committees and Working Groups by ensuring that the Chairperson has the appropriate training and support.

#### <u>Policy</u>

Wherever there is one or more Elected Members appointed to a Council Committee or Working Group, then it is Council Policy that the members of the Committee should elect one of those Elected Members to the role of Presiding Person.

A Presiding Person, and if required a Deputy, is to be elected using the same method as detailed in Section 5.12 of the Local Government Act 1995.

A deputy of a member of a Committee or Working Group may perform the functions of the member when the member is unable to do so by reason of illness, absence or other cause and a deputy of a member of a Committee or Working Group, while acting as a member, has all the functions of and all the protection given to a member (Section 5.11A of the Local Government Act 1995)."

Clause 8.6 of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee Charter allows for a Deputy Chair also.

#### COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

MOVED: MURRAY BROOKER

ITEM 3.1 SECONDED: NEVILLE BRASS

**ITEM 3.2** 

That Councillor Mark Allen be appointed as Chair of Bushfire Advisory Committee for the 2021/22 financial year.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

#### COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

MOVED: SIMON COPPOCK

SECONDED: MURRAY BROOKER

That Councillor Roger Seeney be appointed as Deputy Chair of Bushfire Advisory Committee for the 2021/22 financial year.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

#### 4. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHAIR

Cr Mark Allen noted his 5 yrs. as Chair and thanked the BFAC committee, Council, DFES, DBCA, Australian Plantations and Shire staff for their support.

The Minister for Emergencies Services Hon. Reece Whitby and DFES Commissioner Darren Klemm visited Denmark on the 10<sup>th</sup> June to view the Fire Wise Garden and a BRIGS presentation by Melanie Haymont both were impressed with their visit and thanked the shire and volunteers for their efforts.

#### 5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

#### 5.1 MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 23 JULY 2020

#### COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

MOVED: MURRAY BROOKER

ITEM 5.1 SECONDED: CR ALLEN

That the minutes of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee Annual General Meeting held on the 23<sup>th</sup> July 2020 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

#### 6. GENERAL BUSINESS

## 6.1 APPOINTMENT OF FIRE CONTROL OFFICERS, CHIEF BUSH FIRE CONTROL OFFICER AND CHIEF DEPUTY BUSH FIRE CONTROL OFFICER

While the Captains, Lieutenants, Secretaries, Equipment Officers and the like are elected by Brigades it is the local government's role to appoint Fire Control Officers, a Chief Bush Fire Control Officer and a Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer pursuant to section 38(1) of the Bush Fires Act 1954. This section reads as follows:

#### "38. Local Government may appoint bush fire control officer

A local government may from time to time appoint such persons as it thinks necessary to be its bush fire control officers under and for the purposes of this Act, and of those officers shall subject to section 38A(2) appoint 2 as the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer and the Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer who shall be first and second in seniority of those officers, and subject thereto may determine the respective seniority of the other bush fire control officers appointed by it."

POST SCRIPT: This item was dealt with as part of Item 7.1 below.

#### 7. REPORTS FROM OFFICERS

#### 7.1 CHIEF BUSH FIRE CONTROL OFFICER (CBFCO)

The incumbent Chief Bush Fire Control Officer, Lez Baines, provided the following brief report which was tabled and read as follows:

"Thank you all for your support over the last 12 months I feel that Denmark Brigades are improving each year and we need to keep going along that pathway. Kranny [Adrian Kranendonk] and Alex [Alex Williams], special thank you for allowing me to bend your ears and offering your opinions to assist me with decision making.

A few changes looking forward to the next year. A couple of new faces also which means new idea's (Hopefully!). Mike Hills (Harewood BFB) and Kevin Hard (Parryville BFB) are both stepping aside as FCO's this year so many thanks for the roles you have had in the past years. Bryce is stepping down as Deputy Chief this year due to work commitments, so a big thank you to Bryce who I dare say we will still see a lot of him

Thank you to, Fire Management Notice Working Group, Shire Officers for their work and support with enforcement and works for MAF."

The Chair called for nominations for the positions of Chief Bush Fire Control Officer and Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officers.

**ITEM 7.1** 

ITEM 7.1

#### COMMITTEE NOMINATION

MOVED: CR ALLEN

#### SECONDED: NIGEL MARSH

That Lez Baines be appointed as Chief Bush Fire Control Officer for the 2021/22 financial year.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

#### **COMMITTEE NOMINATION**

MOVED: CARL WESLEY

#### ITEM 7.1 SECONDED: MURRAY BROOKER

That Nigel Marsh be appointed as Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer for the 2021/22 financial year.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

#### COMMITTEE NOMINATION

MOVED: HANKS WILLIAMS

SECONDED: CARL WESLEY

That Shane Howlett be elected as Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer for the 2021/22 financial year.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

MOVED: CR ALLEN

ITEM 7.1 SECONDED: NIGEL MARSH

That, pursuant to Section 38 (1) of the Bush Fires Act 1954, Council APPOINT the following persons for the financial year 2021/2022 and that the appointments be advertised in the Denmark Bulletin and Council's Delegation (Appointments) D050109 be updated accordingly;

Bush Fire Control Officers authorised within the entire Shire of Denmark

Senior Ranger Ranger Ranger Fire Control Officer Fire Control Officer & Chief Fire Control Officer Fire Control Officer & Deputy Chief Fire Control Officer Fire Control Officer & Deputy Chief Fire Control Officer Charmaine Shelley David Lonie Emma Holliday Melanie Haymont Les Baines Shane Howlett Nigel Marsh

Bush Fire Control Officers authorised within the entire Shire of Denmark area on behalf of their respective Brigades

Carmarthen Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade Denmark East Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade Harewood Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade Hazelvale Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade Tingledale Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade Kordabup Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade Owingup Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade Mehniup Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade Mt Lindesay Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade Nornalup Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade Ocean Beach Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade Parryville Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade Peaceful Bay Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade Scotsdale/Shadforth Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade Somerset Hill Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade William Bay Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade

Craig Hughes Will Miller Ian Thompson Alex Williams Brian Vigus Craig Lilley Bryce Edwards Paul Moncrieff Murray Brooker **Neville Brass** Hank Alberts TBA TBA Carl Wesley Callum Baxter Simon Coppock Bush Fire Control Officers authorised within the prescribed Denmark Fire & Rescue Service Area Only

Denmark Fire and Rescue Service (Volunteer Brigade) Denmark Fire and Rescue Service (Volunteer Brigade)

Lee Shelley Paul Harbron

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

#### 7.2 APPOINTMENT OF FIRE WEATHER OFFICER

Section 38(8) of the Bush Fires Act 1954 provides Council with the authority to appoint to the office of Fire Weather Officer such number of senior bush fire control officers as it thinks necessary.

#### COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

MOVED: LEE SHELLEY

SECONDED: MURRAY BROOKER

ITEM 7.2

That, pursuant to Section 38 (8) of the Bush Fires Act 1954, Council APPOINT Adrian Kranendonk for the financial year 2021/2022 as a Fire Control Officer and Fire Weather Officer to be authorised within the entire Shire of Denmark;

CARRIED: UNANIMOUSLY

#### 7.3 MEETING DATES OF THE BFAC COMMITTEE

Section 67(4)(a) of the Bush Fires Act 1954 states that the Bush Fire Advisory Committee may from time to time meet and adjourn as the committee sees fit.

### COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

MOVED: LEE SHELLEY

ITEM 7.3 SECONDED: MURRAY BROOKER

That Bush Fire Advisory Committee meet four (4) times a year, commencing on the first Thursday in September and then at an equal time across that period plus one annual general meeting aligned to the meeting closest to the financial year start/end.

CARRIED: UNANIMOUSLY

#### NEXT MEETING

It is recommended that the next AGM of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee be held on Thursday the 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2022 at 6.00pm.

#### 8. CLOSURE OF MEETING

There being no further business to discuss the Presiding Person closed the meeting at 6.33pm.

These minutes were confirmed at the meeting of the

Signed:

(Presiding Person at the meeting at which the minutes were confirmed.)

# Shire of Denmark Minutes



## **BUSH FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

HELD IN COUNCIL RECEPTION ROOM 953 SOUTH COAST HIGHWAY, DENMARK THURSDAY 17<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2021

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These minutes and resolutions are subject to confirmation by the Committee and therefore prior to relying on them, one should refer to the subsequent Meeting of the Committee with respect to their accuracy.

No responsibility whatsoever is implied or accepted by the Shire of Denmark for any act, omission or statement or intimation occurring during Council/Committee meetings or during formal/informal conversations with staff.

The Shire of Denmark disclaims any liability for any loss whatsoever and howsoever caused arising out of reliance by any person or legal entity on any such act, omission or statement or intimation occurring during Council/Committee meetings or discussions. Any person or legal entity who acts or fails to act in reliance upon any statement does so at that person's or legal entity's own risk.

In particular and without derogating in any way from the broad disclaimer above, in any discussion regarding any planning application or application for a license, any statement or limitation or approval made by a member or officer of the Shire of Denmark during the course of any meeting is not intended to be and is not taken as notice of approval from the Shire of Denmark. The Shire of Denmark warns that anyone who has an application lodged with the Shire of Denmark must obtain and should only rely on <u>WRITTEN CONFIRMATION</u> of the outcome of the application, and any conditions attaching to the decision made by the Shire of Denmark in respect of the application.

#### 1. DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS The Presiding Person opened the meeting at 6:35 pm.

#### 2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/APPROVED LEAVE OF ABSENCE

MEMBERS: (Voting) Cr Mark Allen (Council Delegate / Chairman) Mr Nigel Marsh (DCBFCO) Mr Craig Lilley (Kordabup FCO) Mr Murray Brooker (Mt Lindesay FCO) Mr Hank Williams (Ocean Beach FCO) Mr Trever Brown (Peaceful Bay Captain) Mr Callum Baxter (Somerset Hill FCO) Mr Kevin Hard (Parryville FCO) Mr Lee Shelley (VFRS Captain) Mr Paul Harbron (VFRS) Mr Neville Brass (Nornalup FCO) Mr Simon CoppocK (William Bay FCO) Mr Craig Hughes (Carmarthen FCO) Mr Carl Wesley (Mt Shadforth FCO) Mr Paul Moncrief (Mehniup FCO) Mr William Miller (East Denmark FCO)

<u>MEMBERS:</u> (Non-Voting) Mr Wes Bailye (DFES Area Officer) Mr Paul Ashton (Australian Bluegum Plantations)

STAFF: (Non-Voting)

Mr Lee Shelley (Acting Community Emergency Services Manager) *Please note: Mr Shelley is also noted above as a voting member in his capacity as the FCO for the Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service (VFRS).*Ms Melanie Haymont (Bushfire Risk Planning Coordinator) Ms Renee Wiggins (Acting Manager of Community Services) Mrs Charmaine Shelley (Senior Ranger)

#### VISITORS:

Cr Roger Seeney (Deputy Council Delegate) Mr Richard Stanley (Denmark Support) Mr Ian Thompson (Harewood Bushfire Brigade (incoming FCO)) Francis Amess (Parryville (incoming Captain)) Cr Geoff Bowley (Denmark Shire Councillor)

#### APOLOGIES:

Mr Alex Williams (Hazelvale FCO) Mr Brian Vigus (Tingledale FCO) Mr Adrian Kranendonk (Fire Weather Officer) Mr Lez Baines (CBFCO) Mr Bryce Edwards (DCBFCO) Mr Mike Hills (Harewood FCO) MS Nikki Rouse (DBCA)

ABSENT: Nil

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: Nil

#### 3. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PERSON PRESIDING

Councillor Mark Allen thanked BFAC for last year's contribution and looked forward to working the committee this year

#### 4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

#### 4.1 MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING - 22 APRIL 2020

#### COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

MOVED: CRAIG LILLEY

SECONDED: CRAIG HUGHES

**ITEM 4.1** 

That the minutes of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee Meeting held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2020 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

#### 5. GENERAL BUSINESS

#### 5.1 DEPARTMENT OF FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

Wes Bailye reported: Working towards more prescriptions to burn later this year Albany RUI cancelled due to poor weather, rescheduled for October 2021 Proposed RUI for Denmark September 2021 TBA Can brigades please send updated committee details to CESM ASAP Some Brigades have not fully used their fuel vouchers, used to completed by June 30 Steve York A/0 has resigned from DFES Please check for updated circulars on the DFES Hub

#### 5.2 DEPARTMENT OF BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION & ATTRACTIONS Nil

#### **5.3 AUSTRALIAN BLUEGUM PLANTATIONS**

Quite time now that harvesting has been completed, now focusing on establishment and vehicle maintenance.

#### 5.4 CHIEF BUSHFIRE CONTROL OFFICER

Not too much to report from the last 3 months. As I would have been mentioned at the AGM, Bryce is stepping down as Deputy Chief. Also, Kevin Hard and Mike Hills are stepping down as FCO's this next year.

Welcome to our new Fire 3 and Ian Thompson who has been nominated as the new Harewood FCO. Scotsdale will not be having a FCO and Carl (Mt Shad FCO) is going to issue permits required for Scotsdale area in the next season. Parryville have not elected an FCO this year to enable their Captain and crews to gain more training and qualifications over the next 12 months, likewise Peaceful Bay also have a Captain only.

Also, a reminder that should I receive a triple 000 call for a Structural Fire then I will automatically request VFRS to be turned out as primary agents due to their specialised structural training. This means that the Incident will be controlled by VFRS and that they are responsible for the tasking of BFB crews who are in attendance. No action is to be undertaken by BFB's unless a request or permission is given by the VFRS Officer in Charge. will state this more clearly by handing over the responsibility to VFRS over the radio to clarify the Command Structure of the Incident.

Moving forward I am encouraging Brigade training including multiple Brigades training together in the next year. I will also be conducting Skills Refresher Training pre-season to ensure our safety and to ensure that we are ready for the summer period.

#### 5.5 ACTING COMMUNITY EMERGENCY SERVICES MANAGER

Mr Lee Shelley provided the following report to the committee:

#### **Preparedness**

- Thank you to the outgoing BFB Leadership members for your dedication and commitment during the past year and congratulations to the new members.
- Most of the PPC and PPE on order has arrived, if you have members still waiting on some items, please let me know. During the winter months can FCO's and Captains start a PPE order for their members so that we can get an early start to next year and I can place one large order as there can be long lead times for delivery of some items.
- Most brigades have held their AGM's, please send updated Brigade committee contact details and AGM minutes through to me as soon as they are finalised.
- LG BFB Monthly Report Membership details, please amend your BFB membership lists to reflect current members, The CBFCO and myself are happy to come out and go through the process with you.
- A Bushfire Ready Group facilitators and coordinators sundowner was held.
- at the Shire offices on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2021 a good number attended and positive feedback received.
- Hazard Reduction Burn the Water Corp Burn did not go ahead as the conditions were not favourable.

#### <u>Training</u>

- Volunteer Hub and Eacademy. There is increasingly more course availability, all
  volunteers are encouraged to access the Hub and Eacademy to assist in their access
  to information and training.
- With the winter months approaching would encourage brigades to keep up regular training where possible

#### **Response**

 There have been no major incidents recorded in the shire of Denmark during the last reporting period

#### 5.6 BUSHFIRE RISK PLANNING COORDINATOR

Melanie Haymont reported:

The shire of Denmark submitted an application for funding to the Mitigation Activities Fund (MAF) to complete 81 treatments during the 21/22 financial year at a cost of \$497900K, we will be advised of the result of this application by mid-July.

It is proposed that there will be meeting of the mitigation working group on the 20<sup>th</sup> of July to discuss the bushfire mitigation Plan for the upcoming year. Once that process is finalised, we will send the program out through the Shires Request for Quote process (RFQ).

On the 26<sup>th</sup> of May we held a meeting with Noongar elders on the Wilson inlet below the Cove to discuss the principles of Cultural burning and the potential to integrate these practices on our reserves particularly in areas with substantial fuel loads and high risk to the community. The meeting was well attended by Minang Elders from Albany, Shire Staff, Denmark Bushfire volunteers and UWA staff. It was agreed to collaborate to carry out a burn over a small section of the foreshore when the weather allows.

Our sustainability officer has carried out an environmental impact assessment to advise this process.

A presentation on the "Bushfire Resilience in the Great Southern" (BRIGS) Project was given at the combined Ocean Beach & Scottsdale/Mt Shadforth training on the 5th of June. This project aims to advise evacuation planning Risk assessment and Bushfire

Mitigation planning within the Shire. If any other brigades would like a presentation, please contact Mel Haymont

#### 5.7 FIRE COMPLIANCE OFFICER

Will Miller reported:

Compliance was better this year with more people requesting information and actively trying to reduce their risk

#### 6 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

#### **VOLUNTEER INSURANCE**

#### Question on notice:

Mike Hills Harewood FCO requested further information on pre-existing medical conditions and legal support if needed around and incident.

RESPONSE: Further information is available from the Shire of Denmark HR department upon individual request on a case-by-case basis.

#### FIRE MANAGEMENT NOTE 2021/22

A subcommittee of Mike Hills, Lez Baines, Nigel Marsh, CESM, Senior Ranger, Renee Wiggins, Mark Allen met and finalised the Fire Management Notice (FMN). Please see attached the revised DRAFT Fire Management Notice (FMN), The FMN will be sent out with the 2021/22 Rates Notice

## IS IT POSSIBLE TO COMPEL RURAL LAND HOLDERS TO HAVE FIRE UNITS ON THEIR PROPERTY:

Some wheatbelt shires have minimum water requirements around harvesting machinery.

#### LGGS SHED AND VEHICLE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM

Carmarthen BFB has been listed for renewal; the Shire is going through the process of obtaining a suitable site. No new vehicle builds for Denmark are currently underway for this financial year.

#### 7 GENERAL BUSINESS

- Request for precise BFB Boundaries to be circulated to all brigades.
- Will Miller thanked Somerset Hill and Harewood Brigades for assisting SES with a flooding incident.
- Richard Stanley implored all members to get the Covid 19 vaccination.
- Paul Moncrief asked about new fire signage. Response: Shire is conducting a sign audit and will review once completed
- Simon Coppock FMN FAQ/s.
   Response: will be sent out to FCO's and Captains for input
- Roger Seeney suggested a brief of incidents be incorporated into the agenda Response: This will be actioned
- Application for Sid Marshall's 60 yr. service medal has been made to DFES. And a token of appreciation from the Shire will be presented to Barbara Marshall at a time to be confirmed with Adrian Kranendonk
- Shane Howlet Request brigades familiarise themselves with Eacademy and courses where appropriate and maintain training.
- Lee Shelley- requested for ideas and suggestions input from the committee to make meetings more engaging and to tap into the vast experience and knowledge of its members.

#### 8 NEXT MEETING

It is recommended that the next meeting of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee be held on 2<sup>th</sup> September 2021 at the Shire of Denmark Reception Room commencing at 6.30pm.

#### 9 CLOSURE OF MEETING

There being no further business to discuss the Presiding Person closed the meeting at 7.33pm.

These minutes were confirmed at the meeting of the

Signed: \_

(Presiding Person at the meeting at which the minutes were confirmed.)

# Shire of Denmark Charter



## **BUSH FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

This charter document defines the membership, authority, purpose, operational guidelines, responsibilities and resources of the Shire of Denmark Bushfire Advisory Committee, established by Council pursuant to Section 67 of the Bush Fires Act 1954.

#### **1.0 NAME**

The name of the Committee shall be the Shire of Denmark Bush Fire Advisory Committee, hereinafter referred to in its abbreviated form as the Committee.

#### 2.0 ESTABLISHMENT

The Committee is established pursuant to Section 67 of the Bush Fires Act 1954.

#### **3.0 DISTRICT**

The Committee shall operate within the local government boundaries of the Shire of Denmark.

#### 4.0 GUIDING PRINCIPLES

This Committee is established with the guiding principles in accordance with the Local Government Act 1995, sections 5.8 through to 5.25 and the Bushfires Act 1954.

The Committee will provide recommendations in accordance with Section 67 of the Bush Fires Act 1954 to Council on Policy, Standards and Procedures on all matters of fire protection within the Council area.

#### 5.0 VISION

To make the Shire of Denmark a safe community by managing the risk of fire through the delivery and implementation of fire prevention, preparedness, response and recovery strategies.

#### 6.0 TERMS OF REFERENCE

- 6.1 To recommend and regularly review Council's Policies relating to the delivery of fire prevention, preparedness, response and recovery.
- 6.2 To provide support and guidance to all Bush Fire Brigades within the Shire of Denmark and to assist those Brigades to fulfill their objectives.
- 6.3 To establish and maintain an operational command and control structure by developing procedures to enhance the ability of the Brigades to carry out operations, activities and training efficiently and effectively.

## 20 July 21 - Attachment 10.2d

- 6.4 To ensure co-operation and co-ordination between all Fire Brigades within the Shire of Denmark and between all other Fire Brigades and stakeholders in their efforts and activities.
- 6.5 To advise Council regarding all matters relating to prosecutions for breaches of the Bush Fires Act 1954.
- 6.6 To advise Regional Officers in the area and any other relevant person or organization on matters referred to the committee.
- 6.7 To report to Council on matters referred to the Committee by Council.
- 6.8 To perform any other function assigned to the Committee under Section 67 of the Bush Fires Act, regulations or Council policy.

#### 7.0 MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the Committee will comprise of a total of 23 voting members.

#### **Voting Members:**

- 1 x Councillor Delegate and Deputy
- Chief Bush Fire Control Officer
- Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer
- Fire Weather Officer
- All current and incoming FCOs, or Proxy FCOs representative\*, from each Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade (17 Brigades)

\* Proxy FCO representatives, for the purpose of discussion and voting at Committee meetings, must be appointed in writing signed by the delegate (FCO) and submitted to the Presiding Person prior to the meeting.

- Denmark Volunteer Fire & Rescue Service Captain
- Denmark Volunteer Fire & Rescue Service FCO

#### Attendees (Non-Voting):

- Community Emergency Services Manager (Secretary)
- Bushfire Risk Planning Coordinator
- Department of Fire & Emergency Services (DFES) representative or Proxy
- Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions Parks & Wildlife Service representative or Proxy
- Other Agencies and strategic organisations or businesses such as major tree plantations as required.

The Chief Bush Fire Control Officer (CBFCO) and the Deputy Chief Fire Control Officer (DBFCO) are selected from the appointed Fire Control Officers, however the CBFCO and DCFCO are only entitled to one vote each, not one for each position held.

#### 8.0 MEETINGS

#### 8.1 Annual General Meeting:

The Annual General Meeting is to be held on the first week in June. Elections for: Chief Bush Fire Control Officer; Deputy Chief Bushfire Control Officer; Fire Weather Officer; Brigade Fire Control Officers; and one of their voting members to be Chairperson, to be held at the Annual General Meeting recommended to Council for appointment.

#### 8.2 Committee Meetings:

The Committee shall meet as often as its Presiding Person and/or the Council decides, but no less than two times per year, once in October and once in February not including the Annual General Meeting.

#### 8.3 Quorum:

The quorum for any meeting of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee is at least 50% of the number of member positions prescribed on the Committee, whether vacant or not.

#### 8.4 Voting:

Shall be in accordance with the Local Government Act, Section 5.21 with all voting members of the Committee entitled and required to vote (subject to financial and proximity interest provisions of the Local Government Act). Officers of Council servicing the Committee are not entitled to vote unless specifically approved under the charter.

#### 8.5 Minutes:

Shall be in accordance with the Local Government Act, Section 5.22.

#### 8.6 Presiding Person

The Presiding Person and Deputy Presiding Person are to be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee pursuant to Council Policy P050107 and pursuant to Council Policy P040235 the Committee should elect an Elected Member to the role of Presiding Person.

#### 8.7 Who acts if no presiding member?

Shall be in accordance with the Local Government Act, Section 5.14.

#### 8.8 Meetings

Meetings are not open to the public pursuant to Section 5.23 of the Act as the Committee has no delegated power or duty.

#### 8.9 Public Question Time

Nil.

#### 8.10 Members Conduct

Members of the Committee are bound by the:

- provisions of Section 5.65 of the Local Government Act 1995;
- Shire of Denmark Standing Orders Local Law 2000;
- Shire of Denmark Code of Conduct (amended from time to time);
- Local Government (Rules of Conduct) Regulations 2007 (Elected Members only); and
- Clause 34C of the Local Government (Administration Regulations) 1996;

with respect to their conduct and duty of disclosure of financial, proximity or impartiality interests, to the extent stated, dependent upon whether they are a Councillor, Employee of Local Government or a Community Member (community members are not bound to declare impartiality interests, unlike Councillors and Employees of Local Government nor are they bound by the Rules of Conduct Legislation).

#### 8.11 Secretary

The Community Emergency Services Manager will fulfil the role of non-voting secretary who will also be responsible for preparation and distribution of agendas and minutes.

#### 8.12 Standing Ex-Officio Members

The Committee is authorised to co-opt standing ex-officio members not listed under the general membership as non voting members.

8.13 Meeting Attendance Fees Nil.

## 9.0 DELEGATED AUTHORITY OF THE COMMITTEE Nil

#### **10.0 STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT**

The specific tasks and actions undertaken by this committee will assist the Shire of Denmark in achieving the following aspirations and objectives as contained within the Strategic Community Plan;

#### C4.0 Our Community

ASPIRATION: We live in a happy, healthy, diverse and safe community with services that support a vibrant lifestyle and foster community spirit.

C4.1 To have services that foster a happy, healthy, vibrant and safe community.

April

March

and

each.

AGM of 14 Brigades

nominates 1 FCO each

to serve on BFAC with

Hazelvale/Tingledale,

Kordabup/Owingup

Scotsdale/Shadforth

nominate two FCOs

who are each

permitted to

the exception of

Brigades must within 1 month advise BFAC of Nominees

#### June BFAC AGM

(attended by the outgoing membership, but the ingoing are invited along and can't vote) meets in June as an AGM to endorse brigade nominated FCOs to Council. From this pool or from the outgoing pool (of FCOs), to then nominate a CBFCO DCBFCO and FWO to Council, and after that, elect a Chairperson from the members.

BFAC then forwards recommened appointments of CBFCO, DCBFCO, FWO and FCOs to Council.

In the event that a CBFCO, DCBFCO or FWO is elected to represent the interests of the Shire is a sole representative from that Brigade, the Brigade who provided that FCO to a senior position is entitled to nominate a replacement FCO to BFAC and Council. July Council accepts / amends nominees and appoints new BFAC members (FCOs), CBFCO, DCBFCO and the

FWO.

In the event that BFAC has failed to successfully nominate a person to any of the positions of CBFCO, DCBFCO or FWO, the Council may negotiate the appointment from the existing membership or appoint an additional FCO to fill any of the vacant positions as necessary.

Adopted by Council 19 November 2019 / Resolution No. 201119