

Shire of Denmark

MINUTES



SHIRE OF DENMARK SUSTAINABLE PROJECTS COMMITTEE

HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS AND VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE,
953 SOUTH COAST HIGHWAY, DENMARK,
ON TUESDAY, 3 MAY 2022, AT 9.00AM.

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Council Committee Meeting

03 May 2022

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1. DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

9:01am – *The Deputy Chief Executive Officer declared the meeting open and advised that he would Chair the meeting until the election in item 2 on the agenda, where a new presiding person would need to be elected by the Committee members.*

2. ELECTION OF PRESIDING PERSON

The Deputy Chief Executive Officer called for nominations for the position of Presiding Person.

Cr Clare Campbell submitted a nomination for Cr Jan Lewis in writing. Cr Lewis accepted the nomination.

There being no further nominations received, Mr King declared Cr Lewis elected. The Deputy Chief Executive Officer congratulated Cr Lewis and Cr Lewis assumed the Chair as the Presiding Person.

3. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/APPROVED LEAVE OF ABSENCE

MEMBERS:

Cr Jan Lewis (Presiding Person)
Cr Kingsley Gibson, Deputy Shire President
Cr Clare Campbell
Cr Donald Clarke

STAFF:

David King, Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Bohdan Davis, Manager Waste and Reserves
Damian Schwarzbach, Manager of Projects

APOLOGIES:

Nil

ON LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

Nil

ABSENT:

Nil

VISITORS:

Shaun Ossinger, Wilson Inlet Catchment Committee (WICC)
Mark McHenry, Wilson Inlet Catchment Committee (WICC)
Navid Moheimani (Murdoch University)
Xiangpeng Gao (Murdoch University)

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PERSON PRESIDING

Cr Lewis asked all in attendance to introduce themselves to other Committee Members.

6. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Nil

7. PRESENTATIONS

7.1 ANEROBIC DIGESTION

Navid Moheimani provided the Committee with information on Murdoch University's work on developing a pilot project for anaerobic digestion in the Shire of Demark.

The benefits included, investment diversity, protein production, bioplastic production, waste reduction.

7.2 BIOCHAR UPDATE

Shaun Ossinger and Mark McHenry from the Wilson Inlet Catchment Committee (WICC) updated on a biochar feasibility study.

It was explained that the biochar feasibility study involved collecting samples from green waste, turning those samples into woodchip and sending to Murdoch University to produce suitable biochar.

The study was to commence within the next month.

Discussion ensued on the scale and operation size in Denmark, including potential financial contributions from the Shire and it was noted that there some external companies had already shown an interest in supporting the project.

7.3 COMPOSTING – Food Organics & Garden Organics (FOGO)

The Manager of Waste and Reserves, presented initial investigations into composting within the Shire of Denmark and provided information on Albany's FOGO processing capability.

Discussion on FOGO ensued and it was noted that there had been a high level of interest in FOGO within the Shire of Denmark.

10:55am - Mark McHenry, Navid Moheimani and Xiangpeng Gao left the meeting via teams.

Shaun Ossinger (WICC) enquired on accessing or leasing land from the Shire to use for seedling production/tree nursery Shaun said that the requirements would be a small fenced area and WICC are currently applying for grants through LotteryWest.

Action:

Officers to look into the nursery proposal and bring back information to the committee.

Officers requested the Committee consider what they would like to see happen with FOGO within the next 12 months. Cr Gibson enquired about FOGO costs to ratepayer.

Action:

Officers to update the costings to ratepayers for FOGO and present to the Committee.

Cr Clarke asked whether there any other alternatives to deal with green waste disposal in an effort to eliminate burning. Bohdan Davis spoke about mulching and discussed the possibility of the Shire purchasing a mulcher.

Action:

Officers to look at costings for processing of the green waste to reduce or eliminate the need to burn the green waste not burning.

8. OFFICER REPORTS

Nil

9. GENERAL BUSINESS**9.1 POWER PROJECT**

The Deputy CEO spoke to a power project currently being looked into and that the project was still in its initial stage of engagement with a consultant.

Action:

Officers to provide members with further information including details of the project scale and anticipated costings.

9.2 LED STREET LIGHTING

Cr Gibson enquired on the status of LED street lighting within the Shire of Denmark

Action:

Officers to report back to the Committee.

9.3 PUBLIC RECYCLE BINS

Cr Campbell asked why there were no recycling bins in town. Officers advised that the main factor was due to contamination, and that 90% of recycling was typically contaminated. It was noted that other options for a recycling location in town were being investigated.

9.4 SOFT PLASTICS

Members discussed the recycling of soft plastics and noted that bins were no longer available at the Shire Administration Building because of high levels of contamination.

9.5 COMMUNITY COLLECTION HUBS

Cr Lewis referred to community recycling programmes through *TerraCycle* to organise community collection hubs. It was noted by Officers that the *TerraCycle* incentive was educational and had very good initiatives however, it could be costly. The risk of contamination would require Officer time to manage.

10. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, 7 June 2022 at the Shire of Denmark Administration Building, 953 South Coast Highway, Denmark, commencing at 9:00 am.

12:25 pm - Cr Gibson left the room and did not return.

11. CLOSURE OF MEETING

12:27 pm - There being no further business to discuss, the Presiding Person closed the meeting

These minutes were confirmed at the meeting of the _____

Signed: _____

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