

# SHIRE OF DENMARK

# Minutes



## **BUSH FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

HELD IN THE SHIRE OF DENMARK RECEPTION ROOM, 953  
SOUTH COAST HWY, DENMARK  
THURSDAY, 13th March 2025, COMMENCING AT 6:30pm

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1. **DECLARATION OF OPENING** Meeting opened by Chair Cr Claire Campbell

**Acknowledgement of Country**

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2. **RECORD OF ATTENDANCE**

**MEMBERS:**

Cr Clare Campbell	Council Delegate and Chairperson
Cr Kingsley Gibson	Shire President, Council Delegate
Chris Hoare	East Denmark FCO / DCBFCO
Lez Baines	Fire Weather Officer
Craig Lilley	Senior FCO (Kordabup)
Geoff Bowley	Shadforth FCO
Graham Dixon	Ocean Beach FCO
Darin Hockley	VFRS, FCO
Em Harper	Mt Lindesay Proxy
Gavin Butler	Somerset Hill FCO
Paul Moncrieff	Owingup FCO
Craig Hughes	Carmarthen FCO
Will White	William Bay Proxy

**STAFF:**

David King	Chief Executive Officer
Renee Wiggins	Manager of Community Services
Mark Guerin	Community Emergency Services Manager
Natalie Pescud	Community Services Administration Officer

**VISITORS:**

Tristan Farmer	DBCA
Paul Ashton	Australian Bluegum Plantations

**APOLOGIES:**

Trevor Brown	Peaceful Bay FCO
Murray Brooker	Mt Lindesay FCO
Nigel Marsh	CBFCO
Ian Coulson	Nornalup FCO
Adrian Kranendonk	Deputy Fire Weather Officer
Allister Dickson	Senior FCO
Brian Vigus	Tingledale FCO
Chris Hudson	Harewood FCO

**ON LEAVE OF ABSENCE:**

Nil

### 3. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PERSON PRESIDING

#### 3.1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

##### COMMITTEE DECISION & OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

ITEM 3.1

That the minutes of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee Meeting held on the 12<sup>th</sup> of December 2024, be confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

Moved: Geoff Bowley

Seconded: Lez Baines

Carried: Unanimously

### 4. REPORTS

#### 4.1. DEPARTMENT OF FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

After the high danger period, a team will be working on emergency response plan. Increase in deliberately set fires in the area. Be aware that the arsonist may still be on fire ground. Thank you to Ocean Beach Brigade for their BFR day. Training season is upon us, look at training available.

#### 4.2. DEPARTMENT OF BIODIVERSITY, CONSERVATION AND ATTRACTIONS

Report attached.

#### 4.3. CHIEF BUSHFIRE CONTROL OFFICER

Chris Hoare provided a report proxy for Nigel. Briefed Glenrowan Road fire. Bremer and Shannon deployments – Nigel thanked all those involved.

Five new light tankers have been supplied and training in their use is underway.

New fire mapper was a useful tool at the Glenrowan Road fire. Thanks for those attending brigade training.

Fire boards still not being changed – this is important to address.

Campfire at Boat Harbour – members to put out fires but don't put members at risk, not members duty to issue infringements. Discussion ensued.

**Action:** Develop a process for campfires that are lit illegally in remote areas or where the people are aggressive. CESM to progress.

##### COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

ITEM 4.3

BFAC requests that Council consider the danger inherent with not updating AFDR signs and instructs staff to cover the signs with a message instructing the public to refer to EmergencyWA.

Moved: Geoff Bowley

Seconded: Lez Baines

Carried: For 8, Against 4

#### 4.4. COMMUNITY EMERGENCY SERVICES MANAGER

- Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status. Shire fund has been refused. Several brigades have DGR status. Donations can be piped through these brigades as required.
- Donations update – approx. \$6000
- Geoff suggested – a plan is put in place for use of donations
- Gavin enquired about updating brigade office holders with DFES. Specifically, why changes take so long to action. CESM to follow up.

- Craig – asked about standpipes being fixed. Limbourne Rd will be addressed in coming months.

#### 4.5. BUSHFIRE RISK MITIGATION COORDINATOR

BRMP review – BFB consultation – update on plan provided. Victoria has requested that all members complete the online survey or see Vic for a paper copy. Please contact Victoria if you think there are any community risks not mentioned in the survey.

Victoria provided a MAF update – please let Vic know of any areas not addressed.

#### 4.6. BUSHFIRE READY UPDATE

Update provided by Em Harper – building momentum with getting more street co-ordinators on board. Rates of calls to 000 has increased since BFR has increased awareness in the community.

#### 4.7. Bluegum Plantations

Plantations update provided by Paul Ashton 600 hectares lost in one fire in Albany. Discussed new fire/smoke detection cameras, tower mounted with a 15km radius range.

#### 4.8. COUNCIL

No updates.

### 5. AGENDA ITEMS

#### 5.1. BFAC Charter update - CESM.

Discuss changes to the BFAC structure and the Terms of Reference.

Operational meeting framework

- DBCA, Bluegum Plantations & DFES in attendance
- Brigade office holders welcome
- Nomination of office holders minuted and presented to CEO.

Discussion ensued about the charter.

#### COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

ITEM 5.1

That BFAC

1. Accept the draft BFAC charter subject to the inclusion of nomination details.
2. Agree that the chief and deputy, after consultation with the brigades, inform the CEO of any changes prior to councils' consideration

Moved: Kingsley Gibson

Seconded: Lez Baines

Carried: Unanimously

### 6. FCO Update

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### 7. Action Register

Action	Responsibility	Resolution
Review of Local Law & SOPs	Shire	Currently underway
Airport backup genset feasibility	Shire	
Submit Stationery Wishlist	Brigades	Please submit
Internet Connectivity for Brigade Sheds	CESM	No progress at this stage

**8. NEXT MEETING**

It is recommended that the next meeting of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee be held on Monday the 9<sup>th</sup> of June ,2025 at the Shire of Denmark Reception Room commencing at 5.30pm.

**9. CLOSURE 8:09pm**



Department of Biodiversity,  
Conservation and Attractions



## DBCA Parks & Wildlife Service - Frankland District Update for Shire of Denmark BFAC Meeting

**Thursday 13 March 2025**

### Fire Mitigation

The Burn Options Program 2024-25 is available to view on the Parks and Wildlife Service website at the following link: <https://www.dbca.wa.gov.au/management/fire/prescribed-burning/burn-options-program>

The following burns were completed during spring/summer in the Shire of Denmark:

Burn ID	Burn Name	Size (ha)	Locality
FRK_074	Blue Holes	1,018 ha	1km SW of Nornalup
FRK_094	Sheepwash North	1,123 ha	17km NNE of Denmark
FRK_105	Kordabup North	25 ha	18km W of Denmark
FRK_110	Thames South	105 ha	8km NE of Bow Bridge
FRK_111	Giants East	206 ha	1km W of Bow Bridge

Autumn burn planning is well underway and will commence when conditions are suitable. Burns within the Shire of Denmark include:

Burn ID	Burn Name	Size (ha)	Locality
FRK_039	William Bay	64 ha	10km SW of Denmark
FRK_061	Parry Inlet	428 ha	17km W of Denmark
FRK_075	Irwin	73 ha	1km ESE of Bow Bridge
FRK_094	Sheepwash North	6,675 ha	17km NNE of Denmark
FRK_100	Conspicuous Cliff	814 ha	0km W of Peaceful Bay
FRK_103	Hay	55 ha	6km NNE of Denmark
FRK_105	Kordabup North	58 ha	18km west of Denmark
FRK_108	Harewood	2,924 ha	7 km NW of Denmark

### Fire Response

DBCA has responded to 5 bushfires within the Shire of Denmark.

Fire ID	Fire Name	Size (ha)	Managing Agency	Cause
Fire 1	Greens Pool		DBCA	Campfire
Fire 2	Rame Head		DBCA	Campfire

**Frankland District**

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## OFFICIAL

Fire 3	Big Quarram		DBCA	Campfire
Fire 4	Glenrowan Road	8 ha	LGA	Accidental (slashing)
Fire 5	Peaceful Bay Road	204 ha	DBCA	Deliberate

Frankland district has been providing significant support to the Donnelly Complex bushfires that started on 8/9 February and are continuing to burn in the Shannon and D'Entrecasteaux National Parks.

Two staff were also sent to Victoria to assist with the Grampians bushfire.

### **Fire Resource Availability**

Seasonal firefighting crews have been extended until end of May.

Fire rosters continuing until 14<sup>th</sup> May. Duty Officer is available 24/7 on 0417 939 607.

Water bombing and reconnaissance aircraft all currently operational.

Fire tower has been extended into March due to continuation of the Prohibited Period in Shire of Denmark and the Shire of Manjimup.