

Shire of Denmark Minutes



LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 953 SOUTH COAST HIGHWAY, DENMARK, TUESDAY, 2ND SEPTEMBER 2014, COMMENCING 4.00PM.

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1. DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

The Presiding Person opened the meeting at 4:05pm

2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/APPROVED LEAVE OF ABSENCE**MEMBERS:**

Cr Ross Thornton	(Shire President & Presiding Person)
Mr Andrew Dunn	(Denmark Police, Officer in Charge)
Mr Graeme Thallon	(Chief Bushfire Control Officer)
Ms Charmaine Shelley	(Denmark State Emergency Service)
Mr Derek Stone	(Denmark Sea Rescue)
Mr George Doust	(DPaW Walpole)
Mrs Erica Sayer	(St. John Ambulance, Denmark)
Mr Harold Luxton	(St. John Ambulance Walpole)
Mr Daniel Moore	(Silver Chain Walpole)
Mr Lee Shelley	(Denmark Fire and Rescue Service)
Mr Neville Blackburn	(Department for Child Protection & Family Support)
Mr Peter Campbell	(Denmark Surf Lifesaving)
Mr Alex Williams	(Walpole Sea Rescue)
Mr David Wall	(Walpole Police, Officer in Charge)

STAFF: (non voting)

Mr Ross McDougall	(Acting Committee Secretary & CESM)
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APOLOGIES:

Ms Tracey Allison	(Denmark State Emergency Service)
Mr Brian Vigus	(Peaceful Bay Sea Rescue)
Mr George Mumford	(Denmark Surf Lifesaving)
Mr Gregg Harwood	(Director of Community and Regulatory Services)

ABSENT:

Mr Samuel Barron	(Denmark Health Service)
Mr Peter Newton	(Walpole State Emergency Service)

VISITORS:**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

Name	Item No	Interest	Nature

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PERSON PRESIDING**4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME****5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

5.1 MINUTES OF THE LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION and COMMITTEE DECISION	ITEM 5.1
Moved: Neville Blackburn	Seconded: Graeme Thallon
That the minutes of the Local Emergency Management Committee held on the 3rd June 2014, are confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings.	
Carried: 14/0	

5.2 BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

5.2.1 Mobile Phone Tower for Mt Frankland

The meeting noted the information that had been provided on the mobile phone infrastructure that is now being proposed to replace the tower that was originally proposed for Mt Frankland.

Graeme Thallon asked that Gregg Harewood be thanked for his effort on this issue.

Committee Service Outcome:

The meeting requested that a better coverage map be sought by the CESM with more detailed information particularly around the locations of Peaceful Bay and Nornalup.

5.2.2 100th Anniversary - ANZAC Memorial Activities in Albany

The LEMC committee outlined preparations being undertaken by local emergency services to cater for the anticipated temporary increase in visitor numbers. The St John Ambulance Sub-centre is conducting a briefing on ANZAC preparations on 23 October, Denmark Surf Lifesaving are making preparations to ensure that they are able to cope with the anticipated numbers, Department for Child Protection & Family Support advised that they are examining alternate evacuation centres across the district and WAPOL will have additional officers in the area. A concern was raised in relation to the availability of emergency service volunteers during this period.

Committee Service Outcome:

The committee asked that a letter be sent to Great Southern DEMC acknowledging their letter and advising that Denmark emergency service agencies are undertaking preparations for the ANZAC Albany celebrations.

6. GENERAL BUSINESS

6.1 Westplan – Storm Review

The State Emergency Management Committee has written to local governments seeking comments on SEMC's review of Westplan – Storm by 10th October 2014. The original plan written in 2004 has undergone a complete re-write to align to the Emergency Management Act 2005 and various SEMP policies. A copy of the draft Westplan is attached.

Noted.

6.2 Denmark Sea Rescue - Tractor

The Denmark Sea Rescue Group's Committee have asked that LEMC be informed of the situation with their tractor which is currently impacting on the group's operational readiness.

The Sea Rescue Committee was aware that their tractor, which is essential to operations, was reaching the end of its service life with frequent repairs being required. An application for a grant for a replacement was made to DFES in February 2014 in accordance with the relevant DFES Policy Document at the time.

Whilst waiting for a response from DFES the tractor suffered a major mechanical breakdown making it inoperable. Repairs were not considered cost effective and would place a drain on future maintenance costs.

About the same date a reply to the request for funding for a new tractor was received from DFES advising that the Policy Document had been amended to introduce a priority list for VMRS Capital Grants as follows:

1. New vessel (where a VMR Group does not have a Rescue Vessel).
2. Replacement/additional vessel or upgrade/refit to an existing vessel.
3. New buildings/extensions.
4. Towing vehicle.
5. Equipment.

The introduction of a priority order resulted in DSRG being unsuccessful in their submission for a replacement tow vehicle. And immediately submitted a request for funds with the Lotteries Commission, which received written support from DFES and our local member Terry Redman.

A temporary arrangement has been negotiated with the Shire of Denmark for emergency call out situations if a machine and operator are available.

DSRG President Trent Moore has also made arrangements for the use of a local privately owned tractor however it is unsure how long this arrangement will be available as the tractor is subject to sale.

DSRG will keep the LEMC advised of developments should the future support of the Committee be required.

6.3 Walpole – Issues Caused by Power Outages

Harold Luxton explained to the committee the issues experienced by emergency service providers in Walpole with power outages that occur relatively frequently and sometimes for extended periods.

COMMITTEE DECISION	ITEM 6.3
Moved: Harold Luxton	Seconded: Erica Sayer
That the Local Emergency Management Committee raise with Great Southern DEMC the impact on emergency services response caused by the frequency and duration of power outages in Walpole.	
Carried: 14/0	

6.4 Overflow Camping at the McLean Oval

Ross Thornton advised that the Shire had engaged with local caravan park operators on this proposal and explained that the overflow arrangements would only be opened when all local caravan parks were full. If the Shire is successful in obtaining funds to establish infrastructure at the overflow camping site at McLean Oval then this would provide better facilities when the Oval is used as an evacuation centre.

The Committee was also advised that even though all permanent visitors accommodation has been booked for the period McLean Oval overflow camping would not be used during the ANZAC 2014 period as there is still abundant space available in caravan parks across the Shire of Denmark.

6.5 Walpole Blessing of the Emergency Services Fleet 2014

Harold Luxton advised that the annual Walpole Blessing of the Emergency Services Fleet would be held on Sunday 7th December 2014.

6.6 Denmark Primary School Emergency Planning

Peter Campbell informed the meeting that the Denmark Primary School was undertaking a review of the schools emergency planning and sought local input to assist with this task. The meeting resolved that Gregg Harwood would be able to assist the Primary School with this task.

It was also recommended that a representative from the Education Department should be included on any Incident Support Group that may be formed in response to a major incident to provide advice on impacts that incident management could have on the safety of school students.

6.7 Support to Residents Who Can Place the Community at Risk

Graeme Thallon raised an issue that has arisen with some residents who inadvertently place themselves and the community at risk because they are no longer physically or mentally capable of making appropriate decisions about the use of fire or controlling a fire that they light.

After discussion on this matter it was resolved that no formal action is suitable but it is an issue that emergency services need to be aware of when providing a service to the community.

7. NEXT MEETING

Scheduled for Tuesday the 2nd December 2014 in the Shire of Denmark Council Chambers, 953 South Coast Highway, Denmark, commencing at 4.00pm.

8. CLOSURE OF MEETING

There being no further business the Presiding Person closed the meeting at 5.24pm.

The Chief Executive Officer recommends the endorsement of these minutes at the next meeting.

Signed: _____
Dale Stewart – Chief Executive Officer

Date: 11 September 2014

These minutes were confirmed at the meeting of the _____

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