

**SHIRE OF KOJONUP**

# Kojonup



**Kojonup Bush Fire Advisory Committee**

**MINUTES**

*9 April 2018*

**MINUTES FOR THE KOJONUP BUSH FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**HELD 9 APRIL 2018**

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## MINUTES

### 1. **DECLARATION OF OPENING AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF GUESTS**

The Deputy Presiding Member declared the meeting open at 7:30pm and alerted the meeting of the procedures for emergencies including evacuation, designated exits and muster points.

### 2. **ATTENDANCE & APOLOGIES**

#### **MEMBERS**

Mr John Benn	Councillor (Deputy Presiding Member)
Mr Tony Fisher	Chief Bush Fire Control Officer
Mr Roger House	Deputy Bush Fire Control Officer
Mr Geoff Gale	President of the Kojonup Bush Fire Association
Mr Robert Cowie	Administration/Regulatory Officer
Mr Daniel Campbell	Kojonup Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service
Mr Matthew Crabb	Kojonup Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service
Mr Mort Wignall	Manager Regulatory Services
Mrs Denise Berryman	Secretary of the Kojonup Bush Fire Association
Mr Bob Francis	Kojonup Bushfire Brigade Member

#### **APOLOGIES**

Mr Ned Radford	Councillor (Presiding Member)
Mr Ross Fryer-Smith	Senior Bush Fire Control Officer
Mr Myles Reid	Senior Bush Fire Control Officer
Mr Murray Gibbs	Senior Bush Fire Control Officer
Mr Paul Retallack	Senior Ranger/Building Maintenance Coordinator
Mr Rick Mitchell-Collins	Chief Executive Officer

3. **SUMMARY OF RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE**

Nil

4. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Nil

5. **APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Nil

6. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

ORDINARY MEETING 12 February 2018

**COMMITTEE DECISION**

**3/18 Moved Geoff Gale, seconded Dan Campbell that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Bushfire Advisory Committee held 12 February 2018 be confirmed as a true record.**

**CARRIED 8/0**

7. **ANNOUNCEMENTS** by the Presiding Member without discussion

8. **PETITIONS, DEPUTATIONS & PRESENTATIONS**

9. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

10. **STATUS REPORTS**

*This section of the meeting is to be used to relay any updates or information to the rest of the Committee that do not require a motion to go to Council.*

**11. ITEMS**

**11.1 Kojonup Volunteer Bushfire Brigade AGM Minutes**

<b>AUTHOR</b>	Rob Cowie - Administration/Regulatory Officer
<b>DATE</b>	Thursday 5 April 2018
<b>FILE NO</b>	
<b>ATTACHMENT(S)</b>	Kojonup Bushfire AGM minutes (to be tabled)

STRATEGIC/CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS		
<b>Community Strategic Plan 2017 – 2027 “Smart Possibilities – Kojonup 2027+”</b>		<b>Corporate Business Plan 2017 – 2021 “Smart Implementation – Kojonup 2021 +”</b>
<b>Key Pillar</b>	<b>Community Outcomes</b>	<b>Corporate Actions</b>
<b>KP 2 –Connected</b>	<b>2.3 – Be providing for a safe and secure environment by working with State and Federal authorities</b>	<b>2.3.1 – Maximise community safety through safe urban design and advocate for enhanced emergency service provisions.</b>

**DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Nil

**SUMMARY**

To receive and acknowledge recommendations from the Kojonup Volunteer Bushfire Brigade (KVBB) AGM held on Wednesday 4 April 2018.

**BACKGROUND**

Nil

**COMMENT**

The KVBB have recommended that the minutes

1. Be received and acknowledged.
2. That the recommendations for the Zulus and Fire Control Officers (FCO’s) be passed onto Council for ratification.

**CONSULTATION**

Nil.

**STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS**

*Bush Fires Act 1954*

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

**RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

**ASSET MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

Nil.

**SOUTHERN LINK VROC (VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS) IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

**VOTING REQUIREMENTS**

Simple Majority

**COMMITTEE DECISION**

- 4/18 Moved Rob Cowie, seconded Roger House that the unconfirmed minutes of the Kojonup Volunteer Bushfire Brigade be received and that the Bushfire Advisory Committee recommend to Council that;**
- 1. Tony Fisher be recommended for the Chief Bushfire Control Officer for the 2018/2019 year**
  - 2. Roger House be recommended for the Deputy Chief Bushfire Control Officer for the 2018/2019 year**
  - 3. Ross Fryer-Smith and Myles Reid be recommended for the Senior Bushfire Control Officers for the 2018/2019 year**
  - 4. The CBCO and the DCBCO are recommended for the Fire Weather Officer and Deputy Fire Weather Officer respectively for the 2018/2019 year**
  - 5. The CBCO and the DCBCO are recommended to appointed as authorised officers to issue permits to burn for the collection of clover seed in the Shire for the 2018/2019 year**
  - 6. The CBCO, DCBCO and the two Senior FCO's be authorised to advise the COE of the Shire of Kojonup on the imposition of Harvest and Vehicle Movement Bans for the 2018/2019 year**

**CARRIED**

**8/0**

## 11.2 Permit Burns – Implications of non-compliance

<b>AUTHOR</b>	Rob Cowie - Administration/Regulatory Officer
<b>DATE</b>	Friday 6 April 2018
<b>FILE NO</b>	
<b>ATTACHMENT(S)</b>	Nil

STRATEGIC/CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS		
<b>Community Strategic Plan 2017 – 2027 “Smart Possibilities – Kojonup 2027+”</b>		<b>Corporate Business Plan 2017 – 2021 “Smart Implementation – Kojonup 2021 +”</b>
<b>Key Pillar</b>	<b>Community Outcomes</b>	<b>Corporate Actions</b>
<b>KP 2 –Connected</b>	<b>2.3 – Be providing for a safe and secure environment by working with State and Federal authorities</b>	<b>2.3.1 – Maximise community safety through safe urban design and advocate for enhanced emergency service provisions.</b>

### DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Nil

### SUMMARY

To discuss the implications and merits or otherwise of passing on relevant costs of fires that escape from permit burns to the holder of the permit.

### BACKGROUND

A fire occurred on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> March. The fire originated from a permit burn that was held by James Heggarton for a burn of chaff piles on his family’s property located on Rosedale Rd. The permit was applied for two days prior to the occurrence of the fire and it was believed that the chaff piles were contained and no longer posed any threat of further flare ups. On the Saturday, there was quite a strong wind which re-ignited the chaff heap and caused the fire to run and ignite into a larger fire. This fire jumped into the Rosedale Road reserve and cause significant damage to the trees on the road.

There will be a need to engage a contractor to clean up the roadside. This is estimated to cost in excess of \$10,000.00.

### COMMENT

The question to the Bushfire Advisory Committee is “Should the cost required to clean-up Council property (roadsides) following a Permit Burn Fire escape, be passed onto the permit holder.”

### CONSULTATION

Rick Mitchell-Collins – CEO

Ned Radford - Councillor

### STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

Nil

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Cost of contractor in excess of \$10,000

**RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

**ASSET MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

Nil.

**SOUTHERN LINK VROC (VOLUNTARY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS) IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

**VOTING REQUIREMENTS**

Simple Majority

**RECOMMENDATION.**

**That the Bushfire Advisory Committee recommend to Council that the cost required to clean-up Council property (roadsides) following a Permit Burn Fire escape, be passed onto the permit holder.**

After extensive and robust discussion amongst the Committee, it was felt that a blanket ruling that would cover all possibilities of Permit Burn escapes was not appropriate and the following recommendation was agreed upon.

**COMMITTEE DECISION**

**5/18 Moved John Benn, seconded Geoff Gale that the act of charging Permit Holders for costs related to clean up after a Permit Burn escape was not a decision for the BFAC to consider and this decision sat under the scope of the CEO and the Shire Officers as an operational decision.**

**CARRIED 8/0**



**12 MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN**

Nil

**13 LATE ITEMS**

- Fire Period Signs
  - Dan Campbell asked how the Fire Signs were progressing, Rob Cowie responded that an amount of \$8000 had been requested to be included in the 2018/19 budget to purchase signs. The Committee agreed that they do not believe that we need to have a “Fire Danger Rating” type of sign. We only require one that will show what burning period we are currently in. This will eliminate the need for a staff member to change the sign daily. Rob Cowie to investigate and progress accordingly after the new budget has been adopted.
- Weather Stations
  - Roger House suggested that Rob Cowie look into purchasing Weather Meters for the four Zulus. This will not take place of the FCO’s weather checks, but used a an extra tool to enable the Zulu’s to gather further data when deciding on bad weather days. These instruments will be able to be purchased under ESL purchasing regulations.
- Bushfire Radio Tower
  - John Benn suggested that the Shire seems to be wasting time and money on studies that have already been conducted in the past. He suggested that the current position or the land at Balgarup Rd and Jingalup Rd intersection had already been indicated as preferred positions for the tower with the Balgarup Road intersection being 15 meters (45 feet) higher than the current Samson Road position. The tower needs to be actioned as soon as possible and the primary focus of any tower should be on Bushfire Radio communications.  
Rob Cowie suggested that he organise a meeting with John Dent and the BFAC to discuss all available options.

**COMMITTEE DECISION**

**6/18 Moved Geoff Gale, seconded Tony Fisher that the Bushfire Advisory Committee recommend to Council that the construction of a suitable Bushfire Radio Tower on the Balgarup Rd/Jingalup Road intersection be a priority for the Shire and for this to be completed by January 2019.**

**CARRIED 7/1**

**14 NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2018.

**15**    **CLOSURE**

There being no further business to discuss the Presiding Member thanked the members for their attendance and declared the meeting closed at 8:20pm.

**16**    **ATTACHMENTS (SEPARATE)**

Unconfirmed Minutes of the Kojonup Bushfire Brigade AGM

UNCONFIRMED