



NOTICE OF FRIENDS OF TUMUT WETLANDS COMMITTEE MEETING

Notice is hereby given that a Friends of Tumut Wetlands Committee Meeting of Snowy Valleys Council will be held in the Tumut Room located on the 1st Floor of the Riverina Highlands Building, 76 Capper Street, Tumut on, **Tuesday, 19 March, 2019**, commencing at **4:00 PM**.

Distribution: 9	Present:	Apology:	Absent:
Clr Geoff Pritchard (Delegate)			
Coordinator Open Space & Facilities - (Andrew Burke)			
Ken Stubbs			
Sharon Stacy			
Gary Bilton			
Bob Erskine			
Athol Price			
Simon Quinnell			
Information only			
Director Assets & Infrastructure – Matt Christensen			
Public			

Business

1. Apologies
2. Confirmation of Minutes
3. Business arising from Minutes
4. Committee Reports
5. Correspondence
6. General Business

M Hyde
General Manager



FRIENDS OF TUMUT WETLANDS COMMITTEE MEETING – AGENDA

Tuesday, 19 March, 2019, commencing at 4:00 PM.

APOLOGIES

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING/S-

- . Friends of Tumut Wetlands Committee Meeting – 19/6/2018 3
- . Friends of Tumut Wetlands Committee Meeting – 18/9/2018 (No Quorum) 12

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REPORTABLE POLITICAL DONATIONS

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- . Friends of Tumut Wetlands Committee - Matters for March 2019 14

GENERAL BUSINESS

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting date is scheduled to be held Tuesday 18 June 2018.

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MEETING COMMENCEMENT: 4pm

PRESENT:

Participants:	Present:	Apology:	Absent:
Clr Geoff Pritchard (Delegate)	x		
Coordinator Open Spaces and Facilities - Andrew Burke	x		
Ken Stubbs	x		
Sharon Stacy		x	
Gary Bilton	x		
Bob Erskine	x		
Athol Price	x		
Simon Quinnell	x		

Council staff in attendance was Councillor James Hayes

APOLOGIES:

FTW.01 RESOLVED that the apologies from Sharon Stacy be received.

Bob Erskine /Simon Quinnell

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:

FTW.02 RESOLVED that the minutes of the **Friends of Tumut Wetlands** held on **20-June-2017** be accepted as read.

Ken Stubbs / Gary Bilton

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

Friends of Tumut Wetlands Report

Page 3 Point 4. When will the Trail cameras be installed?

Page 3 Point 2. Information requested to be provided by Gary Bilton as to the status of the proposed wetlands brochure.

General Business

Page 4 Paragraph 2 - Bob Erskine has an issue with Elm Tree Management Plan that no chemicals should be used as a pest control as this will be in the leaves and end up in our waterways.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REPORTABLE POLITICAL DONATIONS:

None

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Want a new format in the previous minutes – No suggestions were received.

Friends of Tumut Wetlands Committee - Matters for June 2018 (.)

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council adopt the Draft Friends of Tumut Wetlands Committee Terms of Reference.

Ken Stubbs/ Athol Price

GENERAL BUSINESS:

1. Councillor Geoff Pritchard wants a status with treatment of the elms affecting the wetlands.
2. The Friends of Tumut Wetlands have asked if they can meet at the wetlands at least once a year.
3. Wetlands Committee can't make a decision until they have financials and wetlands program.
4. The Friends of Tumut Wetlands would like a wish list if they have any money in their budget.
5. Ken Stubbs has requested an excavator to clean up rubbish that is on site
6. Simon Quinell wants more traps for foxes and cats.
7. \$300 in the budget for brochure they want 3 new signs and a QR sticker on the signs.
8. Extend the walking track from eucalyptus walk to Gocup Road.
9. Ken Stubbs be made a life time member for all his long service and commitment.
10. Friends of Tumut Wetlands would like to purchase a new mower as they have approx. \$11,000 and want this rolled over to the next financial year

These matters will be reported back to the next committee meeting.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on 18 September 2018

CLOSED:

The meeting closed at 4:45pm.



Friends of Tumut Wetlands Committee

DRAFT Terms of Reference

ToR No: SVC-ToFR-002-01

1. NAME

The name of the Committee is the Friends of Tumut Wetlands.

The Friends of Tumut Wetlands Committee is an advisory committee to Snowy Valleys Council.

2. STATUS

Being an advisory committee, the Friends of Tumut Wetlands Committee does not have executive power or authority to direct staff. The Friends of Tumut Wetlands has limited delegations to expend the allocated maintenance budget consistent with the adopted "Riverglade Wetlands Management plan" as well as Snowy Valleys Council's strategies and policies.

3. DELEGATION

All decisions of the Committee will, therefore, constitute recommendations to Council and other major stakeholders where relevant.

2. PURPOSE

The purpose of the committee is to:

- Provide appropriate advice and recommendations on matters relevant to the Tumut Wetlands;
- Provide a forum for discussion of wetland related issues;
- To improve the amenity of the Tumut Wetland as a community asset and to recognise the need to save and reinstate as much of the original native flora and fauna as possible but enable judicious use of the area for passive recreation and education including Aboriginal education (taken from Riverglade Wetland Management Plan, 2003).

3. OBJECTIVES OF THE COMMITTEE

The Friends of Tumut Wetlands Committee is a committee of Council responsive to community needs. The effectiveness of the committee depends on community support.

The Committees objectives are:

- a. To assist Council in planning and implementing the Riverglade Wetland Management Plan 2003.
- b. To understand and respect the cultural heritage values of the site.
- c. To rehabilitate the degraded Tumut Wetlands, adjoining Travelling Stock Reserve and Eucalyptus Walk and in doing so:
 - Improve water quality and establish an appropriate hydrological regime
 - Increase the quantity and improve the quality of native vegetation in the area of the wetlands, and to whatever extent that is possible, over the whole site.
 - Improve habitat for native animals, especially birds including migratory birds.

- Provide a distinctive recreational asset for the community which is consistent with the listed aims.
- Provide interpretive information on these values, including information on progress of the rehabilitation project.

4. BACKGROUND

In 1993 Mr Tom Scott and Mr Kevin Hedley through their volunteer work for the Murray Darling Basin RAAU Bird Survey identified 41 waterbirds and 39 bird species at the then Common.

In 1997 Mr Tom Scott and Tumut Shire Council formed a Wetlands Committee with the support of the Blakeney Millar Foundation through a \$2,000 grant.

In May 2003 Janet Mackay & Associates in association with DSB Landscape Architects developed the Riverglade Wetlands Management Plan which was then adopted by Council. This plan was based on Mr Tom Scott's original restoration plan and which now resides in the Tumut Library.

In 2004 Tumut Shire Council, Landcare and members of the community successfully applied for a grant from the Environmental Trust for \$98,500.00. Over the following three years the grant was spent restoring and rehabilitating the Riverglade Wetlands. In order to fulfil the grant requirements specific activities require completion within certain time frames. 2005 activities that require completion as stated in the grant are; weed control, planting, design aboriginal interpretation and walking track construction.

On 27 January 2005 the Friends of Riverglade Wetlands committee started development of the 2005 Works Plan.

In 2007 the Wetlands were awarded the Regional Landcare Award.

In 2008 the Wetlands were awarded the State Landcare Award. Later that year the Wetlands were runner up in the National Landcare Awards.

In September 2008 Council agreed to expand the Riverglade Wetlands project to include the adjoining Travelling Stock Reserve and Eucalyptus Walk.

In 2008 Tumut Shire Council allocated \$70,000 from Section 94 Parks Developer Contribution Funds to expand the Wetlands and develop the adjoining Travelling Stock Reserve and an area of the Tumut Sewerage Works being the Eucalyptus Walk. The Travelling Stock Reserve is currently controlled by the Rural Lands Protection Board who have agreed in writing to allow for the TSR to become part of the Wetlands. The Board has also signed a 10 year Property Vegetation Plan Agreement with the Murrumbidgee Catchment Management Authority. Council has also provided water troughs at an alternative TSR on the Gocup Rd. The Eucalyptus Walk was an idea of Ken Stubbs and involves a walking track along the Gilmore Creek at the back of the sewerage treatment plant currently controlled by Council.

On the 4th November 2008 Governor: Professor Marie Bashir AC, CVO officially opened the Wetlands.

In June 2009 following a recommendation from the Friends of Riverglade Wetlands Council resolved to change the name of Riverglade Wetlands to Tumut Wetlands.

5. DECISION MAKING

It is intended that the Committee will make decisions based on consensus. If it is not possible to arrive at a consensus on a particular item the recommendation to Council should note the dissenting views.

6. MANAGEMENT AND OPERATION OF THE COMMITTEE

a) STRUCTURE / MEMBERSHIP

The Committee shall be comprised of citizen/community representatives, the General Manager or nominated delegate and one (1) Councillor. It is desirable that there is a representation from the entire Shire, a reasonable gender balance and age distribution on the Committee.

b) APPOINTMENT AND SELECTION OF MEMBERS

The Snowy Valleys Council will call for applications from community members within the Council area for all community member positions.

The applications will be assessed on their merit and suitable persons will be appointed to the Friends of Tumut Wetlands Committee by Snowy Valleys Council. Persons can be self-nominated, or can represent a group or organisation.

c) TERM

The term should initially be for four years in line with the term of Council. Any vacancies which occur will be advertised and appointed from nominations received or in the case of an organisation that group can nominate a replacement representative. Members of the Friends of Tumut Wetlands Committee may cease to hold office:

- By death, mental incapacitation or by serving of a criminal sentence;
- If the member provides a written resignation;
- If a member is absent from three consecutive meetings (with or without apology), without having obtained a formal leave of absence.

d) CHAIRPERSON

The Chairperson shall be elected by the committee by a simple majority vote taken from members present at the first meeting of each calendar year and shall serve a term of one year.

In the absence of the Chairperson, the Committee shall elect a Deputy Chairperson for that meeting.

e) SECRETARIAT

A staff member from Snowy Valleys Council shall perform the Secretariat duties for the Committee.

f) COUNCIL STAFF MEMBERS ON COMMITTEES

Snowy Valleys Council staff members who attend Committee meetings shall:

- Not be considered as part of the quorum;
- Have no voting rights;
- Not be able to enact the role of Chairperson or Vice Chairperson at any meeting;
- Be considered as an ex-officio member of the committee at all times.
- Not be able to enact the role of Chairperson or Vice Chairperson at any meeting;
- Be considered as an ex-officio member of the committee at all times.

g) PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Members of the Committee must, having reviewed the agenda for a meeting, or when becoming aware of a potential conflict of interest or pecuniary interest in any matters being discussed by the Committee, immediately advise the Chairperson.

The Committee member must refrain from participating in the discussion and if deemed appropriate by the voting members present, leave the meeting whilst the matter is discussed and not participate in any decision making related to the issue. The interest will be recorded in the minutes.

h) QUORUM

A quorum of the Committee will be half of the appointed voting members present plus one (a simple majority).

If a quorum is not reached within 10 minutes of the appointed starting time, the meeting shall:

- a) be adjourned to a time determined by the Chairperson in consultation with the staff member performing Secretariat duties to ensure that the adjourned time does not clash with other scheduled meetings or;
- b) continue as an Inquorate discussion (refer 6i).

i) INQUORATE MEETINGS

In the event that a meeting does not have the required quorum, those members present can determine whether they would like to continue with the meeting as an Inquorate Discussion.

In this case, recommendations for decisions cannot be made, but can be carried forward to subsequent meetings where a quorum is present.

Minutes of an inquorate discussion must take the form of Inquorate Discussion Notes.

The members present at an inquorate discussion cannot put or carry any motion or resolution.

j) DECISIONS AND VOTING

The Committee's business is conducted on a simple majority vote by those appointed members present. Each appointed member of the Committee present at any meeting shall have one vote on any matter.

Major decisions and recommendations will be referred to Council for adoption prior to implementation by the Committee.

The Committee shall make recommendations to Council on matters that relate to the objectives of the Friends of Tumut Wetlands Committee for the Snowy Valleys Shire.

Only those Councillors appointed to the Friends of Tumut Wetlands Committee have voting rights.

k) ATTENDANCE OF NON MEMBERS

The Committee may, at its discretion, allow non-members, observers and advisers to attend meetings of the committee to facilitate exchange of information and to provide specialist advice and counsel to the Committee.

l) WORKING GROUPS

The Committee is able to form a Working Group as required to address specific issues or undertake specific activities. The Working Group must report to each Committee meeting.

Non-members may be co-opted to a working group. A member of the Committee shall act in the capacity of Chairperson of the working group.

The Committee shall determine a statement of the purpose/objectives, responsibilities and tasks to be achieved by the Working Group at the time that it is formed.

7. COMMITTEE OPERATION AND MEETINGS

a) MEETINGS

Meetings will be held as required at 4.30pm in the Riverina Highlands Building.

b) SPECIAL MEETINGS

Special meetings may be called by the Chairperson, or at least two voting members of the Committee in consultation with the Secretariat to avoid potential clashes.

c) NOTICE OF MEETINGS

The Notice of Meeting will be provided to each Committee member in writing, setting out the date, time and place of the meeting; and be accompanied by a business paper which includes an agenda for the meeting, minutes of the previous meeting and any reports to the Committee.

The agenda for ordinary meetings of the committee will be provided to members of the Committee at least three working days prior to the meetings.

A minimum of twenty four hours notice shall be given for any Special meetings of the Committee.

A copy of the notice of meeting, agenda and accompanying reports shall be placed on public exhibition at the Council office, Council website and libraries.

d) MINUTES

Minutes shall be kept of all meetings of the Committee and any working group. Each Committee member will receive copies of the minutes with the notice of meeting for the next meeting.

Other arrangements to receive minutes from the meetings can be made by resolution of the voting members of the Committee.

The minutes shall be confirmed at the next Ordinary meeting with or without amendments.

Copies of the minutes will be supplied to Council before its next meeting following that of the Committee.

e) MEETING PROCEDURES AND PROTOCOL

The procedures and protocols to be observed at the Committee meetings are

those of the Code of Meeting Practice was established in accordance with the provisions of Section 360(2) Local Government Act of 1993.

8. SUPPORT AND RESOURCING THE COMMITTEE

Council will provide administrative services and other resources, including a venue, preparation and distribution of agendas/minutes) to support the function of the Committee and any working groups.

9. MEDIA COMMENT AND CONFIDENTIALITY

The Committee has no delegated authority to make comments to the media on behalf of the Committee without the express permission of the General Manager.

The Committee does not have the authority to make comments on behalf of Snowy Valleys Council.

Members of the Committee should appreciate that the Committee may, from time to time, deal with sensitive matters of a confidential nature. The confidentiality of such information should be respected by all members.

10. FINANCE (include this section if applicable)

For Committees who hold funds with Council:

A record of the financial transactions of the Committee will be maintained by Council's finance team and reported to the committee at each meeting.

Receipting, purchasing and tendering of goods and services shall be conducted in accordance with Council's internal financial control procedures.

11. DOCUMENTATION / COUNCIL AND EXTERNAL REFERENCES

Snowy Valleys Council Code of Meeting Practice was established in accordance with the provisions of Section 360(2) Local Government Act of 1993. The objective of the Code is to provide procedures and standards for the proper, conduct of Council business and decision making.

Snowy Valleys Council Code of Conduct sets the minimum requirements of conduct for council officials in carrying out their functions. The Model Code is prescribed by regulation and was developed to assist council officials understand the standards of conduct that are expected of them.

12. AMENDING THE TERMS OF REFERENCE

Recommendations for amendments to the Terms of Reference can be made at any time provided that suggested changes are noted on the Agenda, a quorum is present at the meeting and the majority of voting members present support the recommendation.

Amendments to the Terms of Reference must be approved by Snowy Valleys Council.

13. DISSOLUTION

Council may at any time dissolve the Committee.

14. LIABILITY OF MEMBERS

In accordance with Division 2 Section 731 of the Local Government Act 1993, A matter or thing done by the Minister, the Director-General, a council, a councillor, a member of a committee of the council or an employee of the council or any person acting under the direction of the Minister, the Director-General, the council or a committee of the council does not, if the matter or thing was done in good faith for the purpose of executing this or any other Act, and for and on behalf of the Minister, the Director-General, the council or a committee of the council, subject a councillor, a member, an employee or a person so acting personally to any action, liability, claim or demand.

15. SUPERSEDING POLICY NO AND TITLE

Friends of Tumut Wetlands Terms of Reference, No. 06, Version 1.3

16. TERMS OF REFERENCE PREPARED AND AMENDED BY:

DES/Parks & Property Officer

17. HISTORY TABLE

Version No	Approval Date	Resolution Number	Date to be Reviewed
1.0	28 July 2016	M76/18	01/07/2020

MEETING COMMENCEMENT: 4:05pm

PRESENT:

Participants:	Present:	Apology:	Absent:
Clr Geoff Pritchard (Delegate)			x
Coordinator Open Space & Facilities - (Andrew Burke)	x		
Ken Stubbs	x		
Sharon Stacy			x
Gary Bilton		x	
Bob Erskine	x		
Athol Price			x
Simon Quinnell	x		

Non Quorum for this meeting. A quorum of the Committee will be half of the appointed voting members present plus one (a simple majority)

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REPORTABLE POLITICAL DONATIONS:

Nil

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Friends of Tumut Wetlands Committee - Matters for September 2018 (.)

1. Friends of Tumut Wetlands Committee Membership Forms.

The Committee would like Council to advertise other than in the local paper, Facebook and on the Council website, they would like to have advertising on the radio and look at other ways to advertise for new Committee members and that the advertising be more visible and viable.

2. Create a monthly works program for the Wetlands.

Council has brought forward the request that a monthly work program be provided for those working in the wetlands. The Committee has stated this will not work it is impossible to determine what the volunteers will do in advance they would prefer to have a weekly log and update of what they have done.

3. Supply Personal Protective Equipment and Hi-Vis vest to Volunteers who are using equipment where it is needed.

The Wetlands Committee would like to know when those that are actually working in the Wetlands will be provided the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment so they are compliant with Council Policy and Procedures.

4. Update on the progress of the Tumut Wetlands Brochure.

The Wetland Committee has requested that Andrew Burke follow up on obtaining the quotes for the Wetlands Brochure that Gary Bilton has asked for from Katopra.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

1. Council to update the Janet Mackay Wetlands Plan and this to be part of or become the new 10 year Management plan for the Wetlands.
2. Review the 10 year Management Plan. Ken Stubbs and Andrew Burke to review. To include a 7 year Management Plan for Chilean Needle Grass.
3. The Wetlands to have a Pesticide Management Statement of requirements.
That those not on the Wetlands Committee or those working for Snowy Valleys Council have a ground applicators licence.
4. No mowing is to happen with the tractor/slasher on the horse shoe track inside the wetlands.
5. The only chemical that is to be used in the Wetlands is Bio-Active and the Biosecurity Officer to use \$2,000 from the wetlands budget and have Michael Neyland or Steve Bellchambers and the Bunyips to do this spraying.
7. The question was raised if anyone from the Wetlands Committee knew of who started the fire along the river bank that resulted in vegetation being burnt?
8. It has been request to the Committee that no mowing in the former TSR area until December and the Biosecurity Officer to coordinate with Simon Quinnell when this can be mowed.
9. It has been requested to Council that IWD only to work in the Wetlands when the Wetlands Committee directs them to.
10. Andrew Burke to chase up the quote for the Brochure for the Wetlands
11. Bob Erskine wants and update on the progress of the Elm Tree Management plan as the committee was under the impression there was funding allocated for this issue.
12. Ken Stubbs enquired as to Councils plans for extending the walking track from Gocup Road to the Eucalyptus walk.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held in early 2019

CLOSED:

The meeting closed at 5:20pm.

REPORT NUMBER: FTW1
SUBJECT: Friends of Tumut Wetlands Committee - Matters for March 2019(.)
REPORT AUTHOR: Andrew Burke
RESPONSIBLE MANAGER: Glen McGrath

PURPOSE OF REPORT: To inform the Committee of strategic matters concerning the Friends of Tumut Wetlands Committee

KEY ISSUES

1. Council to update the Janet Mackay Wetlands Plan and this to be part of or become the new 10 year Management plan for the Wetlands.
2. Council to review the 10 year Management Plan to include a 7 year Management Plan for Chilean Needle Grass.
3. The Wetlands to have a Pesticide Management Statement of requirements.
4. Mowing on the horse shoe track inside the wetlands.
5. Chemical use in the Wetlands.
7. Fire along the river bank that resulted in vegetation being burnt?
8. No mowing in the former TSR area.
9. IWD only to work in the Wetlands when the Wetlands Committee directs them to.
10. Coordinator Open Spaces and Facilities to chase up the quote for the Brochure for the Wetlands
11. Update on the progress of the Elm Tree Management plan as the committee was under the impression there was funding allocated for this issue.
12. Councils plans for extending the walking track from Gocup Road to the Eucalyptus walk.
13. Tree Management in the Tumut Wetlands.

COMMENTS

1. Council to update the Janet Mackay Wetlands Plan and this to be part of or become the new 10 year Management Plan for the Wetlands.

Council to review the Janet Mackey Wetlands Plan and to see if this will become part of the new 10 year Management plan for the Wetlands.

2. Council to review the 10 year Management Plan to include a 7 year Management Plan for Chilean Needle Grass.

Council will review the 10 year Management Plan and to look at including the 7 year Management Plan for Chilean Needle Grass.

3. The Wetlands to have a Pesticide Management Statement of requirements.

Council will review this matter and inform the Tumut Wetlands Committee of its decision.

4. Mowing on the horse shoe track inside the Wetlands.

The Coordinator of Open Spaces and Facilities has informed all parties that this is prohibited unless directed.

5. Chemical use in the Wetlands.

Council will review this matter and inform the Tumut Wetlands Committee of what chemicals can be used in the wetlands and where.

6. Fire along the river bank that resulted in vegetation being burnt?

Council was unable to find out who or how this happened but will keep an eye out.

7. No mowing in the former TSR area.

Council has been informed that mowing in the TSR area can commence again.

8. IWD only to work in the Wetlands when the Wetlands Committee directs them to.

The Tumut Wetlands Committee is only an advisory Committee of Council.

9. Coordinator Open Spaces and Facilities to chase up the quote for the Brochure for the Wetlands

The Coordinator Open Spaces and Facilities chased this up with no outcome.

10. Update on the progress of the Elm Tree Management Plan as the Committee was under the impression there was funding allocated for this issue.

Council has funding for the Management of Elm Trees.

11. Council's plans for extending the walking track from Gocup Road to the Eucalyptus walk.

Council does not have any plans to extend the walking track from Gocup Road to the Eucalyptus Walk.

12. Tree Management in the Tumut Wetlands.

Coordinator for Open Spaces and Facilities to advise the Tumut Wetlands Committee that no tree works are to happen unless authorised by the Coordinator for Open Spaces and Facilities and that no tree branches etc are to be stock piled.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee discuss matters listed.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil