



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BAROSSA BUSHGARDENS COMMITTEE

held on Wednesday 19 February 2025 commencing at 1:00pm
in the Council Chambers, 43-51 Tanunda Road, Nuriootpa.

MINUTES

1. ATTENDANCE RECORD

1.1 Members Present

Louise Mason (Acting Chairperson – on-line), Trevor Waldhuter, Bryce Lillecrapp, Andrew Fairney, Cr Kathryn Schilling, Kate Jenkins, Kim Thompson, Glen Carter, Doreen Von Linde and Brayden Fitzpatrick.

Apologies

Greg Donovan.

Not Present

Nil

Leave of Absence

Penny Devlin.

2. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

2.1 Minutes of previous meetings – for confirmation:

MOVED B Lillecrapp

That the Minutes of the Barossa Bushgardens Committee held on Wednesday 18 December 2024 at 1.00pm and the Barossa Bushgardens Committee held on

Wednesday 18 December 2024 at 1:00pm, as circulated, be confirmed as true and correct records of the proceedings of those meetings.

SECONDED K Jenkins

CARRIED

2.2 Matters arising from previous minutes

2.2.1 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

25/14856

The following actions from previous minutes are in progress as detailed below:

Meeting Date	Resolution/Action	Status	Actioning Officer
14 June 2023	Future direction of S41 Committee – Manager, Works and Operations to seek input from key stakeholders to enable the development of a Discussion Paper, examining operating models of like-minded organisations. A report to be presented to a future S41 Committee Meeting.	Ongoing Kim Thompson has had initial discussions with Council's Collaborative Project Officer and will also make contact with representatives of two other former S41 Committees. A report will be submitted to the April S41 BBG Committee meeting.	Senior Environmental Officer
11 October 2023	NRC Coordinator to explore opportunities for cross promotion with the Arid Lands Botanic Gardens Port Augusta.	Ongoing Brayden has spoken to representatives of the Arid Land Botanical Gardens and they are keen to collaborate and are investigating the potential of exchanging 200	NRC Coordinator

		plants and developing a small display garden at the Bushgardens. Discussions will continue.	
10 April 2024	Meet with SA Water to discuss potential support for the Barossa Bushgardens/Seeding Natives tube stock project, either by the supply of discounted water, or meter upgrades.	Complete Andrew has been in contact with SA Water who advised of community partnership grant opportunities, suggesting that this be considered. Grants applications are currently open until 1 April 2025.	Andrew Fairney, NRC Coordinator, Nursery Manager and Senior Environmental Officer
18 December 2024	Barossa Community Labyrinth – MOU to be wound up	Complete – Funds have been transferred	NRC Coordinator
18 December 2024	NCPA promotion of Barossa Bushgardens and Labyrinth	Complete NCPA have been approached and are happy to include information on their website and Facebook page.	NRC Coordinator
19 February 2025	Application to upgrade SA Water metre	Pending Application to be submitted to SA Water to ensure connection is 'fit for purpose' and in excess of current domestic supply line.	NRC Coordinator

19 February 2025	Investigate opportunity for community partnership grant funding through SA Water	Pending	NRC Coordinator
19 February 2025	Seek funding assistance from Community Helpers to assist with the provision of the Nature and Natter Program beyond 30 June 2025.	Pending.	NRC Coordinator Senior Environmental Officer

SUPPORTING REFERENCES

Nil

3. MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

3.1 PARTNER PROJECT UPDATES

3.2 MARKETING INITIATIVES AND SALES OPPORTUNITIES

3.3 CORRESPONDENCE

3.4 STRATEGIC PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

3.5 FRIENDS OF BAROSSA BUSHGARDENS UPDATE

3.6 RISK MANAGEMENT/WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY

3.7 VISITATION TO THE BAROSSA BUSHGARDENS

4.

DEBATE REPORT

4.1 FOOD FOR WILDLIFE PROJECT 25/14850

MOVED K Jenkins

That the Barossa Bushgardens Committee:

1. Approve the development of the Food for Wildlife project on site at the Barossa Bushgardens.
2. Authorise Manager, Works and Operations to amend the Barossa Bushgardens Masterplan to include the Food for Wildlife Orchard site.

SECONDED A Fairney

CARRIED

PURPOSE

To seek the Committee's approval to develop a Food for Wildlife project on site at the Barossa Bushgardens.

REPORT

Background

The Food for Wildlife (FfW) project is an initiative whereby specific native plants are grown in an orchard style space to allow easy access for wildlife carers and rescuers to provide native and natural food for injured native animals whilst being rehabilitated. Most of the injured and juvenile fauna in care rely on having fresh, native food supplied daily which can be challenging to find at times. FfW programmes have been supported and implemented by several Councils, including City of Port Adelaide and Enfield, City of Charles Sturt, Light Regional Council and Mount Barker Council, in collaboration with their local animal rescue organisations.

Introduction

The Barossa Wildlife Rescue (BWR) members and other carers permitted by the Department of Environment currently source native browse from our roadsides, road reserves and private properties. This can be a risky activity and may impact the integrity of our roadsides and of our conservation significant sites.

Discussion

The area identified for the orchard is adjacent the track at the entrance to enable easy access by the BWR volunteers and will incorporate an aesthetically pleasing design with interpretation to explain why we have built this and will help to educate the public about the importance of native vegetation for habitat and food resources for our native animals.

The plantings will incorporate a suite of natives that have been approved by BWR to support the native animals predominately in care including koalas, kangaroos, ring-tailed and brush-tailed possums and a variety of seed-eating and nectivorous birds. Training will be provided on correct techniques for coppicing to ensure the aesthetics of the site.

Once approved, planning will be underway to facilitate a planting event on World Koala Day (May 3rd, 2025) and will include BWR and other carers to assist with the planting. This will also coincide with our Nursery Plant Sale to maximise exposure and further enhance the educational opportunity.

Summary and Conclusion

Plants are being grown at present to support the project.

ATTACHMENTS OR OTHER SUPPORTING REFERENCES

Attachment 1 Food for Wildlife Project Overview - 2025 copy 

Supporting references

Nil.

COMMUNITY PLAN / CORPORATE PLAN / LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Community Plan



Natural Environment and Built Heritage

Goal

- 1 The Barossa has sustainable farmland providing diverse and stable returns, while protecting the unique natural environment and biodiversity of the region.
- 3 We take a proactive approach in responding to key environmental challenges such as climate change, water security and waste management.

Strategies

- 1.3 Build on the conservation of the region's natural heritage including bush eco-systems, grassy woodlands, agricultural landscapes and recreational green spaces.
- 3.1 Support community based sustainability initiatives to help reduce the Barossa's contribution to the climate crisis and build on the capacity of local residents and industry to mitigate negative impacts.

Legislative Requirements

Nil.

FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

Initial conversations have been undertaken with a local Corporate business who are interested in funding the signage

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The FfW proposal has been sent to the BWR Committee and members including other DEW permitted carers in our region for their input

4.2 FINANCE REPORT

25/14892

MOVED T Waldhuter

That Barossa Bushgardens Committee receive and note the report.

SECONDED Cr Schilling

CARRIED

PURPOSE

To provide progress on budget income and expenditure as at 31 January 2025.

REPORT

Discussion

At the end of January, the expenditure across most cost centres is progressing well.

Any budget adjustments completed in Quarter 2 are not currently showing in the report.

ATTACHMENTS OR OTHER SUPPORTING REFERENCES

Attachment 1 Bushgardens Financial Statements to 31 January 2025 

Supporting references

Nil

COMMUNITY PLAN / CORPORATE PLAN / LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Community Plan



Natural Environment and Built Heritage

Goal

- 1 The Barossa has sustainable farmland providing diverse and stable returns, while protecting the unique natural environment and biodiversity of the region.
- 3 We take a proactive approach in responding to key environmental challenges such as climate change, water security and waste management.

Strategies

- 1.2 Support tourism development that is sensitive to the natural environment and ensures that the unique character of the rural landscape is appropriately managed and promoted.
- 3.1 Support community based sustainability initiatives to help reduce the Barossa's contribution to the climate crisis and build on the capacity of local residents and industry to mitigate negative impacts.

FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

Nil.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Not required under Legislation or Council's Public Consultation Policy.

5. CONFIDENTIAL AGENDA

Nil

6. URGENT OTHER BUSINESS

Review of Strategic Plan – Key Result Areas

The Committee reviewed the Key Result Areas, noting the need to examine:

- Staffing levels
- Staff/volunteer education – iNaturalist development
- Skill sets
- Inclusion of Seeding Native and other potential partnerships

The Committee is requested to provide comments and feedback to Kim Thompson prior to the end of February, so that it can be summarised and a draft prepared for endorsement at the next meeting.

Chairperson position

The Committee were pleased to receive advice from Louise Mason confirming her willingness to Chair the BBG S41 Committee meetings until the end of June 2025, and wished to acknowledge their appreciation of Louise's ongoing support.

7. NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 16 April 2025 at 1:00pm

8. CLOSURE

Louise Mason (Acting Chairperson), declared the meeting closed at 3:15pm..

Confirmed at Barossa Bushgardens Committee Meeting on 16 April 2025

Date:.....

Chairperson.....