

Meeting of the Cooks River Alliance Steering Committee

Host: City of Sydney

Thursday 27 June 2013, 9am – 11:30am

City of Sydney, 456 Kent St, Level 1

Meeting Minutes

Attendance

Sarah Kamarudin	Ashfield Council
Vila Gupta	Bankstown City Council
Nell Graham	Canterbury City Council
Chris Derksema	City of Sydney
Damon Bassett	Marrickville Council
Alex Vandine	Rockdale City Council
Chris Hudson	Cooks River Alliance (Chair)
Shefali Chakrabarty	Cooks River Alliance (Minutes)

Apologies

Hazel Storey	Ashfield Council
Alison Hanlon	Hurstville Council
Jean Brennan	Marrickville Council
David Dekel	Rockdale Council
Cathy Jones	Strathfield Council

<p>1. Minutes of previous meeting, Apologies</p> <p>Apologies: Hazel, Alison, Jean, David and Cathy</p> <p>Robert Allen will send a copy of his 2013-2014 works program to Chris H.</p> <p>Minutes were accepted.</p>	
<p>2. Board Meeting 26 June: Matters arising, e.g. Community Board Members, River Health monitoring, Grants, Sydney Water agreement</p> <p>The Alliance will invite applicants for the Community Representative Board positions to join a new community reference group, which will be open to all.</p> <p>The potential for sponsorship of the River Health monitoring program was discussed, members to forward sponsorship policies to Chris.</p> <p>Damon advised the group of Dan Cunningham's (Sydney Water) bank rehabilitation project in the Alexandra Canal. Chris D expressed interest.</p> <p>Sydney Water bank naturalisation update for residents to be sent to all members.</p>	<p>Chris H</p> <p>All</p> <p>Chris D</p> <p>Chris H</p>
<p>3. Catchment Stakeholders Meeting (proposed at or after every second Alliance Steering Committee meeting with Sydney Water, CMA, agencies (OEH, RMS, Railcorp, when appropriate))</p> <p>The Alliance will convene a new Catchment Stakeholders meeting, to be held immediately after every second Steering Committee meeting.</p> <p>Hawkesbury Nepean Catchment Management Authority, Sydney water, Rail Corporation, Office of Environment and Heritage, Department of Primary Industries, Environment Protection Authority, Roads and Maritime Services and NSW Health to be invited to the Stakeholders meeting.</p> <p>Chris H to send letters to the head of each organisation, inviting representatives to attend the Stakeholders meeting.</p> <p>The Catchment Stakeholders meeting will be an open forum for discussion on catchment wide issues. The Steering Committee identified two immediate issues:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Jurisdictional issue – who is responsible for cleaning and removing rubbish from the lower Cooks River? 2) Cooks River shared path – Problems and solutions. 	<p>Chris H</p> <p>Chris H</p>
<p>4. Second Alliance MOU – Preparation, drivers, e.g. Coastal Zone Management Plan</p>	

<p>With the current MOU concluding mid 2014, discussions commenced on progressing a second Alliance term.</p> <p>Chris H suggested that securing longevity for the Alliance requires the delivery of benefits which reduce member council costs. Cost reduction could be obtained through centralisation and/or coordination of member council activities by the Alliance. Bushcare, raingarden and GPT maintenance were discussed as examples.</p> <p>Chris H requested members consider their existing council's activities, and report on suggestions for future Alliance functions, at the next Steering Committee meeting.</p> <p>As per the Action Plan and in the context of the second Alliance term, the meeting discussed a potential Cooks River Coastal Zone Management Plan.</p> <p>All members are to review their council's position on a CZMP, and deliver it at the next Steering Committee meeting.</p> <p>Chris H to meet with OEH (Bart Foley) on CZMP.</p> <p>The meeting agreed a paper on options for the second Alliance term be prepared after the next Steering Committee meeting, for the 19th September Board meeting.</p> <p>Chris D recommended Chris H meet the consultancy Republic for Everyone.</p> <p>Chris H advised he is still unable to find the formula for calculating council contributions and requests all members check to see if they still have it.</p>	<p>All</p> <p>All</p> <p>Chris H</p> <p>Chris H</p> <p>Chris H</p> <p>All</p>
<p>5. Climate Change Resilience Program 7 – Update (Shefali)</p> <p>Shefali provide an update on the outcomes of the Action group meeting.</p> <p>The Alliance will conduct a review of member council's flood studies and climate change risk assessment reports, to identify commonalities and benchmark data. A report will be prepared for the next Board meeting.</p> <p>The meeting agreed the Alliance will not pursue a regional sea level rise policy at this time.</p>	<p>Shefali</p>
<p>6. Alliance Recruitment Update</p> <p>Alliance staff recruitment is proceeding and members agreed to circulate recruitment material.</p>	<p>All</p>
<p>7. Waste Less Recycle More Grants – August – Drop off centres/organics collection</p> <p>Nell advised that Canterbury Council was successful in securing WASIP funding to install a new waste diversion boom at boat harbour and she is in discussions with Sydney Water about joint management of the boom.</p> <p>The need for a second boom and a study on it's location was discussed.</p>	<p>Nell</p>

<p>The potential for a Alliance Waste Less Recycle More project was discussed, pending release of grant guidelines.</p> <p>Alex advised careful consideration of Waste Less Recycle More funding, given the potential for cost shifting from State Government.</p>	
<p>8. Other Business, including recent Discussion Papers on Programs 3,4 and 6</p> <p>Chris H presented discussion papers (attached) which were accepted by the meeting.</p> <p>An action group was formed for the Community Engagement & Education program, comprising Bankstown, Canterbury & Marrickville Councils.</p> <p>The information portal action group comprising Strathfield and Ashfield Council will work with Chris H on the 'Cooks River Central" project.</p> <p>Chris H proposed, the meeting agreed, that Geoff Hudson from LGNSW will be invited to give a presentation on Local Land Services at the next Board meeting.</p>	<p>Chris H, Vila, Jean & Nell</p> <p>Chris H, Cathy & Sarah</p> <p>Chris H</p>
<p>9. Next Meetings – 22 August, Strathfield & 17 October, Hurstville</p> <p>Note: Following 22 August meeting will be first Catchment Stakeholders Meeting</p>	