

Tims Thicket Septage Ponds Discussions Minutes of Meeting

Date: 4 December 2017 at 4.00pm

Venue: City of Mandurah - Works and Services Meeting Room 1

In Attendance:

Mayor Rhys Williams

Hon. Cr Fred Riebeling

Mark Newman, CEO City of Mandurah

Allan Claydon, Director Works and Services (DWS)

Mel Horton, Chairperson Bouvard Coast Care Group (BCCG)

Ron Glasson, Member BCCG

Barry Posetti, Member BCCG

Angela Bickerstaffe, Executive Assistant Works and Services

Apologies:

Cr Caroline Knight

Mayor Rhys Williams opened the meeting by advising attendees that he would be attending future meetings of this group and requested an update of proceedings emphasising he could not assist in fixing things which had occurred in the past but is committed to focusing on the present moment moving forward.

Allan Claydon updated the group on the current status of the Tims Thicket Septage Facility Upgrade as follows:

Following the City's commitment at the original meeting with BCCG to relocate the irrigation field contact was made with the Office of EPA to inquire as to what information (and process) was required to make this amendment to our EPA referral application.

The EPA suggested a meeting to discuss the septage facility upgrade proposal and what process was required to amend the referral application. The EPA would also invite officers of the DWER to the meeting as they would be consulted as part of the EPA referral process and would ultimately make the decision on whether a Licence Amendment would be issued to the site

Officers attended the offices of Department of Water and Environment Regulation (which now combined the EPA and DER) on 18 October 2017 to discuss the septage facility upgrade and the City's proposal to relocate the irrigation field. The meeting was attended by officers of the EPA, DWER (Licensing and Contaminated Sites Branch) and Talis Consultants.

The City needs to lodge a Section 43A Application with the EPA to modify the location of the irrigation field. The EPA and DWER are preparing an email that will be sent to the City outlining the additional information that will need to be addressed in the Section 43A application – which also includes a number of information gaps that was apparent with the original application.

It has now been 6 ½ weeks and the City is yet to receive this email. A senior officer of the DWER (Licensing Section) – Christine Haas was contacted last week who advised that the letter was currently with DWER Senior Management awaiting approval, and she hoped that it would be issued within the next couple of weeks.

Talis Consultants have commenced the preparation of the Section 43A application, however we need to know the information that is contained within the email before the application can be finalised. The City may have to undertake some additional field work.

BCCG voiced concern that the previous Section 43A submission/application prepared by Talis contained 32 errors of statement and requested the opportunity to review the new application prior to submitting to DWER. The City agreed to this request and sought from BCCG the purported 32 errors of statement from the previous submission.

Completed by BCCG 7/3/18

This information to be forwarded to Talis for their comment and response. BCCG will be contacted when response from Talis has been received.

Outstanding by CoM

If the septage upgrade application is approved, a report will be prepared for Council for consideration. The report will consider the triple-bottom line philosophy of social, economic and sustainable impacts.

The City agreed that future groundwater quality sampling would be carried out quarterly and results uploaded onto the City's website. It was agreed to do this for the first two years and if the readings were of a consistent value then reporting would revert back to twice a year (six months as a minimum). This is the standard reporting requirements required by DWER.

BCCG requested detailed groundwater quality sampling results from 2002 to 2017 be made available to establish a base line for moving forward. Allan Claydon agreed to provide these on the City's website. It was pointed out that DWER do not have any trigger levels or base line standards to benchmark against.

Outstanding by CoM

BCCG agreed to provide the City with standards they are aware of.

BCCG put forward a proposition for the City to use Bush Buy Back funding to acquire land closer to Old Coast Road for the proposed future southern transfer station. This would enable the return of the land set aside for this purpose to revert back to conservation and passive recreation land.

Cr Riebeling advised Council would not consider utilising Bush Buy Back funding for this purpose.

It was confirmed that officers are currently preparing a report to Council which proposes a green waste facility at Tims Thicket. This would be subject to a separate licence application.

Not put forward as a separate license application but added to Septage Upgrade proposal. No consultation with residents (as agreed in Action 5 below)

BCCG requested that fire hazard and mulch contamination risks be considered as part of the report including proposed operating hours of the facility. The CEO advised the same triple bottom line philosophy would be incorporated into the report.

No information on fire hazard and mulch contamination is contained in the proposal.

An advice note from the Department of Water is included with these minutes as it relates to the requirements for storage and recycling of organic material on site. This is provided for information.

Allan Claydon handed out copies of the City's responses to the BCCG 'An Inconvenient Truth' – Tims Thicket Site History Timeline.

Next meeting:

To be advised.

Meeting closed at 4.45pm.

Actions from meeting (updated 4 December 2017)

Action	Action By	Status
<p>1a The City to lodge a Section 43A application with the EPA and to include additional information which will be provided by DWER.</p> <p>1b BCCG to review Section 43A application prior to submission.</p> <p>1c BCCG to provide details of 32 errors of statement from previous application and to forward on to Talis for comment and response.</p>	<p>City of Mandurah & Talis Consulting</p> <p>City of Mandurah – Waste Management & BCCG</p> <p>City of Mandurah – Waste Management & BCCG</p>	<p>In Progress - awaiting additional information advice from DWER</p> <p>Agreed to action</p> <p>Opportunity not provided to BCCG by CoM</p> <p>Agreed to action</p> <p>Completed 6/3/18</p>
<p>2. Nambeelup Industrial Area - what forecasting of future sewerage operations have been undertaken.</p>	<p>CEO to raise at next meeting of the Transform Peel Reference Group Meeting.</p>	<p>In Progress</p>
<p>3. The City to investigate “contamination” breaches from inspection of 9 Jun 2014 onwards, and improvement conditions from the issue of Amendment to Licence issued 4 June 2015 and provide a report to BCCG or publish the results online.</p>	<p>City of Mandurah – Waste Management</p>	<p>Complete (see previous minutes)</p>
<p>4a The City agreed to groundwater quality sampling from all monitoring bores quarterly for the first two years and if the readings were of a consistent value then reporting would revert back to twice a year (noting the licence requires 6 months as a minimum) and publish the water monitoring results on the City’s website.</p>	<p>City of Mandurah – Waste Management</p>	<p>Agreed to action</p>

4b BCCG requested detailed groundwater quality sampling results from 2002 to 2017 be made available to establish a base line	City of Mandurah – Waste Management	Agreed to action Action still outstanding by CoM
4c BCCG to provide base line standards for benchmarking purposes	BCCG	Agreed to action
5. BCCG request the City undertake consultation with nearby residents on future plans/proposals for major issues concerning the Tims Thicket site to avoid community unease and refer such future proposal to the MEAG..	City of Mandurah – Waste Management	Agreed to action Not adhered to by CoM
6a The City agreed to reinstate recreational water monitoring on Melros and Tims Thicket Beach	City of Mandurah – Environmental Health	Noted Re-instated by COM
6b The Mayor agreed to formally write to the City seeking approval for this request.	Mayor Rhys Williams	Agreed to action Completed by Mayor
7. BCCG to formally seek permission to monitor bores located outside of the waste facility area on council reserves.	BCCG to make a formal request to the City	In Progress
8. Land use change of Reserve 24198 to “Conservation and Passive Recreation”	BCCG to make a formal request to the City	In Progress Completed 3/121/17