

PEEL INLET MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

5th meeting held on Wednesday, 16th February 2005
at the Shire of Murray, Pinjarra

The meeting commenced at 9am.

ATTENDANCE:

John Hughes	Chairman
Martin Baird	Department for Planning and Infrastructure (Maritime)
Morris Bessant	Community – from 9.45am
Marilyn Gray	Community
Phil Curren	Community
Heidi Greif	Department of Fisheries
Murray Love	Department of Conservation and Land Management
Zita O'Reilly-Carter	Shire of Waroona
Chris Thompson	Shire of Murray
Bruce Tatham	Community
Kim Wilson	Community

APOLOGIES:

Cameron Bulstrode	Department for Planning and Infrastructure (Planning)
Brian Joynes	City of Mandurah
Dorothy Lucks	Community
Christine Towes	Community
Colleen Yates	Peel Development Commission

EXECUTIVE SUPPORT:

Debbie Colquhoun	Minute Secretary, Department of Environment
Bob Pond	Program Manager, Department of Environment
John Pszczola	Executive Officer, Department of Environment

1. WELCOME AND AGENDA REVIEW

The Chairman opened the meeting.

2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolved:

That the minutes of the fourth meeting held on 15 December 2004 be confirmed as a true record of proceedings.

Moved: C Thompson

Seconded: H Greif

3. BUSINESS ARISING

(a) Action List

Include an action list and progress report with the agenda for future meetings.

Action:

1. Provide an action list at future meetings. (*Mr Pszczola*)

(b) Item No. 3(b) – Reserve adjacent Lot 2 Estuary Road, Bouvard – Illegal Retaining Wall

Lot No 2 owner has obtained approval on 16 November 2004 from the City of Mandurah to remove the retaining wall from the reserve which is vested with the City and to relocate it to his boundary. Departmental officers inspected the site on 19 January 2005 and this morning and the wall has not been removed.

Action:

2. Write to Mr Oliveri requesting him to remove the wall by a specific date otherwise the Department will remove the wall and seek reimbursement from him for the cost of its removal. (*Mr Pszczola*)

(c) Action Item No. 2 – Dredge Spoil Disposal

A meeting of the Acid Sulfate Soils and Dredging Working Group has not been held since the Council's December 2004 meeting.

(d) Action Item No. 3 – Strategic Recreation Sites

Mr Pond advised that the boundaries of the proposed strategic sites was still being developed.

(e) Action Item No. 4 – Number of Vessels Licensed to Operate in Peel Region

Ms Greif reported that there are a total of 130 vessels greater than 7.5 metres classified as fishing tour charter boats licensed to operate in the West Coast Region. Another 16 are restricted fishing tour operations, (eco-tourism) where they can eat the catch on board the vessel.

In the Peel Region there are a total of 10 registered fishing tour operators, 4 have an annual licence to operate in deep sea and 6 restricted fishing tours (ie eco-tours).

4. WILGIE CREEK RESTORATION GROUP – PROGRESS REPORT

On the 23 December 2004, under the provisions of the Land Administration Act 1997, 8.91 hectares of foreshore along Wilgie Creek with an average width of 30 metres from the creek bed was formally taken by consent. Quotes have been received for erecting a fence on the boundary with Mr McKay's land.

Pumps 1 and 2 (Towera Road) are operating effectively during low tides to keep the water level between 0.28 and 0.42 metres. There have been some algal blooms but no noxious odours. Large schools of fish and swans have been observed. A management plan incorporating a planting program and weed control is currently being prepared.

5. REVIEW PEEL REGION BOATING FACILITIES STUDY 2003

Mr Baird advised that the community consultation phase, which is to be run concurrently with the community consultations for the Peel Regional Park, will be conducted as part of the public workshop being held on 15-16 April 2005. The Department will also be undertaking targeted consultation with boating groups in the Region. Following these consultations, a draft report will be released later in the year. The draft will be brought before the Council for consideration at that time.

He further advised that there are approximately 7,000 registered boats in the Region – **Martin to confirm**. The Department will be undertaking a review of registered boats in the Perth and Peel Regions at the same time.

The Department also monitored boat ramp usage over the Christmas period and did a comparison with the previous year.

Mr Pond advised that as part of the Murray Scum Watch program, one of the recording parameters is a boat count during a 5 minute period. This information to be provided to the Department for Planning and Infrastructure.

Action:

3. Provide the boat traffic information from the Murray Scum Watch to the Department for Planning and Infrastructure. (*Mr Pszczola*)

6. CURRENT DREDGING, DISPOSAL AND RETAINING WALL LICENCES

(a) Harvey Estuary, Dawesville Retaining Wall

A retaining wall on the foreshore of the Harvey Estuary may be required as the proposed footpath will come close to the Estuary at specific places. The City of Mandurah has discussed the proposal with the Southern Estuary Progress Association.

(b) War Memorial Retaining Wall/Disposal Licence

The bund has been removed and the work in the Mandurah Channel has been completed.

(c) Serpentine River Retaining Wall – Brown, Jenkins and Websey

A half metre high retaining wall is to be installed.

(d) Mariner's Cove Stages 4CA and 5CA

Ongoing.

Discussion ensued on potential acid sulfate soil issue with the large piles of sand being stockpiled. Mr Pond reported that the developers had prepared an assessment of the potential for acid sulfate soils and remediation.

Action:

4. Inspect the site to ensure there are no acid sulfate soil issues.
(*Mr Pszczola*)

(e) Reserve 40109 Retaining Wall – Mrs Swain

8 metre long wall installed.

(f) Reserve 170A Retaining Wall Serpentine – Mrs Swain

12 metre long wall installed.

(g) Southport Stage 5 Disposal and Dredging Application

The developer's proponents have contact the Department for advice on the requirements for submitting applications for licences.

(h) Bridgewater South Disposal Application

There are potential acid sulfate soil issues at this site requiring the proponent to provide a management plan prior to a licence being issued.

Discussion ensued on the increasing number of requests for retaining walls at jetties turning the natural state of the riverbanks into canals with artificial walls. An assessment needs to be made of the potential for including revegetation at jetties as part of a retaining wall licence. The jetty policy needs to be revisited in relation to this matter.

Action:

5. Review jetty policy in relation to revegetating the riverbank as part of the retaining wall licence. (*Mr Pszczola*)
6. List of policies to be presented at the next meeting. (*Mr Pszczola*)

7. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND RECREATION MANAGEMENT PLAN IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE

Mr Pond presented his memorandum dated 16 February 2005 and briefed members on the current status of the following:

- Peel Waterways Centre “Shop Front” and proposed display themes
- Peel Waterways Economic Development and Recreation Management Plan
 - \$150,000 Environmental Assessment and Guidelines for the Eastern Estuary Catchment
 - \$135,000 Review Zoning and Land Use of Strategic Recreation Sites
 - \$370,000 River Action Planning and Implementation
- Coastal Catchments Initiative (CCI)
- Murray River Scum Investigations
- Implementation of the 6 Point Action Plan
- Contentious Issues, particularly water quality in the Estuary and Rivers

The meeting adjourned at 10am and resumed at 10.25am.

8. PRESENTATION BY DIRECTOR PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ON CURRENT SHIRE OF MURRAY TOWN PLANNING SCHEME NO. 5 LOCAL PLANNING STRATEGY

Mr Flugge briefed the meeting on the Shire of Murray’s draft Town Planning Scheme No. 5 and Local Planning Strategy.

9. DRAFT PIMC FERRY BOAT OPERATION POLICY

The Swan River Trust does not have a ferry policy.

Discussion ensued on the definition of “ferry” and what types of vessels the Council is targeting in this policy, ferry and charter.

Action:

7. Mr Curran and Mr Pszczola to redraft the policy and present to the Council. (*Mr Pszczola*)

10. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR WATER RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMITTEES

The Department of Environment has requested that the Council members sign a Code of Conduct for Boards and Committees. It was noted that the Council currently has terms of reference endorsed by the Water and Rivers Commission Board. Under the Code of Conduct the Council is to present an annual report to the Board.

Resolved:

That the Peel Inlet Management Council adopts the Department of Environment Code of Conduct and includes in its Terms of Reference the preparation and submission of an annual report to the Board of the Water and Rivers Commission.

Moved: M Gray

Seconded: B Tatham

11. OTHER BUSINESS

(a) **Vessel Speed**

Mr Curran handed around copies of a form for reporting speeding vessels on waterways. Ms Grief will ensure that the forms are available at the Fisheries Department, on the internet and by fax.

(b) **Fisheries Study**

Mr Tatham highlighted the need for a review of the Fisheries Study conducted in 1996. Ms Grief advised that the Department has launched its Integrated Fisheries Management Strategy.

(c) **Peel 2020 and Western Foreshore Study**

The Council needs to provide a response to these proposals.

Action:

8. Provide a response to the Peel 2020 and Western Foreshore Study at the appropriate time. (*Mr Pszczola*)

(d) **Boating Guide**

The guide contains only a small reference to boat wash. The Department for Planning and Infrastructure is currently reviewing the guide which provides an opportunity for more clarification on no wash and boat wash in general.

Action:

9. Request the Department for Planning and Infrastructure to include more information on boat wash in their Boating Guide. (*Mr Pszczola*)

- (e) **Boodalan Island**
Mr Love reported that the rehabilitation work to stabilise Boodalan Island has not been successful. The island is a major Pelican rookery.
- (f) **Removal of Sunken Vessels – Cooleenup Island**
The Department for Planning and Infrastructure Maritime Division will investigate the vessel and pontoon. An attempt will be made to find the owner before removing the vessel. It is then the responsibility of the Department for Planning and Infrastructure or owner to remove the vessel. Local authorities will be kept informed.
- (g) **Article in The West Australian – “Peel Cut Fails to Safe Fish, Plants”**
It was noted that the article failed to contain information supplied by the Peel Harvey Catchment Council or Mr Tatham.
- (h) **Future Presentation**
Mr Scrimshaw from the Department of Environment will provide a presentation on Part 5 industry licensing adjacent to waterways.
- (i) **Future Meetings**
The Chairman advised that the next 2 meetings will be held at the Shire of Murray. It was agreed that future meetings be held at the various local authority offices on a rotation basis and that the Council have an opportunity to meet with the appropriate Chief Executive Officer and Shire Planner during the morning tea break.

12. NEXT MEETING AND CLOSE

The meeting closed at 11.50 am.

Ms O’Reilly-Carter tendered her apologies for the next meeting.

The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday, 20 April 2005 at the Shire of Murray.**

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Chairman