



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BIRDLIFE SHOALHAVEN COMMITTEE
ROB's PLACE, 3 LOUISA GROVE, VINCENTIA
FRIDAY 8 NOVEMBER, 2 - 4 PM

1. Attendance and apologies

Present: Brett Davis, Rob Dunn, Chris Grounds, Mike Jefferis, Kim Touzel

Apologies: Yolande Cozijn, Karen Davis, Oisin Sweeney

2. Acceptance of the agenda – Accepted

3. Approval of minutes of previous meeting - Approved

4. Business arising from the previous minutes

The following action items from previous meetings remained incomplete:

26 April meeting

Action 8: Finalisation of Shoalhaven bird list. Rob to progress for further discussion at the next meeting.

Action 9: Rob & Brett to send an email to supporters to invite them to become members.

13 July 2019 meeting

Action 5: Oisin to arrange a meeting with Shelley Hancock on the extension to the Jervis Bay NP, following deferral of a date that had been set in July.

5. Updates and related issues

a. President's report – refer papers sent with the agenda

Rob informed the meeting that the hearing in the NSW Land & Environment Court, following an appeal by the developers against the refusal of the West Culburra development at Lake Wollumboola, will be held in Culburra Beach on 14 November at 10am. Rob will be attending and Committee members were asked to encourage their contacts to attend.

b. Conservation Officer report

Since the last meeting, Chris has:

- given talks at the Jervis Bay Maritime Museum as part of their Science Week talks and at a well-received talk at Council to 26 of their staff
- given two interviews on UUU radio.
- made a submission on Council's exhibited tree vandalism policy
- contributed to the BLS Magazine & web-site
- progressed options for Bherwerre Wetland funding

c. Secretary report - refer paper sent by Kim

The Birds of the Shoalhaven posters had now been completed, thanks to the efforts of Charles Dove and Karen.

Action 1: Karen to follow-up with Cambewarra RRA on their previous request for a bird poster. BirdLife Australia's new OHS Policy was seen as unworkable.

Action 2: Rob to discuss new OHS Policy with BirdLife Australia Network Co-ordinator and define a workable procedure for BLS, MUD Birders & Shoalhaven Birdwatchers bird walks.

It was agreed that emails should be sent to all members/supporters about up-coming BLS bird walks and notified on Facebook, notwithstanding that this might trigger some unsubscribes.

While BLS was unable to attend the 30-year Landcare celebration at Bangalee Reserve, Rob had since been in discussion with Greg Thompson about their interest in having BLS bird walks at Landcare planting sites to increase landowners' interest in birds. It was agreed that planting sites often were not good for birds and it would be better to involve them in our regular bird walks at recognised birding sites.

Action 3: Rob to progress Shoalhaven Landcare's interest in bird walks at Landcare planting sites and the promotion of BLS walks to their members.

- d. **Communications report** – Brett reported that BLS now has 213 members and Wildbird Protectors with a total of 630 on the Mailchimp database.
 - e. **Treasurer report** - refer paper sent by Karen
The report showed a bank balance of \$5,788 with an additional \$181 due from BirdLife Australia for the pull-up banner. Taking out the \$1,000 operational buffer, this would leave \$4,788 available for the design and installation of signage at Bangalee Reserve.
 - f. **Recent media, presentations & events** - No report in Yolande's absence.
 - g. **Birding activities updates** – Nothing of note to report.
6. **Bird Haven Festival - feedback**
Everyone agreed that the feedback on the Festival had been really positive with many wins for BLS. Rob was still to hear from Perrie and Cathy on their plans for the Festival in 2020.
7. **Approach from Lendlease re. Coastal Waters** – refer Committee papers sent out 3/11
Various opposing views were expressed on this issue. It was agreed that Rob should follow through with the following action -

Action 4: Rob to meet with Charlene Crocker, Lendlease, to raise our concerns about her proposal, clarify options that might be acceptable to BLS and bring back to the Committee for further consideration.

8. **BLS on-line shop - refer Committee papers sent out 3/11**

It was agreed that a sponsor/shop page be set up on the web-site where the following criteria are met:

- The person is a BirdLife Australia member or Wildbird Protector
- The products/services must be bird/nature related.
- The person makes some form of commitment to pay BLS a percentage of sales, donation or offer their products/services in a future BLS raffle/auction.
- The amount/% is up to them, as long as we receive something each year – it will all be on trust.
- We commit to have them listed/profiled on our web-site – Brett can have this as a tile on the home page from time to time - and list them in the BLS magazine.
- We do not take any responsibility for the quality or delivery of their products/services.

Action 5A: As the Nepalese travel, who had approached BLS, did not currently meet the first of these criteria, Rob agreed to contact them to explain our rejection to their request. **Action 5B:** Rob & Brett to liaise to establish BLS on-line shop and sponsors' page.

9. Bangalee Reserve signage - refer Committee papers sent out 3/11

The points noted in the papers on the project to have signage installed at the Bangalee Reserve was discussed. It was agreed that, subject to BLS having sufficient funds to meet the cost for the design and manufacture of the signs, that Kerry Thompson from Council, Kim & I had the Committee's authority to work together to complete the project, i.e. it does not need to come back to the Committee for final approval.

Action 6: Rob & Kim to work with Kerry Thompson at Council on the design and installation of signage at Bangalee Reserve bird walk.

10. AGM – date, venue, Committee - refer Committee papers sent out 3/11

Plans and options for the next AGM and Committee were discussed. The appointment of Gary Brady to the Committee was approved unanimously. The following actions were agreed -

Action 7A: Rob to look at Sussex Inlet and other options for AGM venue and date.

Action 7B: Rob to follow-up potential new Committee members with suggestions raised at the meeting.

Action 7C: Rob to advise Gary Brady of the Committee's endorsement for have him join the Committee.

Action 7D: Existing members to confirm if they will continue on the Committee next year.

11. 2019 Action Plan review – refer Committee papers sent out 3/11

Good progress continued to be made

12. Upcoming events & meetings

The next BIGnet was to be in Sydney on 4/5 April 2020 with the following meeting in September in Port Macquarie.

13. Next meeting

Action 8: Rob to confirm the date for the next Committee meeting.

ACTIONS ARISING FROM THIS AND PREVIOUS MEETING

26 April meeting

Action 8: Finalisation of Shoalhaven bird list. Rob to progress for further discussion at the next meeting.

Action 9: Rob & Brett to send an email to supporters to invite them to become members.

13 July 2019 meeting

Action 5: Oisin to clarify the plan to meet with Shelley Hancock on the extension to the Jervis Bay NP, following deferral of a scheduled meeting in July.

8 November 2019 meeting

Action 1: Karen to follow-up with Cambewarra RRA on their request for a bird poster.

Action 2: Rob to discuss new OHS Policy with Network Co-ordinator and define a workable procedure for BLS, MUD Birders & Shoalhaven Birdwatchers bird walks.

Action 3: Rob to progress Shoalhaven Landcare's interest in bird walks at Landcare planting sites and promotion of BLS walks to their members.

Action 4: Rob to meet with Charlene Crocker, Lendlease, to raise our concerns about her proposal, clarify options that might be acceptable to BLS and bring back to the Committee for further consideration.

Action 5A: Rob to contact Nepalese travel company to explain our rejection to their request.

Action 5B: Rob & Brett to liaise to establish BLS on-line shop and sponsors' page.

Action 6: Rob & Kim to work with Kerry Thompson at Council on the design and installation of signage at Bangalee Reserve bird walk.

Action 7A: Rob to look at Sussex Inlet and other options for AGM venue and date.

Action 7B: Rob to follow-up potential new Committee members with suggestions raised at the meeting.

Action 7C: Rob to advise Gary Brady of the Committee's endorsement for have him join the Committee.

Action 7D: Existing members to confirm if they will continue on the Committee next year.

Action 8: Rob to confirm the date for the next Committee meeting.