



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BIRDLIFE SHOALHAVEN COMMITTEE
AT YOLANDE'S PLACE, 27 SEASONGOOD ROAD, WOOLLAMIA
FRIDAY 31 JULY, 2 - 4 PM**

1. Attendance and apologies

Present: Gary Brady, Yolande Cozijn, Brett Davis, Karen Davis, Rob Dunn, Chris Grounds, Mike Jefferis, Oisin Sweeney

Apologies: None

2. Acceptance of the agenda – Accepted with the addition of discussion on BLS Magazine copyright to be covered under Communications report.

3. Approval of minutes of previous meeting - Approved

4. Business arising from the previous minutes

The action items from the previous meeting were agreed as completed or no longer relevant except for action one re. following up on why former members had not renewed.

5. Updates and related issues

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

Re. the Bangalee Reserve signage, the new quote was \$4,133 inc. GST and the 50% deposit had just been paid. Production time was expected to be 5-6 weeks and then we would need to clarify the time Council would take for installation.

b. Conservation Officer report

- Chris said he had no items for decision at the meeting, as these had been covered through emails.
- Chris provided updates on a range of issues, including:
 - reservations about BirdLife's Swift Parrot campaign
 - the status of the Manyana campaign
 - the initial rejection of the Wire Lane sub-division proposal
 - frustrations with Council's lack of progress on the Bherwerre Wetlands project despite available funding
 - the positive nature-based solutions at the Bada Wetland at Burrill Lake, the Twin Waters Lake at Worrigee and the smaller Bayswood Pond system.

Action 1 – Chris to write to Council staff to congratulate them on the above initiatives.

c. Secretary report – Mike advised there had been minimal correspondence, noting the letter of thanks from Manyana Matters.

d. Communications report

Brett advised that the BLS Mailchimp database now totalled approx. 750. Rob noted that the BLS Magazine remained our best method of community engagement combined with a growing distribution list. Several emails of congratulation had been received once again.

Brett raised the issue of who owns the copyright of articles published in the magazine, following a request from the Bush Telegraph to use Perrie Croshaw's interview. It was agreed that when we are approached for re-publication of articles, that approval was required by Brett, as Editor, the article's author of the article and photographers and those featured in the article where applicable. Where a request was made direct to the author, this should still be referred to the Editor. **Action 2:** Brett to add a sentence or two on the last page of the magazine to highlight that requests for re-publication of articles must be referred to the Editor for approval.

e. Treasurer report –

The Income & Expense report from 1/1/20 to 30/7/20 detailed below was approved.

Cashbook Balance at 1/1/2020	\$	6623.44
<u>Income</u>		
Sales of misc bird items	110.00	
Talk entry fees (fundraising)	240.75	
BA Funding	1500.00	
Donations - other direct	150.00	
		2000.75
<u>Expenses</u>		
Equipment	25.38	
Event expenses	63.64	
Zoom Licence	177.40	
		266.42
Cashbook Balance at 30/7/2020	\$	8357.77
Represented by:		
NAB Bank Account 30/7/20		8342.13
GST Balance (Payable)		15.64
	\$	8357.77
<u>Cheques just drawn not included above</u>		
Ulladulla Printing - posters for S/H Landcare		165.00
John Hill Signs - 50% deposit re Bangalee Signage		2066.75
Leaves \$		6126.02

f. Recent media, presentations & events - None due to Covid-19.

g. Birding activities updates – None due to Covid-19.

6. Bird walks, talks and events – refer papers sent with the agenda

Bird walks – Mike said that with U3A closed MUD Birders had decided to run BLS walks and would work out a schedule shortly. Yolande and Karen agreed to put on monthly walks, initially at the nature-based developments mentioned earlier.

Action 3: Mike, Karen & Yolande to liaise on dates and send out a schedule of walks for BLS and MUD Birders members with instructions to ensure compliance with COVID regulations in line with NPA and Shoalhaven Bushwalkers guidelines.

Zoom talks: Action 4: Rob agreed to follow up with Simon Tedder, DPIE, about working together on a schedule of Zoom bird and nature presentations when he returned from leave.

Birds & Beer Club: Agreed to have Thursday gatherings at the JB Brewery and initially let the grapevine get the word out to see what happens.

Bird Haven, Bird Week & ABBC: Action 5: While the Festival is cancelled, Rob would look at how we might schedule much smaller events to promote the ABBC, subject to COVID.

Bushfire Art Festival, Ulladulla Civic Centre, 28/11 to 4/12 – Vivien Davidson had approached BLS to see if we were able to support this festival to acknowledge the anniversary of the start of the Currawon fire. With COVID this had to be considered as only provisional at this stage, but it was agreed that it would be a good opportunity to support. **Action 6:** Rob to get back to Vivien to say that we would be happy to promote the event through the magazine, Facebook and to bird photographers and potentially set up a display of bird and BRP posters and/or run talks.

7. Shoalhaven Landcare Project update - papers sent with the agenda were noted

8. Bushfire Research Project update - refer papers sent with the agenda

Gary had recently sent out a vegetation guide to be used for site assessment.

Rob said that he was still waiting to hear back about a University of Sydney-led lyrebird research project. This could inform how we track data on key species identified by Australian Government.

Chris commented that it would be interesting to have a survey site where cultural burning is undertaken.

9. Allocation of available funds - refer papers sent with the agenda

The meeting agreed for Gary and Yolande to proceed with the purchase of Filemaker software and a projector screen up to \$800 and \$400 ex-GST respectively.

It was agreed that BLS available funds should not be used to fund the work of other organisations, but instead used to promote bird education and conservation. In this regard it was agreed to get a number of the bird posters laminated and offered to schools and other organisations able to display them in public places.

Action 7: Rob was asked to get prices to laminate the A3 bird posters and update the Committee prior to purchase.

10. Progress against the 2020 Action Plan – update on progress sent with the agenda were noted

11. Next meeting – Confirmed as Fri 30 October, 2-4pm at Mike's

ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE MEETING

1 May meeting:

Action 1 – Rob to email former BLS members to ask if there were any particular reasons for their decision not to renew, adding how support for the national organisation also benefits our own work.

30 July meeting:

Action 1 – Chris to write to Council staff to congratulate them on recent nature-based developments.

Action 2 – Brett to add a sentence or two on the last page of the magazine to highlight that requests for re-publication of articles must be referred to the Editor for approval.

Action 3 – Mike, Karen & Yolande to liaise on dates and send out a schedule of walks for BLS and MUD Birders members with instructions to ensure compliance with COVID regulations in line with NPA and Shoalhaven Bushwalkers guidelines.

Action 4 – Rob agreed to follow up with Simon Tedder, DPIE, about working together on a schedule of Zoom bird and nature presentations when he returned from leave.

Action 5 – With the Bird Haven Festival cancelled, Rob to look at how we might schedule much smaller events to promote the ABBC, subject to COVID.

Action 6 – Rob to get back to Vivien Davidson to say that BLS would be happy to promote the Bushfire Art Festival through the magazine, Facebook and to bird photographers and potentially set up a display of bird and BRP posters and/or run talks.

Action 7 – Rob to get prices to laminate the A3 bird posters and update the Committee prior to purchase.