



Acknowledgement of Country

Apologies

Paul Acfield, Sandy Ball, Bert Brown, Matt Cowdrey, Erica Jolly, Geoff Short, Richard Smith, Julie Whitehead

Present

Amy Beardsley, Deb Cashel, Marty Cielens, Kate Denton, Jim Douglas, Theo Ellenbroek, Bruce Foster, Fernando Gonçalves, Shelley Harington, Paul Laris, Becky Llewellyn, Rae Marnham, Steve Medhurst, Andrea Rankin, Chrissy Schultz, Pedro Schultz, Tony Williams

General Meeting minutes

8 June 2023: <http://wacra.org.au/news-events/meetings/>

Moved: Jim Douglas

Seconded: Shelley Harington

Carried

Financial report

Theo Ellenbroek reporting

\$3,400 current balance

We have received lots of renewals and a few new memberships.

Subscription to Conservation Council is paid.

Term deposit will be renewed at best possible rate – 4.5%.

Insurance is biggest expense and needs to be paid – association liability and public and products liability (due October). Committee needs to make sure we are covered.

Uluru Statement from the Heart

Motion in support of the First Nations Voice to Parliament (Yes23): <https://www.yes23.com.au/>

The Uluru Statement from the Heart, a nationwide consensus of First Nations people, calls on Australians to agree to a permanent Voice to Parliament made up of elected people from its communities. Because WACRA is a community organisation that values justice, equity and fairness, the committee commends the following motion to WACRA membership.

That at the upcoming 14 October 2023 Referendum, WACRA encourages people to write YES on the ballot to build a better future by establishing a First Nations Voice to Parliament enshrined in the Constitution.

Paul Laris spoke to the motion:

The prospect of the Voice should be dear to our hearts as that is what we are to local government. We know that decisions are better if we make them with people not about them. If we look at the truth about the Voice, what's not to like?

Moved: Marty Cielens

Supported: All (no dissent)

Then the motion is carried unanimously and we have a job to do to get it through nationally.

Climate Matters report

Marty Cielens and Andrea Rankin reporting

For the My Tree Project (MTP) and the CERP (Community Emissions Reduction Plan) reports, see the end of these minutes.

Moved: Jim Douglas

Seconded: Pedro Schultz

Carried

AYCC (Australian Youth Climate Coalition) Step Up Campaign

<https://www.aycc.org.au/campaigns>

WACRA Team raised \$3,055 through the efforts of Julie Whitehead and Andrea Rankin. We were 4th on the leaderboard, no mean feat given we were competing against young players! Thanks to all who donated generously to this worthy cause. The campaign has now raised \$69,298 of its \$85,000 goal.

We now have an Adelaide contact for AYCC and will invite them to speak at a future meeting.

Suggested from the floor – ask Maddie Sarre to speak at our GM in December.

South Australians for Climate Action

<https://southaustraliansforclimateaction.org/>

This group of 5 people (describing themselves as 'volunteers and rigorously non partisan') is liaising with state government and inviting all South Australians to have climate conversations before the end of November. The state government want input from as many people as possible on what they consider are the priorities for this government to act on climate change. WACRA Committee is planning to have one soon. We have also requested to be added as a signatory on their website (<https://southaustraliansforclimateaction.org/signatories>).

City of Charles Sturt Community Plan Consultation

<https://www.yoursaycharlessturt.com.au/charles-sturt-community-vision/what-we-have-heard>

WACRA has prepared a comprehensive response to a call for feedback on the City of Charles Sturt Community Vision. See our draft submission: http://wacra.org.au/new/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Community-Plan-submission-version-5-2_9_23.pdf

Book a time to share your ideas with the Council Community Plan project team at the six sessions between 5 and 21 September: <https://www.yoursaycharlessturt.com.au/charles-sturt-community-vision/book-time>

WACRA representatives had a session today with council.

On the agenda is a list of key items we are commenting on in relation to the community plan – climate change is a priority and what follows on from that (eg sand loss and sea level rise); Henley Beach transport; nowhere to promote community initiatives (Messenger, Kaleidoscope); urban planning and infill; social and affordable housing; and community cohesion.

Paul Laris, Julie Whitehead and Jim Douglas met with two members of council and we got a good hearing. Climate change, urban planning and community cohesion and social engagement. How we can work more effectively as a community with council. 'Building a wellbeing economy' – more will be heard about this. Planning a budget around wellness and the economy. We are thinking to propose a workshop for councillors and community. Julie talked about MTP and tree canopy and the need for a priority for this in the budget. We have already done a deputation on this:

<https://wacra.org.au/climate-matters/>

Beach management options not their role – but we wanted to make sure council was involved in the process. Stronger engagement between local councils is necessary.

How are they going to engage community more effectively? The Your Say process is ok but there is not much takeup. We feel a community newspaper is needed to involve people more.

The arts – we don't have an arts officer in CCS. We need a budget for this. Also libraries and community centres are important.

Traffic management and sustainability are important, the planning review is soon to come out. Public transport is also needed – blueline loop bus service along Military Road would be good. The number of cars on the road needs to be reduced.

Q: Housing as a focus – in the 70s Woodville got some retirement homes happening. In the past there have been housing co-ops in the inner west, what can council do to get government focusing on affordable housing with urgency.

A: At the moment, there are 500 'affordable' houses being proposed, a second plan is going to council next Monday night. But there is not enough social housing. Lifestyle villages are a good option. Affordability is a key question. For example, the Frederick Road/SA Water development – the prices will not be all that cheap. There will be at best 70 affordable homes out of the 500.

We encourage individuals to make a submission.

Q: The SA Planning Commission has control of a lot of the issues. The 30-year Plan for Greater Adelaide is out now: <https://livingadelaide.sa.gov.au/>. How about WACRA puts in a submission to that? The plan covers everything. There will be more development along Henley Beach Road and Grange Road. We should all look at it. SA Community Alliance will put in a submission.

A: There is an online briefing on the Adelaide Regional Plan 9 October 11am, if anyone wants to participate. Consultation is open until 6 November. Marty can send the details of this meeting.

The Council would really like everyone to say what kind of community we want – Your Say. There are three key questions on the site.

Adelaide Beach Management Review

Chris Newby reporting

Chris Newby, Project Manager, Adelaide Beach Management Review will speak to and answer questions on the shortlist of options published Monday 18 September:

<https://yoursay.sa.gov.au/abmr-shortlist>

Q: Costing calculations – what were they putting dollars against?

A: It was based on real-life costings from beach management that currently occurs – ie applied across options, what has occurred so far. Downtime is included. They have tried to include the full costs as much as possible.

Doesn't include costs to tourism etc.

Q: So no climate impact costs? Inflationary scaling but not factoring in climate change.

A: It's largely a comparative analysis. It's present-day values – we can assume that all of those will escalate over time.

Q: We want to know the scientific more than the economic.

A: The scientific analysis is more about feasibility – will it achieve its objectives? What is in the realm of possibility financially? We can't strip too much money out of health and education for example – the government has a budget. It is also about limiting the impacts of sand movement etc. The science is fundamentally simple. Where you get the sand from, where you move it to, when and how? It's about equitable treatment as well.

Q: What will the pipeline be made out of?

A: Polyethylene, or a different plastic with higher abrasion resistance. The amount of abrasion that would occur has been calculated.

Q: So there is a concern that microplastics will end up on the beach?

A: Yes. You do end up with plastic particles – it is a by-product of that system, just as dredging causes diesel fumes etc. It's a matter of working out which one causes the least damage.

Q: Has the Glenelg pipeline been checked out re safety, maintenance etc? Is it working generally? There is machinery there all the time.

A: It needs maintenance. They have measured the wear on the pipeline. It does seem to be working but the beach gets wider as you head to Brighton.

Q: With the 2.1 option, will there be a change re pump stations being 2 kms apart?

A: There is a certain distance you can pump the slurry – 2 kms is the ideal distance at this stage. There is no discussion as to whether they will be buried – depends on the option. Whatever option is chosen there will be further design details to be done etc. There might be some variations to the existing layout re the options. The community have raised concerns about this option.

Q: Was there any investigation as to why the pumping station was closed down north of Glenelg and why it wasn't successful?

A: The straightest story was that it wasn't achievable in the existing outcomes because the rate of transport through there was greater than the back passing rate. The amount of sand that was being back passed was not enough – it was not achieving the desired outcomes. It was essentially a deficit overall in terms of sand management in that area.

Q: Re the sand grain size of the proposed northern beaches, was it fit for purpose?

A: It's true that the size of sand grains does matter in terms of coastal management. The department looked north and the sand gets finer there. It's very similar to the native grain size. Part of the flat nature of Adelaide beaches is due to grain size. The larger grains have contributed to variations/angularity – it's not moving at the same rate as it has historically. 'Grain size does matter.' The analysis of what sort of sand you get has to be done.

Q: What are we buying? Are you saying that these 3 different options are going to get us to the same outcome and the same quality product?

A: In an ideal world yes, but in reality climate change factors in and adds uncertainty. Generally, the intent is to look at how we get a better beach amenity and better environmental outcomes.

Q: So is there almost a guarantee that we will get there?

A: If you look at the change at West Beach in the past few years, then that is the solution we are looking at achieving. In terms of the whole coastline, there is more sand than there ever has been but it's not in the right places.

Q: Apart from West Beach, where else in the world can we see how successful these different options are?

A: Other parts of the world – it's close but not the same. There are only about 8 pump systems in Australia and 4x that in terms of dredging systems. There are examples where it's working but it changes over time.

Q: What's happening in the Netherlands, Florida, New Zealand, Byron Bay?

A: Coastal management is everywhere. What is the impact in offshore environments? The Netherlands – there are some areas where this sort of number is chicken feed in terms of coastal protection. In Adelaide we haven't seen houses fall into the ocean etc.

WACRA thanked Chris Newby for his time.

Action: Andrea Rankin to email Chris for a copy of the slides.

Upcoming events and issues

Sunday 12 November WACRA will have a stall at the Henley Square market – please put it in your diaries.

Playground consultations are starting.

Spring into Nature Festival – with council: <https://www.charlessturt.sa.gov.au/council/news-and-media/latest-news/2023/nature-festival>

General business

- **Traffic on Seaview Road**

It is completely gridlocked now that it's hotter. We can let police/traffic complaint know about this. It's the main crossing point for families.

Seaview Road - Becky has asked council to put back the Norfolk Island pine, which was destroyed during an incident where a bike rider was killed.

- **Sempahore Fair**

Sunday 26 November 10am-5pm.

Q: Is WACRA considering having a stall?

A: No.

- **Tennyson Dunes Open Day**

Sunday 15 October – annual event.

- **Sand to Henley**

Steve Medhurst has sent a letter to Marty Cielens. DEW said they were going to move sand from the Torrens Outlet but there was a protest that stopped the work. They didn't tell residents that they have stopped the work and Henley South needs this work done. There are big storms in November. The rock wall is at risk. Kenzie said it was a nesting issue for the plovers. There must be a way around it. Kenzie said they had agreed to find sand and get it there.

It's really disappointing that the erosion hot spots are being dealt with except for Henley Beach. We wanted the sand coming from the groin. This is why we want WACRA to write to DEW. The problem is how to get the sand onto the beach.

Q: Would WACRA write to DEW to ask if they can provide sand to Henley? The reality is that Henley and Henley South need sand.

A: We haven't heard the reason for the pause and whether they plan to continue. We haven't been able to find out.

WACRA didn't take a position in relation to the protest. We wanted to wait until we got the DEW report. Clearly the people at West Beach didn't want the hydrological groin moved. The problem is though that it has eroded Henley South and Henley Beach. Sand is now accumulating in Marlborough Street.

May-June they did do that [move sand onto the beach at Henley]. We have Steve's letter and will address it.

Next meeting

Thursday 7 December 7.30-9.30pm: <https://wacra.org.au/news-events/meetings/>

We might start this meeting at 7.15pm (TBA).

Meeting closed at 9.05pm, followed by drinks and nibbles

Reports: Climate Matters Group

My Tree Project (MTP)

Team efforts have been on negotiations to establish the schools for the next MTP, seek funds and commission a filmmaker to make a documentary about the process.

Hendon and Pennington primary schools are keen to implement the MTP with dates for forums, workshops and staff involved already selected. Woodville High School has also given in-principle support and a meeting to detail the project will happen later this month. Student leaders will largely manage the operation of the MTP there.

Now that the participating schools and their requirements are confirmed and a filmmaker selected, in response to Mayor Angela Evan's encouragement we will submit an application for a Discretionary Ward Allowance (DWA) from Charles Sturt Council. Railcare SA will match any funding we receive.

More information about the My Tree Project 2023-24 will be provided at the next meeting.

CERP – Council's Community Emissions Reduction Plan

Shelley Harington reporting

- The group of about 12 community representatives has continued to meet and the writing of the plan is progressing albeit very slowly. A reminder that this plan is being written to inform all City of Charles Sturt residents regarding the necessity for emissions reductions and inform about ways this can be done.
- At last week's meeting 12/9 (which I was unable to attend) the group drafted and agreed upon a title and a Vision Statement for the plan (see below)
- An introduction has been drafted and is in the process of being edited and finalised.
- The Plan will include actions in each of the five selected priority categories of Buildings and Electrification, Transport, Waste and Circular Economy, Greening and Growing and Adaptation and Sustainable Living.
- At present five groups are working on drafting 4 - 6 actions in each category (suggestion is to limit to 4 - 6 actions to make the plan achievable and less overwhelming for residents).
- Zoe Smith is putting actions to council for consideration and will report back to the group. Council actions (where agreed upon) will be included in the plan.

Kate Denton has developed templates for the groups to use to make the actions and the final document readable and user friendly.

Personal stories and case studies may be included in the final plan.

The next meeting is scheduled for 17 October.

VISION STATEMENT:

We see for our future a beautiful, green, happy and healthy community, where people are connected and can flourish.

We accept the challenges of climate change and are motivated to take immediate, impactful action to reduce emissions and adapt, to enable us to thrive.

TITLE:

Mission Possible – action to net zero and beyond for the community of Charles Sturt.