



Acknowledgement of Country

Apologies

Deb Cashel, Greg Cashel, Jim Douglas, Marg Easson, Erica Jolly, Andrea Rankin, Richard Smith, Tony Williams

Present

Bert Brown, Marty Cielens, Kate Denton, Theo Ellenbroek, Bruce Foster, Steve Fuller, Fernando Gonçalves, Shelley Harington, Paul Laris, Becky Llewellyn, Julie Whitehead, Peter Shaughnessy, Geoff Short

Guest speaker

Australian Youth Climate Coalition (AYCC): Maddie Sarre, Organising and Training Director

Maddie described her personal journey to AYCC and some current projects. Her role is centred on recruiting and organising young activists and she explained that AYCC has an intentional strategy to focus participants' energy into specific projects with specific achievable aims. She reminded us of the role AYCC had in supporting the change of government in 2022. AYCC is now shifting its recruitment towards younger high school students, and much campaign action happens at the national rather than state level. However, AYCC was actively involved in the Repower Port Augusta campaign in SA. At the moment, the focus is on a campaign against fracking in the NT and a strategy to include a water trigger in the legal process for mining approvals that would shift a key approval from the NT Government to the Commonwealth. Internal communication within the organisation is crucial, especially through supporting new volunteers and building strong internal relationships. Maddie expressed concern that there has been a loss of momentum following Covid lockdowns and recovery from that is still continuing. Learn more at <https://www.aycc.org.au>

The meeting thanked Maddie for her presentation and gave her a copy of 'Listen to the people'.

Climate Matters report

My Tree Project (MTP)

Julie reported that MTP has funding and will continue working initially with Hendon and Pennington Primary Schools, linking with Woodville High School so that students can continue their engagement as they progress through to high school. Propagation workshops are being held with Woodville HS for students in Year 8 to mentor younger students. MTP is also working with Charles Sturt Council to identify verges for plantings. A documentary will be made with the aim of influencing the SA Education Department and to encourage wider adoption of the MTP model.

Community Emissions Reduction Plan (CERP)

Shelley reported on work with Council's CERP initiative. CERP now has a draft plan – *Mission Possible* – which identifies key areas for reduction. CERP CCS Project Manager Zoe Smith will report to the group next week on what council's actions will be, so it is hoped CERP will dovetail with this. Kate Denton commented that the real strength of the CERP process is that it has brought together

a group of committed community people – a practical resource of motivated people who could do much more than the CERP.

Council Connect report

West Lakes Oval

Marty Cielens reported on the council's position on the future of West Lakes Oval where the lease reverts to council from SAFL in 3 years' time. SAFL wants to retain the oval for youth football training on a 21 + 21 year basis. The proposal is to keep the oval as is and surround it with a 6m wide running track. Final approval for council for this has been postponed till February 2024 due to traffic and parking concerns, so it may be possible to raise greening and canopy issues. Currently 15% of the redevelopment will be green space, but most of that (60%) will be the oval itself.

CCS Community Plan

WACRA has submitted a response (thanks to Becky Llewellyn) and deputation to the draft Community Plan. It has been well received by Council.

CCS Budget Consultation

A WACRA response to the Budget was prepared (thanks to Kate Denton) and a deputation made to Council highlighting the meagre funding of tree canopy.

Coast Management report

Beach Management Review

Geoff Short reported on the Beach Management Review process. WACRA has made a submission to the Expert Advisory Panel highlighting three key issues.

- The objective scientific review of options was very poor. It showed little science and consisted of mainly unsupported assertions without evidence or any reference to genuine research data.
- Shortlisted options were provided but without any information or data on why these were selected above others, nor why they were exclusive to each other, or why a suite of options might not be appropriate.
- Despite the inadequacy of the groundwork in identifying three options, realistically the government is going to go with something from the list. Therefore, WACRA provisionally supports the option to dredge off the coast and deposit sand offshore. However, this is conditional on getting additional information on sand sources, costs and other issues.

Geoff, with the assistance of Bruce Foster, reported that the Adelaide Coastal Communities Organisation has highlighted the problem of microplastic pollution from the pipeline option. They have commissioned research that reveals microplastic pollution levels may be 4-8 times that estimated by the Coastal Protection Board.

Review of the Coastal Protection Board (CPB)

It is now two years since a Parliamentary Committee produced a report with recommendations for a review of the CPB. Minister Close was to report on actions to be taken in 2022 or late 2023. Nothing has happened. WACRA will talk to the Greens re raising the matter in Parliament.

Bruce Foster expressed concern and disappointment with DEW obfuscation on the microplastics pollution issue. He agrees the dredge and offshore dumping option seems 'least worst', but where will the sand come from? Murray mouth maybe? At \$40 per cu this looks a better option than \$80 per cu from a quarry at Mt Compass. Also quarry sand has to be dumped on the beach – trucks, disruption etc.

Kate Denton suggests we investigate launching an FOI into the microplastics issue.

Bruce suggests we also lobby CCS as they are now supporting the pipeline option.

Finance Report

Theo Ellenbroek reporting

We currently have \$5074 in our Bank SA account which includes the \$3000 CCS grant to My Tree. We also have \$2000 in a term deposit recently renewed at 4.5%.

AOB

City of Adelaide Regional Plan

Marty reported that the WACRA submission to the City of Adelaide Regional Plan (thanks to Becky Llewellyn) was well received. Becky and Marty did a presentation to the Committee in support. Becky reported that most people on the Committee were supportive and aware of the issues.

Next meeting date TBA (March 2024)

Meeting closed