

# QPRC Greenways s.355 Committee

## General Meeting

*Monday 9 December 2019  
Bywong Community Hall  
Birriwa Road, Bywong*

## Minutes

Meeting opened at 19:38

### 1. Attendance

Committee: Langdon Patrick (Chair), Pete Harrison, Maria Taylor (Treasurer), Kathy Handel (Landcare), Bill Taylor

Apologies: Kerry Cox (GGPC), Peter Evans

### 2. Minutes of Previous GM

a) Acceptance of the minutes from the GM of 10 September 2019

**Moved:** That the minutes be accepted

Moved/Seconded: KH/PH

Carried by all

b) Business arising from the minutes

Items carried forward from meeting of 11 June 2019

Action 5.1: LP/BT to work Item 1 of the Greenways Works Program into an application for grant funding.

LP noted that there was some indication that works on the Greenways, as a local government asset, might not qualify for the most immediate grant opportunity. See Item 4 c) below.

Action – **Ongoing**

Items from meeting of 10 September 2019

Action 4.1: BT to collect relevant data on existing signs and the number of signs that will ultimately be required.

There are currently six (6) locations that would benefit from [new] 'entry' signage, and one where directional signage would help to link segments on either side of a roadway. See Item 4 d) below.

Action – **Closed**

- Action 5.1: KH to schedule slashing with contractor.  
On further inspection it was decided that, due to the dry weather, no slashing was necessary. Areas of blackberry and serrated tussock were, however, identified and managed accordingly—expenditure per Treasurer’s Report (Item 3).  
Action – Closed
- Action 6.1: MT to contact Land for Wildlife to organise assessments.  
Land for Wildlife was contacted, but alternative arrangements were made for a preliminary biodiversity assessment. See Item 4 b) below.  
Action – Closed

### 3. Treasurer’s Report

Payments made for treatment of blackberry and serrated tussock on sections of the Greenways.

Balance as of 10 September 2019:	\$2,011.91
Blackberry treatment	\$100.00
Removal of serrated tussock	\$67.50
Balance as of 9 December 2019:	\$1,844.41

### 4. Other Business

#### a) BMX usage

A request has been received by council in relation to the creation of BMX jumps on a section of the Greenways.

In addressing this request, the Committee referred to the Principles, as noted in the Greenways Master Plan, under which the Greenways were established:

#### 1.2 Principles

The following principles, identified by the original Steering Committee, provide a foundation for the management of the Greenways network:

- that environmental protection be observed in relation to the management and administration of the Greenways
- that the Greenways (both the land and its other resources) be used and managed in a sustainable manner
- that multiple use and enjoyment of the Greenways be encouraged in accordance with the Management Plan.

It is intended that the Greenways will always be in a more or less natural state and some fallen trees, erosion channels and so forth are to be expected.

The view of the Committee is that the creation of BMX jumps is not consistent with the principles of environmental protection or sustainable management of the Greenways. Bicycle riding is accommodated as a form of

active recreation, but only insofar as the activity is consistent with the principles of management and can be undertaken in a manner that minimises impact on the natural environment.

b) Fauna survey

Following discussions with Land for Wildlife, several options were explored in relation to updating current Greenways flora and fauna data. A quotation to undertake a recommended program of works, at a total cost of around \$5,000, has been provided by GrassRoots Environmental.

In considering the proposed works, the Committee was of the view that initial works could be undertaken, at minimal or no cost, if the local community could be engaged to help develop a baseline fauna assessment, along the lines employed by citizen science groups.

**Action 4.1:** PH to investigate, with council, options for receipt of community input in relation to fauna assessments and other Greenways-specific issues.

**Action 4.2:** KH/MT to contact Australian Citizen Science Association (ACSA) re information on or the collection of data relating to local fauna.

While it was noted that there are privacy issues associated with individual assessments, Land for Wildlife may be able to provide summary information that would help in any initial assessment of native fauna within the Greenways network.

MT noted that the IMB Community Grants Program may offer another source of funding for this or other work on the Greenways.

**Action 4.3:** MT to look into possibility of applying for an IMB Community Grant to fund proposed activities.

c) Grant opportunities for works on the Greenways

It was noted that the Strengthening Rural Communities Program, managed by the Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal (FRRR), might limit funding opportunities for activities that fall within the remit of local government.

**Action 4.4:** LP to contact FRRR to confirm eligibility requirements.

d) Greenways signage

**Action 4.5:** PH to prepare a template for Greenways entry signage, based on the metal signs already in use, and distribute to Committee members for further discussion.

**Action 4.6:** MT to provide additional graphic elements as required for inclusion on entry signage.

e) Note the prevalence of blackberry and serrated tussock, particularly around Millpost Hill and adjoining Greenways.

## 5. Next Meeting

The 2020 meeting schedule was confirmed as follows:

Tuesday, 10 March  
Tuesday, 9 June  
Tuesday, 8 September  
Tuesday, 8 December

Meeting closed at 21:02