

2023 Annual General Meeting
Monday 10th April 2023 – 2pm
Gabbadah Park, Guilderton

Time: 1405

Attendees: Ken and Barbara Horton, Gillian and Neil Lamont, Bob and Linda Johnson, Michael Bishop, Diana Papenfus, Tim Britten (online)
John and Sharon Staude, Shane Love, Rob and Helen Millstead, Hon Martin Aldridge MLC,
Apologies: Olivia Samec, Sandra Papenfus, Jemila Anderson, Wendy Nottle, Kerry Jones, Jackie Bobridge, Joel Collins, Oley Kaye

1. **Welcome and acknowledgement of Yued/Noongar first nation peoples**

2. **Review of actions from 2022 annual general meeting - Nil**

Acceptance of minutes of previous annual general meeting

Proposed resolution: That the minutes of the 2022 annual general meeting be accepted.

Moved: Linda Johnson

Seconded: Gillian Lamont

Passed

3. **Convenors report by Linda Johnson:**

'2023, another year on watch'.

See Attachment One

Acceptance of annual report

Proposed resolution: That the annual report tabled at the annual general meeting be accepted.

Moved: Linda Johnson

Seconded: Diana Papenfus

Passed

4. **Treasurer's report by Gillian Lamont**

See Attachment Two

Acceptance of financial statements

Proposed resolution: That the financial statements tabled at the annual general meeting be accepted.

Moved: Gillian Lamont

Seconded: Michael Bishop

Passed

Gillian indicated she was wishing to relinquish the treasurer and membership coordinator role.

5. **Social Media Report by Michael Bishop**

See Attachment 3

Linda thanked Michael for his work in this area.

Michael indicated his willingness to take up the role of Treasurer and membership coordinator from Gillian.

6. **Call for Nominations/ Election of Committee.**

Conducted by Neil Lamont

Results of the election:

Appointed as:

Convenor: Linda Johnson :

Deputy Chair: Olivia Samec

Secretary: Diana Papenfus

Treasurer: Michael Bishop

Committee members: Tim Britten, Gillian Lamont

7. **General Business:**

Bob Johnson reported on activities and decisions occurring with foreshore matters.

Meetings with the Shire of Gingin resulted in the following:

- Recognition that consultation with the community is important. The volunteer bodies that originally instigated several of the projects (namely the Lower Moore River Working Group's boardwalk initiative), reflect voice of the community and should be consulted.
- A master plan for the estuary was outlined
- Silver Creek area to remain under the care of the LMRWG
- Stephens Crescent boardwalk can and will be repaired by the Shire of Gingin. [An, previously undisclosed, engineers report has been uncovered that does expose problems. However, recognition of community appreciation of the asset, repairs will be done].
- The foreshore group will concentrate on the area near the caravan park etc. The toilet situation remains unsettled.

LJ indicated that while there has been some unrest within the Guilderton (eg. Café tribulations, caravan park issues, parking area perversities, and unexpected playground closures) these are not core business to advocating for the River. As such has not involved FOMRE. GCA is the appropriate voice in these matters.

Meeting close 1445

Minute taker: Diana Papenfus

Attachment 1 Chair Report

Attachment One

Chair's Report to Friends of Moore River Estuary AGM on 10th April 2023

My report will be short and sweet as I tell you about another year 'on watch'.

Welcome to you all and thank you for coming to our AGM.

We invite you to stay and chat with a nibble and a cuppa after the formalities.

It is now 29 years since many of us went to the Shire of Gingin, in February 1994, to oppose their plan to rezone the Plunkett land at Moore River South, from Rural to Urban.

I am always happy to welcome new people to our cause, and to explain as much of the history since then as you wish to hear.

Last month the property was advertised again in local media.

The whole 2103ha of MRC land has been for sale since 2015.

Our position remains that in a high bushfire prone area, in a cul-de-sac between the river and the ocean; with no roads, power, water or sewerage, development will be expensive and so we hope that the economics alone will see this development proposal fail and this valuable bushland left intact.

The latest WAPC Planning decision for the Moore River Company land remains the Subdivision approval over the 357ha of the ODP in January 2019, with 40 Conditions attached. This approval is valid until January 2025 as the Govt gave all 4 year approvals an extended 2 years for Covid!

I have seen no progress on either their 'solar farm' or 'water plant' plans that they had to make for the last approval. These are both on the Caraban Rd side of their land and a long way from the subdivision site.

Our proposal for Wilbinga Regional Park, the King's Park of the North, which we made in 2019, remains our main focus for protection of this whole area, especially as it would further isolate any 'development area' between the estuary and Perth city.

I have copies of this Plan which you are welcome to take.

Essentially, we want to protect the coast and bushland between Perth city at Two Rocks and the estuary, from the coast to IOD. A Regional Park allows recreational use but prohibits urbanisation. We have appealed to anyone who we think might be able to buy the MRC land as the rest of the land is in forestry and conservation areas already and includes a parcel of native title land.

We would welcome anyone with expertise in these areas to come to talk to us.

The Turquoise Coast Management Group.

The TCMG consists of reps of the Shires of Gingin, Dandaragan and Coorow, as well as DBCA (Dept Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions), Parks and Wildlife and local groups like us, and other Friends groups from Lancelin, Jurien Bay, Greenhead, Coorow etc.

This group met 3 times in 2021 to prioritise our concerns, which largely have been distilled as 4WD and ORV use of the coast and secondly, weed invasion and maintenance of healthy coastal areas.

Access to the coast is TCMGs major focus and NACC is now trying to find a full time co-ordinator who will make plans that will enable all stakeholders to work together.

We will never have proper Govt funding for Coastcare but there are a lot of good people in Shires and Govt departments who want the same outcomes as we do.

DBCA Wanneroo is responsible for administration over the Wilbinga Plan area, which is currently being heavily impacted by 4WD users. We are in conversation with them and the Wilbinga Shacks Crew about preventing further degradation of Wilbinga, thru the TCMG. Our say might be minimal but the collective voices of others who agree with us just might lead to better protection of this coast and bushland for the future.

For the 2 years since the South West Native Title Settlement was made, with the intention to create Indigenous Land Use Agreements over the SW of WA, we haven't heard much.

The claims throughout the Yued lands, some of them in areas of interest to us, both in Wilbinga and between Guilderton and Seabird, are still being worked on.

My great hope remains that Wilbinga might be suitable for aboriginal Ranger education and training programmes, leading to a win/win for both employment and protection of this great bush, so close to Perth. My greatest hope is for collaboration resulting in great planning so the future of Wilbinga is assured.

In other matters, the sandbar has been intact all summer, except for the Jan 12th digout that led to the drop in water levels that exposed so much rotting vegetation that led to a rise in bacteria levels that made the Shire advise against swimming in the estuary on Australia day this year. I raised the matter at the Shire Elector's meeting and have been promised better communication about the health of the estuary water from Sept 2023.

Many thanks to Michael Bishop for keeping our social media active, especially when events like this happen, as his posts encourage people's enthusiasm for this special place.

And a special thank you to Ryan Kam and Mark Shackleton from DWER who so efficiently run our water testing program on the estuary. They have produced this marvellous report which we will put on our website at guildertonwa.com.au

We did water testing in March and the results look good. We took a Perth TAFE class with us and they were a great help and loved the morning. The temperature was 24' all the way up and the salinity was 4 or less, top and bottom, so it is clear that the healthy summer pattern is occurring where the ocean processes push more sand into the sandbar, thickening it up. Just recently the beach is starting to scallop again as the winter ocean processes take over. It has hardly rained since November with only 28mm over the last 4 months in town.

Next water testing day will be on Thursday 8th June and we welcome visitors to help.

We continue to support the Conservation Council of WA, Urban Bushland Council, Moore Catchment Council, Birdlife WA and the local community groups of the lower coastal area.

This morning saw the launch of a kid's nature booklet thanks to MCC and GVC too.

Again I must thank you all for your ongoing membership and support and also your committee, vice chair Olivia Samec, secretary Diana Papenfus, treasurer and wonderful record keeper Gillian Lamont, our social media man Michael Bishop and also Tim Britten for their work to keep FOMRE going.

I encourage anyone who would like to join us to nominate for committee as we head into another year Protecting Moore River Estuary.

Many thanks to you all, Linda Johnson Chair 2022

Attachment 2 Financial Statement

Friends of Moore River Estuary Financial Statement 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022

<u>Balance brought forward 1st January</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Bendigo Bank Account	9,836.88	\$ 8,372.70
<u>Income</u>		
memberships	1,050.00	790.00
donations	985.00	\$ 1,090.00
total income	2,035.00	\$ 1,880.00
<u>Expenditure</u>		
administration(PO Box) 44.00 295.82 subscriptions 120.00 120.00 website 215.82		
total expenditure	379.82	415.82
Profit/Loss @ 31/12/2022	\$ 1,655.18	\$ 1,464.18
Balance @ 31 December 2022	\$ 11,492.06	\$ 9,836.88
Bank Reconciliation		
Bendigo Bank Account @ 31 December 2022	\$ 11,492.06	\$ 9,836.88
outstandings		
Cash @ Bank 31 December 2022	\$ 11,492.06	\$ 9,836.88

Notes to 2022 Accounts

Total number of members 94

Attachment 3 Social Media Report

Firstly thank you to our supporters who have contributed photo's and content - it has been greatly appreciated.

Friends of Moore River Estuary Social Media presence has pivoted in the last two years to remain relevant.

By taking on a more holistic community perspective, this has allowed our audience to continue to grow plus providing a community service.

In addition to email updates, we have exposure through Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn channels.

Our goal is to grow our audience now so that when there is a "call to action" we will have the strength to go out to a wide audience quickly.

Here are some stats for the last 12 months:

Facebook reach has increased from 75,000 unique people to 104,000 (year on year)

Instagram reach has increased from 10,780 unique people to 29,000 (year on year)

Our Facebook and *Insta* audience is a fairly even spread, peaking in the 45-54 age bracket.

We average over 3 social media posts per week and have trialled paid media posts. This was very successful which can be availed of if a call to action is required.

What can I do to help?

Like and Share

Send through historical or interesting photo's

See something interesting, take a photo and send it through

Happy to discuss, Michael

