



# **BUSH FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

# **MINUTES**

**BUSH FIRES ACT (1954) SECTION 67**

Committee Brief

*To advise the Local Government regarding all matters relating to the preventing, controlling and extinguishing of bush fires, the planning of the layout of fire-breaks in the district, prosecutions for breaches of the Bush Fires Act 1954, the formation of bush fire brigades and the grouping thereof under group brigade officers and the ensuring of cooperation and coordination of bush fire brigades in their efforts and activities.*

Annual General Meeting of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee  
Held in the Council Chambers, Lowood Road Mount Barker WA 6324  
at 7.00pm on Wednesday 8 May 2024

  
**Julian Murphy**  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

Committee Members

Cr L Handasyde, Cr R Brown, Cr J Oldfield (Deputy) (Resolution No 168/23), Mr N Handasyde, Mr I Mackie, Mr B Skinner, Mr G Pyle, Mrs M Skinner, Mr R Caudwell, Mrs J Burcham (Resolution 080/23)

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**Presiding Member: Cr L Handasyde**

**Membership: Quorum (8)**

Cr L Handasyde	Council Representative/Chief Fire Weather Officer
Cr R Brown	Council Representative
Cr J Oldfield	Council Representative (Deputy)
Mr N Handasyde	Chief Bush Fire Control Officer
Mr I Mackie	Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer No 1
Mr B Skinner	Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer No 2
Mr L Handasyde	Chief Fire Weather Officer
Mr G Pyle	Deputy Chief Fire Weather Officer
Mrs M Skinner	Base Radio Operator
Mr R Caudwell	Deputy Base Operator
Mrs J Burcham	Deputy Base Operator

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**1 DECLARATION OF OPENING / ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS**

7.00pm Cr Handasyde declared the meeting open.

**2 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES**Present

Cr L Handasyde	Council Representative
Cr R Brown	Council Representative
Cr J Oldfield	Council Representative (Deputy)
Mr N Handasyde	Chief Bush Fire Control Officer
Mr I Mackie	Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer No 1
Mr B Skinner	Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer No 2
Mr L Handasyde	Chief Fire Weather Officer
Mr G Pyle	Deputy Chief Fire Weather Officer
Mrs M Skinner	Base Radio Operator
Mrs J Burcham	Deputy Base Operator

Visitors

Mr B Lynch	Denbarker Bush Fire Brigade
Mr C Moore	Forest Hill Bush Fire Brigade
Mr P Spink	Middle Ward Bush Fire Brigade
Mr R Wright	Narpyn Bush Fire Brigade
Mr C Norton	Narrakup Bush Fire Brigade
Mr D Trotter	Perillup Bush fire Brigade
Mr D Cobain	Porongurup Bush Fire Brigade
Mr W Matthews	Porongurup South Bush Fire Brigade
Mr M Wills	Rocky Gully Bush Fire Brigade
Mr R Drage	Mount Barker Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service
Mr B Furber	Kendenup Bush Fire Brigade
Mr G Sounness	Middle Ward Bush Fire Brigade
Mr G Forbes	Narrakup Bush Fire Brigade
Mr I Higgins	Rocky Gully Bush Fire Brigade
Mr G Williss	PF Olsen
Mr M Anning	Australian Bluegum Plantations
Mr A Determes	Great Southern Farm Services
Mr N Ramage	Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions, Albany
Mr P Mackie	
Mrs D Pyle	
Mr D Burcham	

Staff

Mr M Barnes	Community Emergency Services Manager
Mr J Rutter	Ranger

Apologies

Mr K Hemmings	Executive Manager Works and Services
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**3 DISCLOSURE OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS**

Part 5, Division 6, Local Government Act 1995

Nil

**4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**Moved Mr C Norton, seconded Mr M Wills**

**That the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee held on 3 May 2023 as circulated, be taken as read and adopted as a correct record.**

**CARRIED**

**5 ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Nominations were called for the following positions.

Position	Current 2023/2024	Nominee for 2024/2025	Nominator	Seconded
Chief Bush Fire Control Officer	Norm Handasyde	Matt Newham	Tristan Hampel	Daniel Cobain
		Iain Mackie	Bryce Skinner	Norm Handasyde

As two nominations were received for the position of Chief Bush Fire Control Officer, the candidates were asked to leave the room. A vote by show of hands was taken. Mr Iain Mackie was voted the successful nominee for the 2024/2025 fire season.

Position	Current 2023/2024	Nominee for 2024/2025	Nominator	Seconded
Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer No. 1	Iain Mackie	Chris Norton	Iain Mackie	Norm Handasyde
Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer No. 2	Bryce Skinner	Bryce Skinner	Bryce Skinner	Daniel Cobain
Chief Fire Weather Officer	Len Handasyde	Phil Mackie	Len Handasyde	Paul Spink
Deputy Fire Weather Officer 1	Graeme Pyle	Graeme Pyle	Len Handasyde	Ray Drage
Deputy Fire Weather Officer 2	New position	David Burcham	Len Handasyde	Graeme Pyle
Base Radio Operator	Mietta Skinner	Mietta Skinner	Mietta Skinner	Graeme Pyle
Deputy Base Operators	Ron Caudwell	Jo Wills	Mietta Skinner	Daniel Cobain
	Jacqui Burcham	Jacqui Burcham	Mietta Skinner	Norm Handasyde



## 5.1 WEATHER REPORTING OFFICERS

Position	Current 2023/2024	Nominee 2024/2025
Denbarker	Norm Handasyde	Norm Handasyde
Forest Hill	Brad Maclean	Brad McLean
Kendenup	Brent Wearmouth	Stephen Beech
Kojaneerup	Nil	Nil
Middle Ward	Greg Sounness	Greg Sounness
Narpyn	Mark Wallace	Mark Wallace
Narrikup	Chris Norton	Chris Norton
Perillup	Kieran Allison	Kieran Allison
Porongurup	Alan Wise 1	Alan Wise
	Alan Kennedy 2	Proxy – Allen Kennedy
Porongurup South	Nil	Nil
Rocky Gully	Murray Wills	Robin Higgins
South Stirlings	Brent Counsel	Brent Counsel
Woogenellup	Nathan Hunt	Nathan Hunt
Town Fire & Rescue	Nil	Nil
Shire of Plantagenet	Vacant	Kevin Hemmings
	Mike Barnes	Mike Barnes
	Jason Rutter	Jason Rutter

## 5.2 FIRE CONTROL OFFICERS

Recommendations to BFAC from the Brigades' respective AGMs.

Position	FCO 2023/2024	FCO Nominee 2024/2025
<b>Denbarker</b>		
Fire Control Officer No. 1	Tony Griffiths	Brad Lynch
Fire Control Officer No. 2	Brad Lynch	Tony Griffiths
Fire Control Officer No. 3	Warren Drage	Warren Drage
Fire Control Officer No. 4	Neville Lindberg	Neville Lindberg
Fire Control Officer No. 5	John Rodgers	John Rodgers
Fire Control Officer No. 6	Norm Handasyde	Norm Handasyde
<b>Forest Hill</b>		
Fire Control Officer No. 1	Craig Moore	Craig Moore
Fire Control Officer No. 2	Len Handasyde	Len Handasyde
Fire Control Officer No. 4	Murray McLean	Murray McLean



Position	FCO 2023/2024	FCO Nominee 2024/2025
<b>Kendenup</b>		
Fire Control Officer No. 1	Stephen Beech	Ben Furber
Fire Control Officer No. 2	Ken Frost	Matthew Newham
Fire Control Officer No. 3	Philip Webb	Stephen Beech
Fire Control Officer No. 4	Robert Baines	Ken Frost
Fire Control Officer No. 5	Ben Furber	Rob Baines
Fire Control Officer No. 6	Matthew Newham	Brad Wood
<b>Middle Ward</b>		
Fire Control Officer No. 1	Paul Spinks	Paul Spinks
Fire Control Officer No. 2	Kim Stothard	Kim Stothard
Fire Control Officer No. 3	Iain Mackie	Iain Mackie
Fire Control Officer No. 4	Greg Sounness	Greg Sounness
Fire Control Officer No. 5	Andrew Mackie	Andrew Mackie
<b>Narpyn</b>		
Fire Control Officer No. 1	Robert Wright	Robert Wright
Fire Control Officer No. 2	Michael Cave	Michael Cave
Fire Control Officer No. 3	Mark Wallace	Mark Wallace
Fire Control Officer No. 4	Owen Sounness	Owen Sounness
<b>Narrikup</b>		
Fire Control Officer No. 1	Chris Norton	Chris Norton
Fire Control Officer No. 2	Glen Forbes	Glen Forbes
Fire Control Officer No. 3	Graeme Frusher	Graeme Frusher
Fire Control Officer No. 4	Robert Smith	Robert Smith
<b>Perillup</b>		
Fire Control Officer No. 1	Dean Trotter	Dean Trotter
Fire Control Officer No. 2	Thomas Riggall	Thomas Riggall
Fire Control Officer No. 3	Robin Ditchburn	Robin Ditchburn
<b>Porongurup</b>		
Fire Control Officer No. 1	Brad Cluett	Brad Cluett
Fire Control Officer No. 2	Daniel Cobain	Daniel Cobain
Fire Control Officer No. 3	Gerald Versluis	Gerald Versluis
Fire Control Officer No. 4	Tony Ward	Allen Kennedy
Fire Control Officer No. 5	Alan Wise	Tristan Hampel

<b>Position</b>	<b>FCO 2023/2024</b>	<b>FCO Nominee 2024/2025</b>
Fire Control Officer No. 6	-	Alan Wise
<b>Porongurup South</b>		
Fire Control Officer No. 1	Wayne Mathews	Wayne Matthews
Fire Control Officer No. 2	Allan Rees	Jamie Stan-Bishop
Fire Control Officer No. 3	Richard Stan-Bishop	Allen Rees
Fire Control Officer No. 4	Greg Dorrell	Greg Dorrell
Fire Control Officer No 5	Jamie Stan-Bishop	David Marsh
<b>Rocky Gully</b>		
Fire Control Officer No. 1	Murray Wills	Ian Higgins
Fire Control Officer No. 2	Ian Higgins	Hamish Cameron
Fire Control Officer No. 3	Hamish Cameron	Murray Wills
<b>Woogenellup</b>		
Fire Control Officer No. 1	Nathan Hunt	Nathan Hunt
Fire Control Officer No. 2	Bryce Skinner	Stephen Adams
Fire Control Officer No. 3	Stephen Adams	Bryce Skinner
Fire Control Officer No. 4	Mark Adams	Kyle Pieper
Fire Control Officer No. 5	Kyle Pieper	Mark Adams
<b>South Stirlings</b>		
Dual Fire Control Officer No. 1	Graeme Pyle	Graeme Pyle
Dual Fire Control Officer No. 2	Reece Curwen	Reece Curwen
Dual Fire Control Officer No.3	John Howard	Vacant
<b>Kojaneerup</b>		
Dual Fire Control Officer No. 1	Ashton Hood	Ashton Hood
Dual Fire Control Officer No. 2	Scott Smith	Scott Smith
<b>Shire of Plantagenet</b>		
Fire Control Officer No. 1	David Lynch	Kevin Hemmings
Fire Control Officer No. 2	Mike Barnes	Mike Barnes
Fire Control Officer No. 3	Steve Player	Jason Rutter
Fire Control Officer No. 4	Nil	Dahna Kleemann
<b>Mount Barker Volunteer Fire &amp; Rescue</b>		
Fire Control Officer No. 1	Ray Drage	Ray Drage
Fire Control Officer No. 2	Kevin Bransby	Kevin Bransby



### 5.3 BUSH FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE DELEGATES

Brigade	Delegate	Proxy
Denbarker	Brad Lynch	Tony Griffiths/ John Rodgers
Forest Hill	Craig Moore	Kieran Wilkinson
Kendenup	Matthew Newham	Ben Furber
Kojaneerup	Ashton Hood	Scott Smith
Middle Ward	Paul Spink	Greg Sounness
Narpyn	Rob Wright	Craig Williams
Narrikup	Chris Norton	Glen Forbes
Perillup	Kieran Allison	Dean Trotter
Porongurup	Tristan Hampel	Gerald Versluis
South Porongurup	Wayne Matthews	Jamie Stan-Bishop
Rocky Gully	Ian Higgins	Hamish Cameron
South Stirlings	Graeme Pyle	Reece Curwen
Woogenellup	Nathan Hunt	Nathan Crosby
Mt Barker VFRS	Ray Drage	Kevin Bransby

#### OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That it be a recommendation by the Bush Fire Advisory Committee to the Council that

1. All previous appointments for the positions of Bush Fire Control Officers, designated Bush Fire Service positions and Bush Fire Advisory Committee members for the Shire of Plantagenet be cancelled on 30 June 2024.
2. The above be appointed as Bush Fire Control Officers, designated Bush Fire Service positions and Bush Fire Advisory Committee members within the designated Bush Fire Brigade areas for 2024/2025, taking effect from 1 July 2024.

#### COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

**Moved Mr N Handasyde, Seconded Mr B Furber;**

**That it be a recommendation by the Bush Fire Advisory Committee to the Council that:**

1. **All previous appointments for the positions of Bush Fire Control Officers, designated Bush Fire Service positions and Bush Fire Advisory Committee members for the Shire of Plantagenet be cancelled on 30 June 2024.**
2. **The above be appointed as Bush Fire Control Officers, designated Bush Fire Service positions and Bush Fire Advisory Committee members within the designated Bush Fire Brigade areas for 2024/2025, taking effect from 1 July 2024.**

**CARRIED**

**6 NEXT MEETING**

Date to be decided.

**7 MEETING CLOSURE**

7.15pm Cr Handasyde declared the meeting closed.