

SHIRE OF KOJONUP

Kojonup



Kojonup Bush Fire Advisory Committee

Minutes

8 August 2023

BUSHFIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

Established under *Section 67 of the Bush Fires Act 1954*.

Terms of Reference

The Bush Fire Advisory Committee is established for the purpose of:

- a) Advising the Shire regarding all matters relating to the preventing, controlling and extinguishing of bush fires;
- b) The planning of the layout of firebreaks in the district;
- c) Prosecutions for breaches of this Act;
- d) The formation of bush fire brigades and the grouping thereof under group brigade officers (in accordance with any local laws);
- e) Recommendations on Fire Control Officer positions;
- f) Feedback on the Council's Fire Break Notice;
- g) Specific requirements from each brigade with regard to:
 - Protective Personal Equipment;
 - Equipment and vehicles resources required; and
 - Training Requirements;
- h) The ensuring of cooperation and coordination of Bush Fire Brigades in their efforts and activities; and
- i) Any other matter relating to bush fire control whether of the same kind as, or a different kind from, those specified in this subsection.

Other:

- a) The Bush Fire Advisory Committee shall include an elected member of the Council;
- b) The committee shall elect one of their members to be chairman;
- c) The quorum required for the transaction of business at meetings of the committee is set at 50%

Membership

Voting Members (9 in total)

- Councillors x2 (Currently Cr Radford and Cr Benn);
- The President of the Kojonup Bushfire Association;
- The Chief Bush Fire Control Officer;
- The Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer;
- Senior Fire Control Officer (Zulu)
- Senior Fire control Officer (Zulu)
- Secretary of the Kojonup Bushfire Association
- Captain of the Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service

Observers

- The Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
- Shire Delegates x2
- Muradup Town Fire Control Officer (FCO)

MINUTES FOR THE KOJONUP BUSH FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD 8 AUGUST 2023

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M E E T I N G

1. **DECLARATION OF OPENING AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF GUESTS**

The Presiding Member declared the meeting open at 07:00 pm and alerted the meeting of the procedures for emergencies including evacuation, designated exits, and muster points.

2. **ATTENDANCE & APOLOGIES**

MEMBERS

Ned Radford	Shire President (Presiding Member)
Paul Webb	Councillor
Digby Stretch	President Kojonup Bush Fire Association
Denise Berryman	Secretary of the Kojonup Bush Fire Association
Nick Trethowan	Senior Bush Fire Control Officer
Matthew Crabb	Kojonup Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service
Tony Fisher	Chief Bush Fire Control Officer
Ross Fryer-Smith	Senior Bush Fire Control Officer
Ben Blewett	Senior Bush Fire Control Officer

OBSERVERS

Judy Stewart	A/Chief Executive Officer
Estelle Lottering	Regulatory Services Administration Officer (Minute taker)
Derek Jones	DFES District Officer Great Southern
Robert Jehu	Manager Regulatory Services

APOLOGIES

Matthew Crabb	Kojonup Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service
Grant Thompson	Chief Executive Officer
Stephanie Swain	Shire of Kojonup Ranger
Emelee Peet	Bushfire Risk Management Coordinator

3. **SUMMARY OF RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE**

Nil

4. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Nil

5. **APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Nil

6. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

Minutes of the Bushfire Advisory Committee Meeting held on 9th of May 2023 were previously circulated under separate cover.

COMMITTEE DECISION

That the minutes of the Bushfire Advisory Committee Meeting held 9th of May 2023 be confirmed as a true record.

Moved by Digby Stretch and second by Tony Fisher.

Carried 9/0

7. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

8. **PETITIONS, DEPUTATIONS & PRESENTATIONS**

Nil

9. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Nil

10. **STATUS REPORTS**

10.1 **2022/2023 Fire Season Update**

As of July 2023, there have been the following fires reported within the Shire:

Fires for Brigades 2022 -2023														
Brigade		July	August	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	Total
Boilup		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Boscabel		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Changerup		0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Cherry Tree Pool		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	2
Jingalup		0	0	0	0	0	2	1	2	0	2	0	0	7
Kojonup		0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Lumeah		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
Mobrup		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	2
Muradup		0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	0	0	4
Orchid Valley		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Qualeup		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	2
Ryans Brook		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		0	0	0	0	2	6	2	8	2	4	0	1	25

This compares with the following data for the previous four years.

Fires for 2019-2020 by Brigades													
Brigade	July	August	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	Total
Boilup													0
Boscabel					3	1							4
Changerup						1							1
Cherry Tree Pool						1							1
Jingalup								1		2			3
Kojonup										2			2
Lumeah						1	1	1	3				6
Mobrup								1		1			2
Muradup				1		1		1					3
Orchid Valley										1			1
Qualeup									1				1
Ryans Brook						1							1
Total	0	0	0	1	3	6	1	4	4	6	0	0	25

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Fires for 2018 - 2019 by Brigades													
Brigade	July	August	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	Total
Boilup													0
Boscabel													0
Changerup						1	1		2				4
Cherry Tree Pool							1	1	1				3
Jingalup							1	4				1	9
Kojonup							1	2	1	1	3	1	9
Lumeah							3	1	1	1	2		8
Mobrup								1				1	2
Muradup									2				2
Orchid Valley									1				1
Qualeup							1					2	4
Ryans Brook								1					1
Total	0	0	0	0	0	1	8	10	0	11	2	9	43

Fires for 2017 - 2018 by brigade													
Brigade	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	Total
Boilup										1			1
Boscabel													0
Changerup												1	1
Cherry Tree Pool										1			1
Jingalup							1			1		1	3
Kojonup						6	1			4		2	13
Lumeah						1			2	1	3		7
Mobrup												1	1
Muradup							1						1
Orchid Valley							1						1
Qualeup												1	1
Ryans Brook						1							1
Total	0	0	0	0	0	8	4	0	0	3	7	0	31

Fires for 2016 - 2017 by brigades													
Brigade	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	Total
Boilup											1		1
Boscabel													0
Changerup							1						1
Cherry Tree Pool						1	1						2
Jingalup								1			2		3
Kojonup								1					1
Lumeah													0
Mobrup													0
Muradup										2	1		3
Orchid Valley									1				1
Qualeup													0
Ryans Brook								1			1		2
Total	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	1	2	1	2	0	14

These reported fires provide a vital argument when the Shire requires extra funding or there is a need for extra resources to be allocated to this area. All fires need to be reported to DFES Communications Centre. This allows a record of incidents which can be utilised for resource allocation.

11 GENERAL ITEMS

11.1 Robert Jehu – Communication Tower Feedback

- A new site was established on Craigh Heggaton's property.
- Tower will be erected in October 2023
- Robert will need to look into the case if UHF Repeater will be on the tower.
- Would be interesting to do another shadow test.

11.2 Derek Jones - DFES

- Notes attached.
- Thank you to Denise Berryman for organising the WAERN Radio relocations.
- Biggest priority this coming season would be community warnings via text messages.

11.2 Emelee Peet

- Feedback regarding Bushfire Risk Management Plan.
- Digby Stretch giving feedback, but will put it on an email to Emelee.

11.3 Tony Stretch

- Waiting to get all Zulu's together to discuss upcoming fire season.

11.4 Digby Stretch

- BFA AGM – thanking Grant Thompson and Robert Jehu for their attendance

12 MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

Nil

13 LATE ITEMS

This section of the meeting is for discussing late items which did not make it into the Agenda and of which a decision is required by the BFAC as to the course of action to be taken for Council consideration.

13.1 Nick Trethowan

- Letter to Minister regarding fire top poles. Took 12 weeks to get a response.

14 NEXT MEETING

Will be on the 7th of November 2023 at 7:00pm

15 **CLOSURE**

There being no further business to discuss the Presiding Member thanked the members for their attendance and declared the meeting closed at 8:10pm.

Confirmed as true and correct:

Chairperson

Date