



<p><b>Item 1</b></p>	<p><b>5.55 – 6.20</b></p>	<p><b>Agency Reports- Melbourne Water and Parks Victoria.</b></p> <p>Joanne Antrobus (PV) - update attached to minutes.</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> Joan to bring the deer info to next meeting and send through some additional information.</p> <p>Mark Scida (MW) –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yellingbo Conservation Area plan public consultation upcoming,</li> <li>• Automation project Big Peninsula Tunnel to recreate invertebrate habitat and improve fish connectivity,</li> <li>• Environmental flow release (30/7) from Upper Yarra Dam,</li> <li>• Mini hydro project at Ythan Creek has CEMP completed to continue project works,</li> <li>• Yarra River circuit trail to be constructed,</li> <li>• Willow control from Millgrove to Wesburn,</li> <li>• Watts River cestrum control since Dec '06 incl data analysis showing significant gains.</li> </ul> <p><b>Cr Clarke:</b> wanted to credit the work along the Monbulk Creek in Lysterfield Valley to improve habitat values, particularly for platypus.</p>
<p><b>Item 2</b></p>	<p><b>6.25 – 6.37</b></p>	<p><b>Tree Strategy; Brief Update</b></p> <p>Paul Mechelen – Coordinator Trees (YRC)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council endorsed a Tree Management Plan (TMP) in 2009. The TMP set out Council's risk management procedure and contained extensive operational procedures.</li> <li>• Following recommendations from the Coroner that we have a “user friendly” document, Council endorsed a Tree Policy in 2016. This shorter document (12 pages) details Council's guiding principles of retaining trees where possible, and the types and frequencies of tree inspections. The Tree Policy is a publically available document, but the TMP is now for staff only.</li> <li>• Also in 2016, Council's tree management team acknowledged that we did not have a long term strategic plan for managing our tree stock. We planned to heavily involve the community in setting out what should go into the strategy. However, Council expressed concern that extensive community consultation would duplicate what was done for the Environment Strategy, and also stated that discussing tree management, especially risk management, could cause division.</li> <li>• Accordingly, a draft Tree Strategy will be prepared, with a focus on retaining and promoting the treed character of Yarra Ranges, and the importance of “greening” the urban areas. The draft will be discussed with select groups (including YREAC) and the original Project Reference Group. Currently the tree management team has a vacancy and until that position is filled no work will be done on the strategy.</li> <li>• Earlier the consultation the better. History of late consultation</li> </ul>

		<p>creates difficulty with enabling changes. Create a special separate meeting when there is a draft of the Strategy to comment on where the committee can workshop the content and ideas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council does not have a Significant tree register. The reason is that creating and maintaining a register is labour intensive, and the planning scheme already affords protection to most trees, especially large trees. There are heritage listed trees maintained by Heritage Australia and the National Trust but this is separate.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Item 3</b></p>	<p><b>6.40 – 7.20</b></p>	<p><b>Warburton Mountain Biking Destination</b></p> <p><b>Jayson Kelly</b> – Recreation &amp; Active Living team (YRC)</p> <p>Planning and implementation of the Warburton MTB trail. Presentation provided as attachment to minutes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aiming for a Net Environmental Gain: In formalising the trails, we can rehabilitate the existing illegal trail network. This project also aims to generate a revenue stream to fund this rehabilitation, as well as research for Leadbeater’s Possum and other threatened species, catchment protection assets (GPTs, WSUD, etc), and a Social Enterprise dedicated to ongoing management and maintenance.</li> <li>• Employment opportunities: The construction contract will have a target for local employees to ensure capacity is built in the local area, including the indigenous Wurundjeri community.</li> <li>• The forecast 165,000 visitors p/a will likely take 10 years to reach as the project will be constructed in two stages. Stage 1: 100km of trail, Stage 2: remaining 60km. This gives time for business and community in Warbuton to adjust to increased visitation.</li> <li>• Some observations of the impact that will escalate, including events.</li> <li>• Potential for Trail running and ultra-marathon running will be addressed through the Paths and Trails Strategy.</li> <li>• Note that the construction footprint is likely to be bigger than the final footprint, and that impacts will escalate during peak times (seasonally, events). This needs to be included in the planning.</li> <li>• Given the current project has evolved significantly since the initial feasibility report; a reviewed feasibility assessment should be undertaken. A number of significant impacts seem yet to be accounted for, including summit road widening, drainage, infrastructure, complimentary walking trails, biosecurity threats (weed ingress, Phyto), impact of track alignment on fauna (incl. pest predator) movement patterns.</li> <li>• With Practical Ecology walking the alignment, it’s unlikely that any such “one off” assessment will be detailed enough to account for seasonal variability in visibility of flora and fauna features present.</li> </ul> <p><b>Recommendation:</b> make use of the bitumen on the first 500m descent to avoid the Stonefly habitat and highly sensitive environment.</p> <p><b>Recommendation:</b> Technical reports being sent through the Environment Team prior to detailed design? Can there be a working group of council that meets regularly on the project.</p> <p><b>ACTIONS:</b> Information to this committee: the funding agreement from the Feds (including any conditions), a copy of the World Trails report, a copy of the brief they had, copy of the Practical Ecology report, a copy of the brief, the TOR for Project Steering Committee, we can look for advice provided by councils Environment department to RAL team (2013/14?).</p>

		<i>Joanne Antrobus left meeting at 7.00pm.</i>
<b>Item 4</b>	<b>7.50 – 8:20</b>	<p><b>Catchment Priority Mapping &amp; Integrated Water Management Planning</b></p> <p>Jess Rae – Coordinator Sustainability Provide presentation to committee appended to minutes.</p> <p>WSUD assets are currently being reviewed to ensure they are maintained and performance is optimised. This process has already resulted in significant improvements to performance, and has informed localised designs for Yarra Ranges to ensure better outcomes in future; including a more appropriate maintenance programme, with the right mix of vegetation to ensure maximum uptake of nutrient from stormwater.</p>
<b>Item 5</b>	<b>8.20 – 8:35</b>	<p><b>Council Environment &amp; Sustainability Update</b></p> <p>Simon Woodland – Environmental Stewardship; Jess Rae – Sustainability, Amanda Smith – Biodiversity (to be provided prior to the meeting)</p>
<b>Item 6</b>	<b>8.35 – 8.00</b>	<p><b>Other Matters</b></p> <p>Timetable for the new committee was scheduled to be August but working through the Governance of the appointment of the new members.</p>
<b>Next Meeting</b>		11 <sup>th</sup> October 2018.
<b>Meeting Close</b>	8.40pm	