

Banyule Environment and Climate Action Advisory Committee | Minutes



Meeting details

Date of meeting	Thursday, 8 September 2022
Time	6:30pm – 8:30pm
Venue	Online – MS TEAMS
Chair/Facilitator	Cr Peter Castaldo
Minutes	Ellie Hall

Acknowledgement of the Traditional Custodians

“Our meeting is being held on the Traditional Land of the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people and, on behalf of Banyule City Council, I wish to acknowledge them as the Traditional Custodians. I would also like to pay my respects to the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Elders, past, present and emerging, and to acknowledge other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Elders joining us today.”

Inclusive Banyule Statement

“Our community is made up of diverse cultures, beliefs, abilities, bodies, sexualities, ages and genders. We are committed to access, equity, participation, and rights for everyone: principles which empower, foster harmony and increase the wellbeing of an inclusive community.”

Attendee

Attendee name

Kellie Watson – BECAAC Member

Denise Fernando - BECAAC Member

Jacinta Humphrey – BECAAC Member

Alex Tzikas - BECAAC Member

Lynne Siejka - BECAAC Member

Jack Ellis - BECAAC Member

Paul Gale Baker - BECAAC Member

Michelle Giovas - BECAAC Member

Trivess Moore - BECAAC Member

Vicky Rowe – BECAAC Member

Alex Del Brocco – BECAAC Member

Cr Peter Castaldo - Chair

Cr Alida McKern

Cr Tom Melican

Jonathan Risby – Environment & Transport Manager

Ellie Hall – Acting Environment Coordinator / BECAAC Contact Officer

Paul Davis – Biodiversity Advisor

Danielle Clarke – Social Policy & Planner Team Leader

Apologies

Name

Sarah Bendy – BCAAC Member

Items

1. Introduction

Acknowledgement of traditional custodians

Diversity Statement

2. Biodiversity planning – vision & values

- Currently reviewing the 2019-2022 Biodiversity Plan with the aim to identify any new and emerging themes and key actions
- Most actions are complete or will roll over.
- Slight wording changes will make some actions clearer.
- Biodiversity Working group will be convened to support the development of the ongoing strategy.
- BECAAC members inputted into the development of some overarching themes for the new strategy through a brainstorming exercise.
- All BECAAC members had a chance to input ideas, these were grouped into themes and then voted on.
- The below table and figure outline the themes and their standing in terms of priority.

Theme	Priority votes
Habitat enhancement and connectivity	10 votes
Community education and awareness	10 votes
Managing threats	5 votes
Community engagement programs	4 votes
Climate action and adaptation	3 votes
Advocacy	2 votes

Table One: List of themes developed

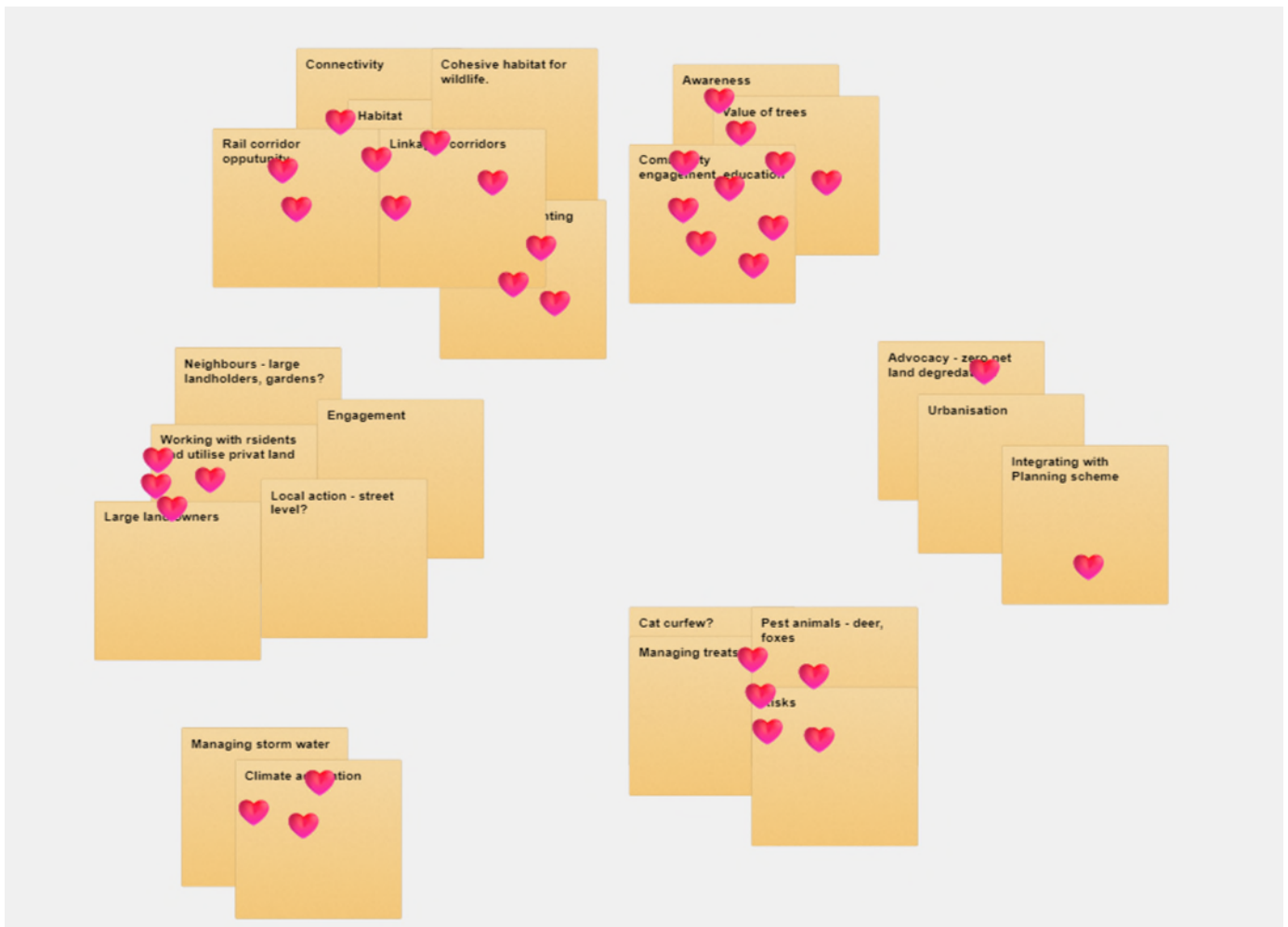


Figure One – Group nominal technique priority theming

3. Urban Food Strategy - consultation

- The Banyule Urban Food Strategy will provide a framework for organisation and community that highlights the roles and responsibilities of Banyule Council in local food systems and supporting health and wellbeing, economic, environment development outcomes through food security and urban food activities.
- Desired outcomes of the Banyule Urban Food Strategy include:
 - Strategic and systematic approach to healthy, sustainable, resilient, and equitable local food systems
 - Established urban food strategy vision and goals unique to Banyule and it's needs
 - Increased community awareness and participation in sustainable, vibrant, and equitable local food systems
 - Strengthened local economy and community resilience, including health and wellbeing outcomes
 - Local food systems embedded into health and wellbeing, economic, climate action and development planning
 - Advocacy for more resilient food systems in Melbourne.
- The Strategy strongly aligns with the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-25 and priority areas - healthy eating, climate change, and social inclusion and connection.
- The Strategy also aligns with Inclusive Banyule; addressing social inequalities in local food systems experienced by vulnerable and disadvantaged population cohorts, Community Climate Action Plan, and Resilience Framework.
- Council have engaged Sustain Australia to support development of this plan.
- Sustain and Council will develop a collective impact and co-design process for Urban Food Strategy
- First step is mapping key stakeholders

- There will be a development of a community working group with a member of BECAAC to report back to this group.
- A member has been nominated to be a part of the Urban Food Strategy Workshop.

4. Standing Items

Climate Action Report

- On track to see 65% reduction in corporate emissions thanks to the VECO power purchasing agreement.
- Shut off the gas fired co-generation unit at Watermarc saw a reduction in gas usage.
- Trialling pool blankets at Watermarc warm water pool
- Removing gas meters from small sites
- The Centre Ivanhoe solar going ahead this FY
- Pre Schools deemed feasible getting solar this FY.
- Heidelberg West Business Park Renewable Options Assessment is kicking off.
- Better Score and energy appliance upgrades program targeting household emissions.
- Sustainable transport grants are included in Environment Grants this year.

North East Link Update

- Trees have been removed from Simpson Army Barracks – confronting sight for community.
- Still advocating for better outcomes for Watsonia and the whole community.
- Michelle Giovas should be commended for her strong advocacy on behalf of the community.
- Council's Lid the Link campaign is building momentum.

Council Reports & Updates

- New State Government regulation no longer requiring Gas connections for new builds. Some developers already advertising all-electric homes.
- CASBE advocacy towards stronger ESD requirements in the planning scheme - <https://www.banyule.vic.gov.au/News-items/Banyule-Council-leading-towards-net-zero>
- Advocacy from Local Government has delivered changes to the National Construction Code –
 - raising the minimum thermal performance standard from 6 to 7 stars (NatHERS equivalent) and;
 - the introduction of a 'whole-of-home' energy budget for fixed appliances (heating and cooling, hot water, lighting, and pool and spa pumps).