

**COTTESLOE COASTCARE ASSOCIATION (INC)**  
**Annual General Meeting**  
**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> August 2020 at 4.00pm**  
**Lesser Hall, Cottesloe Civic Centre**  
**MINUTES**

**1. Apologies**

Mayor Phil Angers; Dieter Benken; Peter Ewing; Ruth Greble; Mike Gregson; Jenny Hall; Shaun Kan; John Majewski; Peter Rattigan; Richard Thomas; Cr Michael Tucak; Greg van Schie.

**2. Present** [24, as per Attendance List]

Jan Beissel; Robyn Benken; Chilla Bulbeck; Patricia Carmichael; Frauke Chambers; Keith Chambers; Valdene Diprose; Marion Ewing; Megan Ewing; Mike Ewing; Rob Freeth; Sue Freeth; Karen Gelgyn; Martin Gelgyn; Adeline Morrissey; Andrew Outwaite; Juliet Renwick; Cindy Scott; Matthew Scott; Caroline Scotford; Garth Scotford; Cr Helen Sadler; Elizabeth Spoor; Cr Lorraine Young.

**3. Minutes** of the AGM on 16 June 2019 were accepted, signed and filed.

**4. Election of Committee Members and Office Bearers**

All current Committee Members nominated to continue to serve as office bearers: Chairperson remains Dr Michael Ewing, Vice-Chairperson Robyn Benken, Treasurer Marion Ewing and Secretary Frauke Chambers. Valdene Diprose, Sue Freeth, Martin Gelgyn, Mike Gregson and Juliet Renwick will continue as Committee Members. There were no additional nominations.

The CCA Committee for 2020/21 is as follows:

Chairperson	Dr Michael Ewing
Vice-Chairperson	Robyn Benken
Secretary	Frauke Chambers
Treasurer	Marion Ewing
Committee	Valdene Diprose; Sue Freeth; Martin Gelgyn; Mike Gregson; Juliet Renwick.
Council Representative	Cr Caroline Harben
Coordinator Environmental Projects [Engineering Services]	Adeline Morrissey [ex officio]
<u>NRM – Coastal Managers</u>	Kate Sputore; Hannah Gulliver

**5. Reports**

**5.1 Secretary's Report**

Because of Covid-19 there were very few Committee Meetings in 2019/20; they were well attended. The present Committee members have expressed their willingness to continue their services in 2020/21. There have been 2 resignations from the Committee during the year – Alison Kopke and Garth Scotford; new Committee Members are Valdene Diprose, Martin Gelgyn and Juliet Renwick; ex officio Adeline Morrissey.

Cr Rob Thomas resigned from Cottesloe Council. CCA's new Council Representative is Cr Caroline Harben.

For the year 2019/20 CCA had 84 financial members and an active mailing list of approximately 232 people including Corporate Sponsors such as Bank West and UWA, as well as Perth NRM and several schools. CCA also has a very active face-book page with frequently renewed, beautifully taken photographs by Robyn Benken of CCA's events and activities. Some twice weekly postings reach up to 1,500 people. Posts are often shared and frequently commented on. We believe we have considerably increased our community support and included many younger people through our face-book page.

## **5.2 Treasurer's Report**

The bank balance on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019 was \$18,514.66; on 31<sup>st</sup> of March 2020 it was \$20,159.39. For this period the income was \$27,405.63, expenses \$25,760.90; difference \$1,644.73. A detailed report is attached.

The report was read out, accepted and filed.

## **6. Chairperson's Report/Presentation**

Dr Mike Ewing began his presentation by welcoming the New Town of Cottesloe CEO Matthew Scott and his wife Cindy, and by thanking Robyn Benken for the photos and Rob and Sue Freeth for the statistics, graphs and images he was going to use in his power point presentation. All of these are the results of the very comprehensive records Robyn, Rob and Sue maintain of all CCA activities.

CCA's Mission: Complete restoration of the areas with remnant natural vegetation in Cottesloe within the next decade through our direct efforts and through advocacy and support of wider community efforts [i.e. our submission relating to the proposed skate park], whilst being willing and ready to try something new or different, be nimble and flexible.

### Statistical Summary of CCA's Activities [aided by colourful graphs and images]

The voluntary work in 2020 by CCA [22 regular working bees] and the wider community [14 community events] comprised a total of 1,791 volunteer hours [CCA 924, community 867] amounting to the equivalent of \$53,730.00 [at \$30/hr]. CCA engaged with 551 people from the wider community; 3,500 seedlings were planted by volunteers, 10,000 by contractors. Proportionally, the volunteers were working 596 hrs weeding [mainly hand weeding]; 417 hrs planting; 389 hrs watering; 158 hrs beach rubbish collecting; 123 hrs mulching/ground work; 64 hrs seed collecting/seed cleaning; 44 hrs other activities.

In addition to the \$53,730.00 equivalent of voluntary labour, CCA secured \$49,771.00 in grants. Altogether this amounts to \$101,501.00 for this year and ca \$750,000.00 for the last decade. A map documenting the achievements of CCA's work in the Natural Areas in Cottesloe showed that 15 years ago, almost all the areas were degraded; 5 years ago, 30% was restored and now a considerably larger area is restored.

### Vlamingh Initiative

In 2009/10 extensive removals of very woody Victorian tea trees near the Vlamingh Memorial led to a large area being revegetated to the western and northern side of the memorial. The eastern and southern areas were left largely empty and gave CCA Committee Members the idea of utilizing this for a Nature Discovery Space. A very popular community planting day **in 2019** resulted in 1,000 seedlings being planted and funding from Government sources and the Minderoo Foundation enabled the commissioning of 'Nature Based Play' in conjunction with ToC Depot staff to build special and very attractive features and secure the fencing of the site. It was officially opened on 25 July 2020 and proved immediately engaging to the children present.

In fact, its enthusiastic and innovative use by children since its opening has exceeded expectations.

#### Ongoing Activities

Areas like Grant Marine Park and Cottesloe Native Garden have been part of CCA's ongoing maintenance, infill planting, weeding and mulching for the last 10 years. Because of Covid19, CCA has used highly efficient Greenskill contractors for the planting of new sites north of Dutch Inn and south of Sydney Street as well as west of Victoria Street railway station. Modifying the augur design, acquiring a wetter soil dispenser and conducting meticulously documented applications of various varieties of herbicide have all contributed to increased efficacy of CCA's work, including new methods of eradicating the invasive black flag [*Ferraria crispa*].

#### Collaborations and Co-operations

CCA does not work in a vacuum. It is a local community organization co-operating and collaborating with local partners, especially with the Town of Cottesloe and its staff. It was particularly encouraging to see the new CEO, Matthew Scott participating in a planting session at Victoria Street within the first week of his arrival. The Coastal Sustainability Officer Adeline Morrissey is invaluable to CCA's work by her organizing, connecting and being always unquestionably committed. The Depot staff with Bruno, Troy and Clayton have become so passionate in their roles about caring for the environment that it has been a pleasure working with them. Working alongside experts from Greenskills has been a mutual learning process, and CCA's relationship with APACE and 'Nuts about Natives' has been excellent. Help from contractors, school groups and beach cleaning groups was greatly appreciated.

#### Recognition

CCA received the 2019 NRM Award for Excellence.

#### Acknowledgements

The Chairman acknowledged the assistance of the

- Town of Cottesloe
- Coastal Sustainability Officer
- Cottesloe Council
- Town of Cottesloe Management Team
- Depot Staff
- Perth NRM Coastcare Project Officers [Kate Sputore & Hannah Gulliver]
- Perth NRM and Minderoo Foundation
- CCA Members and Committee

**Close of Meeting: 5.00 pm.**