

CapeROC

Capes Region Organisation of Councils

MINUTES

19 August 2020 at 10am

Meeting held in Margaret River

AGENDA FOR THE CAPES REGION ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS MEETING
TO BE HELD ON 19 AUGUST 2020 AT 10AM AT THE SHIRE OF AUGUSTA MARGARET RIVER

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1. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

ATTENDANCE

Chairperson:	Cr. Ian Earl	Shire President, Shire of Augusta Margaret River
Members:	Cr. Kylie Kennaugh Cr. Paula Cristoffanini Cr. Kelly Hick Cr. Kate Cox Ms. Stephanie Addison-Brown Mr. Mike Archer	Shire of Augusta Margaret River Shire of Augusta Margaret River Deputy Mayor, City of Busselton City of Busselton CEO, Shire of Augusta Margaret River CEO, City of Busselton
Secretariat	Ms. Clare Tansley	CEO EA, Shire of Augusta Margaret River
Officers: (as required)	Mr. James Shepherd Ms. Julie Rawlings Mr. Adam Jasper	Director, Corporate and Community Services, Shire of Augusta Margaret River Strategic Projects/Grants Officer, City of Busselton Community Emergency Services Manager, Shire of Augusta Margaret River
Guests:	Nil	

APOLOGIES

Cr. Grant Henley	Mayor, City of Busselton
Tony Brown	WA Local Government Association (WALGA)

2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

2.1 Minutes of the meeting of CapeROC 20 May 2020



CapeROC Minutes
20 May 2020.pdf

RECOMMENDATION:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Capes Region Organisation of Councils held 20 May 2020 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

CAPEROC DECISION:

Moved Cr. Cox **Seconded** Cr. Cristoffanini

That the minutes of the meeting of the Capes Region Organisation of Councils held 20 May 2020 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. PRESENTATIONS/GUESTS

Nil. Tony Brown from WALGA will attend the next meeting.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Item	Responsible Officers	Progress
Nil.		


5. GENERAL UPDATES**5.1 CapeROC Budget Update**

RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	Julie Rawlings, Strategic Projects/Grants Officer (CoB) Clare Tansley, Executive Assistant (SAMR)
ATTACHMENTS:	Nil.

IN BRIEF

In 2020/21, the Shire of Augusta Margaret River and the City of Busselton have allocated up to \$40,000 each (\$80,000 in total) towards CapeROC approved regional initiatives. This table itemises budget commitments for 2020/21.

Table 1.

PROPOSED 2020/21 CapeROC Projects	In principle Allocation \$80,000	Expenditure (SAMR) \$40,000	Expenditure (CoB) \$40,000	Comments
My Community Directory	23,399.80	0	0	2019/20 \$20,406.50 Paid Invoice is due for payment 4 September 2020.  Invoice INV-0687.pdf
Our Unbeaten Tracks Project	20,000.00	0	0	Invoice received 9/7/20 and will be paid when project scope is completed.
Total Allocated	43,399.80	0	0	
Total Unallocated	36,600.20	0	0	

RECOMMENDATION

That CapeROC notes budget commitments for 2020/21.

CAPEROC DECISION:

Moved Cr. Kennaugh **Seconded** Cr. Cox

That CapeROC notes budget commitments for 2020/21.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. REPORTS

Nil


7. GENERAL DISCUSSION ITEMS**7.1 Strategic Projects****BACKGROUND**

CapeROC's future strategic focus was discussed at its February meeting and deferred at the May meeting. It was agreed that a workshop to discuss project opportunities for 2020/21 be undertaken at the CapeROC meeting in August 2020.

It was suggested that strategic projects that benefit both communities and enable funding to be secured should have a greater focus for CapeROC. Higher level discussion on identified issues is needed and priorities determined to enable officers to action these. Once priorities have been determined officers will bring a report back for each priority at the CapeROC meeting in November 2020.

Councillors from both Councils made suggestions for priority matters which were subsequently discussed by CEOs who together compiled the following list for consideration. CapeROC members are being asked to discuss and prioritise the following list: -

Project/Initiative	Comments	Priority
Unbeaten Tracks	Already committed funds for 2020/21	
Community Directory	Already committed funds for 2020/21	
Tourism Signage	Previous priority project for CapeROC and is ongoing. CoB is the leading LG.	
MRBTA Funding	Inconsistency in MRBTA funding from each Council has been noted. Proposal to negotiate a 3-way agreement between CoB/SAMR/MRBTA with regard to a future funding model. CoB also want to recommend a change of name from MRBTA to BMRTA. Note: - MRBTA are undergoing a review process which would feed into these discussions.	
Climate Response (mitigation and adaptation)	Concerns raised by both Councils re: - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bushfires - Coastal erosion - Water for agriculture - Renewable energy/technologies 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Transport - Sustainability - Emissions reduction <p>Consider projects, possible funding, lobbying etc. Issue also raised with advice regarding non-continuation of Bushfire Mitigation Planning Officer for the region.</p>  <p>DFES Response to AMR 0234131 regarc</p>	
Joint Advocacy for Social Housing	Issues with lack of social housing, homelessness and the lack of available rental properties across the Capes Region. Impact of COVID-19 will increase risks and need. Lobbying required to raise awareness of these issues and to request needs in the Capes Region are addressed.	
Wadandi Track	Previous priority project for CapeROC and is ongoing program for both Councils.	
Lobbying Opportunity	Consideration could be given to a joint lobbying strategy for issues affecting the Capes Region in the lead up to the State election. A South West Election Prospectus is also being prepared by the South West WALGA Zone (to be voted on at the next Zone meeting on 28 August 2020).	

RECOMMENDATION

1. Unbeaten Tracks

Already committed funds for 2020/21.

- Searching nationally for a consultant to develop and business case for the project which can be used to seek funding.
- Consideration to be given to incorporating the main tracks and trails into the Leeuwin-Naturaliste National Park.
- It was noted that increased use of the tracks and trails will require additional maintenance and it may be that revenue can be generated if the tracks become part of a State-managed Park.
- It was suggested that the Chair of the project, Stuart Hicks, be invited to present when some progress has been made on the project.

Decision: This is a priority project for CapeROC.

2. Community Directory

Already committed funds for 2020/21.

- CapeROC has committed to one more year, after which it will be up to each Local Government to determine how to fund it from their operating budgets.

Decision: This is a priority project for CapeROC.

3. Tourism Signage

- Off highway signage is the responsibility of Local Government and both Councils recognise the need for better tourism signage.
- CoB is the lead Local Government for this project and will contact Main Roads to discuss further.
- CoB to contact Shire of Denmark and City of Albany to evaluate whether their signage is working.
- CoB officers to report each meeting on progress.

Decision: This is a priority project for CapeROC.

4. MRBTA Funding

K Hick conflict of interest as her business is a member of MRBTA.

- CoB provide operational funding to MRBTA. SAMR do not currently provide operational funding to MRBTA . Historical reasons relating to transfer of assets mean SAMR does not contribute, however it was noted that CoB has also provided assets.
- COVID-19 has caused MRBTA membership to reduce. Question raised as to whether it's appropriate for both local governments to provide funding support ongoing now.
- Local Governments to continue discussions and evaluate what MRBTA's role is into the future.
- Consider having consistency between the two Local Governments (relative to size).
- Both Councils discussed the need to structure funding conditions and set KPIs with any new model.
- Councils to evaluate model post pandemic.
- MRBTA to be viable and sustainable organisation in their own right.
- Both CEOs meeting with MRBTA to discuss the different town brandings strategies for new brand and promotion/marketing campaigns.
- CoB proposed a name change from MRBTA to BMRTA as part of MRBTA's Corporate Review. This is to be considered by MRBTA who will make the decision following their Corporate Review.

Decision: This is a priority project for CapeROC.

5. Climate Response (mitigation and adaptation)

- Joint letter to DFES explaining risk of not having a resource for bushfire risk management to be sent from CapeROC.
- Dual advocacy. Sharing ideas for information –
 - Coastal erosion
 - Water for agriculture
 - Renewable energy/technologies
 - Transport
 - Sustainability
 - Emissions reduction
- Officers to brief at the next meeting.

Decision: Bushfire risk management is a priority project for CapeROC to action, however bigger picture climate issues are to form an ongoing dialogue between the two Local Governments.

6. Joint Advocacy for Social Housing

- SAMR has little social housing and is concerned when JobKeeper ends. SAMR are asking for more built form and local presence from Department of Communities.
- CoB met with Amber Fay from Department of Communities and based in Busselton and will advise SAMR.

Decision: This is not a priority project for CapeROC, however both Councils agree to share information with each other.

7. Wadandi Track

Decision: This is a priority project for CapeROC.

8. Lobbying Opportunity

- The 12 councils in South West have collaborated to submit a joint proposal to the State Government.

Decision: This is not a priority project for CapeROC as it will be pursued via the WALGA South West Zone.

CAPEROC DECISION:

Moved Cr. Kennaugh **Seconded** Cr. Earl

That CapeROC prioritises the following matters for the 2020/21 year –

Strategic Focus Project 2020/21	Funding Allocation if required (ex GST)
Unbeaten Tracks	\$20,000.00
Community Directory	\$20,814.63
Tourism Signage	0
MRBTA funding	TBC
Bushfire Risk Management	TBC
Wadandi Track	Funded by each LG separately at present

Each CEO to allocate a lead officer from each Council to co-ordinate related activities and report to CapeROC meetings for each identified project.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7.2 Unbeaten Tracks

Unbeaten Tracks
Scope 12082020.pdf

CapeROC has committed \$10K this year from each Council (total \$20K from CapeROC) to the Unbeaten Tracks project. An update from MRBTA has been requested. A draft project scope has been prepared and circulated to project stakeholders. Final scope is attached.

MRBTA advises that the funds to support the development of a business case are being or already have been contributed by institutional and corporate stakeholder members of the Unbeaten Tracks initiative (see confidential attachment).

Next Steps: -

1. The advertising and engagement of the consultant and the subsequent administration of the contract will be carried out by MRBTA on behalf of the Unbeaten Tracks initiative
2. The consultant will be managed by Stuart Hicks on behalf of the Unbeaten Tracks initiative members and MRBTA.
3. The process of assessing the tendering consultants will be undertaken by a selection committee of Unbeaten Tracks and will include any Unbeaten Tracks initiative member whose organisation is a contributor to the funding for the consultant and who wishes to participate. The selection committee will make a recommendation to all members of Unbeaten Tracks initiative before an appointment is made.

The scope specifies that consultations will be carried out both severally and collectively with members of the Unbeaten Tracks initiative as well as the broader community.

Pip Close has been recently appointed as a part time employee of MRBTA and we be assisting with the administration of the project.

RECOMMENDATION

That CapeROC notes the Unbeaten Tracks scope.

CAPEROC DECISION:

Moved Cr. Hick **Seconded** Cr. Cristoffanini

That CapeROC notes the Unbeaten Tracks scope and approach the State Government to discuss options for possible State ownership of the associated tracks and trails.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7.3 Wadandi Track



Wadandi Track
2021 Map 1.pdf

The CoB has provided the attached map/plans of the sections of the Wadandi track they intend on completing this year.

CoB have just updated Busselton foreshore trail head interpretation incorporating indigenous history. More trail interpretation planned.



Wadandi trail head
interpretive images.

The \$50,000 allocation in the Shire of Augusta Margaret River 2020/21 budget for the Wadandi Track will be utilised to upgrade the section between Forest Grove Road and Sebbes Road in Forest Grove. This will complete works commenced on this section in 2018/19.

The Shire is also proposing to undertake major maintenance works on the section of trail between Margaret River and Cowaramup. This section of trail is wet and boggy and re-sheeting and drainage improvements will be carried out.

The Shire has also recently received reports on the condition of four timber bridges between Margaret River and Cowaramup. Works will commence on restoring one or more of these bridges, as funding permits.

RECOMMENDATION

That CapeROC notes the Wadandi Track plans from each Council in 2020/21.

CAPEROC DECISION:

Moved Cr. Cox **Seconded** Cr. Kennaugh

That CapeROC notes the Wadandi Track plans from each Council in 2020/21.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7.4 CEO Updates

1. Update from City of Busselton CEO

Busselton Margaret River Airport in a holding pattern due to COVID-19. CoB very keen to ramp up when borders open.

State funding of \$9.5M is not able to be repurposed with CoB as quarantined by the State Government for aviation purposes. Possible risk it could be allocated to another airport in the State.

FIFO services have increased, and Rio are now using large planes. There are more services operating than pre COVID-19.

Virgin Australia sale to Bain Capital is being evaluated.

2. Update from Shire of Augusta Margaret River CEO

State funding of \$3.1M announced to finish Stage 3 of Main Street. We are currently evaluating when to start Stage 3 and planning to have the whole project complete before Christmas.

Anecdotally we hear that trading is up 30% on this time last year due to the increase in intrastate visitors to the region (especially from Perth). We have launched a Buy Local program called "Local Is More". 2021 will be a fresh start for town. Main Street traders suggested a video to inform Perth market of current works. The video is personable and non-government. MRBTA are also circulating this video to their markets.

Some community opposition to the proposed Gnarabup Hotel. A community group have lodged scheme amendment to change the zoning to prevent the development. Likely the applicant will request their amended DA be considered by the State. Attracting a lot of attention. Originally housing in Gnarabup was to support the tourism development.

Pandemic Community Care Package of \$2M has been put together for holistic resilience building and economic stimulus support. Due to be endorsed by Council next week.

8. INCLUSION OF THE SHIRE OF NANNUP AT CAPEROC MEETINGS

It has been suggested that there would be value inviting the Shire of Nannup to attend CapeROC meetings when there are agenda items which would affect or involve them. They may attend either as observers or participants at the request of CapeROC members.

RECOMMENDATION

That CapeROC invite the Shire of Nannup to attend the next CapeROC meeting in November 2020 to initiate a relationship.

CAPEROC DECISION:

Moved Cr. Hick **Seconded** Cr. Cox

That CapeROC invite the Shire of Nannup, CEO and three councillors, to attend the next CapeROC meeting as guests in November 2020 to initiate a relationship.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9. CANAL ROCKS JETTY REPLACEMENT

It was noted that the Canal Rocks Jetty was washed away in the storm and that the State Government recently provided funding to replace it ([Media link](#)).

RECOMMENDATION

That CapeROC writes to the State Government to express thanks for the funding for the replacement of the Canal Rocks Jetty.

CAPEROC DECISION:

Moved Cr. Kennaugh **Seconded** Cr. Cox

That CapeROC writes to the State Government to express thanks for the funding for the replacement of the Canal Rocks Jetty.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10. FUTURE DISCUSSION ITEMS FOR NOTING

1. South West Business Events Strategy presentation - Catrin Allsop, CEO Australia's South West
2. Wine Association presentation – Amanda Whiteland, CEO Margaret River Wine
3. Ecotourism accreditation – Saul Cresswell, Sustainable Economy Officer, Shire of Augusta Margaret River

11. NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 18 November 2020 - Shire of Augusta Margaret River
9.30 -10am - Morning tea and networking on Main Street
10am -12.30pm - Meeting

12. CLOSURE

The meeting closed at 11.45am.