



## FLINDERS FMAC MEETING CONFIRMED MINUTES

Meeting held at the FAEC (Rose Garden Room)

25 March 2014 commencing at 10am

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### Attendance:

#### 1. Attendance and apologies

<b>Raoul Harper</b>	Council Rep (Chair)
<b>Jacci Viney</b>	Council Rep
<b>Stephen Lowe</b>	Tas Fire Rep
<b>Brett Fazackerley</b>	TFS Observer
<b>Jim Grace</b>	Furneaux Group Volunteer Rep
<b>Lyell Dean</b>	Tas Fire Community Protection Planning
<b>Darren Grace</b>	Agricultural Rep
<b>Nigel Binns</b>	Hydro Rep (via phone)
<b>Steve Summers</b>	Tasmanian Parks and Wildlife Service Rep
<b>Graeme Gardner</b>	Aboriginal Land Council of Tasmania Rep

#### 2. Previous minutes and action items

**Moved:** Steve Lowe **Seconded:** Steve Summers

That the minutes from the previous meeting are a true and correct record of the meeting held on the 27 November 2013.

**CARRIED**

There was discussion and updating on the actions from previous meeting:

**Action:** Jacci was going to follow up with Scott Anderson, for either membership or the appropriate person to approach

**Outcome:** Darren Grace is the Agricultural Rep

**Action:** Jacci look at providing digital information of Local Government Assets if they have not already been captured

**Outcome:** Lyell Dean from Tas Fire is doing this.

#### 3. Fire Protection Plan structure – discussion

Lyell Dean is working on the Community Protection Plan and is gathering information to develop this over the coming days while on the island. A level of inter agency and Local Government /stakeholder support is required for the plan to be developed to the level

required. This plan has a focus on what happens when there is a fire and how best to protect community members and assets.

Discussion ensued on what action the FMAC should take in relation to planning to mitigate fire risk on the islands and how best to implement a new strategic approach to bushfire and vegetation management at a strategic level.

The concept of developing a fire protection and management plan for the islands was discussed and agreed that the FMAC was the appropriate body to coordinate the development of such. The need to undertake specific town scale Fire Protection Plans was also agreed to have value.

**Action:** a subcommittee be formed to coordinate the development of an island wide Fire Management Plan and associated town scale Fire Protection Plans. The group to include Steve Lowe, Steve Summers, Lyell Dean and Flinders Council Rep. **AGREED**

- Council will need some idea of costs by May at the very latest to have a budget allocation included in the 14/15 Flinders Council budget to support the development of the plans ( if required).
- Parks and Wildlife have started working on risk based procedures for managing Abatement notices served on Crown Land and it was Suggested that Local Government and Parks and Wildlife Service Tasmania could work together to align information and processes in regards to the Fire Hazards and Procedures for Fire Abatement Notices.

#### 4. Planning tools

##### a. **BRAM (Bushfire Risk Assessment Model)**

Refinements to the data have been carried out, e.g. Power line allowance has been reduced to be more realistic size.

##### b. **Zoning**

Zoning on Land hasn't taken fire risk in to consideration at this time. The committee agreed that future LG planning scheme zoning needs to take into account bushfire risk. Work undertaken by this committee in developing a tenure blind Island Fire Protection Plan could inform future Local Area Plans developed by Flinders Council to ensure that the bushfire risk is considered prior to any future development approvals.

##### c. **Treatment zones and burn units**

Steve Summers spoke on the importance of highlighting treatment zones and burn units and their potential to focus effort and resources to where they can have the greatest effect on fire mitigation and at a human resource level.

**Action:** The subcommittee Lyell Dean, Steve Summers, Steve Lowe and Flinders Council Representative to assess existing information available on the island and what has worked in other areas ( such as King Island) and use this information to

inform the development of the zoning and burn unit elements of the whole of island Fire Management Plan and associated town scale Fire Protection Plans.

## 5. Existing works within the FMAC

### a. Fire management plans

There was broad agreement from the Committee as to the value of an island wide Fire Management Plan. When combined with a town scale Fire Protection Plan, Council will be able to utilise these plans to inform an active fire abatement program focused on strategic fire abatement works as opposed to the more reactive and random approach most abatement programs currently follow.

Hydro/Aurora also have their own plans that can be linked into the all of island fire management plan. They have done GPS marking of the power poles on the island but this data is not currently in a GIS mapping system. GIS mapping of these assets would have value to inform the development of the agreed plans.

**Action:** Tas Fire (Steve Lowe) to meet with Nigel Binns, regarding Flinders Island Vegetation control program relating to power lines and poles and how this program could be linked to other fire and vegetation mitigation measures across the island. **AGREED**

### b. Mitigation works

Spoken about previously in other items.

### c. Community Protection plans

Lyell Dean – gave the committee a overview of his position at Tas Fire.

He also discussed the different Community Protection Plans he will be working on and what they will involve. The four areas of focus will include: Whitemark/Blue Rocks, Emita /Lugrata, West End/Killiecrankie and Palana/North.

The Lady Barron/Badger Corner Plan has been completed and is available on their website.

### d. Burn Programs

Vinegar Hill area is the priority Flinders Island currently. There have been difficulties with organising this work to be carried out as there are 11 different land owners on Vinegar Hill. Tas Fire have specific powers under their Act to undertake the required works regardless of land owner cooperation. Tas Fire are acutely aware of the issues in this area.

It was agreed that it would be an important first step for the FMAC to build trust and community engagement/ support if a burn could be conducted successfully in this area at some stage this calendar year. With a raft of plans slated for development it is still important that on ground works occur.

**e. Fire assets (breaks, tracks, detection etc.)**

Work needs to be undertaken as part of the island wide fire management plan to highlight what key tracks and trails for fire management are required.

**6. Project Plan to Produce the Fire Protection Plan**

This Item wasn't discussed as the Committee had discussed the matter earlier in the meeting. The subcommittee established to develop the Fire Protection Plan will scope out the project..

**7. Bushfire Code Update**

This was provided to Tasmanian General Manager's by LGAT.

Raoul gave the committee an overview of the issues impacting on Local Government as a result of the new planning scheme and introduction of the bushfire code into the building code requirements.

**8. Community Facilitation**

It was agreed that the FMAC needs to provide information to the Community regarding the raft of legislative requirements and bushfire planning that has been adopted or is currently being worked on at all levels.

**Action:** Committee comes up with a communication plan for Flinders Island. The group to include Steve Lowe, Steve Summers, Lyell Dean and Flinders Council Rep. **AGREED**

It was suggested that Flinders holds an information day and invites resident and landowners along to ask questions and learn more about the plans.

**9. General Business**

Nil

**10. Next Meeting**

Next meeting when the next Emergency Management meeting, 1 July 2014 @ 10am  
Meeting Closed at 12.10pm