

MINUTES OF ECCO MEETING, JULY 7TH 2009

PRESENT: Tony Smith, Neil Jones, Nick King, Susan Sanders, Colin Young, Stephen Nugent, Yvette Black, Peter West, Brian Phillips, Phil Stephenson.

APOLOGIES: Jenny Smith

BUSINESS ARISING:

National Tree Day: Falls on August 2nd. It was agreed at a previous meeting that ECCO support National Tree Day by offering schools a selection of native trees and shrubs for planting in their school yard. It was agreed that a budget of \$500 dollars be set aside to be shared among the responding schools. Windy Hill is to be approached to provide a selection of trees and shrubs suitable for planting in a schoolyard. These to be delivered to the responding schools. Stephen Nugent is to co-ordinate the purchase and delivery of the plants to the schools. Tony Smith, Colin Young, Susan Sanders, and Peter West have volunteered to help deliver and plant the trees, if the schools involved indicate they require assistance. Schools who have expressed interest so far are Borenore, Manildra, Orange Public and Glenroi Trees to be delivered to the schools by Thursday, July 30th.

Natural Burials: Brian Phillips has approached Steven Forbes from Orange Funeral Services who is enthusiastic about the concept of natural burials. Has invited interested members of ECCO to discuss this issue further. Brian to contact Steven concerning a meeting, preferably on August 13 at 4 o'clock. Brian, Nick, Tony and Neil to attend as well as anyone else who is interested.

Home Energy Champions: Information about Home Energy Champions will be posted on the ECCO website when it is up and running, which should be soon. Country Energy is still interested in participating in this program.

ECCO Website: Members of the ECCO committee have met with our website designer to discuss the development of the new look ECCO website. Nick to contact Myles Leigo, website designer for a progress update.

Submissions concerning the Cadia East Project Environmental Assessment. Submissions are due by July 24th. The committee agreed to developing a draft submission concerning the major environmental issue of this proposal by the next ECCO general meeting (July 22nd). Groups were organised to prepare submissions in the main areas of environmental concern. A draft will be emailed to members before the meeting on the 22nd.

Water Restrictions: Neil Jones tabled a proposed set of water restrictions which are to be consistently enforced by Dubbo, Bathurst and Orange City Councils. The aim of this document is to provide consistency throughout the region. It was agreed that ECCO respond. Neil to write a submission on behalf of ECCO.

Earth First: The meeting discussed the next 4 weeks of Earth First articles. Peter to be congratulated on his excellent co-ordination of this most valuable resource available to ECCO.

Heritage Trees: Nick reported on a talk about heritage trees presented on the weekend. Looking at possible classification of heritage trees in orange and a tree preservation order flagged as a topic for a future ECCO meeting.

Next general meeting: Wednesday, July 22nd 7.00pm at the ELF.

Annual General meeting: Wednesday, August 26th.

Orange Community Garden Working Bee: This coming Saturday 11th July, commencing 9am.

Nick King Secretary.