

MINUTES OF ECCO MEETING 23RD MAY, 2007

PRESENT: Neil Jones, Phil Stephenson, Susan Sanders, Jenny Smith, Tony Smith, Trevor Stedman, Patty Stedman, Jude Keoh, Stephen Nugent, Dick Neil, Nick King, Margaret Weaver, Marlene Farrell, Mary Kovak.

APOLOGIES: Mary Turner, Fiona Hawke, Jenny Vere, John Black, Hillary Black, Bev Duncan, Alan Winkworth.

MINUTES MAY 23RD Moved Tony Smith, seconded Stephen Nugent, that the minutes of the meeting of May 23rd be accepted.

BUSINESS ARISING: Water Sustainability Workshop. Neil Jones and Phillip Stephenson reported on their attendance at a water sustainability workshop. Issues covered on the day were concerned with the identification of issues relating to water management. Members who require more information concerning this workshop may contact Phillip or Neil.

Mitre 10 Environmental Expo. ECCO and the ELF community garden combined to present a stall at the Environmental Expo which was displayed at Mitre 10 . Ecco had members on hand to discuss ECCO's role and to distribute information about ECCO and the ELF garden.

Green Light bulbs. Moved Tony Smith that ECCO write to the appropriate authority concerning the inequity between urban and rural dwellers concerning the distribution of free environmentally friendly light bulbs. Tony to follow this up.

Easy Being Green Website. Members directed by Phil Stephenson to the Easy Being Green website, where they can access information about available green initiatives.

Rotary Club Green EXPO Initiative. Nick contacted David Williams, the environmental Officer for Orange Rotary concerning a Rotary Club Green Expo which has been proposed for March next year. David is currently overseas, but planning for the above event has commenced. David to contact ECCO re. progress on his return.

Country Energy Advisory Board. Neil has received notification of the June meeting of the Country Energy Advisory Board, which he will attend as a representative of ECCO.

ESSO Park: Nick to investigate the current situation concerning ESSO park through contact with appropriate stakeholders and Council officials, and also through the Draft Estimates Management Plan.

Ploughman's Valley Wetland: Nick to investigate whether funding has been allocated in the 2007 management plan for the development of a constructed wetland in Ploughman's Valley.

Kearney's Drive Public Reserve. Originally targeted for a sports centre. Nick to check current status. Possibility of its diversion to other uses.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Credit: BAS refund \$83.00. Final balance: \$2113.27
Moved Neil Jones, seconded Marlene Farrell that the treasurer's report be accepted.
Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: Letter from the General Manager acknowledging ECCO's letter to the editor . Moved Stephen Nugent, seconded Margaret Weaver, that Neil respond to the letter by the General Manager.

GENERAL BUSINESS: Cadia Valley Operations Water Sale: ECCO to monitor situation.

Bores in urban areas: Moved that ECCO writes to the appropriate minister stating that concern has been raised about the proliferation of bores in urban areas. Moved Susan Sanders, seconded Jenny Smith. Carried.

ECCO submission concerning the North Orange Neighborhood Centre. Outline of ECCO's submission emailed to all members. Moved Stephen Nugent, seconded Tony Smith, that ECCO endorses the summary of the main points with amendments to points 3 and 4. Draft of submission to be emailed to members for comment Thursday night. Submission due 5 o'clock Friday 25th May.

Local Environment Awards: Report presented by Stephen Nugent of subcommittee meeting Wednesday 16th May. Suggested Sue Clarke be approached re. the design of the awards, perhaps using a "waste to Art" theme, which would be in keeping with the spirit of the awards.

Judging Panel: To consist of 3 ECCO members and 2 non members. Nominees will be called for at the next general meeting. Members to suggest 2 non-member nominees.

Sponsorship: Suggested meeting with the council seeking support in terms of venue promotion etc. ELF regarded as an appropriate place for the awards launch.

Committee to consider a Government Initiative category.

Moved Stephen Nugent, seconded Phil Stephenson that Stephen write to the council seeking support. Stephen to draft a letter to be distributed among committee members, who will be asked to comment. Similar support to be sought from Rotary, Netwaste, PRIME , WINTV and the CWD.

ECCO meeting 14th June Presentation by Country Energy and Orange City Council on tree management: It was agreed that the meeting on the 14th June will replace the general meeting which would normally occur at the end of the month. Next general meeting will be held on the last Wednesday in July. (July 25th). The above special time is for Mr. Chas McPhail, Central Western Manager of Country Energy and Nigel Hobden, Presentation Manager of Orange City Council to address members of ECCO on the issue of tree management. Members are urged to attend, as trees are important to us all.

