

MINUTES OF ECCO ORANGE MEETING OCTOBER 24TH 2007

PRESENT: Margaret Weaver, Mary Turner, Neil Jones, Phillip Stevenson, Nick King, Debra Brennan, Ann, Rod Holcombe, Colin Foster, Michael Horth, Marlene Farrell, John Davidson, Susan Sanders

APOLOGIES: John Dalton, Tony and Jenny Smith, Stephen Nugent, Gwenda Garde.

MINUTES OF MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 26th: Moved Margaret Weaver, seconded, Colin Foster that the minutes of the ECCO meeting held on the above date be accepted. Carried.

BUSINESS ARISING: Regional Environment Groups Conference to be held on the 24th and 25th of November at Albury. This is a conference to be attended by like minded environmental groups. Neil Jones will be attending to give a presentation from ECCO. Members interested in finding out more about this conference or wishing to attend, can contact Neil on 6362 0428, or email njones@colourcity.com.

Twin Creeks Botanic Garden Visit. Rod Holcombe has invited ECCO members and friends to inspect the Twin Creeks Botanic Garden, which is set in 22 acres of land behind Windara Estate. Members and friends are invited to attend from 4 o'clock on **Saturday, 3rd of November**. Members and friends are urged to inspect this project as an excellent example of environmental restoration. Neil will be emailing information as to the location of the Botanic Gardens in the form of a mud map.

North Orange Development: The meeting discussed the notice of classification of land in Saturday's CWD, referring to the triangular area of land bordered by Kearney's drive, the Northern Distributor and Hill Street. Council wishes to have the land classified as "operational". Council is seeking submissions concerning the classification of this land. ECCO to write a submission opposing the classification of this land, as classification as operational will allow the council to sell the land for development, the nature of which could be incompatible with the Botanic Gardens site. There will be a meeting at Neil Jones' place, 6 Pasadena Place at 7.30pm on Wednesday 7th November to discuss the submission.

Treasurer's report: Delivered by Phil Stevenson, treasurer of ECCO. Current bank balance \$3097. Income \$1080 from membership renewals. Expenses are \$201.00. Phil is pleased with the prompt manner in which members are renewing their membership. So far there have been 41 membership renewals since letters have been sent out. Members who are renewing are encouraged to do so before the end of November.

Climate Change Action Group: Suggested that a premiere of the movie "The 11th Hour" be held to launch the Climate Change Action Group. This suggestion was supported by members. The premiere will be held at the Australia Cinema on **November 22nd**. The climate Change Action Group will meet at Nick King's place on Wednesday 31st October at 7.30 to organise this event.

ECCO/Field Naturalists Local Environment Plan Submissions. These submissions were read out to the meeting by Nick, representing the Joint ECCO/Field Naturalists committee. Neil to add a preface to the submissions and submit to Council by the due

date. A vote of thanks was expressed by Neil on behalf of ECCO for the efforts of the committee in compiling these submissions. The submissions will be emailed to members at a later date. ECCO submissions along with others will be available for inspection at council at a date to be announced, following which, a draft LEP will be developed for public consultation and comment.

Cadia Valley Operations. Brief discussion about the use of town water by Cadia Valley Mines. Statement by the Mayor in CWD 24/10/2007 was read to the meeting. Mayor's message was that pumping is proceeding at Gosling Creek reservoir, which is closely monitored, so far with no environmental damage. Questions asked: What is ECCO's role concerning water usage in Orange? To be discussed at a later meeting.

HUB Waste Management Site: Letter received from the HUB Action Group calling on the public for submissions opposing the development of a Waste Management Site by Orange City Council and Cabonne Shire Council. Moved Neil, seconded Nick that ECCO writes a submission stating that the State Government should reconsider allowing the use of prime agricultural land for such a purpose, considering the effects the drought and climate change has had on the availability of such land.

Walk Against Warming: Once again ECCO will be involved in the Walk Against Warming., which will be held on Sunday, November 11th. A meeting time and venue will be advised.

Significant Features: The Survey of Significant Features Stage 2 Community Consultation will be held at Orange Council Office on Wednesday November 14th at 5.30 pm. ECCO members will attend.

Entrance to Showground: ECCO to contact council requesting that the entrance to the Showground be better illuminated, and that a stop sign be installed on the exit side of the Showground gate.

Administration: Request by Nick to be contacted with the appropriate information by any member who has change of address, phone number or email. Nick can be contacted on Ph: 6362 6827 or email: nking@126bigpond.com

Program Planning: Next meeting of ECCO will be held on Wednesday November 28th commencing 7.30pm at the Conference Room at the Park View Hotel. ECCO will invite the Mayor, Mr. John Davis, to address this meeting.

December Meeting: Will be a social gathering at Wentworth Golf Club on **Wednesday, 12th December.**

Meeting closed at 9.30pm.