

MINUTES OF ECCO GENERAL MEETING APRIL 22 2009

PRESENT: Phil Stephenson, Neil Jones, Brian Phillips, Bob Hill, Judy Hill, Yvette Black, Peter West, Susan Sanders, Nick King, Tony Smith, Jenny Smith, Sandra Robinson, Owen Robinson

APOLOGIES: David Williams, Stephen Nugent, Fiona Hawke, Marie Hammond, Haidee Nelson

Minutes of March Meeting: Moved Tony, seconded Susan that the minutes of the March ECCO meeting be accepted. Carried.

Business arising: Moved Nick, seconded Jenny, that Earth Hour be organised to be more inclusive of the public in 2010.

Correspondence: Letter to the General Manager of Orange City Council (copy to the mayor) requesting that ECCO has stakeholder status in the future management of the Orange Showground. Tabled and supported by the meeting.

Letter to the General Manager of Orange City Council (copy to the Mayor) requesting a response to previous correspondence on the issue of natural burials.

Letter from Carmel Tebbitt, State Minister for the Environment and Climate Change in reply to a letter from ECCO dated November 2008, re. the transport of cyanide through the Orange District. The meeting voted Ms. Tebbitt's response as unsatisfactory. A letter to be sent to Ms. Tebbitt outlining concerns.

Moved Brian, seconded Peter, correspondence be accepted. Carried.

Treasurer's report: Phil reports that ECCO's current balance stands at \$3 313. 32 cents. Moved Phil, seconded Peter that the treasurer's report be accepted. Carried.

OCAN Report: Home Energy Champions. Brian reminds all ECCO members that their Home Energy Champions needs to be either posted to the ECCO postal address at **P.O Box 1582**, or emailed to ECCO's gmail address at ecco.orange@gmail.com **by April; 30th. Not much time left.**

Solar hot water systems: Neil to email information to membership about the economical purchase and installation of hot water systems.

Moolarben Coal Mine Submission: Nick has written a submission on behalf of OCAN opposing the stage 2 expansion and the modification of stage 1 of the Moolarben coal mine as agreed to at the ECCO committee meeting of April 15, 2009. Endorsed by the meeting. Submission to be emailed to membership for its information.

Western Region Committee: Nick to address a meeting of the Western Region Education Environment Committee concerning the function of ECCO and OCAN of Wednesday, April 29.

Museum Exhibition: OCAN has requested and received information concerning two excellent exhibitions running concurrently at the Australian Museum in Sydney. They are **When Mammoths Roamed** and **Climate Change-our future our choice**.

Agreed that ECCO and OCAN support this exhibition, and that how to support this exhibition in schools be pursued by Nick at his meeting with Education Department

personnel next Wednesday. Interested ECCO members can find out more about this exhibition by visiting the Australian Museum website www.australianmuseum.net.au .
The rezoning and proposed sale of DPI Land: Neil reports that the land in question will be outside the current Local Environment Plan. ECCO to consider how it can influence the type of development that can take place on the land. ECCO needs to push for sustainable development and the protection of sensitive habitats existing within the area. ECCO to monitor closely any future activity relating to DPI land.

Orange Showground: Letter to be sent to Council requesting stakeholder status. ECCO to conduct onsite inspection of facilities and determine the extent of current use.

Members need to read the report on the showground commissioned by Council. Neil to ensure that the report in question is posted on the Council website.

ECCO to hold a meeting concerning this issue on **Saturday, May 9th, at the ELF, Orange Showground, commencing 11 am.** All welcome.

Enviro Expo Update: To be held 18,19,20 September 2009. ECCO asked to provide a stand as per last year. ECCO to organise Sunday field trips to houses, gardens etc. of ECCO Environmental award winners. ECCO also to suggest possible presenters. BCANN in Bathurst top be approached for suggestions of possible presenters.

Tidy Towns Rep: The Orange Tidy Towns Committee has invited ECCO to provide a representative to attend Tidy Towns meetings. Peter West has volunteered. Nick to contact Ben Keegan with Peter's contact details so Peter can be sent any information concerning times, venue etc.

World Environment Day: Theme for World Environment Day "Your Planet Needs You- unite to combat climate change. (June 5th 2009). ECCO/OCAN to organise an arts display inviting the community to express concern about climate change through such art forms as art, music, dance, sculpture, poetry etc. Entries to be in on World Environment Day, display and announcement of winners to be the following Saturday, May 13th. This will coincide with a national day of action encouraging the Federal Government to take urgent action on climate change. There will also be a petition about this issue available for signing. Nick to discuss with Education Department representatives about involving schools next Wednesday. Meeting for further discussion to take place at Anything Grows on Friday May 1st at 10.30.

Recycling: Tony to investigate recycling policies at the university campus. Neil to investigate Orange City Council recycling policies. To report back to next committee meeting. Neil also to talk to Sue Clarke at Netwaste about recycling.

Eco village plan: Google Wungong Urban Master Plan, then click onto Wungong Urban Master Plan-Waste construction and demolition. You will find a report. On page 11 you will find a plan for an eco village. Ideas for future Orange development?

Next ECCO/OCAN committee meeting: Wednesday, May 13th

Next ECCO general meeting: Wednesday, May 27th.

Nick King secretary.

