



SYDNEY WEEDS NETWORK^U

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Sydney Weeds Network Incorporated

Held on Wednesday 25th November 2020
Online Meeting via ZOOM

Invitees, Attendees and Apologies

First Name	Last Name	Organisation	Sub network	In attendance	Apology
Alex	Burgess-Buxton	Wollondilly Shire Council	West	✓	
Anne	Seaton	Ku-ring-gai Municipal Council	Central		
Anthony	Newling	Hornsby Shire Council	Central		
Cameron	Bennell	Willoughby City Council	Coastal		
Carolyn	Adamcewicz	Blacktown City Council	West		
Chavvauhn	Calver	Waverley Council	Coastal	✓	
Chris	Stanfield	City of Parramatta	Central	✓	
Damien	Duggan	Georges River Council	Central		
David	Whiteman	Blue Mountains City Council	West	✓	
David	Lowery	Canterbury Bankstown Council	Central	✓	
Eddie	Ferry	Fairfield Council	West		
Enis	Ruzdic	Bayside Council	Coastal		X
Erin	Fardy	Georges River Council	Central	✓	
Evelyn	Baker	Ku-ring-gai Municipal Council	Central		
Gareth	Debney	North Sydney Council	Coastal		
Helen	Pollard	Fairfield City Council	West	✓	
Jacob	Adams	Water NSW	West		X
Jacqui	Vollmer	Hunters Hill Council	Central	✓	
Jeff	Culleton	Lane Cove Council	Central		X
Jessica	Thurston	Blacktown City Council	West		X
Joel	Daniels	Liverpool Council	West	✓	
Jude	Morris	Willoughby City Council	Coastal		
Justine	Vella	Penrith City Council	West	✓	
Katherine	Grant	Woollahra Council	Coastal	✓	
Kathryn	Ashton	Camden Council	West	✓	
Katrina	Brown	Blacktown City Council	West	✓	
Kerrie	Davies	Cumberland Council	Central		X
Kylie	Burrows	City of Canada Bay	Central		X
Linda	Brown	Sutherland Council	Coastal	✓	
Madeline	Hourihan	Bayside Council	Coastal	✓	
Margot	Blues	Willoughby Council	Coastal		

Martin	Fitzgerald	Ku-ring-gai Municipal Council	Central	✓	
Mathew	Misdale	Campbelltown Council	West	✓	
Matt	Leary	Randwick Council	Coastal		X
Michael	Pattison	Hawkesbury City Council	West		
Nathan	Clare	Sutherland Council	Coastal	✓	
Pam	Bateman	Northern Beaches Council	Coastal		X
Paul	Angel	Canterbury Bankstown Council	Central	✓	
Paul	Marynissen	Central Coast Council	Coastal	✓	
Rachel	Gleeson	Lane Cove Council	Central	✓	
Ramin	Khosravi	North Sydney Council	Coastal		X
Richard	O'Brien	Parramatta City Council	Central		X
Rob	Gibson	Lane Cove Council	Central		X
Rudi	Adlmayer	Woollahra Council	Coastal	✓	
Sahiza	Ali	Canterbury Bankstown Council	Central	✓	
Sandra	Payne	City of Ryde	Central		X
Sean	Granger	Northern Beaches Council	Coastal	✓	
Stephen	Pym	Hornsby Shire Council	Central	✓	
Stephen	Wall	Mosman Council	Coastal		X
Stewart	Newman	Central Coast Council	Coastal	✓	
Stuart	Henry	Georges River Council	Central		
Sue	Pritchard	Inner West Council	Central		X
Tony	McCormack	Ku-ring-gai Municipal Council	Central		
Travis	Roberts	Ku-ring-gai Municipal Council	Central	✓	
Viniana	Vererua	City of Ryde	Central	✓	
Whitney-May	Lever	Strathfield Council	Central	✓	

Support

Amanda	Kotlash	SWN Executive Officer		✓	
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Invited Guests

Anthony	Schofield	GS Local Land Services		✓	
Genevieve	Kyi	GS Local Land Services			X
Nicola	Dixon	Dept of Primary Industries		✓	

Observers

Price	Phil	HRCC		✓	
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1. Welcome

Dave Whiteman (President / Chair) opened the meeting at 9:08 am and welcomed all attendees. The apologies listed above were noted.

Travis Roberts moved that the apologies be accepted. Seconded by Joel Daniels. All in favour. Motion carried.

It was considered that the requirements for a quorum were met, as there were at least three members present from each subnetwork.

Dave Whiteman acknowledged and paid his respects to the traditional owners of the lands that all participants were meeting on.

2. Confirmation of the minutes of the last Annual General Meeting held on 21st November 2019

The Chair asked whether there were any changes required to the draft minutes of the last AGM and whether they could be confirmed by persons who had been present.

Paul Marynissen moved that the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting on 21st November 2019 be accepted. Seconded by Travis Roberts. All in favour. Motion carried.

3. Presentation of the Sydney Weeds Network Inc. Annual Report (President)

Dave Whiteman presented the Presidents Report (see ATTACHMENT Item 3).

Justine Vella moved that the 2019-2020 SWN Inc. Annual Report by the President be accepted. Seconded by Paul Marynissen. All in favour. Motion carried.

4. Presentation of financial report 2019-2020 (Treasurer)

Joel Daniels (Treasurer) presented the Treasurer's report, the auditor's report and the financial statement for 2019-2020. (see ATTACHMENT Item 4 for all three).

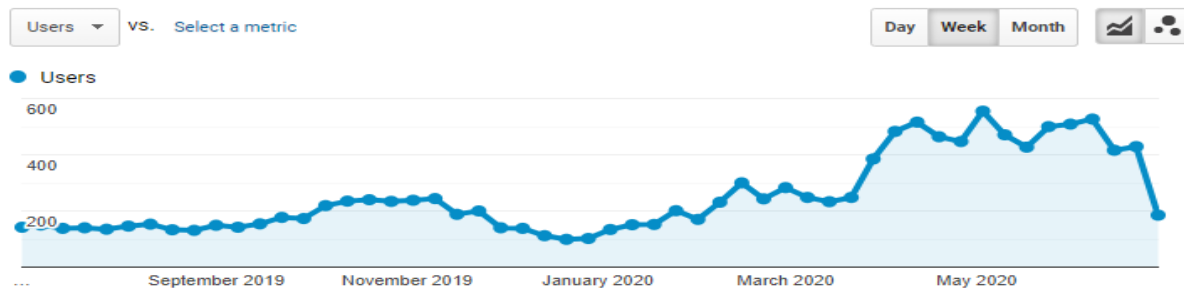
Travis Roberts moved that the 2019-2020 Annual Treasurer's report, the auditor's report and the financial statement be accepted. Seconded by Katrina Brown. All in favour. Motion carried.

5. Executive Officer's report

The Executive Officer gave the following updates to members:

- Garden Escapes booklet revision update – We have engaged a consultant and a designer to make this publication accurate and professional. Hopefully printing we occur early in the new year. All Members will receive 200 copies shortly after that.
- Weed Risk Assessment work on local priority species will involve a small group of members initially and will commence early in the new year.
- Member Survey results were presented (see ATTACHMENT Item 5).
- The website is continuing to be revised and developed. The most interesting statistics for 2019-2020 are:
 - 12,661 users, see graph below for growth in users (up from 9,471 in 2018-2019)
 - 55,226 page views (up from 25,833 in 2018-2019)
 - The five most popular pages viewed are

Weed identification 15,324	Ground covers 3,647
Vines and scramblers 3,344	Homepage 3,244
Grass weeds 3,028	



Dave Whiteman moved that the 2019-2020 Executive Officer's report be accepted. Seconded by Sahiza Ali. All in favour. Motion carried.

6. 2020 elections/appointments for the Subnetwork Chairs, Deputy Chairs and Sydney Weeds Network Office Bearers

The annually elected Chairs and Deputy Chairs of the three subnetworks form the Sydney Weeds Network Board, which is the management committee for the incorporated association.

The Executive Officer acting as the Returning Officer declared all positions vacant and noted that one nomination for the position of Chair of the West Subnetwork had been received. The EO then called for nominations for the positions of Chair and Deputy Chair for each subnetwork from the floor. The following is a list of all nominations received and accepted.

Nominations:

Coastal Subnetwork

Sean Granger, Northern Beaches Council – for Chair
Nominated by Nathan Clare, seconded by Paul Marynissen

Rudi Adlmeyer, Woollahra Council – for Deputy Chair
Nominated by Chavvahn Calver, seconded by Sean Granger

Central Subnetwork

Viniana Vererua – for Chair
Nominated by Travis Roberts, seconded by Erin Fardy

Travis Roberts – for Deputy Chair
Nominated by Viniana Vererua, seconded by Sahiza Ali

West Subnetwork

Dave Whiteman – for Chair
Nominated by Justine Vella, seconded by Kathryn Ashton

Joel Daniels – for Deputy Chair
Nominated by Dave Whiteman, seconded by Katrina Brown.

Since only one nomination was received for each position elections weren't necessary and the nominated members were appointed to their respective positions.

Election of Sydney Weeds Network Incorporated Office Bearers.

The Returning Officer, declared the positions of President, Vice President and Treasurer vacant

and called for nominations for the three positions from the newly elected Board. The following nominations were received and accepted:

President: Dave Whiteman – West Subnetwork
Nominated by Viniana Vererua. Seconded by Paul Marynissen

Vice President: Viniana Vererua – Central Subnetwork
Nominated by Dave Whiteman. Seconded by Joel Daniels

Treasurer: Joel Daniels (Liverpool Council – West)
Nominated by Dave Whiteman. Seconded by Rudi Adlmayer
Since only one nomination was received for each position elections weren't necessary and the nominated members were appointed to their respective positions.

7. General Business and close of formal AGM proceedings

The was no general business raised and the formal AGM proceedings ended at 9:55am.

8. Guest Speaker – Strategic Regional Priorities

Anthony Schofield – Regional Weed Coordinator from GSLLS gave us an update, here are his notes:

1. WAP2025

The Greater Sydney Region originally sought \$1,639,564 for 2020-21, but following a request from NSW DPI to remove ineligible activities, the total amount was reduced to \$1,622,395.

However, the region's actual grant allocation for 2020-21 was only \$1,097,763.

There was \$218,716 left over from WAP1520 that has either been retained by project partners for use or is available for redistribution in 2020-21. The redistribution amount is \$145,747.

Decisions regarding allocation of WAP funds for this financial year have been made and project partners advised accordingly. Four project partners didn't receive any WAP finds and some got a reduction in what they had asked for.

The WAP Steering Committee met three times between 21 September and 15 October 2020. Given that the region applied for more funds than was received, it was necessary to prioritise funds towards locations, projects and activities that provide the largest impacts. The steering committee considered a number of factors including:

- LGAs that form the perimeter of the region are generally the urban interface and at higher risk of weed invasion. They are also less populous, have a lower rate base and therefore lower capacity to manage weeds. These areas should be prioritised for funding over lower risk areas.
- Compliance at the Sydney Flower Markets is a high priority given the potential for weeds spread throughout the region and beyond.
- Value for money.
- Agency co-contribution commitment (cash and in-kind contributions). The WAP program is intended to support not fund weed management responsibilities.
- Past performance.
- Retention of weed officers who are funded by the program.

To date, the WAP Steering Committee has approved allocations to the value of \$1,139,489, leaving \$104,021 available for additional projects to be completed in 2020-21.

2. Species Management Plans

As part of the current WAP project, NSW DPI has requested that we complete at least 5 species management plans for regional priority “containment” species. Once completed, the plans will examine more closely the core infestation and exclusion areas, and expected control measures/outcomes, which may open up some areas to be eligible for WAP funds. African olive has been identified as the first species for a management plan. The BIS data is expected to play an important role in developing the plans.

3. BIS data

We now have more than 2 years of weeds data in BIS. The data is based in reports from local councils and forms a body of evidence that will assist with planning and decisions around funding. Up until now, although planning has been based on risk it has relied heavily on personal knowledge of weeds officers rather than evidence.

9. Guest Speaker – *DPI update*

Nicola Dixon the State Priority Weeds Coordinator – Environment and tropical weeds Regions – Greater Sydney and Western from DPI gave an update on her work. Here are her notes:

1. Weeds Action Program 2020-2025

DPI has entered into a Delivery Contract with LLS. Funding has been issued to the 11 regions. Each Lead Agency is working on updating their WAP2020 submission to align with the allocation.

DPI is currently completing a review of the WAP1520 for the State Weeds Committee and will publish a summary and highlights report early in 2021.

2. New incursions of prohibited matter species

DPI has been leading the response to the following incursions:

Frogbit (Camden)

DPI led an Emergency Management response to delimit the extent of the infestation at Rossmore and attempt to locate the source of the infestation. Efforts targeted the Rileys Creek catchment upstream of the infestation. 27 staff representing 10 agencies supported the response on Monday 23 November and 24 staff representing 10 agencies attended on Tuesday 24 November.

Sitrep No. 1 will be issued in the coming days.

Parthenium weed (NSW)

25 new Infested Premises (IPs) have been detected in 2020. Two of these are in Greater Sydney. The Queensland-based company that produces the chicken feed associated with 5 of the IPs including the two in the Greater Sydney region has been issued with an individual biosecurity direction that requires them to:

- increase raw material bulk unit sampling and visual assessment upon delivery
- clean all grain sourced from Queensland until no parthenium weed is detected in the light waste removed by the grader screens.

See Sitrep No. 12 distributed 16.10.20

Rubber vine (Western)

A 40,000km² survey in north west NSW between the Bulloo and Culgoa Rivers has revealed rubber vine plants on two additional properties
See Sitrep No.1 distributed 3.11.20.

Frogbit (Foster)

A 4,000m² infestation has been detected at Kularoo wetland and is being managed.
See Sitrep No.1 distributed 14 October 2020

3. Biosecurity Information System - Weeds

DPI is reviewing and aiming to reduce the number of fields in the NSW Weeds Metadata Standard. DPI is seeking and will continue to seek input from local control authorities before finalising the new fields. Both the original Standard fields and the amended Standard fields will be accepted by the Biosecurity Information System – Weeds so that LCAs are not forced to pay for changes to their data management system which will incur a cost.

4. Publications

DPI has published an A5 booklet “*Look out for new weeds in fodder*” and is taking orders for hard copies, for distribution to landholders.

5. Community enquiries

Over the last few months, enquiries have been received from the community about madeira vine (location not provided), African olive (Sutherland Shire), *Opuntia stricta* (Bayside), castor oil plant (Northern Beaches), running bamboo (Northern Beaches), mother-of-millions (Waverley), salvinia (City of Sydney), castor oil plant (HRCC), fireweed (Hornsby). This demonstrates community focus is still very much on common and widespread weeds.

6. Weed sales reported to DPI

Over the last few months, sales of the following weeds have been reported to DPI and actioned by the LCA: hawkweed (Blue Mountains), frogbit (Hornsby), water hyacinth (city of Sydney), salvinia (City of Canterbury-Bankstown).

7. Training program

Module 11 is now available in the NSW Biosecurity Legislation section of emtrain. This is a weeds-focused module and authorised officers will need to complete this module in addition to the 10 modules already completed.

Module 12, which will address application of the legislation to weeds in even more details, will be available in mid- 2021.

A Recognising Prohibited Matter training course is currently under development, which includes 3D modelling of parthenium weed that will be available online in early 2021.

A weeds officer induction training package is being developed and should be available mid-late 2021.

8. NSW WeedWise

Weed profiles are constantly being updated. There is the new coral creeper (*Barleria repens*) profile which is relevant for Greater Sydney.

10. Chair Central Subnetwork – Highlights from 2019-2020

Vini Vererua covered various highlights from Central including a very interesting post-fire experience from Campbelltown Council from Paul Angel. Travis Roberts described a very cool project involving Panda and bamboo at Ku-ring-gai Council. Members in Central will like to see

some aquatic weed training for weed officers and contractors.

11. Chair Coastal Subnetwork – Highlights from 2019-2020

Paul Marynissen gave some examples of things that have happened over the past year. Among these are the biocontrol of Trad, finding Water lettuce, Coral creeper and Black willow. Differentiating the native Broomrape from the invasive one was discussed as was the rapid spread of Sticky nightshade. Sutherland Council would like to see some grass identification workshops in the new year.

12. Chair West Subnetwork – Highlights from 2019-2020

Dave Whiteman covered various highlights from the West subnetwork including feeding the elephants at Western Sydney Zoo with weed species, Skunk vine and Water poppy at Campbelltown, the terrific collaborative effort put into inspecting for Frogbit in Camden, Hawkweed sales online and nursery/florist incentive projects.

13. Close

Meeting closed at 11.09am

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