

ECCO COMMITTEE MEETING JULY 14 2010

PRESENT: Jenny Smith, Tony Smith, Simon Wright, Brian Phillips, Stephen Nugent, Nick King, Phil Stephenson

APOLOGIES: Neil Jones, Yvette Black, Peter West, Colin Foster, Susan Sanders Haidee Nelson,

Business arising from Committee Meeting of June 9 2010.

Public Groundwater Meeting: ECCO still to contact Orange City Council concerning their recent request for a report on groundwater along with a request that this recommendation be effected as soon as possible. Nick to do this. ECCO to request permission for the use of the groundwater powerpoint presentation which was delivered at the forum.

The National Centre for Groundwater Research and Training will not be operational until November this year, but Professor Ian Acworth will be presenting at the forthcoming Summit on the Mount in Bathurst. Members of ECCO will make contact with him and keep the membership informed on this issue.

Local Environment Plan: Expected to be released mid September, but no definite date yet. Phil and Nick to approach David Waddell about the LEP and its availability. A committee meeting to be organised to tackle the LEP when information becomes available.

Bloomfield Bushland: Tony Smith has contacted the Field Naturalists who have identified the site as being significant for environmental consideration as it contains significant habitat trees suitable for the superb parrot and the sugar glider, both of which have been observed in the area. The Orange Field naturalists will be writing a submission to this effect, also drawing attention to the presence of Eucalyptus Canobolensis (forgive inaccurate spelling) which occurs in the area. The Field Naturalists will also be preparing an article on the area.

ECCO to have representation on the Bloomfield Bushland Committee.

Orange High School Sustainable Agriculture Presentation: ECCO unable to be represented at this event. Nick King to contact Peter Napier for an update on this project. To keep membership informed.

Correspondence:

Rotary Club of Orange Daybreak Inc. Experience Orange! Expo

Information and receipt from the above organization acknowledging ECCO's purchase of stall space for this event to be held Sunday, February 27 2011. To contact Daroo and Orange Field Nats re. sharing a stall.

Strategic Planning Land Use Committee: Information and agenda sent to ECCO for reps on this committee. Meeting to be held on Friday, July 16. Nick King and Phil Stephenson to attend.

Sustainability Expo, 2011. Minutes of the May meeting of the sustainability expo emailed to members. Nick King and Simon Wright, who is the principal organizer, will be attending the next meeting, to be held on Thursday, July 15.

Treasurer's report: To be deferred to the AGM.

General Business:Annual General Meeting: To be held on July 28, at the Environmental Learning Facility, commencing 7.30pm. Tony Smith to organise refreshments after the AGM. Agenda items: * Discussion concerning setting of fees, and the inclusion of an additional category of membership (organization/school). *Film party fundraiser.

Film Party Fundraiser: ECCO has booked Cinema 3 , which seats 145 persons for Sunday, August 22 to show "Food Inc." (see attachment for review). The screening will be at 5..00 pm, with refreshments afterwards. Nick to liaise with Odeon management re: details. Further discussion of the event to occur at the AGM. Nick King and Tony Smith to arrange catering. Assistance may be required from members concerning ticket sales etc.

Rotary Sustainability Expo: ECCO to organise access to sustainable homes for open house according to available times suitable to property owners. Suggested owners to be approached concerning times. ECCO to provide information concerning the location, features, and times of participating houses, gardens etc.

100% Renewable Energy Campaign: Public survey conducted and information emailed to membership. ECCO is currently waiting for information from the central campaign organising committee. Having received the results of the national campaign, ECCO will attempt to make appointments to discuss the results and their implications with our local politicians.

Glenroi Heights Community Garden: This very worthwhile project is in danger of languishing from lack of community support. Members are reminded that there is working bee for the garden project each Friday from 1.45-3.00pm. Nick to approach David Menzies (co-ordinator) for information and photographs for inclusion on the ECCO website. ECCO to approach David about how to involve the community. Simon Wright to facilitate possible strategies to stimulate community involvement.

ECCO Website: The ECCO website has received consistent attention since its inception, including that from overseas. Stephen is to include all Earth First articles on the website. Also to include information from the Daroo Urban Landcare group. Stephen also sought endorsement from the meeting to liaise with Myles Ligo, website designer to make necessary additions and adjustments. This request was supported by the meeting.

Natural Burials: Brian Phillips, Jan Phillips and Nick King met with Mark Hodge from Orange City Council to discuss the issue of natural burials. Mark to organise more research concerning, demand, availability of sites and best practice in places which have adopted the concept. To contact ECCO when he has done so.

Caring for Country Community Action Grants 2010-2011: Small grants to take action to conserve and protect the natural environment. Nick to seek further information concerning criteria and conditions..

