



Coordination Group Meeting – MINUTES

Held 1pm15th November 2016 at Barkly Motor Inn Ballarat

Chair:Ian Rossiter (BREAZE) **Minutes:**Ian Rossiter (BREAZE)

Agenda Items	Discussion	Responsibility
1. Welcome/ Apologies/ Introductions	<p>Attendance: Rosemary Angus (GCWRRG), Melanie Robertson (C for B), Ross Irving (SV), Hazen Cleary (PLEA Network), Ian Rossiter (BREAZE), Cr. Belinda Coates (BCC and CVGA), Andrea Mason (Leigh Catchment Group & FORP), Andrew Lang (VBN & BCC Clean Green Committee), Tim Hudspith (DELWP), Quentin Gay (BCC), Craig Hurley (Fed Uni), Lawrence Richmond (Cultivate Agribusiness).</p> <p>Apologies: Peter Gell (Fed Uni), Sonny Neale (CVGA), Craig Whiteford (DELWP), Lauren Malins (BCC) Jo Cameron (Cultivate Agribusiness), Ray Draper (BEN) Jeff Rootes (Friends of Canadian Corridor), Brendan Clarke (CHW)</p>	
2. Minutes of Previous Meeting	Ian tabled the minutes of the Meeting held 21 September 2016 which were adopted with the amendment of spelling of PLEA Network.	Ian
3. Potential Projects and Programs for Renewable Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Ross Irving reported that Sustainability Victoria has identified Ballarat as a key region for development of community renewable energy projects. There will be opportunities to have funding for business cases for renewable energy projects. b) Tim Reported that DELWP Regional Partnerships Program is conducting engagement at 9 locations in the state this month. It provides an opportunity for the Department to get in touch with community. Tonight a regional assembly with politicians and senior managers will consider ideas and priorities and consider ideas. Jennifer Ganstchehas been appointed for this role who has interests in agriculture and sustainability. c) Lawrence reported that Cultivate Agribusiness has about \$10 k funds from last (VBN) Ballarat Bioenergy event and are considering the link between biomass waste, rural economies and agriculture. Discussion led top conclusion that the interface between bioenergy, solar, hot water, batteries and technologies. There was interest from other RSAB members to deliver an event in 	All to note

	<p>2017. When previous forum was being organised, consideration of what opportunities for local government were front of mind and the event was well attended by LGA's, Waste Management sector and Educational institutions. The BCC Aquatic and Lifestyle Centre, The Civic Hall and Library are possible projects that could be workshopped. Hepburn Shire's Waste to Energy study has identified some small scale projects.</p> <p>d) Other Projects / Events in 2017:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begonia Festival CHW and Permaculture Guild have presence. GCWWRRG Wanting to get involved in Begonia Festival • Fed University and BEN project with Peter Noble, Helen Thompson, digital engagement in environment. • GCWWRRG will be doing an event in Maryborough about better use of greenwaste. • Dale Boucher at Fed Uni organises a number of events for students. International students need weekend activities later through the year. This could be a pool of volunteers to assist with events • National Tree Day last week in July. • Sustainable House Day will be delivered by BREAZE in September. • Andrea reported that the Smart Building and Living Expo is on 26 Feb in Buninyong. Electric Vehicles focus including electric bikes and all aspects of sustainable buildings and living. • Melanie reported that a meeting with Minister for Environment Lily dAmbrosio and C for B had discussed concept of Ballarat as a renewable energy hub. • City of Ballarat Arts Container Project could be considered - contact Debra Klein Community Arts. • Energy providers and Ausnet, Powercor, Acciona, Meridian, West Wind & RES are being hosted by Sovereign Hill presenting a climate change conference at Narmbool. <p>e) Other Opportunities Identified :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RSAB Opportunity to run dialogue on energy efficiency and power supply networks. • Quentin 5 car (electric car) charge point proposed at one of Ballarat's activity centres confidential information at this stage. The site was identified by the network providers. 	
<p>4. Information Sharing</p>	<p>a) Andrew Lang commented that European biomass power policies considered impacts of subsidies and impacts of GFC. A Feasibility done on potential uses of straw by Pyrenees and Ballarat e.g. Biomass heating and straw to ethanol. Andrew's Spain visit saw solar towers that have been in operation for many years, and they are interested in sites in Australian</p> <p>b) Community Fire Network finished activities for this season. 4 clusters established, invitations to residents, Facebook established, 31 residents came 3100 visited web pages. Neighbourhood risk assessments done. Foundation established that can be built on in future years.</p> <p>c) Craig reported that Fed Uni has received an Australian public sector procurement award and is a finalist in green gown awards, university sustainability award reducing energy consumption by 17 %, PRME principles of responsible management awards for Business school. Held international</p>	

	<p>social responsibility conference in Melbourne and involved in Commerce Ballarat's Excellence awards. Fed Uni is working to enhance the sustainable responsible business elements in the awards.</p> <p>d) Tim Hudspith reported that policy changes are happening in DELWP climate change package including climate change framework and adaptation plan and outcomes of pledges and Implementation outcomes.</p> <p>e) Belinda reported that the City of Ballarat has signed the Take Two pledge. BCC have signed on to a project for low income residents to have access to sustainability improvements to homes. A Solar project at the Phoenix Building is being undertaken.</p> <p>f) GCCWRRG Implementation Plan draft consultation feedback completed and draft has been integrated with other regional plans and new to be submitted to Minister.</p> <p>g) Lawrence commented that Cultivate Agribusiness is involved with the Future Landscapes Project with Hepburn, Pyrenees, Ballarat and Golden Plains Councils to model how landscapes will change under climate change. Modelling with forestry and range of crops to equate where we can grow now and where they will grow in 50 years. To be launched this week.</p> <p>h) Ross SV reported that the Community Energy Guide has been released by SV. Query about community retailer opportunities like NSW could this happen in a Ballarat.</p>	
5. Other Business	<p>The members discussed RSA's potential to represent the region and engage with politicians. Agreed that an advocacy program should be included in 2017 activities. Suggested that we include Danielle, Green Parliamentary Secretary for Environment and Energy.</p>	
6. Future Meetings	<p>1. Meeting dates yet to be determined for 2017. Agreed to continue meeting 3rd Tuesday of every second month. Dates to be advised by secretariat.</p>	