



## Coordination Group Meeting – MINUTES

Held 1pm Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2017 at Ballarat Yacht Club

**Chair:** Ian Rossiter (BREAZE)

**Minutes:** Ian Rossiter (BREAZE)

Agenda Items	Discussion	Responsibility
<p><b>1. Welcome/ Apologies/ Introductions</b></p>	<p><b>Attendance:</b> Quinton Wilkinson (Cultivate Agribusiness), Melanie Robertson (C for B), Ross Irving (SV), Hazen Cleary (PLEA Network), Ian Rossiter (BREAZE), Andrea Mason (Leigh Catchment Group &amp; FORP), Andrew Lang (VBN &amp; BCC Clean Green Committee), Ray Draper (BEN) Jeff Rootes (Friends of Canadian Corridor), Lauren Malins (BCC) Craig Whiteford (DELWP),</p> <p><b>Guests:</b> Cr Grant Tillet, Cr Ben Taylor, Cameron Duthie (BCC), Dr Dr Michael Akindeju (MKPro), Barbara Whitfield (Ecodevelopment Victoria)</p> <p><b>Apologies:</b> Peter Gell (Fed Uni), Sonny Neale (CVGA), Jo Cameron (Cultivate Agribusiness), Tim Hudspith (DEWLP), Brendan Clarke (CHW). Cr. Belinda Coates (BCC and CVGA), Quenton Gay (BCC), Craig Hurley (Fed Uni),</p>	
<p><b>2. Minutes of Previous Meeting</b></p>	<p>Ian tabled the minutes of the Meeting held 21February 2017 which were distributed on 1/3/17. Moved Hazen Cleary, Seconded Ross Irving Carried.</p>	
<p><b>3. Presentation by Dr Michael Akindeju MKPro Group</b></p>	<p>Michael provided a presentation on the biodigester system that he has developed and trailed in his own home that receives waste from the toilet outflow and produces methane from an anaerobic digestion process for producing heat. The system has a batching tank and a digesting tank and is controlled by a single pump and automated control system. It complies with ASA60079 and has remote monitoring potential. The gas produced is intended for cooking or heating in the home. The technology is also suited to a number of other single waste streams such as agricultural organic matter, macerated food wastes. The waste from the digesters requires filtration before disposal to sewer or liquid waste streams. The next generation is proposed to capture hydrogen sulphide and carbon dioxide and use these in fuel cells to generate electricity and emit water vapour.</p> <p>The estimated cost for installation would be around \$120K for a residential unit with methane gas</p>	<p>All to note</p>

	<p>produced and \$350K for a unit with fuel cells producing electricity. Michael is looking for a partnership opportunity for a demonstration installation as he cannot continue to fund the project without generating revenue, given the costs and 2-3 years of personal time invested with no return. A demonstration site is needed to prove its safety and reliability before the system could be widely used. For contact or further details see <a href="http://www.mkproengineering.com/">http://www.mkproengineering.com/</a></p>	
<p><b>4. City of Ballarat Draft Council Plan 2017-2021</b></p>	<p>Ian introduced Cameron Duthie BCC Policy and Projects Strategist ,Cr. Ben Taylor and Cr Grant Tillett to introduce the Draft Council Plan. Cameron distributed print copies and explained the draft would be reviewed based on feedback received then placed on public exhibition for a statutory period before final adoption by Council. The document was developed collaboratively with the Councillors and presents 4 pillars or themes. The Sustainability Theme was outlined by Cr Taylor and Cr Tillett. They outlined initiatives in waste management and management of Council's infrastructure. Feedback from RSAB members was:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The extent of engagement over the Plan with the broader community is recognised and commended</li> <li>• There is an absence of any environmental targets or measures for GHG emissions, water conservation, renewable energy and biodiversity.</li> <li>• There is an absence of any reference to Environmental policies or strategies</li> </ul> <p>It was agreed that The Chair of RSAB would draft a submission reflecting the above comments</p>	<p>Ian to draft a submission with these points and circulate to members.</p>
<p><b>5. City of Ballarat Urban Forestry Discussion Document</b></p>	<p>Ian explained that he had circulated a web- link to the document last week and that the timeframe for comments being received was by this week. The directions of the discussion document were broadly supported and commended. Ian displayed Hazen Cleary's response document for discussion. It was agreed RSAB would make a submission based on Hazen's key points and comments added at the meeting.</p>	<p>Ian to make RSAB Submission and circulate to members.</p>
<p><b>6. Follow up To Soren Hermansen Pioneering Communities Workshop and Meeting with Simon Corbell.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Melanie and Ian gave a verbal update on the outcomes of the Pioneering Communities Workshop and information sourced from the RSAB representatives meeting with Victorian Government Renewable Energy Advocate Simon Corbell. The key points were:</li> <li>• There is a current opportunity for the Ballarat Community to position itself as a centre for investment in renewable energy through the Victorian Government's Reverse Auction processes to meet its 2025 Renewable Energy Targets.</li> <li>• The energy providers who will bid to supply renewable power will be required to not only propose affordable contracts for supply, but social, environmental and economic benefits in the order of \$600 million.</li> <li>• Ballarat can position itself to be the recipients of these benefits by developing an agreed list of projects, which might include social equity programs, sustainable transport, renewable energy demonstration sites, training facilities etc.</li> <li>• Melanie and Ian encouraged RSAB members to submit proposals over the next month for consideration.</li> <li>• BREAZE has suggested a network of small electric buses that can be accessed via smart phone requests that follow designated routes, a demonstration farm utilising solar and bioenergy as energy sources and a program providing renewable energy to low income residents.</li> </ul>	<p>All to suggest projects for consideration to Melanie and Ian</p>

<p><b>7. Sustainability Victoria Community Power Hubs Funding</b></p>	<p>Ian outlined the funding opportunity announced last week for establishment of community renewable energy hubs for Bendigo, La Trobe Valley and Ballarat. BREAZE in preparation have identified a number of potential community projects and have engaged a panel of contractors. BREAZE intends to submit to operate the Ballarat Community Power Hub (CPH) and is considering biomass heating for community facilities, an electricity supply cooperative for residents and an extension of the Social Renewables by BREAZE to deliver PV and SHW to social housing for the region.</p> <p><i>Motion: That RSAB support BREAZE's funding application for Ballarat's Community Power Hub, Moved Keith Jackson, Seconded Andrea Mason Carried.</i></p>	<p>Ian to circulate information from BREAZE Application.</p>
<p><b>8. Information Sharing</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Andrew Lang reported that a Straw to Energy Project has appointed a consultant to examine potential to use waste straw to produce heat, steam, electricity from sources within 50-80 km of Ballarat. Pyrenees Shire. City of Ballarat and 8-9 Farmers are overseeing the study and the feasibility should be completed in 3-4 weeks.</li> <li>2. Craig reported that the Central Highlands Partnership has identified Waste to Energy as a priority project for the region and will need to convene a consultative group in coming weeks and may be interested to auspice a consultancy.</li> <li>3. Andrea reported that following the Natural resources Conservation League's Climate Change Forum held at Narmbool last year, there is interest in conducting a workshop to explore feasibility of a Ballarat South Region Landscape Climate Change project. Leigh Catchment Group and Ballarat Environment Network will facilitate a workshop later this month.</li> <li>4. Quentin Reported Cultivate Agribusiness is planning a Bioenergy event for the region to be based in Horsham in partnership with Victoria Bioenergy Network later this year. Liz Hamilton will have further details.</li> </ol>	<p>All to note</p>
<p><b>9. Next Meeting</b></p>	<p>The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday June 20<sup>th</sup> to be held at the State Government Offices, Cnr Mair and Doveton Streets from 1pm to 3pm</p>	<p>All to note.</p>