

**MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING
FOR THE PROPOSED SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE CHARGE**

Held Wednesday 28th October 2020 in the Katanning Leisure Centre Pioneer Room

1. Meeting declared open by Cr **Liz Guidera**, Katanning Shire President, at 7:08pm

Quorum of 25 ratepayers set by Minister MacTiernan; attendance of 29 ratepayers confirmed, plus 5 observers.

Ratepayers in attendance: Cr Liz Guidera in the Chair, Alan Sandwell, Ella Maesepp, Norman Flugge, Jessica van der Waag, Sarah Watson, Bev Lockley, David Secomb, Geoff Kowald, Martin Livsey, Mitchell Davies, Lesley Balinski, Jeremy Kowald, Terry Blake, Andrea Salmond, Eleanor Stubbs, Peggy Sambell, Mark Sander, Sue Cherry, Doug Cherry, Matt Collis, Jill Richardson, Wayne Lequaietermaine, Jim Sambell, Deb Sandwell, Linda Livsey, Bev Kowald, Chris Molinari, Ron Lockley (29)

Non-ratepayers in attendance: Andrew Gibbons, Serena Sandwell, Rachel Whitehouse, Scott Newbey, John Paul Collins (5)

Apologies: Mick Quartermaine, Janie Haddleton, Bill Haddleton, Tim Harris, Adrian Richardson, Denise Gallanagh-Wood, Gary Quarmby

2. Address by the Chair

Cr Guidera gave thanks to the Katanning Landcare volunteers and landholders for their 30 years of impact and added value to our community and environment, and highlighted the innovation and dedication of committee and some recent key projects.

Cr Guidera outlined the procedures for the meeting, and reminded attendees that only ratepayers within the Shire of Katanning are eligible to vote.

3. **Motion:**

That a Soil Conservation Service Charge be raised under section 25A of Soil and Land Conservation Act 1945 (amended 1999). This charge to be \$35 per rateable assessment for the financial years 2021-2022, 2022-2023, and 2023-2024, for the purpose of assisting with the funding of the following projects:

- *Katanning LCDC Community Landcare Officer and Landcare Resource Centre*
- *Project development for on-ground works for salinity management (draft title)*

Moved: Jill Richardson Seconded: Norman Flugge



4. **Scott Newbey**, Chairman of the Katanning LCDC, reviewed the description of the Soil Conservation Service as outlined in item 4 of the agenda and attached Public Meeting Information provided to all attendees.

Mr Newbey highlighted the value that Landcare brings to the community, by bringing millions of dollars into the community through grants and other activities, and shared how the Soil Conservation Service Charge facilitates this.

5. Speakers FOR and AGAINST

- 5.1 Cr Guidera called for Mrs Richardson to speak FOR the Motion

Jill Richardson: most community members and properties have been beneficiaries of Katanning Landcare services both in town and on farms, and will continue to see the benefits through this Service, and will allow Landcare maintain a strong presence in Katanning. New opportunities to combat salinity may also be forthcoming.

- 5.2 Cr Guidera for Mr Flugge to speak FOR the motion

Norman Flugge: over its long history, Landcare in Katanning has delivered significant value, not just for the land, but to the community. Ensuring that the Service continues through this process provides a social license to continue to deliver the valuable services and ability to receive funds that are ancillary to the Soil Conservation Service.

- 5.3 Cr Guidera called for speakers AGAINST the Motion

There were no speakers against the motion.

6. There being no further speakers FOR or AGAINST the Motion, Cr Guidera put the Motion to a vote by show of hands.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

7. Cr Guidera thanked all for attending the Public Meeting.

There being no further business, Cr Guidera closed the meeting at 7:17pm.

Minutes taken by Andrea Salmond

