

AGENDA / MINUTES

Date 25 October 2021

Start 12noon

Finish 2pm

Location

Zoom meeting

[Click here to join](#)

Executive Officer, Carole Hammond, present.

Invited

Oscar Yencken	Mansfield SC
Julie Kirkwood	Murrindindi SC [GMCA auspice]
Sarah Buckley Bronwyn Westbrook	Alpine SC
Adam Saddler, Bronwyn Chapman	Benalla SC
Allison McCallum	Campaspe SC
Johanna Tachas	DELWP Hume [Associate]
Bek Calwell	Goulburn Broken CMA
Sam Niedra	Indigo SC
Elyse Kelly, Brendan Garrett	Mitchell SC
James Steinfort, Scott Draper	Moira SC
Lachlan Campbell	North East CMA
Marisa O'Halloran,	Greater Shepparton
Molly Odgers	Strathbogie SC [Lead Naturally Cooler Towns]
Anthony Dufty	Towong SC [Lead EV Charging NE]
Evelina Dudzinski	Rural City of Wangaratta
Robyn Nicholas Wei Chan	City of Wodonga

Apologies (known) J. Bramwell SV; M. Crane;

Acknowledgement of country

We wish to acknowledge the traditional, unceded, lands of the Taungurung, the Yorta Yorta and the Wurundjeri, upon where we collectively meet today, and pay our respects to their Elder's past, present and emerging.





AGENDA

12.00	1. WELCOME		Lunch on a keyboard + intro's to new faces
12.20	2. PREVIOUS MINUTES		The minutes of the Officer meeting held online on 26 th April 2021 were distributed via email and are also available on www.gbga.com.au with your member password. We will be reviewing the member area of the website as it isn't being accessed very much.
12.25	3. PREVIOUS MEETING ACTIONS	EO	See Appendix 1 – see project updates
12.27	4. PROJECTS & FUNDING REPORT	EO	See Appendix 2 <u>Verbal project updates:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Naturally Cooler Towns: Strathbogie, (Molly Odgers) Tender process, UFC, inception meeting, survey someone in the tree space, link, tree people, multiple people are fine, • Ausnet Main Rd Street Light Upgrades: Alpine (Sarah Buckley) – bulk upgrade working group, circles, quotes forthcoming to compare with Ironbark. Use Ironbark. Report just approved to use them, will do auditing etc. MAV procurement panel. Timing of Ausnet money council wants, Wodonga, Ausnet will do LED, remaining councils, through OMR charges, next 3yrs, Murrindindi, Carole to call Scott. • Charging Tourism in the NE Region: Towong (Anthony Dufty) –, 345k = 545k, June 2023, DELWP asked for us to split the funding to not fund all our project but no. • Sustainable Subdivisions & ESD in the planning scheme (Mitchell) – CASBE Elevating ESD Shep Strathbogie Wodonga Mitchell, Warrnambool, cost benefit analysis HVH, • VECO for Murrindindi, Benalla, Wangaratta, Mansfield, Alpine and Mitchell (Bronwyn Chapman) – webinar last week, upgraded service delivery from Red Energy, ceiling on how much energy, comparison tool, confidential, councils to join by 1 Jan, so go through council by 1 Dec, VECO cant hold offer open very long because of the rapid market changes.
1.00	5. OFFICER UPDATES	All	Around the screen MITCHELL : Brendan – Climate Emergency. Support for community and corporate Action Plan \$110k. Also ESD Policy. Metro, RFQ solar installation, Platypus info night, Mitchell applied INDIGO : Sam – New staff Flo Meredith; Trellis, 2019-20 baseline for new emissions reduction plan, VECO project makes up 20% of

			<p>Indigo’s emissions mitigation profile; 75% of the emission profile is scope 3 which Trellis doesn’t do as much of.</p> <p>ALPINE : Sarah: - address the impacts of climate change, want action beyond the corporate.</p> <p>SHEPPARTON : Marisa – Working on Climate Emergency Action Plan , and pledges for Cities Power Partnership.</p> <p>DELWP – community mini-grants, grants up to \$10k each, running the Climate Risk in LG workshops Oct/Nov.</p> <p>MURRINDINDI : Julie - Climate Change Action Plan, no funds so focus on engagement, will undertake internal organisational risk assessment, solar installations, community microgrid interest.</p> <p>CAMPASPE : Allison – storm knocked out their new EV chargers and its been a big issue getting them reinstalled under warranty, CVGAs Stuart has been great. The environment strategy for 2022 in place, council plan adopted last week, with climate change commitments in place, more recognition of community climate change actions in Health & Wellbeing Plan, Council’s Finance team initiated uptake of Azility for water and electricity accounts – found it to be very time efficient.</p> <p>BENALLA : Bronwyn – community asked Council to declare a climate emergency, Council decided to review as part of the adaptation plan, no emissions plan, so forming a response to council that will be both acceptable and meaningful.</p>
2.15	BREAK	ALL	10 mins
2.25	<p>7. GMCA STRATEGIC PLAN</p> <p>Thanks for filling in the Council Plan and Strategy sharepoint sheet.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewing for 2022-26 • Small working group from the Alliance working through ideas • Looking at bringing in an integration of the UN SDGs in an effort to draw an holistic connection into our efforts as did the Commission for Environmental Sustainability, and • Appendix 3 is a blueprint of early project ideas (including some we are already committed to). It also has a roundup of past projects and known outcomes. • Zoom SURVEY: Please see collated outcomes from this session with thanks from the EO for such hearty participation!

Close

APPENDIX 1 - ACTION PROGRESS

Date	 Complete	 in progress	 not commenced	WHO	WHEN	
2021						
April 2021	Naturally Cooler Towns (urban forest project). Project Control Group.			MO	Oct 2021	

APPENDIX 2 - PROJECTS & FUNDING REPORT

EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT – Projects run or joined by GMCA

TITLE	DESCRIPTION	PROGRESS OCTOBER 2021	UPCOMING ACTIONS
Naturally Cooler Towns	Research project across all GMCA member municipality urban forests, investigating benchmarks, climate-ready species, gap analysis, cost etc of implementation. Includes presentations of findings.	Project Host: Strathbogie Shire FUNDED \$60,000 (DELWP) Urban Forest Consulting appointed Project commenced 4/10/21 to finalise mid Feb '22	Form PCG Officer appointment tbc
Upgrade Main Rd MV lights to LED (Ausnet area)	Ausnet has proposed co-funding for a bulk changeover for 80W MV lights to 18W LED lights. This will have savings in energy use (alpine, benalla, mansfield, murrindindi, mitchell, murrindindi strathbogie, towong, wangaratta, wodonga)	Preliminary meetings have occurred with Ausnet (GMCA, EAGA and SECCA, plus Sarah Buckley rep from Alpine Shire, and council reps from other regions)	Further meetings planned
GMCA Strategic Plan	Set up of Working Group, formulate agenda and documentation, survey, and council feedback/input documents	Documents have been sent to Working Group and Officers of GMCA for populating and feedback.	Next meeting being planned. Enquiries for potential facilitator of GMCA workshop ongoing.
ESD in the planning scheme	Sustainable Subdivision Framework in trial stage.	Discussed pilot progress and issues with CASBE. Participating in Alliances of Alliances Advocacy for ESD in the planning system with CASBE (report by Hansen).	EO meetings with CASBE and Alliances, and engaging with GMCA SS councils to attend a 20/10/21 SS meeting.
Advocacy Zero Emissions Vehicles Vic Govt	GMCA Submission to Victorian Government's Zero Emissions Vehicles Expert Advisory Panel on reaching 50% ZEVs by 2030.	Submission drafted and sent to GMCA Alliance on 12/10/21 for feedback.	Submitted on 14/10/21 Potential E-Bike opportunity with DELWP Hume
Advocacy	Presentation to the Alpine Resorts Group on 6/10/21	Alpine Resorts requested to become members. They are able to become Associate members (no vote/no fee) for 12 months to see if this suits their needs.	To discuss with the AC and at Ordinary Meeting
April 2022 Alliances Conference	The Conference of the Victorian Alliances will now occur on April 29, 2022	EO will facilitate two sessions: Climate Change and Health, and Regional Transitions	Nominated speakers being confirmed. Regular meetings with Alliances underway.
Training for LG Leaders	Localising Climate Resilience in Hume: DELWP-ARUP initiative that was co-designed by GMCA. Online webinar series.	Most councils attending 10 LGAs at last count, with Director, Coordinators, TLeaders, Manager of Facilities, Risk Coordinators, Project Managers, Eco Dev, NECMA, Falls Creek Resort	Dates: 28/10/21 – 4/11/21, 11/11/21 – 18/11/21 25/11/21

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

PROJECT	GRANT OPPORTUNITY	Status
EV charge stations-regional	Destination Chargers Across Victoria Closed 13/8/2021 Several applications submitted	EO assisted joint application by 5 councils in NE Vic (Lead – Towong Shire with Alpine, Benalla, Murrindindi and Wangaratta) And separate applications by Moira Shire and Mitchell Shire Many Councils also supported an application by Evie Networks
	DELWP Integrated Water Management Regional Project Funding 21-22 https://www.water.vic.gov.au/liveable/integrated-water-management-program/iwm-framework/iwm-grants	\$3.1m available. Up to \$1m for capital projects or up to \$200k for feasibility studies. Closes 13 Dec 2021. Must have support of IWM forum, local traditional owners, key stakeholders etc.

APPENDIX 3 – STRATEGIC PLANNING: POTENTIAL & PAST PROJECTS

Do any projects below fit with your council initiatives?

Main Road Streetlighting Changeovers
Getting off Gas
VECO for Six Councils
Carbon Sequestration Projects: trees, soil, wetlands
Victorian Climate Resilient Councils VCRC collaboration
Advocacy: Strengthening the GMCA region with effective and targeted advocacy
Advocacy: Build localised knowledge and support via a professional online presence
ESD in the Planning System Advocacy Project
Implementation of EV Chargers in the northeast
Naturally Cooler Towns - Implementation
Building capacity for a Green Revolving Fund
Sustainable Subdivisions - support pilot councils in.....by....
Water adaptation: assess Greening Euroa and other initiatives & start more regional water adaptive projects
Building capacity in the northeast to implement Sustainable Subdivisions

Delivery	Project Title	TOOL	ADVOCACY	PLAN	Avoided t CO2e pa	Project Cost	Annual Return on investment	Lead Organisation	Alpine	Benalla	Campaspe	Indigo	Mansfield	Mitchell	Moira	Murrindindi	Shepparton	Strathbogrie	Towong	Wangaratta	Wodonga	GBCMA	NECMA	DELWP	
2012	GB Local Gov Sust Training Program	X						VASP		X			X	X	X	X	X	X				X		X	
2012	Climate Change Adaptation Framework			X				Shepparton		X			X	X	X	X	X	X				X			
2015	Watts Working Better				4,484	\$ 4,688,950	\$ 900,000			X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X					
2016	Climate Smart Agriculture Development	X				\$ 245,000		NECMA															X		
2016	Building the Case for EVs in Council Fleets			X		\$ 97,000		Shepparton		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X			
2016	LG Environmental Sustainability Reporting	X						Moira		X		X			X						X	X			
2017	Electricity Distribution Price Review		X				\$ 1,700,000	Alliances																	
2018	LG Carbon Accounting Training							SV		X	X	X		X		X	X	X							
2019	Carbon Crunching Councils	X		X				Strathbogrie		X		X						X	X						
2019	Local Government Energy Savers (SV)				613	\$ 369,904	\$ 152,910	SV		X			X			X		X	X						
2020	Charging the Regions EV Study			X		\$ 12,000		CVGA	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	
2020	Victorian Energy Collaboration				18,734	\$ 21,500		Darebin	X		X	X		X	X		X	X							
2021	Naturally Cooler Towns Study			X		\$ 60,000		Strathbogrie	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
2021	Councillors Climate Change Training							DELWP	X	X	X			X				X	X					X	
2021	Advocacy for ESD in the Planning System		X					Alliances						X											
2021	Electricity Distribution Price Review		X			\$ 4,000	\$ 876,000	Alliances																	
2019	Main Road Street Light Business Case			X		\$ 42,500																			
2022	EV Charging Network NE					\$ 550,000		Towong	X	X		X	X						X	X					
2021-25	AusNet Main Rd Streetlight Upgrades				2,996	\$ 5,473,813	\$ 15,324,254	GMCA																	
					47,475.8	\$ 11,564,667	\$ 13,534,730																		