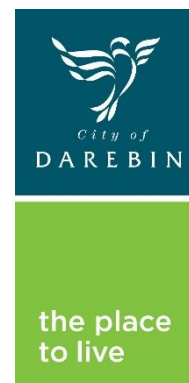


Darebin Nature Trust | Minutes



Meeting details

Date of meeting	Tuesday, 5 March 2024
Time	6.00 – 8.00 pm
Location	Birnum Djirri Room (Conference Room)

Attendees

DNT members	Council Officers	Councillors
Angela Pestell	Sofia Enrigue	Cr. Trent McCarthy (chair)
Daniel Tatton	Marina Murua	
Hannah Proctor-Parkin	Jody Brodribb	
Kate Jost	Natalie Jamieson	
Meg Bauer	Kristie Dunn	
Nadine Richings		
Owen Butler		
Rosie Moffat		

Apologies

DNT members	Council Officers	Councillors
Cindy Huynh		Cr. Susanne Newton (Mayor)
Rohan Khot		Cr. Emily Dimitriadis

Item	Description	Action
1. Open meeting, acknowledgements & apologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Acknowledgement of Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Country.Welcome everyone to the first meeting of the new DNT Committee.Take note of apologies.<ul style="list-style-type: none">Documented above.	
2. Welcome and Introductions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">An opportunity for introductions including Committee members, Councillors, and officers.	
3. DNT overview	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Purpose and guiding principles <p>The purpose of this Committee is to provide advice and recommendations (where appropriate) to Council in relation to matters affecting biodiversity and the natural environment in Darebin's open space. Further details in the Terms of Reference.</p> <p>As Committee we should foster a culture that seeks to understand and explore diverse views of Committee members so that advice to Council reflects such diversity of views.</p>	Sofia to circulate the Power Point presentation.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting arrangements <p>Quarterly meetings (6.00 – 8.00 pm)</p> <p>Meeting 1: Tuesday 5 March Meeting 2: Tuesday 4 June Meeting 3: Tuesday 3 September Meeting 4: Tuesday 3 December</p> <p>Agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Members can request items to be listed in the agenda by raising them with the Council Officer and with the Chairpersons consent. <p>Minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Will be publicly available on Darebin website. - We don't record what members say as individuals, only items discussed and agreements. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Time commitment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Required: to attend quarterly meetings. - Optional: there may be some work to be undertaken by Committee members between meeting times. 	
<p>4. Advisory Committee Terms of Reference</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of the DNT Terms of Reference <p>Key points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The scope of this Committee is to act in an advisory capacity to the Council only and has no delegated authority to make decisions. - The Committee will provide honest, considered, constructive and impartial advice to Council that will improve Council decision making. - A position becomes vacant if a Committee member fails to attend 3 consecutive meetings without reasonable grounds, on a case-by-case basis. - All Advisory Committees will sunset on 30 June following each General Council election, unless they have been re-established in the new Council term or the work of an Advisory Committee has been completed prior to this date. - Committee Members are required to abide by Council's Employee Code of Conduct to the extent applicable to volunteers and the Council's Volunteer Policy. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunity for questions/comments <p>Clarification that the Terms of Reference state that the Committee will be comprised by up to 10 members, but it doesn't mean we have to have all 10 positions filled.</p>	<p>Members are encouraged to familiarise themselves with the Terms of Reference and code of conduct.</p>
<p>5. Welcome to Darebin</p>	<p>Brief overview of Darebin's commitment to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our values <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Darebin's values underpin the work performed during our time in the Darebin Nature Trust. • Equity and Diversity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Brief overview of relevant Council wide frameworks which extends to Advisory Committees: - The Statement of Commitment to Traditional Owners and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people (2019) 	<p>Members are encouraged to familiarise themselves with the values and relevant frameworks.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Towards Equality: Equity, Inclusion and Human Rights Framework (2019-2029) - • Safety and well-being <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advisory Committee members have access to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Voluntary Workers Insurance, which covers them for personal injury while being involved in an authorised volunteer activity on behalf of Council. ▪ Employee Assistance Programs (EAP) which offers free private and confidential counselling. 	Sofia to send contact details for the EAP.
6. Open Space Plans and Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of the Council plan and strategies relevant to the DNT. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Darebin has many strategies, policies and plans that help develop and implement the strategic objectives of Council Plans. - They help keep Council accountable; members are encouraged to provide robust ideas to challenge the organisation for improvement. - Most relevant to the DNT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Breathing Space – Darebin Open Space Strategy (2019)</i> ▪ <i>Darebin Natural Heritage Strategy (2015-2025)</i> - Led to outcomes such as the launching of the Rewilding program. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Council Plan (2021-2025)</i> ▪ <i>Council Plan Action Plan (2023-2024)</i> - A request from members was noted down to get them involved at the earliest possible stage of projects and strategies. 	Sofia to circulate the Power Point presentation.
Break (5min)		
7. Climate Emergency Plan consultation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate Emergency Plan consultation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Overview of the Plan purpose and actions. - Discussion focusing on the Caring for Country Pillar: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Do the goals for Pillar 1 support Council to achieve the vision of the Pillar? - Is there anything missing from the actions listed for Pillar 1? - Members are encouraged to submit their comments via 'Have your Say' or to make a group submission as DNT committee via email. - Consultation closes 7 April. 	Sofia to send 'Have your say' link to the Climate emergency Plan consultation and Climate Emergency team's email address for group submissions.
8. Other business	<p>General business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upcoming initiatives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - City Nature Challenge (26-29 April) - Darebin is participating in the City Nature Challenge 2024, an annual global citizen science event running from Friday 26 April to Monday 29 April. - Over the four-day challenge, everyone is invited to discover and document the unique animals, plants and fungi that call Darebin home using the iNaturalist App. 	<p>Sofia to send link to the City Nature Challenge project.</p> <p>Members to consider providing comments to the consultation for the development of Darebin's LGBTIQ+ Action Plan</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Last year, along with other 25 councils, Darebin represented Greater Melbourne finishing in place #20 out 482 cities worldwide. Only in Darebin, a total 3,544 observations were made documenting 761 different species, making Darebin the winning council in Melbourne. - Consultation for the development of Darebin's LGBTIQ+ Action Plan now open.<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Comments can be submitted via the 'Have your Say' website.- Consultation closes on 31 March	
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Next Meeting

Date: Tuesday 4 June 2024

Time: 6 – 8 pm

Location: Birnum Djirri Room (Conference Room)