

**MINUTES OF THE CHITTERING BUSHFIRE ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE MEETING**

Tuesday, 9 June 2015

Council Chambers  
6177 Great Northern Highway  
Bindoon

COMMENCEMENT: 7.00pm  
CLOSURE: 8.35pm



These minutes will be confirmed at the next meeting of the Chittering Bushfire Advisory Committee which is yet to be advised

SIGNED BY

\_\_\_\_\_   
 Person presiding at the meeting at which minutes were confirmed

DATE

\_\_\_\_\_

**Disclaimer**

The purpose of this Committee meeting is to discuss and, where possible, make resolutions about items appearing on the agenda.

Whilst Council has the power to resolve such items and may in fact, appear to have done so at the meeting, no person should rely on or act on the basis of such decision or on any advice or information provided by a member or officer, or on the content of any discussion occurring, during the course of the meeting.

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## 1. DECLARATION OF OPENING OF MEETING / ANNOUNCEMENTS OF VISITORS

The Presiding Member declared the meeting opened at 7:00pm.

## 2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES

### 2.1 Attendance

Ian Hollick	Presiding Member
Jamie O'Neill	CBFCO/CESM, Shire of Chittering
Gary Tuffin	Chief Executive Officer, Shire of Chittering
Cr Doreen Mackie	Councillor, Shire of Chittering
Peter Hall	Muchea Brigade
Janice Billen	Incident Support Brigade
Steve Browne	Lower Chittering Brigade
Gordon Carter	Upper Chittering Brigade

The following non-voting members were in attendance:

Craig Garrett	DFES
Will Lee	Upper Chittering Brigade
Arthur Blewitt	Muchea Brigade
Karen Parker	Manager Human Resources, Shire of Chittering (Minute Secretary)

### 2.2 Apologies

Fred Hoogland	Bindoon Brigade
Greg Cocking	Deputy Chief Bushfire Control Officer
Kim Haeusler	Wannamal Brigade
Phillip Humphrey	Upper Chittering Brigade
David Wilson	Training Coordinator
Michael Pasotti	DPaW
Paul Musarra	DPaW
Cr Barni Norton	Councillor, Shire of Chittering

## 3. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Nil

## 4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Nil

**5. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

**5.1 Chittering Bushfire Advisory Committee meeting – Tuesday, 3 March 2015**

**5.1 OFFICER/COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**  
**Moved Peter Hall / Seconded Janice Billen**  
**That the minutes of the Chittering Bushfire Advisory Committee meeting held on Tuesday, 3 March 2015 be received as a true and accurate record of proceedings.**

**CARRIED 8/0**

**6. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHIEF BUSHFIRE CONTROL OFFICER/COMMUNITY EMERGENCY SERVICES MANAGER**

The bush fire brigades are to hold their Annual General Meetings during the month of May each year. At the Annual General Meeting brigade member(s) are to be nominated to the Bush Fire Advisory Committee to serve as bush fire control officers for the brigade area until the next brigade Annual General Meeting.

Each brigade Secretary is to forward a copy of the minutes of the Annual General Meeting to the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer within one month after the meeting. The Chief Bush Fire Control Officer will table the minutes at the next meeting of the Chittering Bush Fire Advisory Committee. The Chittering Bush Fire Advisory Committee are then required to recommend to the local government the person(s) nominated from each bush fire brigade.

**Table 1: Brigade nominations for Fire Control Officer:**

Brigade	Name
Lower Chittering Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade	Steve Browne Max Brown
Upper Chittering Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade	Gordon Carter
Bindoon Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade	-
Muchea Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade	Peter Hall Arthur Blewitt
Wannamal Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade	-

Along with nominations of Fire Control Officers, the position of the Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer is also due for renewal.



On 25 June 2014, Council appointed Fire Control Officers and resolved as follows:

- “2. Appoints the following as Bushfire Control Officers:
- a. Dennis Badcock and Fred Hoogland representing Bindoon VBFB;
  - b. Ian Hollick and Martin Lee representing Lower Chittering VBFB;
  - c. Paul Martin representing Muchea VBFB;
  - d. Phillip Humphrey representing Upper Chittering VBFB; and
  - e. Greg Cocking and Kim Haeusler representing Wannamal VBFB.
3. Appoints the following as Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officers:
- a. Ian Hollick, South Deputy Bush Fire Control Officer; and
  - b. Greg Cocking, North Deputy Bush Fire Control Officer.”

Therefore Table 2 shows the positions whose terms are not due for renewal:

Position	Brigade and Name	Term
Bushfire Control Officer	Bindoon VBFB – Dennis Badcock and Fred Hoogland	1 July 2014 – 30 June 2016
Bushfire Control Officer	Lower Chittering VBFB – Ian Hollick	1 July 2014 – 30 June 2016
Bushfire Control Officer	Muchea VBFB – Peter Hall	1 July 2014 – 30 June 2016
Bushfire Control Officer	Upper Chittering VBFB – Phil Humphrey	1 July 2014 – 30 June 2016
Bushfire Control Officers	Wannamal VBFB – Greg Cocking and Kim Haeusler	1 July 2014 – 30 June 2016

**Consultation**

Community Emergency Services Manager  
Chief Bush Fire Control Officer

**Statutory Environment**

*Bush Fire Brigades Local Law 2012*  
*Bush Fires Act 1954*

**Policy Implications**

Not applicable

**Financial Implications**

Not applicable

**Strategic Implications**

Not applicable

**Site Inspection**

Not applicable

**Triple Bottom Line Assessment**

*Economic implications*

There are no known significant economic implications associated with this proposal.



Social implications

There are no known significant social implications associated with this proposal.

Environmental implications

There are no known significant environmental implications associated with this proposal.

**Comment**

The Committee is to consider the nominations presented from each brigade's Annual General Meeting for the position of Fire Control Officer. The position of Chief Bush Fire Control Officer will be filled by the Shire's Community Emergency Services Manager.

All Fire Control Officer positions from each brigade will become vacant annually in May. It will be the responsibility of each brigade to provide their nominations (this can be in the form of the brigades Annual General Meeting minutes) to the Chittering Bush Fire Advisory Committee after their Annual General Meeting.

**6.1 COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved Peter Hall / seconded Steven Browne**

**That the Chittering Bushfire Advisory Committee recommends to Council to appoint:**

- 1. the following as Bushfire Control Officers:**
  - a. Steve Browne and Max Brown representing Lower Chittering VBFB;**
  - b. Peter Hall & Arthur Blewitt representing Muchea VBFB; and**
  - c. Gordon Carter representing Upper Chittering VBFB.**
  
- 2. Phillip Humphrey, Upper Chittering Volunteer Bushfire Brigade member, as Central Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer.**

**CARRIED 8/0**

**7. MEMBERSHIP**

The Chittering Bush Fire Advisory Committee Membership is required to be updated. Brigades have provided the CESM with their nominations for consideration by Council.

There are no changes to Council's representation on the committee. However, given that Cr Doreen Mackie advised the Committee that this meeting was her final meeting as Council's representative, the BFAC has also requested that Council reconsider Council's representation on the Committee.

**7.1 COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

Moved Jamie O'Neill / Seconded Peter Hall

That the Chittering Bush Fire Advisory Committee (CBFAC) recommends to Council that the CBFAC membership be updated as follows, effective from 1 July 2015:

Members	Deputies
Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer Southern Region - Ian Hollick	Nil
Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer Northern Region - Gregory Cocking	Nil
Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer Central Region - Phillip Humphrey	Nil
Muchea Brigade: Peter Hall	Arthur Blewitt
Lower Chittering Brigade: Steve Browne	Max Brown
Upper Chittering Brigade: Gordon Carter	Nil
Bindoon Brigade: Fred Hoogland	Dennis Badcock
Wannamal Brigade: Kim Haeusler	Nil
Incident Support Brigade: Janice Billen	Nil

**CARRIED 8/0**





## 8. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHIEF BUSHFIRE CONTROL OFFICER/CESM WITHOUT DISCUSSION

Jamie O'Neill spoke on the following:

<b>Report</b>	Chittering Bush Fire Advisory Committee - CESM Report
<b>Date</b>	09/06/2015

### Finance

*(Budget issues – unbudgeted items/overtime)*

- Local Government Grant Scheme (ESL) operating budget for 2015/16 will be \$191,000.
- Current Budget will over spend due to extremely busy season and impact to Brigades vehicles with multiple break downs and major repairs.

Fire Prevention - ESL	YTD Actual \$
<b>Operating Expenditure</b>	
ESL - Plant & Equipment < \$1,200	764
ESL - Maintenance Of Plant & Equipment	0
ESL - Maintenance Of Vehicles/Trailers	72,257
ESL - Maintenance Of Land & Buildings	29,459
ESL - Clothing (PPE)	18,406
ESL - Utilities, Rates & Taxes	22,443
ESL - Other Goods & Services	35,305
ESL - Insurance	29,219
ESL - Administration Allocations	9,770
<b>TOTAL ESL</b>	<b>217,622</b>

### Governance

*(MOUs / Policy Review / Business Planning)*

- LEMA's and LRP have been updated.
- LEMC meeting held at Muchea sale yards May 28, area may be used for animal evacuation.
- Bindoon training area response MOU currently under review.

### Investigations/Reviews

*(PIA / Recommendations)*

DFES Investigation into Bindoon light tanker burn over ongoing, both the Shire and the volunteers involved have not had any information from DFES with regards to any outcomes or timeframes, Shire incident report completed.

### Safety Issues

DFES has adopted full face respirators into the PPE matrix; Chittering Fire Service has been allocated 88 in the first year. Training will be provided prior to the issuing of the full face respirators.

### Incidents

Brigade	Incidents	Personnel
Muchea 6443	55	57
Lower Chittering 6387	58	40
Upper Chittering 6138	36	50
Bindoon 6055	51	31
Wannamal 6652	16	54
Chittering Incident Support 6975	12	21

### Mitigation

Meeting held with Landcare to work on a common approach to reserve management and risk mitigation.

### Community Engagement

Continuing use Shire of Chittering Bush Fire Ready Facebook page to post DFES community engagement themes, Incident information and post various community messages.

Jamie also welcomed the new Fire Control Officers and thanked those who are continuing in the role and also extended appreciation to the Fire Control Officers who have resigned for their support and efforts in their role as FCO.

## 9 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE DFES DISTRICT MANAGER NORTH EAST WITHOUT DISCUSSION

Craig Garrett spoke on the following:

- DFES Regional structure currently being reviewed with a number of possible changes, including Shire of Mundaring moving back into DFES North East Region.
- Community Engagement currently promoting “At Risk Communities” program- available free to service providers such as age care, family day care, people with disabilities.
- Comment period for Post Fire Review of Bullsbrook and Nowergup fires now closed- DFES Capability reviewing feedback provided.
- SEMC conducting Major Incident review of Lower Hotham and Northcliffe fires- Brigades to provide feedback via CESM.
- Launch of Single Sign -On to DFES portal for volunteers - see Professional Development Training Bulletin
- Peer Support Program launched- see Volunteer Portal.
- A Metro ICV exercise and meeting held at Cockburn on 2 May with a good turnout from LG Brigades, including ISB.
- Please promote Winter Burning program with residents, volunteers, BF Ready groups etc- see CESM for details.
- Please ensure that your Brigades are aware of Safety Circulars and updated SOP’s( Doctrine).
- 2015 WA Fire and Emergency Services Conference - The fifth annual WA Fire and Emergency Services Conference will be held from 18 to 20 September at the Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre.
- Meeting with ADF to discuss Bindoon Range fire, feedback and review Response plan.
- Bindoon Light Tanker burn-over investigation report with DFES Command Heads for ratification and sign off- the DO to provide to CEO once it is available.

## 10. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Nil

**11. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHITTERING FIRE SERVICES TRAINING COORDINATOR**

David Wilson, Training Coordinator, was absent from the meeting but provided the following report.

<b>Report</b>	CBFAC Training Coordinator Report David Wilson / Jamie O’Neil
<b>Date</b>	09/06/2015

**Course Delivery Summary (In Shire Only)\***

Course	Date	Participants
IFF/BFF	March 21 <sup>st</sup> / 22 <sup>nd</sup>	18
Crew Leader	May 2 <sup>nd</sup> / 3 <sup>rd</sup>	8
AIIMS	May 23 <sup>rd</sup> / 24 <sup>th</sup>	30
WAERN	May 23 <sup>rd</sup> / 24 <sup>th</sup>	33
<b>Total Attendances:</b>		<b>89</b>

\* **Note:** Out of Shire Training Attendances will be included in final reports for year

**Training Officers 2015**

- *Upper:* Will Lee
- *Lower:* Zak Tilbury
- *Muchea:* Shelly Pannell
- *Bindoon:* Scott Ormsby
- *Wannamal:* Graham Taylor

**Amendments to Course Calendar**

HUW Davies Day has moved from Sunday, 23<sup>rd</sup> August to Saturday, 29<sup>th</sup> August 2015 and will be held in either Lower Chittering / Muchea.

**Next 4 Courses**

1. 1<sup>st</sup> Aid – Lower Chittering June 20<sup>th</sup> / 21<sup>st</sup> – External Provider (Time Critical)
2. Sector Commander – Lower Chittering - July 25<sup>th</sup> / 26<sup>th</sup>
3. IFFBFF –Lower Chittering September 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>
4. ICU – Module Training 20 June 2015

**Mid-Year Training Officer Meeting / Calendar Update**

Training Officers / Captains Meeting: 6.30pm on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June at Upper Chittering Fire Station

**Database**

Database – Updated version of database can be found within the Training Materials Repository for those with access accounts.

**Training Materials Repository:**

Training Materials Repository is being updated after each course and is being utilised more by Training Officers.



### **Training Record**

Scott Ormsby (Bindoon Training Officer) working on training record book for new firefighters.

### **Trainer Uniforms**

Desire to provide regular trainers with uniforms in second half of 2015 subject to budget availability.

### **DFES Trainer / Assessors**

DFES are once again offering DFES Trainer / Assessor Courses. The Shire will be seeking to have a number of our trainers attend these programs in order to build our capability and distribute the load across more trainers during 2015 / 2016.

### **Trainer Appreciation**

Whilst it is not possible to thank everyone who has contributed in 2015, I would like to offer special thanks to the following individuals, without whose efforts we would not be unable to offer the level of training we continue to achieve:

- (i) Brigade Training Officers (past and present)
- (ii) Jamie O'Neill
- (iii) Andrew Dewhurst
- (iv) Shelly Pannell
- (v) Peter Hall
- (vi) Will Lee
- (vii) Alex Mackie
- (viii) Debra Wilson

## **12. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY DPaW**

Nil

**13. BRIGADE REPORTS**

**13.1 Bindoon Brigade**

The following report sent in prior to the meeting by the Bindoon Brigade but not included in the Agenda

<b>Brigade</b>	Bindoon
<b>Date</b>	09/06/2015

**New members**

No New Members

**Member resignation**

There have been four resignations since the last BFAC:

- (i) Bronwyn Copestake;
- (ii) Graeme Maitland-Smith;
- (iii) John Maitland Smith (Aux); and
- (iv) Rosalee Cocci (Aux).

**Brigade incidents**

Bindoon have attended 14 incidents since last BFAC.

**Brigade training**

- Two members completed IFF/BFF Training in March 2015.
- Three members completed Advanced firefighter/ Crew Leader Training in May2015.
- Five Members have completed AIIMS Awareness and WAERN Training in May02015

**Community engagement**

Involvement in Shire ofChittering “Wear Your Wellies Day” in Bindoon in May 2015.

**Critical information**

Election of officer bearers Bindoon VBFB AGM held on Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> May 2015:

President	John Williams
Captain	Neil Harvey
Lieutenant	Matt Whelan
Lieutenant	Scott Ormsby
Lieutenant	Conway Dean
Lieutenant	Ash Manning
Secretary	Celia Hoogland
Treasurer	Fred Hoogland
Equipment Officer	Peter Watterson
FCO/BFAC Representative	Fred Hoogland (carryover)
FCO	Dennis Badcock
Training Officer	Scott Ormsby



**13.2 Lower Chittering Brigade**

Steve Browne spoke on the following:

- Since January 2015 eleven new members have signed up and there has been one resignation;
- Forty eight incidents attended by Brigade to date;
- Busy training schedule, first aid training being held in two weeks; and
- Community Engagement: burn undertaken for Midland Brick and the Brigade has quoted on seven to eight hazard reduction burns (fundraising).

**13.3 Muceha Brigade**

Peter Hall spoke on the following:

<b>Brigade</b>	Muceha Brigade
<b>Date</b>	Up to June 2015

**New members**

Shane Robertson	Markus Christie	Terence Chisholm
Alec Prowse	Jake Gardiner	Michael Beltrametti
Rhys McGregor	Nicola Green	Ian Green
Lyn Edwards	Stewart Clarke	Stacey Johns
Shane Johns	Joanne Johns	Jeanette Cullen
Alan Cullen	David Redpath	

**Member resignations**

Dennis Harvey  
Tristan Harvey  
Daniel Clark

**Brigade incidents**

Muceha have attended 8 incidents since last BFAC:

- (i) Gallagher Road, Bullsbrook
- (ii) Teatree Road, Chittering
- (iii) Payne Street, Muceha
- (iv) Philmore Street, Muceha
- (v) Chittering Street, Muceha
- (vi) Great Northern Highway, Muceha
- (vii) Muceha South Road, Muceha
- (viii) Timaru Road, Muceha

**Brigade training**

February  
March  
April  
May



**Community engagement**

Youth event Muchea polocrosse grounds

Tin Rattle Muchea

Tin rattle Perth

**Critical information**

AGM held in May.

2015/16 officers elected

Fire fighter Dwayne Stone had an eye wash at Swan District's hospital due to foreign body in eye while attending incident at Bullsbrook.

**13.4 Upper Chittering Brigade**

Gordon Carter spoke on the following:

- Six new members and one resignation. Bob Wainwright has resigned as a FCO and member due to ill health and will be missed by the Fire Services;
- Three incidents attended to by Brigade, all private hazard reduction burns escaping;
- There has been excellent attendance levels at training,
- Two hazard reduction burns planned in two weeks;
- Another two larger burns planned and one training burn planned; and
- Raised the handles that have been removed when the fire protection blankets installed, this will be discussed in Outstanding Actions.

**13.5 Wannamal Brigade**

Nil



### 13.6 Incident Support Brigade

Janice Billen spoke on the following:

<b>Brigade</b>	Chittering Incident Support Brigade (ISB)
<b>Date</b>	01/06/2015

#### **New members**

Two new members have been inducted in the last month with four more possibly in the next few months

#### **Member resignation**

None

#### **Brigade incidents**

- Chittering ICV was called out for third alarm at Nowergup but was not activated.
- The ICV was activated and members of ISB to assist in the search for a missing person at Moondine.

#### **Brigade training**

- Training "on the job" has continued for the first few months of 2015
- IVC module training completion is scheduled for late June/early July. Repeat sessions are scheduled for late September and early October.
- From July 2015, a training session will follow the bimonthly ISB meetings.
- Janice also advised that there is IFF training this weekend.



**14. CHITTERING BUSHFIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACTION LIST AND COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

**14.1 Outstanding Actions and Recommendations**

Meeting Date	Brigade / Report title	Details of required action	Person responsible	Current status	Action completed
18/06/2013	DEFES Letter – option to transfer local bushfire brigades impact assessment	Request that Council take no further action on this matter until a response has been received from DFES addressing Council’s list of concerns	CESM	Motion presented at July Council Report – endorsed by Council.  No reply to date.	
03/03/2015	13.1 Stacking of large timbers for burning	Community Emergency Services Manager to discuss possible solutions with the Shire’s Executive Manager Development Services.	CESM	Discussed with planning, investigating options to make possible changes in policy or subdivision approvals.  9/6/2015 Planners are looking at options.	
03/03/2015	13.2 Annual Firebreak Notice Review	All members to provide feedback on Fire Break Notice to Community Emergency Services Manager by Thursday, 30 April 2015. The CESM will then circulate the final document prior to distribution.	CBFAC	Received feedback from 1 member. Discuss at meeting 9/6/15  CESM to organise workshop with Council, Deputies and DFES to discuss future action for properties under 2ha	
03/03/2015	13.3 Removal of handrails/handles	Community Emergency Services Manager to speak to installers re resolution following the removal of handrails making getting into larger trucks a safety issue.	CESM	Discussed with frontline fire, handles are not safety handles and needed to remove for curtain install.  9/6/2015 It is the ‘Grab’ handles that are the issue. Craig Garrett will raise with Vehicle Equipment Committee.	



Meeting Date	Brigade / Report title	Details of required action	Person responsible	Current status	Action completed
03/03/2015	13.3 Removal of handrails/handles	Craig Garrett will check other vehicles to see if there is a safety issue with sharp strip or a one off with the Wannamal vehicle	Craig Garrett	Craig advised that investigation has been undertaken and does not appear to be a problem, maybe a Wannamal issue only. Jamie to investigate.	Completed

**ACTION:**  
CESM to organise a workshop with Council, Deputy CBFCOs, Council staff and invite Craig Garrett, DFES, to discuss how the Shire will manage fire breaks etc for properties under 2ha with the introduction of the new AS359 Bushfire Prone Areas and future increase in development.

**ACTION:**  
Craig Garrett, DFES to raise safety issues identified with the removal of the 'grab handles' during the installation of the safety blanket, particularly from the large vehicles.

**ACTION:**  
CESM follow-up with Wannamal to rectify the sharp edging on the strip where the safety blanket has been installed.



## 15. GENERAL BUSINESS

### 15.1 Bushfire Ready Groups

Cr Mackie reminded members that this will be her last BFAC meeting as Council Representative and that she will not be standing for Council in October. Cr Mackie plans to become more involved in the Fire Services following the completion of her term, particularly in organising Bushfire Ready Groups and would like to attend the next meeting to discuss this with members.

The Presiding Member approved and then went on to extend thanks on behalf of the Committee and Chittering Fire Services for her strong support and efforts in her role as Councillor and Council BFAC representative.

### 15.2 Various (Peter Hall)

- Spraying schedule was discussed.
- Auxiliary pump failing on Muchea equipment, Jamie O'Neill will organise repair.

**ACTION:**

**CESM to organise repair of Muchea Plant failing auxiliary pump.**

- TRKs discussed.
- Fundraising opportunities for Brigades by assisting at the Taste of Chittering, 23 August 2015. Peter encouraged Brigades to participate.

### 15.3 Retiring Fire Control Officers

- Will Lee, Captain Upper Chittering Brigade, read letter of resignation from Bob Wainwright. BFAC requested that a note of appreciation for Bob's commitment to the Committee, Brigade and the Chittering Fire Services be recorded;
- A letter of appreciation to be sent to all retiring Fire Control Officers.

**ACTION:**

**The CESM to organise letters of appreciation to be sent to all the retiring FCOs.**

### 15.4 Electronic Bushfire Notice Boards

The Committee discussed the new solar bushfire notice board that the Shire is purchasing this financial year. These notice boards are updated remotely, removing the need for the sign to be changed as per the weather conditions, ensuring the community are kept informed at all times. There is also a section on the notice board that can be used to provide information to the community on many issues, such as community events, change in fire permit dates and firebreak requirements, road maintenance etc.

Council considered the purchase of two additional notice boards in the 2015/2016 budget process but decided not to finance the purchase.

The Committee believes that the notice boards are now an essential requirement and request that Council consider the purchase of at least one additional sign per financial year until the current five LED fire notice boards are replaced.

**15.4 COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved Ian Hollick / seconded Peter Hall**

**That the Bush Fire Advisory Committee requests Council budget to replace all existing LED fire danger indicator boards with electronic (solar) bush fire danger / community notice boards with a minimum of one sign per annum.**

**CARRIED 8/0**

**15.5 Council Representative on BFAC**

Concerns pertaining to the behaviour of an elected member of the Shire Council, including actively engaging in criticising decisions relating to operational matters of the Chittering Fire Services, through direct contact with one of the Shire Training Officers in a public forum and the use of social media were discussed.

Members feel that such actions have contributed to undermining the morale of volunteer fire fighters impacted by these actions and has reflected poorly on the cohesiveness and professionalism of the Chittering Fire Services within the eyes of the broader Shire community.

The Committee is also very concerned that the unified, professional relationship between members of the Volunteer Bushfire Services, Shire Staff and Council that has been built over the last two years could be damaged by this type of conduct.

This matter was discussed at length and though the BFAC accept that they are unable to direct Council to determine Council's representation on BFAC members requested Cr Mackie convey the Committee's full point of view on this matter in a more private setting with Council.

**16. CLOSURE**

The Presiding Member extended his appreciation once again to Cr Doreen Mackie for her support and dedication to BFAC and the Chittering Fire Services and declared the meeting closed at 8:35pm.

The next meeting of the Chittering Bush Fire Advisory Committee is to be advised once the date has been determined.

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