



Meeting summary

Fernhill Estate community trustee board Meeting 1, 2024

Tuesday, 5 March 2024

Time: 6:00-7:30pm

Venue: Quest Penrith Conference Room, 83 Lord Sheffield Cct, Penrith

Attendees

CTB members: Shari Driver (Chair), Nicholas Leech, Poonam Naik, Peter Harvey, Robert Bennett

GSP staff: Paul Stuart, Head of Marketing and Events; David Kirkland, Senior Manager Environment; Jenny Gleeson, Community Engagement Manager

Presenters: Lucy Greig, WSP

Secretariat: Sophie Drysdale

Apologies: Cindy Laws, Mayor Todd Carney (observer for Penrith City Council)

Topic	Summary
Welcome and opening Shari Driver, Chair, Fernhill Estate CTB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The meeting was opened by the Chair. An Acknowledgment of Country was given. No conflicts of interest were declared.
Biodiversity Strategy David Kirkland, GSP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GSP provided an overview of the progress against the draft Biodiversity Strategy for GSP's five parklands, noting the strategy will combine existing plans into a cohesive strategy with the goals to protect and enhance, restore and expand, and understand and engage. GSP and the CTB discussed the following queries and comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> suggestion to replace the word 'world' in the draft vision with a more localised word. declare GSP's part in the vision, e.g. supporting global objectives while acting locally. confirm whether GSP's responsibilities under the Biobank Agreement at Fernhill Estate regarding fire management have been achieved. consider including management of feral cats in the strategy. consider the different level of maturity of Fernhill Estate compared to other parklands. consider the balance of human and natural systems at Fernhill Estate. ACTION: GSP to share the survey for CTB members to provide feedback about biodiversity in the parkland. ACTION: GSP to respond to query regarding Biobank Agreement responsibilities.
Workshop: event and activation ideas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prior to commencing the workshop, the CTB raised queries about the GSP branding and whether each GSP managed parkland will have consistent branding. GSP advised that over time it is envisaged that individual park websites will be decommissioned and branding in parklands will be consistent with the GSP brand.

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Facilitated by Lucy Greig, WSP, with GSP staff in attendance	<p>Information was also provided about the GSP wide strategy for community and education programs being developed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The workshop facilitator provided an overview of the workshop purpose and GSP shared insights into the activations and programs already underway at Fernhill Estate. • The CTB discussed diverse audiences for events and activations, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – school groups (initially local, then expanding beyond the local area). – local interest groups e.g. Birds Australia. – current park users e.g. those already undertaking self-guided walking tours. – scientists. • The CTB raised the following questions to frame the discussion regarding audiences: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – whether events/activations would be staggered to manage traffic. – whether events/activations could be held on Saturdays in addition to Sundays. – requirement for charging/costing for events/activations. • The CTB shared the following suggestions for small-scale events and activations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – hosted school group tours. – ‘Know Your Parkland’ tour to learn about the site’s history and future. – interactive wayfinding and signage, including related to Aboriginal culture. – hosting bush care activities with Aboriginal Elders. – hosting an event to showcase local producers and businesses. – installing a camera to livestream wildlife at the site, such as possums or birds. – virtual interactive map of Fernhill Estate. • The CTB shared the following comments and suggestions about next steps, timing and promotion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – spontaneity and surety of events/activations is important to allow people to decide to visit on the day. – suggestion to liaise with the NSW Department of Education regarding curriculum and opportunities to collaborate for school tours. – creating a community and following to increase visitation and interest. – start locally in Penrith and Mulgoa, then expand to the Richmond and Camden area, and then more broadly across Western Sydney. – suggestion to consider language and how the changes/opportunities are communicated, e.g. ‘activation’ has multiple meanings. Suggestion to consider using wording in Strategy Direction 2 of the Foundation Plan of Management - ‘Connecting people to parks’ to frame discussions and promotion. • ACTION: WSP to prepare detailed report of workshop and pre-work feedback.
CTB performance evaluation Jenny Gleeson, GSP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GSP outlined that an annual performance report must be prepared for each CTB. • GSP outlined the requirement to complete the performance report and requested the CTB provide feedback via the self-evaluation form. • ACTION: CTB members to complete the evaluation form by 26 March.
Next steps, thanks and close Shari Driver, Chair, Fernhill Estate CTB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Chair noted that the next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 4 June and will be held online. The CTB discussed their preference for most of the meetings to be held face to face, if possible. • Request for information about whether GSP has a Fernhill Estate marketing plan and whether it can be shared with the CTB. • ACTION: GSP to advise whether a marketing plan is available for Fernhill Estate and can be shared with the CTB.

