

# Towong Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee



## MEETING MINUTES

**MEETING HELD:** Thursday, June 13, 2024, commencing at 10:00 am

**LOCATION:** Upper Murray Recovery Hub, Corryong

**CHAIR:** Amanda Pagan,

**PRESENT:** Amanda Pagan (Council), Jenny McCoy (Council), Sharyn Nankervis (Comm Rep), Trevor Ebbels (CFA), Charlie Sexton (SES), Chris Parr (Vic Pol), Dave Jensen (DEECA), Warren Lukins (Comm Rep), Sean Farrar (Comm Rep).  
Online - Shane Danvers (DoH), Rebekah Kendall (DFFH), Lynne Jones (Red Cross), Mark Florence (Council).

Invited Guest – Cathy Ross, Chair, Corryong CRC

**APOLOGIES:** Christy Jackson (DH), Diana Nobbs (Comm Rep), Jeff Cave (Ag Vic)

## ITEM

1. Apologies & Introduction – Amanda Pagan opened the meeting with Acknowledgement to country and Introduced our Invited Guest, Cathy Ross, Chair of the Corryong Community Recovery Committee to discuss the perceived uncertainty the community faces with the MEMPC not specifically nominating a dedicated Emergency Relief Centre. Both agency Representatives and Community Representatives gave explanations as to why this is not possible and reinforced the statewide messaging of "Leave Early", ABC is the broadcasting radio and VIC Emergency is the central source of information.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting –

Minutes of the previous meeting were circulated before the meeting.

Motion: That Amendments to the previous meeting minutes reflect the attendance of Sharon Nankervis at the March 7 Meeting.

Moved: Sean Farrar

Seconded: Charlie Sexton

### 3. Business arising from Minutes (refer to actions register)

			MEMPC			
07/12/2023	92	CERA Online	FFMV and CFA to make edits CERA then circulate via email noting the Risk Rating is not changing	Adrian Gutsche-CFA	In Progress	Trevor Ebbels
07/12/2023	93	CERA Online	EAD as next risk to be prepared bt Jeff Cave at the March 2024 meeting	Jeff Cave - Ag Vic	Completed	
07/12/2023	94	MEMPC Representation - Community Rep EOI Decisions	To appoint Diana Nobbs and Warren Lukins as Community Reps to the MEMPC	Sven Erikson-Secretariat	Completed	
07/12/2023	95	MEMPC Representation - Community Rep EOI Decisions	svn to send letters of thanks and letters of appointment and onboarding arrangements	Sven Erikson-Secretariat	Completed	
07/12/2023	96	Emergency Plus App	MEMPC members to share it with their engagement channels	All MEMPC	Completed	
07/12/2023	97	General Business - ESTA and Road Names	Charlie will follow up with the SES team for guidance and advice on advocacy for ESTA name alias	Charlie Sexton-SES	In Progress	
07/12/2023	98	Life Saving Victoria - Inland water safety	Sven to advocate for LSV to Attend the next Hume MEMEG meeting to present as well	Sven Erikson-Secretariat	Completed	
07/12/2023	99	Life Saving Victoria - Inland water safety	invite LSV via Rob Decker to attend next MEMPC meeting to present	Rob Decker-AV	Completed	
07/03/2024	100	Mitta Mountain Rally	Trevor Ebbels to send MMR Event Safety Plan to Mount Beauty CFA	Trevor Ebbels-CFA	Completed	
07/03/2024	101	Mitta Mountain Rally	Sven Erikson to circulate Event safety Plan to the MEMPC members	Sven Erikson-Secretariat	Completed	
07/03/2024	102	Inland Water Safety - Life Saving Victoria	Sven Erikson to Circulate LSV Inland Water Safety Presentation	Sven Erikson-Secretariat	In Progress	
07/03/2024	103	Inland Water Safety - Life Saving Victoria	Add to the June Agenda to Discuss Drowning Risk and it relevance to CERA and then further potential actions the MEMP can take to support inland water safety	Sven Erikson-Secretariat	In Progress	
07/03/2024	104	CERA Online	Sven to circulate AgVic EAD presentation	Sven Erikson-Secretariat	In Progress	
07/03/2024	105	CERA Online	Charlie Sexton to Give Warren Lukins and Diana Nobbs access to CERA online	Charlie Sexton-SES	In Progress	
07/03/2024	106	CERA Online	Charlie Sexton and Jeff Cave to meet and do final updates to the CERA online information for Exotic Animal Disease (EAD)	Charlie Sexton-SES	In Progress	Jeff Cave resp
07/03/2024	107	CERA Online	Sven Erikson to send Jeff Cave the current planning draft that incorporate EAD (Animal Welfare Plan)	Sven Erikson-Secretariat	Completed	
07/03/2024	108	Municipal Fire Planning Committee	Sven Erikson and Trevor Ebbels to make cotact to discuss fire access tracks	Sven Erikson-Secretariat	In Progress	
07/03/2024	109	Flood Related Amendments Program	Amanda Pagan to circulate Flood Related Amendments Program to Charlie Sexton	Amanda Pagan- MRM/Chair	In Progress	
07/03/2024	110	Meeting Bookings	Sven Erikson to book Towong Hall for the June 6 Meeting	Sven Erikson-Secretariat	Completed	
07/03/2024	111	MEMPC Meeting invite	MEMPC to invite Corryong CRC Chair Cathy Ross to the June Meeting	Sven Erikson-Secretariat	Completed	

Action Item – 103 – Pushed back to include in Sept Agenda.

Action Item – 107 – With the absence of both Jeff & Sven this was pushed back to be included in the Sept Agenda.

Action Item – 108 – Trevor & Jenny discussed at the MFPC meeting. Ongoing work.

Action Item - 109 - Flood Amendments program sent to Charlie.

Action Item – 97 – Charlie has spoken to 000 Victoria about this and a formal application needs to be put in place.

### 4. Outwards Correspondence - **NIL**

### 5. Inwards Correspondence - **NIL**

### 6. **Towong Fire Management Planning Committee – Update – CFA – Trever Ebbels**

Busy February - Meeting on June 8 discussed new MFMP fine-tuning still to be done. Hope to have it ready to present at the Sept MEMPC.

### 7. **MEMPC Amendments – Amanda Pagan - TSC**

Red Cross email be updated to a generic email rather than a specific person.

TSC Proposes the removal of the Corryong Secondary College from the MEMPC as the secondary relief centre site due to operational constraints.

TSC Proposes the removal of the Corryong Recovery Hub from the MEMPC as a proposed relief centre site due to the closure of the Recovery Hub and uncertainty around the site's tenancy yet to be resolved.

Upper Murray Events Centre would become the Primary site and the Youth Club Hall the

secondary site. Parking constraints do not see the Memorial Hall being the ideal secondary site alternative.

**Action** – Sven Erikson - Make necessary adjustments to MEMP

Write to Corryong Secondary College to inform them of their removal from the MEMP.

Write to the Corryong CRC to inform them of the removal of both locations from the MEMP.

**Accepted:** Sharon Nankervis

**Seconded:** Trevor Ebbels

**8.** Relief Communication Pack – Amanda Pagan - TSC

Amanda presented Council's communication package that Council has prepared for its own use in the event of incidents.

Feedback on these is requested by next MEMPC meeting

**Action** – Sven - Work further with the Council's Communication Department on the MEMPC's Relief Communication Pack to be presented at the September meeting.

Request - prepare for Burn – 1800 register number to be included in Council's incident Communication package.

**9.** Critical Infrastructure Clearance – Amanda Pagan – TSC

Concerns from TSC that key Telstra towers are not being maintained adequately with the fire breaks.

Trevor Ebbels - Concerns have been raised at the MFMP as well. CFA reps are going back to their brigades to provide data on what needs to be done & report to MEMPC to forward to the REMPC. Photos to document works required for clearance area.

Council may be able to use funding from Telstra for Mount Elliott Clearance.

**Action** – Trevor – Report back CFA findings - Further discussion warranted – Agenda Item for Sept MEMPC

**10.** Community Emergency Management Plans – Jenny McCoy - TSC

Not mandated by Council, Services or Agencies. These are community documents supported by Council. Readily available in an ICC but not decision-making documents.

The table below is reflective of what communities have engaged in the process and the status.

Towong	Current	2022	Dec/Jan 24/25
Tindaltra	Current	2022	
Corryong	Current	2022	Dec/Jan 24/25
Walwa	Current	2022	
Cudgewa	Current	2022	Mar-25
Nariel Valley	Current	2023	Dec/Jan 24/25
Berringama/Lucyvale	Current	2022	OOD
Thowlga	Current	2022	Dec/Jan 24/25
Biggara	Current	2022	Dec/Jan 24/25
Talgarno	In development	2023	
Granya	In development	2023	
Bethanga	In development	2023	
Bellbridge	In development	2023	
Dartmouth	In development	2024	
Mitta Mitta	In development	2024	
Eskdale	In development	2024	
Tallangatta	In development	2024	
Tallangatta Valley	In development	2024	
Old Tallangatta	To commence	TBA	
Jarvis Creek	To commence	TBA	
Koetong	In development	TBA	
Georges Creek	To commence	TBA	

**Action** – Jenny - Send copy of the new Red Cross Maps to MEMPC members

**11.** Resilient Buildings – Amanda Pagan – TSC

Council have identified key buildings across the municipality that need several upgrades in terms of making them more resilient for the communities they are located in.

Resilient means, Do they have solar? Do they have Batteries? Do they have water tanks? Do they have any communications infrastructure?

The aim is to give the communities a meeting place to return to when it's safe to do so.

Letters have been sent to the Committees of Management (CoM) of the identified halls offering different resilience packages, which the CoM may or may not accept.

A pool of generators is being purchased by Council and strategically located throughout the Shire during High-risk periods. Included in the package offer to the CoM of the halls is an electrical upgrade to ensure generator compatibility.

This process will also give TSC a full overview of what all relevant community facilities ie. how much water they have, and how much power they have, which will aid in the delivery of Relief and Recovery arrangements.

**12.** Recovery Event – Amanda Pagan – TSC

Invite MEMPC agencies to attend Sunday 28 July – Upper Murray Events Centre.

**Action** – Jenny - Make sure the invites have been sent.

**13.** General Business

**Trevor Ebbels** - Adrian Gutsche is no longer with CFA's District 24 – Brett Myers is currently the acting AFCO.

There has been a marked increase in escaped burn-offs since FDPR ceased. Three charges have been laid.

Brigades prescribed burns were delayed due to dry conditions.

**Charlie Sexton** – The new emergency management training courses that were announced are now not happening. Budget constraints unfortunately have pushed these back.

La Nina watch coming into spring.

New Community Resilience Co-Ordinator started, Glenn Mercer replacing Tarryn Firman.

Corryong crew member training has started, David Yule is the Corryong Unit Controller.

Formal application for Great River Road alias naming is to go through Geographic Names Victoria –

Amanda Pagan - the whole process has been done.

Charlie – The name is not in Vic Map Data. Hence ESTA has said no.

**Action** – Sven - Chase up Infrastructure regarding Geographic Names Victoria.

Amanda Pagan – Last meeting, Introduce Mark Florence as interim chair.

Meeting Closed: 12.05 pm.

**Next Meeting:**

Thursday 5 Sept 2024, 10:00am, MS Teams. Chair TBA