



MINUTES

Bush Fire Advisory Committee

27 March 2024

**Minutes of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee Meeting held at the
Tambellup Community Pavilion on 27 March 2024**

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**Minutes of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee Meeting held at the
Tambellup Community Pavilion on 27 March 2024**

1. OPENING

The Chair, Cr White, declared the meeting open at 6.01pm.

2. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Attendance:

Cr Michael White	Shire President (Chair)
Kim Oliver	Chief Bush Fire Control Officer (CBFCO) BT1
Michael Altus	Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer (DCBFCO) BT2
Rhys Brown	Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer (DCBFCO) BT3
Andrew Webster	Fire Control Officer (FCO) - Broomehill Central
Laurie Hull	FCO - Tambellup Volunteer Fire & Emergency Service (VFES)
Chris Rumble	FCO - Tambellup East
Josh Holmes	FCO - Broomehill East
Brant Dennis	FCO - Broomehill West
Martin Deely	Tambellup West

Observers:

Jonathan Webster	Broomehill Central
Craig Beacham	Captain, Tambellup VFES
Mandy Plant	Tambellup VFES
Karen Callaghan	CEO
Cindy Pearce	Community Emergency Services Manager (CESM)
Pam Hull	Shire of Broomehill-Tambellup (Minutes)

Apologies:

Jedd Herbert	FCO, Tambellup West
Derek Jones	District Officer, Department of Fire & Emergency Services (DFES)

3. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

3.1 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 26 SEPTEMBER 2023

Officer Recommendation/Committee Decision:

Moved Laurie Hull, seconded Rhys Brown that the Minutes of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee Meeting of 26 September 2023 be accepted as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Nil.

5. REPORTS

5.1 CHIEF BUSH FIRE CONTROL OFFICER REPORT

Chief Bush Fire Control Officers Report

October 2023 – March 2024

Broomehill-Tambellup

27.03.2024

The season started off with 3 lightning strikes in November which were all contained quickly. December was the busy month with 6 machinery / harvester fires within our shire and four where brigades assisted neighboring shires. The worst of these being the Rumble fire where an estimated 120ha total were burnt, 10ha of pine trees, 110ha of standing crop / stubble, 2 sheds and a very close call with the house, that thankfully didn't burn. The decision was made to deploy the water bombers, even though we had the fire contained by the time they arrived. They were a great asset in assisting us with the pine plantation. A big thank you to all involved it was a great result on a very ordinary day. January was very quiet with only two lightning strikes while February and March have been the months for pole top fires.

Ian Tonkin and Stuart Witham have now been allowed to burn as per normal as they did not have any escaped burns in the last season.

We are in the early stages of the new restricted burning period using FBI of 35 and under as the cut off, I feel this is far better and less restrictive.

I would like to thank Cindy, Michael and Rhys for your support and ears if I needed to discuss any pressing topics. To the captain's, thank you for your time and efforts. It has been a pleasure getting to know you all better and working alongside you. To everyone at the shire thank you for your assistance, be it in the office or on the grader you all make the job easier. Finally, I would like to wish Michael Altus and the captains an uneventful 2024 season.

CBFCO

Kim Oliver

5.2 BRIGADE REPORTS

Broomehill Central (Andrew Webster, FCO)

- Relatively quiet season with a low number of incidents.
- Nothing major around the Broomehill townsite.
- The AGM has been held, Jonathan Webster will be stepping up as FCO.

Broomehill East (Josh Holmes, FCO)

- A quiet season, with one fire at Simpsons which burnt around 20ha of crop and bush. A pole top fire at Woodyarrup did not require a big response. Attendance at the Rumble fire was well attended.
- Training has been encouraged to ensure all members are up to date.
- All members have been reminded of the requirement to wear PPE on the fireground.
- DFES funding was received to purchase a new fast fill trailer.
- The AGM has been held, Nick Bowman will be stepping up as FCO and Josh has been nominated for the BT3 role.

Broomehill West (Brant Dennis, FCO)

- A relatively quiet season, with two fires logged (header comb strike requiring no assistance and lightning strike which was well attended and controlled within four hours).
- A pole top fire was reported on 13 March, three units attended with no significant burning.
- Two permits have been issued today but expecting more.
- The new restricted burning arrangements have been well received.
- The AGM has been held and was well attended. Rohan Thorn will be stepping up as FCO.
- Thanks to Kim, Rhys, Michael and Cindy for their help, and also to Cindy for securing the funding for the new fast fill trailer.

Tambellup West (Martin Deely for Jedd Herbert, FCO)

- Ten fires occurred over the season, all were well attended.
- The new fast fill trailer has been well received, the brigade is planning some modifications to it.

Tambellup East (Chris Rumble, FCO)

- A quiet season til the end of harvest when a fire occurred at the Rumble farm. A couple of sheds were lost but there was a good response, and it was well controlled. Chris expressed his thanks to all who attended.
- The brigade attended the fire at Simpsons.
- Thanks to Kim, Michael and Rhys for their efforts over the season.

Tambellup VFES (Laurie Hull, FCO)

- A quiet season with no fires in the Tambellup town. The VFES provided support to a number of farm fires.
- The AGM has been held and Mandy Plant will be stepping up as FCO.
- Thanks to all for the ongoing support.

- Kim Oliver expressed thanks on behalf of all present for Laurie’s long tenure in the role.

5.3 COMMUNITY EMERGENCY SERVICES MANAGER REPORT

CESM Report to Broomehill Tambellup BFAC

Cindy Pearce

Thanks to Kim for the great work over the past couple of years and thankyou to all those FCOs that are stepping down and welcome to those that are filling the role.

Membership Update

I have handed out brigade membership lists at the beginning of the meeting, if they could be handed in after the meeting with members removed that have left the area. Over the winter period I will drill down to who on the list has not completed basic training and forward that information to the FCOs.

Training

Have had good attendance from volunteers from Broomehill Tambellup on the Rural Fire Awareness Course held on the 27 Feb. There will be several courses run over the winter period heading into next summer. Once the training calendar for the region is available it will be circulated for those that may wish to attend other courses.

Local Government Grant Scheme

The operational budget currently has approx 6k to spend before the end of the financial year. Is there anything specific required by the brigades.

LGGS Application has been completed for Broomehill East, asking for a Fast Fill Trailer from Darkan \$10202.50 – fully licenced etc. We won’t know until later in the year if we have been successful or not.

Mitigation

UCL works has been complete by the Shire, this is land that is managed by DFES. The Shire has a Bushfire Risk Management Plan, that was completed through the OBRM. The plan enables the Shire to access funding for works on Shire land within the townsites, this work can be completed by Contractors or the Shire. Watch this space.

END

5.4 DEPARTMENT OF FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES REPORT

Derek Jones (via Cindy Pearce) apologised for not being able to attend the meeting. Thanks to everyone for their great work this year and welcome to incoming FCOs.

5.5 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT

Karen Callaghan introduced herself to the meeting and looks forward to working with everyone.

5.6 RANGER REPORT

Pam Hull advised that the Shire’s contract for Ranger Services with the Shire of Kojonup had ended, however the Shire has been able to retain the services of Stephanie Swain,

who has filled the Kojonup Ranger position, on a part time basis. This is a good outcome as Stephanie has the experience and knowledge of the community that can often be difficult to translate to a new ranger. Stephanie commences in the new role on 17 April 2024.

6. MATTERS FOR DECISION

6.1 ENDORSEMENT OF CHIEF BUSH FIRE CONTROL OFFICER AND DEPUTY CHIEF BUSH FIRE CONTROL OFFICERS FOR 2024/2025 AND 2025/2026 BUSH FIRE SEASONS

The Committee is required to consider and endorse the nomination of the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer (CBFCO) and Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officers (DCBFCOs) for the 2024/2025 and 2025/2026 bushfire seasons. These appointments are made in accordance with s.38 of the *Bush Fires Act 1954*.

These appointments have previously been achieved through a rotation of officers through Brigade structures.

Two DCBFCOs are nominated to assist with succession in the roles, and also to provide cover for officers who may be on leave.

Council Policy 1.3.2 ‘Bushfire Control Officers and Volunteers’ sets out the requirements for a person to be appointed as FCO. This also applies to the appointment of Chief and Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officers.

The nominations require the endorsement of the Council.

Nominations:

Chief Bush Fire Control Officer: Michael Altus was nominated by Laurie Hull – nomination accepted.

Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer: Rhys Brown was nominated by Laurie Hull – nomination accepted.

Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer: Josh Holmes nominated by Kim Oliver – nomination accepted.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Moved Andrew Webster, seconded Chris Rumble that it be recommended to the Council that the following nominations for Chief Bush Fire Control Officer and Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer be endorsed for the 2024/2025 and 2025/2026 fire seasons:

Chief Bush Fire Control Officer:	Michael Altus
Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer:	Rhys Brown
Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer:	Josh Holmes

CARRIED

6.2 ENDORSEMENT OF FIRE CONTROL OFFICERS AND FIRE WEATHER OFFICERS FOR THE 2024/2025 BUSH FIRE SEASON

The Committee is required to endorse the nomination of the Brigade Fire Control Officers (FCOs) and Fire Weather Officers (FWOs) for the 2024/2025 bushfire season.

FCOs are appointed on an annual basis, in accordance with s.38 of the *Bush Fires Act 1954*. Nominations for these positions are received from brigade meetings and require the endorsement of the Council prior to gazettal.

The Department of Fire and Emergency Services has required that the Community Emergency Services Manager be appointed as an FCO to assist brigades with on ground operations, administration, and compliance.

The Shire's Ranger is also appointed as an FCO to assist with compliance with the Shire's Fire Break Order.

Council Policy 1.3.2 'Bushfire Control Officers and Volunteers' sets out the requirements for a person to be appointed as FCO.

FWOs are also appointed annually in accordance with s.38 of the *Bush Fires Act 1954*. FWOs are able to authorise the use of a permit at a Fire Danger Rating of 'High' and above (i.e. a Fire Burning Index of 24 or more) during the restricted burning period. The Committee has previously determined through its Standard Operating Procedures that these decisions will be made in consultation with the CBFCO or DCBFCOs. FWOs can only authorise permits under these conditions for a designated area (i.e. brigade area).

In 2022, the BFAC determined that the CBFCO, DCBFCO and all brigade FCOs should be nominated as FWOs.

The Council's endorsement of all nominations is required.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Moved Kim Oliver, seconded Brant Dennis that it be recommended to the Council that the following nominations be endorsed for the 2024/2025 fire season:

Fire Control Officers:

Broomehill East Brigade	Nick Bowman
Broomehill West Brigade	Rohan Thorn
Broomehill Central Brigade	Jonathan Webster
Tambellup East Brigade	Chris Rumble
Tambellup West Brigade	Jedd Herbert
Tambellup Volunteer Fire & Emergency Service	Mandy Plant
Community Emergency Services Manager	Cindy Pearce
Ranger	Stephanie Swain

Fire Weather Officers:

Chief Bush Fire Control Officer	Michael Altus
Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer	Rhys Brown
Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer	Josh Holmes

Broomehill East Brigade
Broomehill West Brigade
Broomehill Central Brigade
Tambellup East Brigade
Tambellup West Brigade
Tambellup Volunteer Fire & Emergency Service

Nick Bowman
Rohan Thorn
Jonathan Webster
Chris Rumble
Jedd Herbert
Mandy Plant

CARRIED

7. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION/INFORMATION

7.1 FIRE BREAK ORDER REVIEW

The Fire Break Order is issued on an annual basis to all residents and ratepayers in the Shire and requires review to ensure compliance and for the brigades to have input into seasonal arrangements.

In relation to the 2024/2025 Fire Break Order, the following matters have been raised for consideration:

1. The current date to conclude protective burning is 20 December. This presents the potential for burns to reignite during the Christmas and New Year period where resources to respond may be limited. Consider amending the Fire Break Order to change the final day for protective burning to 30 November.

The matter was discussed, and the following recommendation was put:

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

Moved Kim Oliver, seconded Michael Altus that it be recommended to the Council that: The Fire Break Order be amended to note the final day for protective burning is 30 November inclusive, annually.

2. The Shire's Bush Fire Brigades Local Law 2020 states the minimum age for active brigade membership is 16 years. As such, children under this age should not be present on a fireground. This information should be included in the Fire Break Order and also circulated widely through the brigades.

The matter was discussed, and it was determined that this information should be included in the Fire Break Order.

Action: Amend the Fire Break Order as follows:

- **Page 18 'What you need to know' – under Fire Attendance include the following statement: 'Children under 16 years of age are not permitted to attend fire incidents.'**

3. Other.

Brant Dennis queried whether the change to the end of the Prohibited Burning Period (to 14 March, previously 14 February) was permanent. Considers that it has been effective this year, but in a wet year, the shortened Restricted Burning Period that results (to 15 April) may impact the ability for burns to be completed. Brant suggested the Prohibited Burning Period end date be changed to 1 March annually, which will then provide the option to extend if required.

The matter was discussed, and the following recommendation was put:

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Moved Brant Dennis, seconded Kim Oliver that it be recommended to the Council that: The Fire Break Order be amended to note the Prohibited Burning Period dates to be 1 November to 1 March inclusive, annually

CARRIED

Attachment 7.1.1 Fire Break Order 2023/2024



Shire of
**Broomehill
Tambellup**
looking forward

2023 - 2024 Fire Break Order



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Fire Break Order

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Other:

- Fire Contact Details
- What you need to know...
- Map – Bush Fire Brigade Boundaries & Harvest Ban Zone Boundaries
- Application for Registration as an Authorised Loading and Off Loading Site for grain during fire danger days

10.4.1 BFAC Minutes 27 March 2024

Shire of Broomehill-Tambellup

FIRE BREAK ORDER 2023 - 2024

BUSH FIRE NOTICE AND INFORMATION

Notice to all Owners and/or Occupiers of land within the Shire of Broomehill-Tambellup.

In accordance with section 33 of the *Bush Fires Act 1954*, you are required to carry out fire prevention work on land owned or occupied by you in accordance with the provisions of this order. This order is made to advise individual land owners that it is their responsibility for fire prevention.

PERSONS WHO FAIL TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE ORDER MAY BE ISSUED WITH AN INFRINGEMENT NOTICE (PENALTY \$250.00) OR PROSECUTED WITH AN INCREASED PENALTY (MAXIMUM PENALTY \$5,000). ADDITIONALLY THE SHIRE OF BROOMEHILL-TAMBELLUP MAY CARRY OUT THE REQUIRED WORK AT COST TO THE OWNER/OCCUPIER

An inspection of fire breaks and hazard removal will be carried out each year.

BUSH FIRES ACT 1954

Shire of Broomehill-Tambellup 2023 - 2024

- 1.0 LAND ZONED RESIDENTIAL, TOWN CENTRE & INDUSTRIAL (Townsite land)**
During the period from **31 October 2023 to 15 April 2024** inclusive you shall have fire breaks in the following positions:
- 1.1 Land less than 4,000 square metres**
On land which is 4,000 square metres (approx. one acre) or less in area, all flammable material shall be removed from the whole of the land, except live standing trees.
- 1.2 Land which exceeds 4,000 square metres**
On land which is 4,000 square metres (approx. one acre) or more in area, clear firebreaks not less than **two metres** completely surrounding and not more than **twenty metres** from the perimeter of all buildings, haystacks and fuel storage areas are to be situated on the land. The height of all grass on the land is to be less than 150mm in height.
- 2.0 LAND ZONED RURAL RESIDENTIAL/SPECIAL RURAL (Townsite and Suburban areas)**
During the period from **31 October 2023 to 15 April 2024** inclusive you shall have fire breaks in the following positions:
- 2.1** Clear firebreaks not less than **two metres** completely surrounding and not more than **twenty metres** from the perimeter of all buildings, haystacks and fuel storage areas situated on the land. Minimise fire hazardous material to the satisfaction of the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer by stocking, slashing or other means. The height of all grass on the land is to be less than 150mm in height.
- 3.0 LAND ZONED FARMING**
During the period from **31 October 2023 to 15 April 2024** inclusive, you shall:
- 3.1 Homesteads, Buildings, Fuel Installation & Hay Stacks**
Completely surrounding the perimeter of any homesteads, building (excluding isolated non-flammable buildings), fuel installation (including drums), hay stacks (but only haystacks within 100 metres of any building) or group of such structures or installations, you shall have firebreaks at least five metres wide (if provided by burning, cultivating or chemical spraying), or ten metres wide (if provided by being closely grazed or mowed). These breaks are to be to the satisfaction of the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer. Wherever the ten metre wide alternative is chosen, the outer three metres of the ten metre area must be totally free of any flammable material, and where mowing is the method used, all residue of the mowing process must be removed from the area.
- 3.2 Crops**
Firebreaks around crops are not compulsory however landowners are strongly encouraged to maintain voluntary firebreaks.

3.3 Boundary Firebreaks

Boundary firebreaks are not compulsory with land zoned Farming.

3.4 Fuel Loading

If the Shire's Chief Executive Officer, in conjunction with the local brigade's Fire Control Officer deem any land zoned Farming to be an additional fire hazard, in addition to clause 3.1 (Homesteads, Buildings, Fuel Installation & Hay Stacks) a notice may be issued in accordance with Section 33 of the Bush Fires Act 1954.

4.0 LAND GREATER THAN 40 HECTARES

During the period from **31 October 2023 to 15 April 2024** inclusive, the owner/occupier must have a mobile fire fighting unit (self-propelled, towed or slip-on) in good working order, with a minimum capacity of 400 litres.

5.0 WIND TURBINE FIREBREAKS

The fire break requirements for all wind turbines in the Shire of Broomehill-Tambellup is in accordance with the individual Bush Fire Management Plan, as approved at the time of development approval, unless expressly amended by the Council.

6.0 PLANTATION FIREBREAKS

All owners and/or occupiers of land within the Shire of Broomehill-Tambellup, currently planted, or proposed to be planted, as a Hardwood or Softwood plantation or tree farm.

Pursuant to the powers contained in Section 33 of the *Bush Fires Act 1954* you are hereby required on all Hardwood or Softwood Plantations/Tree Farms owned or occupied by you, to plough, cultivate, scarify, burn, chemically spray or otherwise clear of all inflammable material, Firebreaks of dimensions as set out in this section.

Firebreaks shall be installed on all Plantation/Tree Farms by **31 October 2023** and shall be maintained and kept clear as required by this notice until **15 April 2024**.

6.1 Plantation Boundary Firebreaks

- 6.1.1** Firebreaks shall be constructed fifteen (15) metres wide on the boundaries of all Plantations, Tree Farms or such other location as may be agreed to by the Council, in accordance with the requirements of definition - specification 6.2.2.
- 6.1.2** Firebreaks shall be constructed around Plantation Compartments of approximately thirty (30) hectares, in accordance with the requirements of definition—specification 6.2.3.

6.2 Plantation Definitions - Specifications

- 6.2.1 Plantations/Tree Farms** - A plantation tree farm is defined as an area exceeding three hectares within townsites or an area exceeding ten hectares within rural areas of trees planted for commercial purposes.
- 6.2.2 Boundary Firebreaks - Fifteen (15) metre requirement** - A boundary firebreak is defined as an area clear of all inflammable material both on ground and vertically, from the boundary inwards ten (10) metres and from this point to the first line of trees at fifteen (15) metres being a strip five (5) metres wide, maintained in a low fuel condition: short grass and clear vertically of all low overhanging branches at least four (4) metres from ground level.
- 6.2.3 Planting Compartments** - A planting compartment is defined as an individual area of approximately thirty (30) hectares surrounded by firebreaks cleared of all inflammable material six (6) metres wide, with a vertical clearance of all overhanging branches at least four (4) metres upwards from ground level to allow unrestricted access for firebreak maintenance and fire fighting equipment at all times.

6.3 **Fire Protection of Private Hardwood/Softwood Plantations**

Copies of the DFES publication 'Guidelines for Plantation Fire Protection 2011' may be obtained from the Council office. All hardwood and softwood plantations within the Council must comply with the Guidelines for Plantation Fire Protection 2011 unless approval to vary these conditions has been granted by the Council.

6.4 **Fire Equipment Standards**

Fire equipment shall meet the Fire Equipment Standards specified in the Guidelines for Plantation Fire Protection 2011. Fire appliances are to be equipped to DFES standards as per DFES publication 'Guidelines for Operating Private Equipment at Fires'. Copies may be obtained from the Council office. The following minimum fire appliance levels are required:

Plantation Area (ha)	Fast Attack Min 400L Capacity	2.4 Medium Duty Unit Min 2000L Capacity	3.4 Heavy Duty Unit 3000L Capacity
Up to 100	1		
101 to 1000		1	
1001 plus			1

7.0 **HARVESTING, SWATHING AND BALING OF STUBBLE**

It is hereby notified for public information that pursuant to the powers granted under regulation 38A of the Bush Fires Act 1954, a person shall not operate or suffer the operation of a grain harvesting machine or a machine used for swathing or baling of stubble, on any land within the Shire of Broomehill-Tambellup except in accordance with the following specified conditions:

7.1 **Harvesting**

As per the Bush Fires Act 1954, it is compulsory that an engine powered unit and not less than 400 litres of water be in attendance during grain harvesting operations. Trailed units must have the towing vehicle attached at all times. Fire fighting units must be situated in, or adjacent to, the paddock being harvested at all times

7.2 **Swathers and Balers**

Are subject to the same conditions as harvesting during operations from **31 October 2023**.

EXCEPTION: It is not compulsory to have a fire unit in attendance during the swathing of canola.

7.3 **Track/Rock Chaining**

All persons are required to obtain a permit from your Fire Control Officer to Track/Rock chain during the Restricted and Prohibited Burning Periods.

8.0 **VEHICLE AND MACHINERY MOVEMENT BANS**

The following definitions shall apply on the ban of vehicle and machinery movement and the operation of internal combustion engines under Regulations 38A and 38B of the *Bush Fires Regulations 1954*.

8.1 **Laneway/Roadway (non-gazetted)**

A laneway/roadway is defined as having a trafficable surface, free of all inflammable material, a minimum of six metres wide. Overhanging vegetation must be pruned back so as to not come into contact with parts of a vehicle.

8.2 **Registered On and Off Loading Area**

A registered On and Off Loading Area is defined as a site free of inflammable material, save live standing trees to a radius of twenty metres from the edge of the storage facility, and has written approval of the Council to be used as such. See application on last page of fire break order.

8.3 **Prescribed Fire Fighting Unit**

A mobile fire fighting unit is defined as having a minimum water carrying capacity of 400 litres, fitted with a minimum of six (6) metres of nineteen (19) millimetre diameter fire fighting hose and pump capable of delivering water through an adjustable nozzle in spray and jet configurations.

8.4 **Harvest Ban**

A ban on the operation of all grain harvesting machines within a Shire or part of a Shire and during a time, as specified in a notice or broadcast (Regulation 38A).

8.5 **A Ban on the Movement of all Vehicles and Machines and the Operation of Internal Combustion Engines**

A ban on the movement of all vehicles and machinery and the operation of internal combustion engines within a Shire or part of a Shire and during a time as specified in a notice or broadcast (Regulation 38A & 38B) with the exception of the movement of vehicles and machinery on gazetted roads, laneways and yards. The following activities are permitted, provided these comply with specified conditions:

Regulated Activities

- 8.5.1 Loading and offloading of grain, fertiliser and feed is only permitted on sites which are approved and registered by the Council on an annual basis and which are clear of all inflammable material save live standing trees to a radius of at least twenty metres from the outer edge of storage facility. A mobile fire fighting unit shall be in attendance at all times while the site is in use during the ban period. (Please note that an owner or occupier of a site may appeal to the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer (CBFCO) in cases where approval was not granted or granted subject to additional conditions).
- 8.5.2 Water carting for stock and domestic purpose provided it is accompanied by a prescribed fire fighting unit, or alternatively, the water carting vehicle is a prescribed fire fighting unit. (400L of water must be retained on the vehicle at all times).
- 8.5.3 All necessary travel to and from and within piggeries, sheep or cattle feed lots, provided this is undertaken in a prescribed fire fighting unit.
- 8.5.4 All necessary carting of livestock provided that such a vehicle is accompanied by a prescribed mobile fire fighting unit.
- 8.5.5 Activities which receive specific exemptions from the Council or the CBFCO.

All other activities or operations may only be undertaken during Total Vehicle and Machinery Movement Bans and Bans on the Operation of Internal Combustion Engines after approval has been granted by the Area Fire Control Officer. Approval has to be sought on an individual basis. Approval may be subject to specified conditions. It should be noted that the approval may not be granted. If approval is given, the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer may suspend the approval immediately subject to severe Bush Fire conditions as determined by the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer.

THE ISSUE OF A PERMIT TO LOAD AND OFFLOAD GRAIN, FERTILISER AND FEED FROM A REGISTERED SITE DOES NOT ABSOLVE THE OWNER / OCCUPIER OF THE SITE FROM LIABILITY FOR DAMAGES INCURRED AS A RESULT OF FIRE EMANATING FROM THE SITE OR CAUSED AS A RESULT OF ACTIVITIES ON THE SITE.

9.0 GENERAL INFORMATION

9.1 Alternative Preventative Measures

If it is considered impractical for any reason to meet the requirements under this Fire Break Order on any land, you may apply to the Council or its duly authorised Officers for permission to provide alternative measures, or to take alternative action, to abate fire areas on the land. This application must be made to the Council or a duly authorised officer by **15 October 2023**. If permission is not granted by the Council or its duly authorised officers, you shall comply with the requirements of this order.

9.2 No Further Warning

Following the method adopted by the Council to inspect the firebreaks in this order, it is not necessary for the Council to notify you or give you any prior warning that legal action may proceed for failing to comply with the requirements of this notice.

9.3 Hazard Reduction

Landowners are advised that inspections of properties may be carried out each year and Orders for any Hazard Reduction will be served requiring that the necessary work be undertaken.

Failure to comply with Hazard Reduction Orders will result in the work being undertaken by the Shire or its agents at the landowner's expense.

Hazard reduction may be effected by spraying, stocking, clearing, slashing, burning or firebreaks to the area's Fire Control Officer satisfaction.

10.0 DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this order:

2.4 Medium Duty relates to a 4x4 truck carrying 2000 litres of water

3.4 Heavy Duty relates to a 4x4 truck carrying 3000 litres of water

Bush: Includes trees, bushes, plants, stubble, scrub and undergrowth of all kinds whatsoever alive or dead and whether standing or not standing and also part of a tree, bush, plant or undergrowth and whether severed therefrom or not so severed.

Fast Attack relates to a 1 tonne 4x4 vehicle carrying minimum of 400 litres of water

Haystack: Means any collection of hay including round bales stacked or placed together.

BY ORDER OF THE COUNCIL

ANTHONY MIDDLETON

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

The following information is to be read in conjunction with the Bush Fire Notice

1. IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

1 October 2023:	Commencement of Restricted Burning Period.
1 November 2023:	Commencement of Prohibited Burning Period.
14 March 2024:	Close of Prohibited Burning Period.
15 April 2024:	Close of Restricted Burning Period.
29 March - 1 April 2024:	EASTER - BURNING PROHIBITED

2. RESTRICTED BURNING PERIOD 1 OCTOBER TO 31 OCTOBER 2023 AND 15 MARCH TO 15 APRIL 2024 (inclusive).

(Permits will not be issued for logs/ stumps/ timber heaps during period **1 October 2023 - 31 October 2023**)

The law requires a person shall not set fire to the bush during the Restricted Burning times unless they have:

- Obtained a permit in writing from a Bush Fire Control Officer.
- Notified all neighbours and a Bush Fire Control Officer.
- Notified an officer of the Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions if the fire will be within three (3) km of Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions land.

The following conditions must be complied with when burning is carried out:

- At least two able bodied persons must be in attendance, unless specified by a permit.
- The fire may not be lit on a day on which a "catastrophic", "extreme" or "high" danger forecast has been issued for the district.
- At least one prescribed fire unit must be in attendance.
- Any other conditions that are prescribed by the Fire Control Officer.

3. PROHIBITED BURNING PERIOD 1 NOVEMBER 2023 TO 14 MARCH 2024 (inclusive)

Only protective burning can be carried out during the prohibited burning time and under the following conditions:

- No burning permitted after 20 December.
- All burning must be carried out between the hours of 6.00pm and midnight of the same day.
- All conditions of Restricted Burning must be complied with.
- A permit to burn must be obtained.

4. CHRISTMAS DAY

Harvesting and the carting of grain are banned on Christmas day throughout the Shire of Broomehill-Tambellup.

5. BOXING DAY

A Harvest Only Ban is imposed on Boxing Day throughout the Broomehill-Tambellup Shire.

6. EASTER

Burning is prohibited during the Easter period from Good Friday to Easter Monday inclusive.

7. PROTECTIVE BURNING

Burning to protect a Dwelling, House, other building or a stack of produce (section 23).

Section 18 of the Act must be complied with by constructing two plough firebreaks at least 2.5 metres wide and not more than 100 metres from the property to be protected.

Any protective burning that is to be carried out within the Prohibited Burning Period, from 1 November to 20 December 2023 (refer 3.(a)), is to be carried out between the hours of 6.00pm and midnight (refer 3(b)).

Burning road reserve and burning to protect pasture or crop (section 23).

Section 18 of the Act must be complied with. In the case of burning carried out on the road reserve (only after written authorisation from the Shire CEO) the bush will be burnt between the constructed portion of the road and an established fire break on the adjoining land. In the case of burning being carried out on the private grassland, the bush shall be burnt between the firebreaks that are not more than 200 metres apart and each of which is not less than 2.5 metres in width.

8. BURNING TO COLLECT CLOVER BURR

(Section 24 & Reg. 18 to 22B).

Burning to collect clover burr must be with a special permit issued by the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer or CEO of the Council. A Brigade Fire Control Officer does not have the power to issue this type of permit.

9. NOXIOUS WEEDS AND DISEASED PLANTS

(SECTION 26 & 26A Reg. 26 to 36A).

You are requested to contact your Chief Bush Fire Control Officer, Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer or CEO of the Council. A Brigade Fire Control Officer does not have the power to issue this type of permit.

A FIRE EXTINGUISHER MUST BE CARRIED AT ALL TIMES.

10. OPERATION OF TRACTORS AND SELF PROPELLED HEADERS

(Section 27 Reg. 37A to 38A)

During the Restricted and Prohibited Burning Times, all tractors and self propelled headers must not be used unless the exhaust system, if not mounted vertically, is horizontal or on any plane above the horizontal, a minimum of two (2) metres above ground level. The system must be maintained in a sound and efficient condition and fitted with a spark arrester.

As per the Bush Fires Act, it is compulsory that an engine powered unit and not less than 400 litres of water be in attendance during grain harvesting operations. Trailed units must have the towing vehicle attached at all times. Fire fighting unit must be situated in, or adjacent to, the paddock being harvested at all times.

A FIRE EXTINGUISHER MUST BE CARRIED AT ALL TIMES.

11. FIRE UNIT ON SITE

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A Fire Unit of a minimum of 400 litres, or a reticulated water source connected to a hose must be in attendance when the following activities are being carried out:

- Track raking
- Stubble crunching
- Slashing of blocks

12. IF A PERMIT FIRE ESCAPES

In the event of a fire escaping beyond the boundaries of the land in respect of which a permit to burn has been granted, the holder of such a permit shall, if possible, immediately notify the nearest authorised officer and within 24 hours of the suppression of such fire, shall report in writing the full circumstances causing such escape to the authorised officer by whom the permit was granted.

13. SWATHERS AND BALERS

A mobile and operational fire fighting unit having a capacity of at least 400 litres must be in attendance during swathing and baling operations from 31 October 2023. Trailed units must have the towing vehicle attached at all times. Fire fighting unit must be situated in, or adjacent to, the paddock being harvested at all times

Exception: It is not compulsory to have a fire unit in attendance during the swathing of canola.

14. OXYACETYLENE, ARC WELDERS, ANGLE GRINDERS & OTHER POWER EQUIPMENT

Operation of Oxyacetylene, arc welders, angle grinders and other power equipment during Restricted Burning Periods require the work site to be adequately cleared of inflammable material prior to the use of the above mentioned equipment and an appropriate fire extinguisher in attendance.

15. HARVEST BAN ZONES

The Shire of Broomehill-Tambellup has been split into two zones for the purpose of imposing harvest bans and mopping up operations. The zones will be known as EASTERN ZONE and WESTERN ZONE. Any harvest ban imposed on a specific zone will also INCLUDE BOTH TOWNSITES by default. The boundary between the two zones will be the Great Southern Highway. Please refer to the map in this booklet for more information.

BY ORDER OF THE COUNCIL

ANTHONY MIDDLETON

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

PENALTIES

OFFENCES MAY RESULT IN COURT ACTION

GENERAL INFORMATION

Fire Control Officers are the only persons permitted to issue permits.

Harvesting and the carting of grain on Christmas Day is not permitted within the Shire. Harvesting is not permitted on Boxing Day.

THERE IS NO EXCEPTION OR PROVISION FOR UNLICENSED FIRE VEHICLES TO BE TAKEN OVER OR ONTO ROADS IN ANY SITUATION

It is the intention of the shire to enforce the Fire Break Order on all lots within the Shire.

SUMMER VACATIONS

Please notify Fire Control Officers if you will be out of the district and if any of your plant or equipment would be available in case of fire.

**NOTHING IN THE FOREGOING SHALL BE DEEMED TO RELIEVE ANY PERSON
FROM LIABILITY FOR ACTIONABLE DAMAGE**

SHIRE OF BROOMEHILL-TAMBELLUP

FIRE CONTACT DETAILS

FOR ALL EMERGENCIES PHONE 000

POLICE: TAMBELLUP 9854 9800 | KATANNING 9821 1888 **SHIRE:** 9825 3555

ON THE FIREGROUND - USE UHF RADIO CHANNEL 5

VHF RADIO CHANNEL: Repeater 322 Tambellup | 231 Broomehill

HARVEST BAN HOTLINE: (08) 9825 1042

	Mobile	Call Sign
Chief Fire Control Officer		
Kim Oliver	0427 258 157	BT1
Deputy Chief Fire Control Officer		
Michael Altus	0488 211 229	BT2
Deputy Chief Fire Control Officer		
Rhys Brown	0428 993 309	BT3
Fire Weather Officers	All FCO's are appointed as Fire Weather Officers	
Community Emergency Services Manager		
Cindy Pearce	0417 071 567	Central Great Southern CESM

BROOMEHILL EAST		Call Sign	Mobile
Captain/FCO	Josh Holmes	BH EAST 1	0427 253 523
1 Lt	Nicholas Bowman	BH EAST 2	0407 967 998
2nd Lt	James Dewar	BH EAST 3	0439 935 963
3rd Lt	Buddy Holzknrecht	BH EAST 4	0427 241 312
	Tom Kempin	BH EAST 5	0427 790 798
	Luke Simpson	BH EAST 6	0427 251 257
	Craig Dewar	BH EAST 7	0429 100 239
Secretary	Craig Dewar		0429 100 239

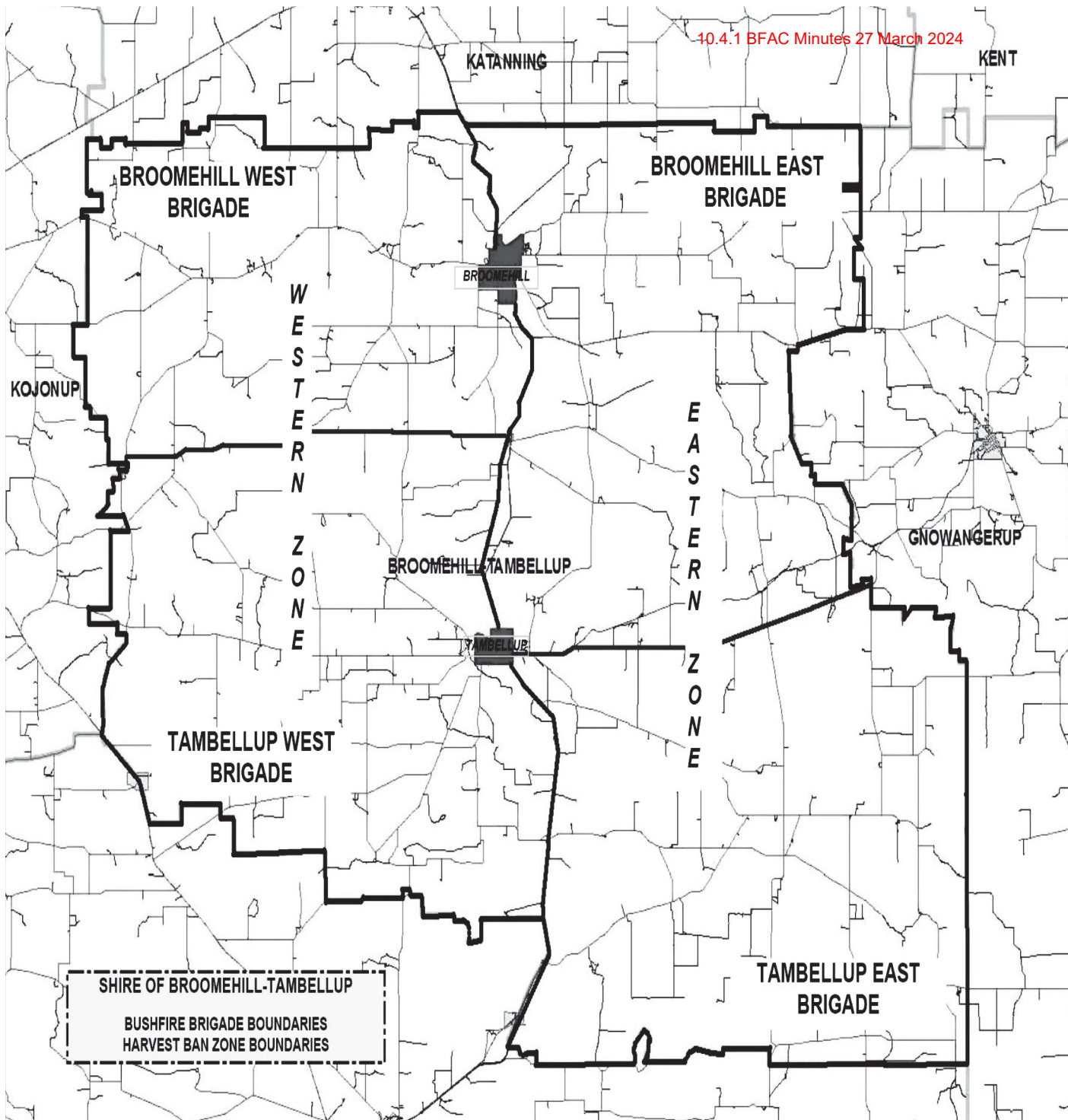
BROOMEHILL WEST		Call Sign	Mobile
Captain/FCO	Brant Dennis	BH WEST 1	0409 086 093
1 Lt	Ed Anderson	BH WEST 2	0428 221 591
2nd Lt	Rohan Thorn	BH WEST 3	0439 341 039
3rd Lt	Ben Hewson	BH WEST 4	0417 969 975
	Ben Adam	BH WEST 5	0415 433 865
Secretary	Andrew Woithe		0428 241 232

BROOMEHILL CENTRAL		Call Sign	Mobile
Captain/FCO	Andrew Webster	CENTRAL 1	0429 464 672
1 Lt	Brian Conning		0437 236 997
2nd Lt	Jonathan Webster		0429 441 246
3rd Lt	David Dilley		0429 518 415
Secretary	Lynn Dilley		0427 241 123

TAMBELLUP EAST		Call Sign	Mobile
Captain/FCO	Chris Rumble	TA EAST 1	0428 368 205
1 Lt	Carl Letter	TA EAST 2	0427 282 053
2nd Lt	Jared White	TA EAST 3	0448 336 468
3rd Lt	Neil Letter	TA EAST 4	0447 258 230
	Dennis Bowman	TA EAST 5	0428 912 861
	Leon Squibb	TA EAST 6	0427 528 112
	Al Clark	TA EAST 7	0488 258 204
	Mario Cristinelli	TA EAST 8	0427 258 118
Secretary	Josh Patterson		0458 258 141

TAMBELLUP WEST		Call Sign	Mobile
Captain/FCO	Jedd Herbert	TA WEST 1	0427 865 008
1 Lt	Martin Deely	TA WEST 2	0400 826 027
2nd Lt	Jarrold Thorn	TA WEST 3	0428 906 310
3rd Lt	Nick Lockyer	TA WEST 4	0429 104 129
	Nigel Sheridan	TA WEST 5	0427 253 097
	John Cristinelli	TA WEST 6	0428 916 833
	Derek Sadler	TA WEST 7	0439 521 127
	Andrew Bradshaw	TA WEST 8	0467 255 083
Secretary	Jedd Herbert		0427 865 008

TAMBELLUP VFES		Call Sign	Mobile
Captain	Craig Beacham		0428 251 380
FCO / 1 Lt	Laurie Hull	TA 1	0428 251 177
2nd Lt	Mindy Plant		0418 777 903
	Phillip Hams	TA 3	
Secretary	Pam Hull		08 9825 1176



What you need to know...

FIRE ATTENDANCE

All brigade members attending a fire must

- Turn to UHF channel 5
- Ensure you are wearing your personal protective equipment PPE (long pants and shirts, boots, gloves goggles/glasses)
- Notify the FCO or incident controller that you are present at the fire
- Follow COVID directions issued by the State Health Officer
- Work Health & Safety Standards must be followed while working under an authorised officer/person.

BUSH & GRASS ON ANY LAND

Burning of bush and grass is **totally prohibited** between **1 November - 14 March inclusive**, except for small heaps of garden refuse as described below. For all other fires, permits are required between **1 October - 31 October inclusive** and between **15 March - 15 April inclusive**.

BROADCAST OF HARVEST BANS

Shire's Harvest Ban Hotline - 9825 1042 recorded message noting bans in place in the Shire.

ABC Radio - will broadcast harvest bans every day at 10.05am, 11.05am, 12.35pm and 2.05pm.

SMS Messages of harvest and vehicle movement bans are sent to mobiles as soon as the information is received. Contact the Shire office if you would like to receive notification of harvest and movement bans by SMS.

Please do not rely on only one method of advice for Harvest Ban notification. A number of areas of the Shire have limited mobile reception. SMS messaging is not always an effective form of notification. The Shire's Harvest Ban Hotline is updated as soon as information is received and should be used as a reliable source of information.

Similarly, if you feel weather conditions are deteriorating but have not received advice of a ban through text message or radio broadcast, please contact your brigade Fire Control Officer or check the Harvest Ban Hotline.

FIRE DANGER

No burning of any type is permitted, including incinerator, on days of CATASTROPHIC, EXTREME or HIGH Fire Danger.

HOW TO OBTAIN PERMITS

Burning permits can be obtained from the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer, Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officers and Bush Fire Brigade Fire Control Officers. When applying for a permit you will be required to provide house and lot numbers and the street/road of the property for which the permit is to apply. All conditions noted on the permit must be complied with.

WHEN AND HOW TO BURN GARDEN REFUSE

~~From 1 November to 14 February inclusive, 27 March 2024~~
One cubic metre of garden refuse) may be burnt on the ground between **6.00pm and 11.00pm**, BUT ONLY AFTER a 5 metre wide firebreak has been cleared around the fire and at least one able bodied person is in attendance at all times. The fire must be completely extinguished by midnight on the same day. Garden refuse cannot be burnt if the fire danger rating is High or above.

Composting of garden refuse is a preferred option to burning and is a more environmentally friendly alternative.

HINTS FOR BURNING:

1. Advise the permit issuing officer when you intend to burn.
2. Do not light fires on a hot windy day. Check the fire danger forecast.
3. Do not try to burn more than you can control.
4. Inform your neighbours.
5. Make sure sparks and smoke will not affect neighbours washing, open windows or roadways.
6. Do not burn wet or green garden clippings, tyres, plastics and chemicals as they are likely to cause dense, acrid smoke.
7. Do not burn bottles or aerosol cans as they are likely to explode.
8. Cut or rake long grass around trees, buildings and fences before burning.
9. Burn against the wind.
10. On sloping blocks burn from the top down.
11. Have a hose or spray pack to dampen down fierce fires.

ADVICE IS AVAILABLE FROM YOUR LOCAL BRIGADE

All Brigades welcome people who are prepared to join and assist in fire prevention and fire fighting. Further information can be obtained by contacting your local Brigade Fire Control Officer, Bush Fire Brigade Secretary or the Shire of Broomehill-Tambellup, phone 9825 3555. Induction training is available for all new volunteers.

BARBECUES AND INCINERATORS

Gas and Electric barbecues are permitted at any time.

SOLID FUEL BARBECUES AND INCINERATORS ARE PROHIBITED ON DAYS OF CATASTROPHIC, EXTREME OR HIGH FIRE DANGER. ALWAYS CHECK WITH THE FIRE CONTROL OFFICER FIRST.

SHIRE OF BROOMEHILL-TAMBELLUP

10.4.1 BFAC Minutes 27 March 2024

Application for Registration as an Authorised Loading and Off Loading Site for Grain during Fire Danger Days

FIRE SEASON 2023 - 2024

Registration Fee of \$55.00 must be paid at time of lodging application.

Owner / Occupier Name:	
Residential Address:	
Postal Address:	
Location Number of Site:	
Nearest Road:	Locality:

Please attach diagram of location and site to this application.

Minimum specifications for a registered loading / off loading site are:

- An area free of inflammable material save live standing trees to a radius of at least 20 metres from the outer edge of storage facility;
- A constructed roadway or laneway between the site and the made gazetted road clear of all inflammable material to a width of six metres.

Loading and off loading on this site as well as travel to and from this site is permitted during vehicle movement bans provided that a mobile operational fire fighting unit (as specified in Council's regulations) is in attendance during loading and off loading operations and accompanies the vehicle on laneways between the registered site and a made gazetted road. (Please note that additional fire safety conditions may be specified).

The above site and laneways does / does not meet minimum conditions

(delete as appropriate).

Inspected by..... Rank.....

Date.....

Comments or Additional Conditions

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

This registration must be reviewed annually.

8. GENERAL BUSINESS

Burning of chaff piles and timber heaps: Kim Oliver suggested that permits could be issued for burning of chaff piles and timber heaps after Easter, with the following requirements to be met:

- 3m earth break to be constructed, with 30m blacked out break between the earth break and the chaff heap or timber pile.
- Permits to note a three day buffer before a day with Fire Danger Index of 35 or higher is required for burning.

Other requirements were discussed:

- Add '100m from bush' as an extra condition?
- Permit holder to consider water availability in the paddock.
- Is the permit holder required to stay at the burn until it is blacked out? *Yes, a requirement of the Bush Fires Act 1954.*
- Limit of the number of hectares able to be burnt in a day?

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Moved Kim Oliver, seconded Chris Rumble that during the Restricted Burning Period, the following conditions be noted on permits issued to burn chaff heaps and timber piles:

- 3m earth break to be constructed, with 30m blacked out break between the earth break and the chaff heap or timber pile.
- When burning chaff piles, a maximum of 300ha permitted to be burnt in a day
- A three day buffer before a day with a Fire Danger Rating of Extreme or Catastrophic is required.

Note – Fire Danger Index reading must be taken at the time the fire is lit. FCOs are to note this requirement on the permit.

Harvest and Vehicle Movement Bans (HVMB): Josh Holmes noted many HVMBs are implemented 'immediately' – if you are harvesting, what are the ramifications if it takes time to get out of the paddock?

Action: Cindy Pearce to query this with the Council's insurers – information to be brought back to the pre-season meeting.

Fast fill pump failure (Tambellup West): Martin Deely advised that one of the fast fill pumps had failed due to being used with salty dam water and not being flushed. Need to consider poly or stainless steel pumps.

Action: Brigade to source a couple of quotes for a new pump and forward to Cindy Pearce before the end of the financial year.

Fast Fill pumps: Michael White queried how many fast fill trailers were in the Shire?

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| • Tambellup West | 2 |
| • Broomehill West | 3 |
| • Tambellup East | 1 |
| • Broomehill East | 1 |
| • Total | 7 |

Personal Protective Clothing and Equipment: Michael White reiterated that all personnel working on a fire ground should be wearing correct PPE and stated that Captains/FCOs should lead by example.

9. NEXT MEETING AND CLOSE

The next meeting is scheduled for September 2024, with the date to be confirmed. There being no further business, the Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and declared the meeting closed at 7.10pm.