

**Meeting 1: 7 December 2016**

**Time: 2pm**

**Location: 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Conference Room, Goyder Building, Palmerston  
25 Chung Wah Tce, Palmerston**

**Present:** Lisa Peters (RCLG), Ian Kew (DIA), Darren Skuse (DIA), Tim Moore, Karen Gibb (CDU), Neal Adamson (DoD), Emma Lewis (DCC), Neva McCartney (Parks & Wildlife), Julia Schult (DLRM)

**Apologies:** Donna Jackson (Larrakia)

Welcome members.

This meeting was a meet and greet for members, discussion of the Terms of Reference, Plan of Management, responsibilities of committee members and to discuss activities that have occurred/occurring within the Catchment.

**Documents**

Distributed copies of Plan of Management and Terms of Reference.

**Action: Circulate previous versions of the Annual Report**

**Position of Chair** – The Committee met without a Chair. Members were invited to Chair, all declined. They were asked to provide potential suggestions for the position.

**Terms of Reference** – The Committee discussed the updated Terms of Reference. Members provided feedback and asked for the responsibilities to be more specific.

**Action: Teegan to follow up with the Department to make changes and update Terms of Reference.**

**Plan of Management**

Discussion around the Plan of Management and budget available for updating the Plan, goals of the Catchment and the creek, recommendations for data and what the basis and scope of the Plan is. Committee members discussed the Plan stating that it's out of date and requires a refresh.

**Action: Circulate copy of the NT Water Act**

**Action: Teegan to follow up with the Department on available budget**

Committee members would like to see a broader interest in the Plan, identify priorities, and replace the word Water for Catchment and share information and recommendations.

**Update within the Catchment**

**Neal Adamson (DoD)** – Small buildings have been established away from the flood zone, they are AAPA certified. Expansion of the Explosive Ordinance facilities is planned for 2017. Buildings will be located outside the flood zone and have been AAPA approved.

Expansion to the bombing and replenishing areas that the U.S are responsible for. There has been no impact to the creek. Planned expansions of the Bomber Replenishment Area (BRA) which is a parking apron is scheduled for 2017/18. Four additional parking bays are expected to have no impact on Rapid Creek.

There has been remediation in the AFF on the operational side of the base, Sandgroves rather than the Rapid Creek. AFFF Remediation works have occurred on the operational side on the base, outside the Rapid Creek Catchment. Defence Annual Reports do cover off on PFAS and all operational airfields around Australia.

**Julia Schult (DLRM)** – Water Quality in Rapid Creek and carrying out biological monitoring. Data is collated and reported against in the Darwin Harbour Report Cards. Rapid Creek reported as a ‘B’ result, same as previous years. Report Cards are due to be released in February 2017. Testing for mangrove sediments was carried out. Results did not exceed recommended guidelines.

**Emma Lewis (DCC)** – Ongoing regular clean ups within the Catchment and general up keep. Currently developing the Master Plan, improving recreational use and walking paths within the Catchment.

**Ian Kew and Darren Skuse (DIA)** – Ian is on the PFAS working group as the DIA representative, sampling was undertaken on the old firefighting chemical ‘Solberg’.

Flood mitigation – On going work around modelling and retention basins. Currently 3-4 major projects ongoing for the Dry Season.

Flood mitigation study conducted by Jacobs and the NTG and will be in place next Dry Season.

Development works – Completion of King Pin.

Completing solar stage 2 which is 2ha 1.5m watts. Stage 1 saw 6ha of solar panels. This has been the biggest project in airfield in the world.

DIA was challenged by Save Rapid Creek for sharing data. The issue was handed over to EPA NT two years ago. DIA have not seen anything released as of yet. CDU have interpreted the reports for DIA.

Airport Master Plan – The Plan is refreshed every five years and is currently being reviewed.

The noise modelling has been completed – due for release in February 2017.

Draft Master Plan – Works on the bike path extension on Henry Wrigley and Airport Drive. Works also to be completed on the walking tracks.

**Karen Gibb (CDU)** – Conservation on campus with schools and students.

Sediment piles near the edge of Rapid creek were brought to Karen’s attention – she contacted Facilities and was advised the piles were being removed. Relevant research in Rapid Creek includes metals, PFAS, aquatic food monitoring and an analysis of bacteria loads. A key research area that could be pursued if funded is microbial source tracking to measure bacterial signatures from various sources into Rapid creek and how they contribute to the microbial community in the creek. CDU reviewed and analysed DIA data, this report will be released by DIA in due course.

**Tim Moore** – Tim is a member of the Flood Mitigation Committee and is also a flood affected resident within the Catchment. Tim has had a lot of involvement in the detention basin, opposite Marrara Tavern. The site will be excavated, landscaped and bunding put in place. The Tender for works will be released in the first quarter of 2017. The park will be dry for 365 days of every eight years out of ten. It will have the ability to hold peak flood and reduce flood impacted residents by a third. Reduces around 30 households off the flood zone map.

Rezoning – Specific use zone MD for 300sqm. Flood map remapped and completed. The map will be released to insurers only after detention basin completed and re-mapping completed. Total cost of all remedial works \$12m. Some of the worst affected households left on the flood map after the detention basin, will have an increased insurance premium of up to \$20,000. These homes will be assisted with a \$4.5m flood proofing program and rezoning.

Maintenance plans – Department of Infrastructure removing some sediment traps.

**Neva McCartney (Parks)** – Working on the Capital Works Program for Rapid Creek and surrounds. There has been environmental concerns around septic tanks and rhes drains. Working with Darwin City Council on erosion control. Carrying out usual ongoing work within the Catchment.

**Lisa Peters (RCLG)** – The group hold regular walks and talks and clean ups throughout the Catchment. Completed submissions about inappropriate works within the Catchment.

**Ongoing Agenda Items**

It was decided to implement a standard agenda, similar to items discussed at this meeting.

Locations of meetings will be circulated around member's office locations, dependent upon availability of meeting rooms.

Meeting concluded: 3:30pm