



Beacon Point Reserve Master Plan



Prepared by

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for
City of Greater Geelong

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Acknowledgements

The project is being guided by a Project Reference Group made up of relevant City of Greater Geelong Council officers including:

Cr John Doull	Councillor, CoGG
Paul Jane	Manager Sport, Recreation and Open Space, CoGG
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Adrian Cobb	Maintenance Officer, CoGG

We would also like to thank the Wathaurung Aboriginal Corporation, Barwon Water and all the residents and people who provided feedback and suggestions and enthusiastically attended the community workshop giving valuable input and direction for the development of this Draft Master Plan for Beacon Point Reserve.

1.2 Site Context

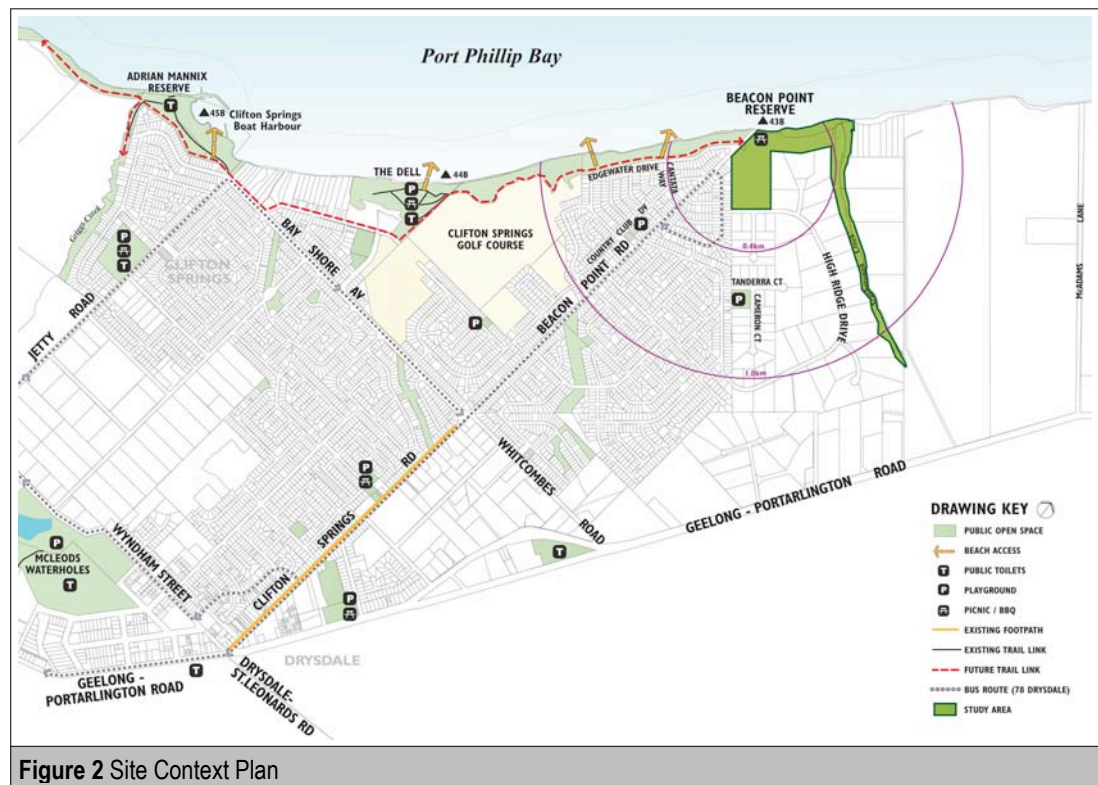


Figure 2 Site Context Plan

The township of Drysdale-Clifton Springs is located in the north of the Bellarine Peninsula, with an estimated population of 11,041 people in 2008 (Drysdale - Clifton Springs Structure Plan 2010). Although located along the coast, the township retains a strong connection to the rural hinterland through the historic character of the town centre.

Beacon Point Reserve is located at the end of Beacon Point Road, approximately 3.5km from Drysdale and is the largest area of flat grassed open space along the coastal reserve. There are limited provision of footpaths in Clifton Springs however there is an existing footpath along Beacon Point Road which currently terminates at Bay Shore Road. The reserve is also accessible by public transport via the 78 Drysdale Bus Route. The foreshore reserves are significant recreational, cultural and environmental assets for the Drysdale and Clifton Springs communities. The Dell is currently the most popular foreshore reserve, with high visitation levels and limited capacity to meet any increase in future demand. Beacon Point Reserve has a comparatively low level of existing use, catering for the passive recreation needs of the local community due to a lack of beach access and public toilets. The nearest public toilets to Beacon Point Reserve are located at The Dell (approximately 1.5km from Beacon Point) and in Drysdale. Existing playground facilities are located within 500m of the reserve.

Existing beach access points along the foreshore are located west of Beacon Point at Cantata Way, Edgewater Drive, The Dell and at the Clifton Springs Boat Harbour. An informal track down the steep cliff located at the mouth of Scarborough Creek is used by the locals to get access to the beach east of Beacon Point.

1.3 Summary of project scope and methodology

1.3.1 Project Scope

The project scope requires preparation of a master plan to guide future development of Beacon Point Reserve. The plan is to be developed in close consultation with key stakeholders and the local community and ensure the protection and enhancement of existing cultural heritage and environmental values while ensuring the long term development of the reserve to meet the aspirations of the growing local community.

1.3.2 Project methodology



1.4 Summary of Background Documents

The following is a brief summary of the key outcomes and recommendations from existing background documents that will inform development of the Master Plan. For more detailed descriptions please refer to the original report.

1.4.1 Clifton Springs Coastal Management Plan, City of Greater Geelong 2008

The Master Plan will be guided by community consultation completed as part of the Clifton Springs Foreshore Management Plan 2008. Community consultation completed for this plan indicated that the community strongly valued the informal and passive recreation activities along the coastal reserve at Beacon Point, including the views across the bay to the You Yangs, the quiet and peaceful nature of the site and safe swimming in the shallow waters.

The overall design intent for Beacon Point Reserve as identified in the management plan is to:

- Protect and improve the coastal biodiversity values
- Protect and, where appropriate, interpret the Aboriginal and historical cultural heritage values
- Improve recreational access to coastal reserves for the existing and planned future residential population and visitors to the region.
- Protect, appropriately manage and interpret the natural geomorphological values and Port Phillip Bay
- Involve the local community in the development of the plan and its ongoing implementation.

Specific recommendations to be considered in development of the Master Plan include:

- Revegetation of the coastal reserve with scattered coastal woodland to improve biodiversity values and provide shade.
- Establishment of new picnic facilities at Beacon Point Road.
- Investigation of potential beach access.

1.4.2 Drysdale Clifton Springs Structure Plan, City of Greater Geelong, 2010

Prepared by the City of Greater Geelong and adopted in September 2010, the purpose of the Structure Plan is to:

- Identify the key strategic planning issues facing the townships, including community aspirations and needs;
- Articulate the preferred future directions for the townships, including the location of Settlement Boundaries; and
- Identify appropriate planning controls which will protect and enhance the distinctive elements of the townships, biodiversity and landscape features.

The study area includes the townships of Drysdale and Clifton Springs and the foreshore from Newcombe Road to McAdams Lane including Beacon Point Reserve.

The Structure Plan supports the recommendations as identified in the Clifton Springs Coastal Management Plan 2008 and the Bellarine Peninsula Recreation and Leisure Needs Study 2005 and identifies additional opportunities including:

- Management of stormwater and implementation of water sensitive urban design principles to improve water quality entering the Bay.
- Improvement of bicycle and pedestrian networks, including installation of footpath along Beacon Point Road linking to the foreshore.
- Application of the Significant Landscape Overlay (SLO) to areas identified as significant in the Coastal Spaces Landscape Assessment Study.
- Application of the Erosion Management Overlay (EMO) to areas identified as subject to erosion along the coastline.

1.4.3 Bellarine Peninsula Recreation and Leisure Needs Study, Stratcorp Consulting 2005

Prepared for the City of Greater Geelong this study focused on the land-based recreation, open space and leisure needs of the current and future Peninsula communities. The relevant recommendations identified in the Study for the coastal reserves at Clifton Springs include:

- Install footpaths on Jetty Road and Bay Shore Avenue.
- Formalise the walking track along Edgewater Drive roadside reserve providing a connection to Beacon Point Reserve.
- Upgrade Beacon Point Reserve to include picnic tables, seats, shelter, possibly a BBQ, paths and landscaping.

The Study also identified that Drysdale and Clifton Springs were adequately serviced by existing recreation reserves, including Drysdale Recreation Reserve, and additional formal recreation reserves were not required.

1.4.4 Domestic Animal Management Plan, City of Greater Geelong, 2008

The City of Greater Geelong has one of the largest dog and cat populations in the state. Critical to animal management is the concept of responsible pet ownership and the plan is designed to address issues and set parameters for dogs and cats in public spaces in accordance with the Domestic (Feral and Nuisance) Animals Act.

OFF LEASH AREAS

In general, dogs are allowed unleashed in public parks and reserves. Signs are to clearly indicate those parks or reserves where dogs are required to be on a leash or are prohibited from entering. On leash areas include:

- All roads and footpaths/nature strips;
- High use areas (for example the Waterfront Precinct in Geelong)
- Sporting grounds and ovals during times of organised sports (as defined by a formal booking with Council which includes times booked for sports practice/training);
- Shared use paths or walking paths and the areas within five (5) meters either sides of the abutting edge of the path (except those paths located on the Fyansford Common);
- Within ten (10) meters of children's play equipment;
- Within ten (10) meters of picnic and barbecue areas and/or table and associated seating;

Beacon Point Reserve is identified in the DAM Plan 2008 as Category 1 Control Order, where dogs are permitted off lead all year round (short term restrictions may apply where the hooded plover is nesting).

A review of the current Domestic Animal Management Plan is being completed in 2012 by Council, in preparation of the new Plan 2013 - 2016. A city-wide survey was completed in June 2012 to obtain the community's feedback on a Background Paper prepared by City of Greater Geelong outlining the animal management achievements and outcomes from 2008 to 2012.

2.0 Existing conditions

2.1 Land ownership and management

Beacon Point Reserve is zoned Public Conservation and Resource use in recognition of the conservation values along the coastline. The coastal reserve is owned and managed by the City of Greater Geelong. Beacon Point Road is a Government Road with management vested with the City of Greater Geelong. The land adjoining Beacon Point Reserve is predominantly a combination of open space and rural residential (Rural Living Zone, Low Density Residential Zone and Residential 1 Zone), with Farming Zone located to the east of Scarborough Creek.

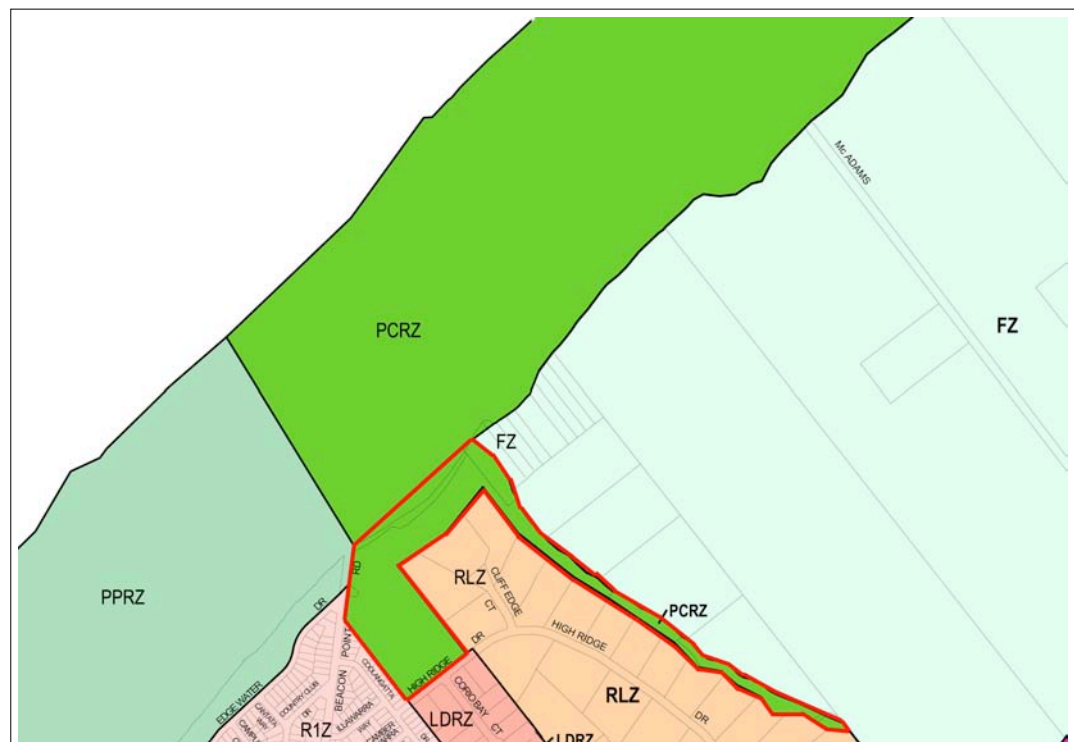


Figure 3 Existing Land Zoning (CoGG Planning Scheme 2012)

2.2 Cultural Heritage

The Clifton Springs Coastal Reserve has significant cultural heritage values. Assessment by TerraCulture as part of the Clifton Springs Coastal Management Plan indicated that there are 5 registered Aboriginal archaeological sites along the foreshore between the Clifton Springs Boat Harbour and McAdams Lane. During the field inspection Aboriginal archaeological material in the form of stone artefact scatters was observed along the edge of the cliff on the western side of the Dell, and to the south of the entry road to the Boat Harbour. Where there was ground exposure along cliff edges stone artefacts were noticed. TerraCulture note in their report that given the amount of development and disturbance that has occurred along the foreshore since the 1870's it is remarkable that any Aboriginal archaeology survives at all. The remnants of these sites within the study area are indicative of the archaeological distributions which in 1835 must have been extensive and reveal the historical importance of

the foreshore and mineral springs to the Wada wurrung speakers and their ancestors.

Investigations confirmed that the cliff tops are sensitive areas for Aboriginal archaeological material and development near the cliff tops should consider the unstable nature of the cliffs, natural weathering and management of surface erosion as many of the artefacts are eroding away.

There is a Registered Aboriginal archaeological site (AAV 7821-0387) along the cliffs in the Beacon Point Reserve study area and another registered site (AAV 821-0365) immediately to the east of Scarborough Creek, outside the study area.

Recent archaeological desktop assessment completed in June 2012 along the foreshore at Edgewater Drive as part of the DSE beach access and renourishment investigation identified three additional Aboriginal archaeological sites. Any proposed works are to use construction methods that have minimal impact on the natural ground surface where possible. Any ground disturbance works in the coastal reserve and Scarborough Creek is likely to require preparation of a Cultural Heritage Management Plan.

2.3 Environmental values

2.3.1 Flora

A comprehensive site assessment and vegetation community description for the entire Clifton Springs foreshore including Beacon Point Reserve was completed by Mark Trengrove Ecological Services (MTES) as part of the Coastal Management Plan. Refer to Drawing No. BPMP-02 for spatial distribution of vegetation communities for Beacon Point Reserve.

The existing vegetation communities identified at Beacon Point Reserve in the Clifton Springs Vegetation Communities Report 2006 include:

Dune Shrubland

This occurs adjacent to the beach on the small fore-dunes in the west and eastern areas of the study area. This community includes *Atriplex cinerea* Coast Saltbush, *Distichlis distichophylla* Austral Salt-grass, *Phragmites australis* Common Reed, *Rhagodia candolleana* Sea-berry Saltbush and *Tetragonia implexicoma* Bower Spinach.

Bellarine Coastal Complex (10001)

The composition of this vegetation community varies along the coast ranging from species including the regionally significant *Myoporum insulare* Boobiella, *Threlkeldia diffusa* Coast Bone-fruit and other indigenous species including Coast Saltbush, *Disphyma crassifolium* Rounded Noon-flower, Austral Salt-grass, Sea-berry Saltbush, Austral Sea-blight and Bower Spinach, through to grasses including *Austrodanthonia* sp. Wallaby-grass, *Austrostipa scabra* Spear-grass, *Chloris truncata* Windmill-grass, *Dianella brevicaulis* Small-flower Flax-lily and *Dicanthium sericeum* Silky blue-grass.

Plains Grassy Woodland (EVC 175)

This community occurs in two locations in the study area along the coastal reserve and continues upstream adjoining the Scarborough creek. Species include the regionally significant *Allocasuarina verticillata* Drooping Sheoke, *Dicanthium sericeum* Silky Blue-grass, *Pimelea glauca* Smooth Rice-flower, *Pimelea serpyllifolia* Thyme Rice-flower and *Podolepis jaceoides* Showy

Podolepis. Other indigenous species include *Acacia pycnantha* Golden Wattle, and a range of mid-storey and understorey species including native grasses.

Plains Brackish Sedge Wetland

This community occurs predominantly at the base of the cliffs along the study area and at the creek north, and is generally in the slightly wetted areas. The species composition varies in different locations and includes Common Reed, Austral Salt-grass, Coast Saltbush and Sea-blight.

Lawn and exotic planting

The exotic plantings and lawn, dominated by Kikuyu, Buffalo grass and Blanket Weed is predominantly on the elevated parkland areas adjoining the cliffs.

The existing flora values at Beacon Point Reserve include:

- The cliffs in front of Beacon Point Road are relatively bare and dominated by exotic species especially Boxthorn, with some small areas dominated by indigenous species of the Grassy Woodland (EVC 175). Indigenous species include a regionally significant groundcover *Atriplex sp. paludosa x stipiata*, *Zygophyllum glaucum* Pale Twin-leaf, Boobialla, *Threlkeldia diffusa* Coast Bone-fruit, along with locally significant species including Hedge Wattle, Berry Saltbush, and a range of native grasses.
- Cliffs at the eastern end of the foreshore are relatively bare and dominated by exotic species but do contain areas of indigenous ground layer species including a range of native grasses and the regionally significant *Dicanthium sericeum* Silky blue-grass, Pale Twin-leaf and *Hypoxis sp.* Yellow Star, the significance of this species is not determined. The weeds in this area include Boneseed, Blanket Weed, Flax-leaf Broom and Boxthorn.
- At the base of the cliff there is an area of Plains Brackish Sedge Wetland that is dominated by exotic species, with some indigenous species including the regionally significant Boobialla, Sea-berry Saltbush, Common Reed and other grasses and lilies. The weeds include Flax-leaf Broom, Cape Leeuwin Wattle, Apple of Sodom and Pine. Between this community and the beach is an area of Berm Grassy Shrubland which is dominated by Coast Saltbush, along with other indigenous species and some weeds.
- At the creek mouth is an area of Plains Brackish Sedge Wetland dominated by indigenous species including the regionally significant Boobialla and other locally significant species including Coast Saltbush, Common Reed and Bower Spinach.

The existing vegetation along the steep eroding cliffs, including weeds such as boxthorn and gorse, provide important stability and habitat in the absence of native vegetation. Recommendations include staged weed control to control the spread of high priority weeds including gorse and boxthorn along the cliff and Scarborough Creek using specialist contractors. The next stage of weed removal is to be undertaken only when completed revegetation works provide equivalent habitat cover. The setback of the fencing along the foreshore is to be increased and revegetation established using locally sourced low coastal vegetation in accordance with the prevailing EVC to reduce erosion and increase biodiversity and habitat values.



Photo 1 Existing cliff vegetation



Photo 2 Existing native grasses

2.3.2 Fauna

No specific fauna studies are available for the preparation of this master plan and the land based fauna values are not well understood however it is anticipated there is a range of fauna present including reptiles, avifauna and mammals in the reserve and Scarborough Creek. It is anticipated that improvements to the vegetation values along the coastal reserve will improve the native fauna habitat values. In addition to the above, the adjoining coastal waters (Refer 2.6.3) are valued for their marine life, both natural and farmed.

Infestation of pests including rabbits and foxes present a significant threat to fauna values. The undeveloped rural eastern boundary presents a significant challenge to management of these pest species. Numbers are to be monitored and if numbers increase to a level which impacts on native flora and fauna values and increases potential for cliff erosion, pest control programs are to be coordinated with adjoining land holders and DPI.

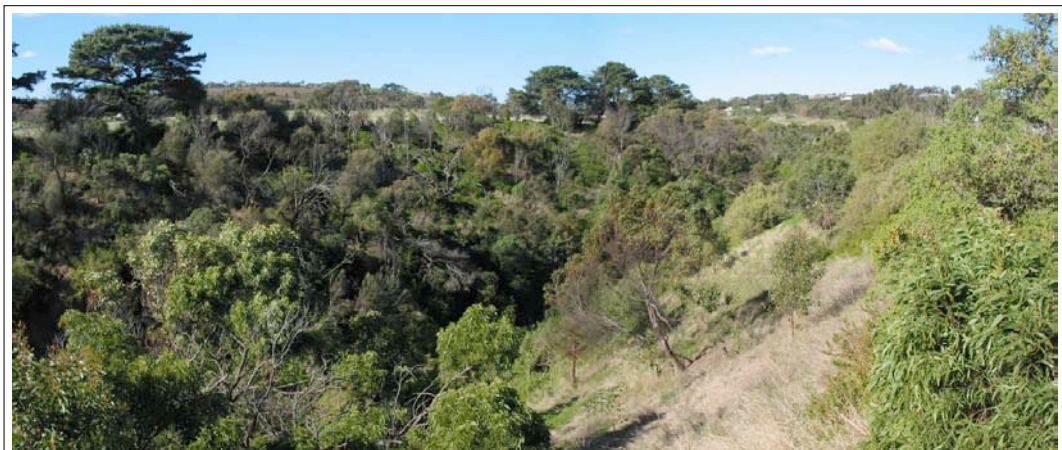


Photo 3 Potential biodiversity values in Scarborough Creek

2.4 Geomorphology and coastal processes

Clifton Springs is located on the northern coast of Bellarine Peninsula which has been formed by an uplifted block between the west-dipping Bellarine fault to the east and an unnamed east-dipping fault to the west. The northern coast of the peninsula is structurally controlled by the Curlewis Monocline which is underlain by a south-dipping fault thought to be a continuation of the Barrabool fault. The

peninsula consists of mainly tertiary age sediments and some volcanic rocks with overlies cretaceous age rocks of the Otway Group'.

The Geology of the site varies along its length. This includes the Older Volcanics (Oligocene) west of Griggs Creek, to the Moorabool Viaduct Sand (Pliocene) between Griggs Creek and the eastern extent of The Dell, changing to Aeolian Dunes (Pleistocene) east for the remainder of the study area.

Areas of geomorphological and geological significance along the cliff as identified by Neville Rosengren (1988) in the vicinity of Beacon Point Reserve include:

- *McAdams Lane Landslide Geological Site of State Significance*
Located both north and south of McAdams Lane the site is noted as being some of the most active and highest cliffs on Port Phillip Bay, and displays stratigraphy, geomorphological and geological evolution of the Bellarine Peninsula.
- *Clifton Springs Slump Amphitheatre of Regional Significance*
Located north of the Scarborough Creek, the site is a clear example of a major backward rotational coastal landslip, and illustrates the process of cliff formation. The erosion gully to the north of this site is the largest on the Bellarine Peninsula.
- *Beacon Point Road Geological Site of Regional Significance*
A clear display of tertiary sedimentary formations that comprise the Bellarine Peninsula.

Clifton Springs is recognised as an area where cliff erosion is actively occurring as part of the natural coastal process. It is anticipated that with projected sea level rise this issue will be accentuated, however, the quantum of the change is currently undefined. The broader principles of sound coastal planning and design contained in the Victorian Coastal Strategy (2008) continue to be a relevant guide for management of dynamic coasts. This includes the principles of minimising additional built infrastructure on the coastline, maximise setback, reduce and where appropriate remove vehicle access and parking from the coastline. Where possible, it is preferred that the cliffs continue to erode as part of this natural process to retain the natural geomorphological values of the area. In areas where erosion results in cliff failure and vertical rock fall (Refer Photos 4 and 7), appropriate mitigation works are to be undertaken including restricting public access to the risk areas and investigation of cliff stabilisation works.



Photo 4 Cliff erosion at Beacon Point

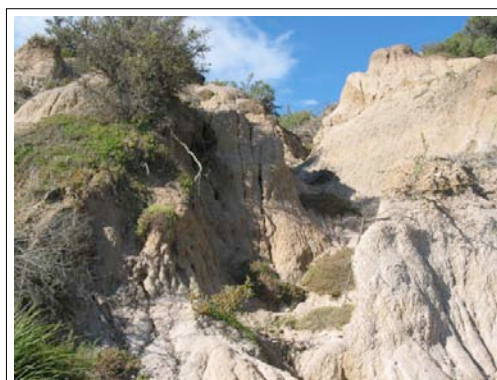


Photo 5 Erosion gullies along the cliff



Photo 6 Existing cliff face and beach east of Beacon Point

DSE and Council will undertake beach renourishment works and a review of the beach access at Cantata Way in 2012-2013 to improve high tide beach access west of Beacon Point. The existing beach east of Beacon Point is inaccessible at high tide and as a result of the eroding cliff at the point (Refer Photos 7 and 8).



Photo 7 Restricted access due to cliff erosion



Photo 8 Restricted beach access at high tide

2.5 Recreation and Community Use

2.5.1 Pedestrian access and circulation

Pedestrians access Beacon Point Reserve from the existing car parking area at the end of Beacon Point Road and from the informal walking track along the cliff at Edgewater Drive. Pedestrian access and maintenance access to the reserve is also provided at High Ridge Drive. There is an existing informal track along the foreshore and the west bank of Scarborough Creek, however there is no public open space link back to Geelong-Portalington Road and High Ridge Drive.



Photo 9 Existing walking track along the foreshore



Photo 10 Pedestrian access at High Ridge Rd



Photo 11 Maintenance Access at High Ridge Dr

The existing footpath along the west side of the Beacon Point Road from Drysdale terminates at the intersection of Beacon Point Road and Bay Shore Road. There is no footpath for approximately 1.8km from Bay Shore Road to Beacon Point Reserve.

Beach access is currently provided at the Edgewater Drive ramp and the Cantata Way stair system. This existing stair system will be removed and replaced with a new access ramp and stairs in 2012/13 as part of beach improvement works conducted by DSE and CoGG (Refer Figure 4). An existing informal goat track located on the steep and eroding embankment at the mouth of Scarborough Creek is currently used by the locals to access the beach located east of Beacon Point.(Refer Photos 12 and 13).



Photo 12 Steep informal beach access



Photo 13 Informal track at Scarborough Ck

2.5.2 Vehicle access and car parking

Beacon Point Road is the main vehicle link to Beacon Point Reserve. The existing car park at the end of Beacon Point Road provides six car parking bays, including one disabled bay. Extensive on road parking is available along both sides of Beacon Point Road and Edgewater Drive. The existing 78 Drysdale Bus Route services this area of Clifton Springs and Drysdale. Existing maintenance vehicle access gates into the reserve are located adjacent to the Barwon Water sewerage pumping station and at High Ridge Drive (Refer Photos 11 and 14).



Photo 14 Existing car park at the end of Beacon Point Road

2.5.3 Informal recreation

The existing grassed open space provides informal access to the foreshore by the local community and park users. The open area is used for passive recreation including informal ball games, dog walking and walking.

A survey completed as part of the Clifton Springs Management Plan 2008 noted that 39% of respondents visited Beacon Point Reserve for the following reasons:

- 22% for walking in the reserve
- 14% for beach walking
- 13% for dog walking

These figures are supported by more recent informal assessment by the Friends of Beacon Point .



Photo 15 Open grassed area

The foreshore reserve offers spectacular panoramic views over Port Philip Bay to the You Yangs and Melbourne from the cliff top. There are limited facilities at Beacon Point Reserve. Several recycled plastic seats, a picnic table and a rubbish bin are located in the grassed area west of the car park.



Photo 16 Existing seat and picnic table

The most popular swimming beach in Clifton Springs is at The Dell followed by the beach west of the boat harbour as these are the most accessible and have toilet facilities. The existing beach east of Beacon Point is popular for walking, dog walking and the shallow waters make it safe for water based activities including swimming and snorkeling (Refer Photo 20). There is no direct beach access from Beacon Point Reserve and high tide beach access is not possible around Beacon Point.

It is anticipated that successful provision of beach access at Beacon Point Reserve (subject to geotechnical and cultural heritage investigation) will raise the profile of the reserve and trigger a potential increase in use. At this time, upgrade and provision of additional facilities, in accordance with the recommendations in the Bellarine Leisure Needs Study including new picnic tables, seats, public toilets and possibly BBQ, will be appropriate.

2.5.4 Dog walking

Dog walking is a popular activity at Beacon Point Reserve and the reserve is identified in the Domestic Animal Management Plan 2008 as Category 1 Control Order, where dogs are permitted off lead all year round. A review of the current Domestic Animal Management Plan is being completed in 2012 by Council, in preparation of the new Plan for 2013 - 2016. A city-wide survey was completed in June 2012 to obtain the community's feedback on a Background Paper prepared by City of Greater Geelong outlining the animal management achievements and outcomes from 2008 to 2012.

The majority of Beacon Point Reserve including the large open grassed areas is recommended to remain dog off lead. The narrow public open space reserve along Scarborough Creek is recommended to be made dog on lead to protect the existing environmental values in the creek and to reduce potential disturbance of dogs and livestock in adjoining properties.

2.6 Existing site infrastructure

2.6.1 Barwon Water Pumping Station

The existing waste water pumping station located at the north-west corner of the reserve consists of a circular brick building surrounded by a grassed bund to minimise the visual impact in the landscape. Existing infrastructure associated with the pumping station include an underground overflow tank north of the building. Barwon Water have indicated through the Reference Group that no future upgrade works are planned at the pumping station (Refer Appendix A).



Photo 17 Barwon Water sewerage pumping station

2.6.2 Drainage and water quality

The study area at Beacon Point Reserve has predominantly steep cliffs up to 20 metres above sea level, with gently undulating topography inland from the cliffs that naturally drains towards the coastline. Stormwater runoff from residential areas adjoining the reserve are directed to existing drains through the reserve and exit via a concrete outlet at the base of the cliff at Beacon Point. Existing swales also direct overland flows to the existing drainage infrastructure. The untreated stormwater runoff released into the bay may have an adverse effect on the existing marine life and intertidal and sub tidal seagrass located in the adjoining coastal water (Refer 2.6.3).

Opportunities to improve water quality are to be investigated at Beacon Point Reserve via the establishment of water quality treatment of urban runoff and on-site detention areas to reduce the runoff discharging from the site. Investigate the potential to review the grills of existing drain pits in the reserve to improve safety of park users.



Photo 18 Existing drain pit



Photo 19 Existing drain outfall at Beacon Point

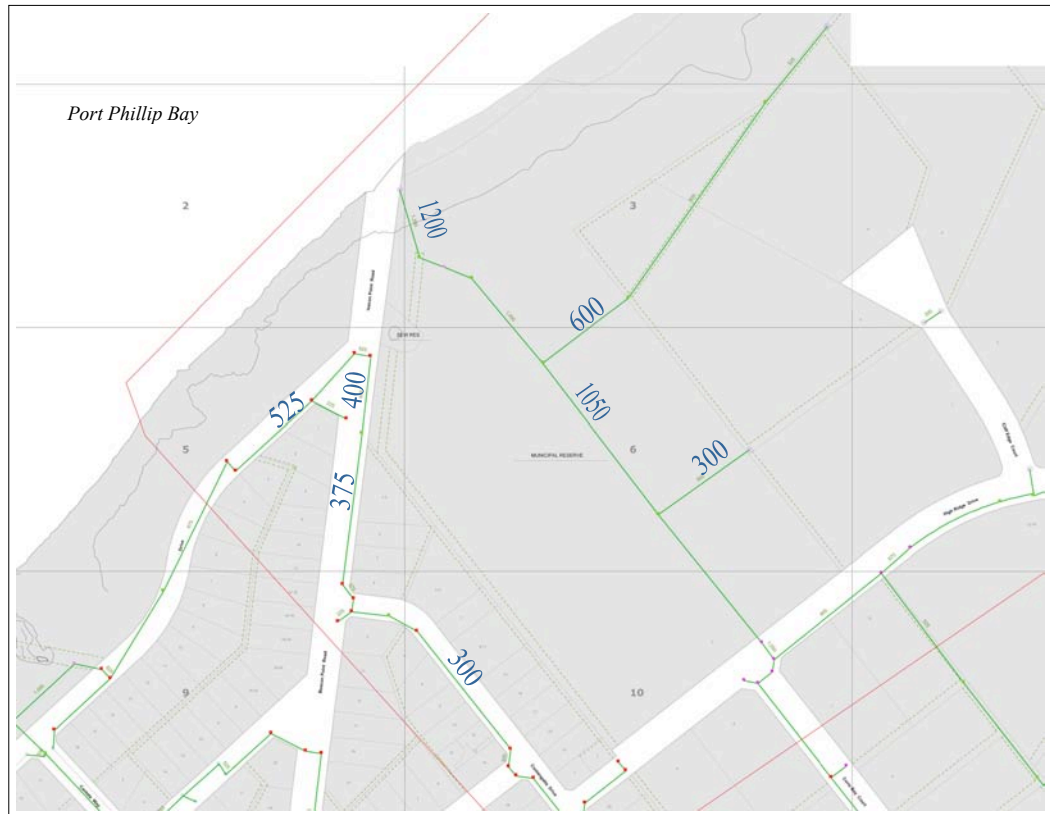


Figure 4 Existing drains in Clifton Springs (CoGG 2012)

2.6.3 Coastal waters

The Marine, Coastal and Estuarine Investigation (ECC, 2000) identified a Special Management Area in intertidal and sub tidal zone adjacent to Clifton Springs extending from the former Long Jetty (near Coronae Drive) eastwards to Point Richards (Refer area C7 in Figure 5). 'This 785 hectare area contains some of the best examples of intertidal and sub tidal seagrass (*Heterostera tasmanica*, *Zostera muelleri*) in the Geelong Arm of Port Phillip Bay and is an important area for settlement of larval fish, including King George whiting and shark.

The seagrass at Clifton Springs is part of a larger seagrass meadow extending westward from Point Richards to Point Henry.' (ECC, 2000). It is noted that the seagrass beds continue to be threatened by poor water quality, introduced pests such as the European tube worm and physical damage from propeller scour and anchoring. The boat ramps at both ends of the area including Portarlington and Clifton Springs provide good boat access, and there is potential to improve education facilities to highlight the important ecological role of seagrass communities to minimise the damage from fishing and boating in this area. (ECC, 2000)

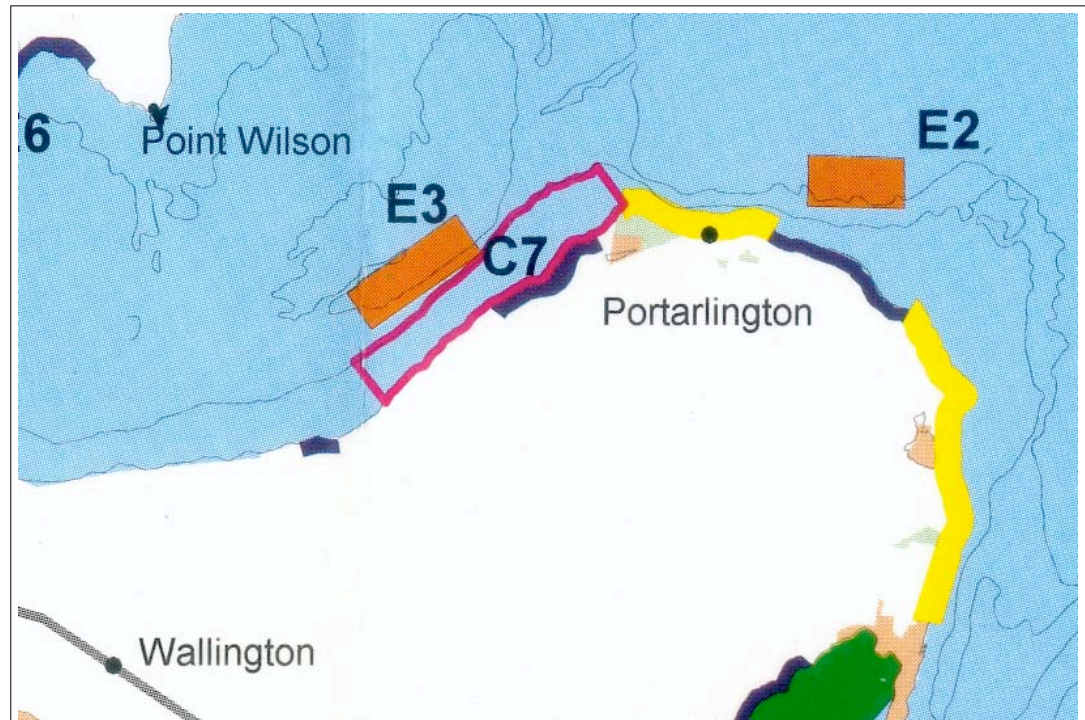


Figure 5 Marine Coastal & Estuarine Investigation (Environment Conservation Council 2000)

Offshore from the Special Management Area is a 315 hectare Clifton Springs Aquaculture Fisheries Reserve (CSAFR) which is about one kilometre offshore from the coastline of Clifton Springs. The CSAFR is monitored under the Victorian Shellfish Quality Assurance Program and is classified as 'approved', the highest water quality classification. It is subject to daily tidal flushing that generates a considerable mixing and exchange of water and no notable freshwater discharges occur nearby and the adjacent urban development is sewered. Australian Quarantine Inspection has accredited the CSAFR for harvest of shellfish for export. This requires closures during extreme weather events. Any significant change to freshwater discharge and water quality will potentially impact on this important resource (DPI, 2005).

The intertidal zone appears to be frequented by waterbirds, however, there are no specific surveys of the species present. Incidental observations during site visits note the presence of Pelicans, Cootes, Cormorants and ducks.



Photo 20 Beacon Point Beach

2.6.4 Signage

There is limited regulatory and directional signage at Beacon Point Reserve. The existing main park sign is located along High Ridge Drive, away from the main destination node at the car park at the end of Beacon Point Road. Existing signs warning park users of the unstable and eroding cliff are located along the cliff top.



Photo 21 Existing main park sign at High Ridge Dr



Photo 22 Existing dog signage



Photo 23 Existing cliff warning sign



Photo 24 Existing cliff warning sign

2.7 Adjoining land use

2.7.1 Residential properties

The main area of Beacon Point Reserve is bounded to the south and east by rural residential land with existing dwellings, predominantly transparent fences with buildings adequately set back from the open space reserve. Some residential properties do not have boundary fences to the existing open space reserve. The residential area to the west of the reserve is typically denser.



Photo 25 Residential boundary to Scarborough Creek corridor



Photo 26 Existing fence types to reserve



Photo 27 Adjoining residential west of the reserve

2.7.2 Farming land

The land east of Scarborough Creek is farming land used for grazing and extends to the edge of the creek corridor. There is no fencing along the top edge of the creek to protect the existing environmental and habitat values of the creek corridor.



Photo 28 Farm land to the east of Scarborough Creek (left side of the creek on this photo)

2.8 Consultation

2.8.1 Consultation completed as part of the Clifton Springs Coastal Management Plan 2008

As part of the *Clifton Springs Management Plan 2008* prepared by TBLD, extensive community consultation was undertaken at the research and analysis phase to determine community issues and future expectations for uses of the coastal reserve. This included the distribution of 3,150 Information Leaflets with freepost questionnaire to residents in Drysdale and Clifton Springs, of which 470 were completed and returned, and two community workshops attended by over 60 people. The outcomes of this first phase of consultation indicated that the community strongly valued the informal and passive recreation activities along the coastal reserve, including the views across the bay to the You Yangs, the quiet and peaceful nature of the site and safe swimming where accessibility to the shallow waters is possible.

Subsequent community consultation undertaken on the Draft Management Plan, including the distribution of a total of 3,893 questionnaires, with a return of 592 completed questionnaires. Specific recommendations included in this questionnaire proposed new picnic facilities and beach access at Beacon Point Road and revegetation of the coastal reserve with scattered coastal woodland to improve biodiversity values and provide shade. 88% of respondents agreed with this recommendation.

2.8.2 Consultation at the Research and Analysis Phase

A Fact Sheet was prepared and distributed at the Research and Analysis Phase of the project to inform the community of the preparation of the Beacon Point Reserve Master Plan and seek feedback from the local community. A total of over 10 email submissions were received and the responses were collated into a Summary of Responses document (Refer Appendix A).

A community stakeholder workshop was held on 28 March 2012 at the Springdale Neighbourhood House, attended by 20 community members including local residents and representatives of community stakeholders groups including:

- Friends of Beacon Point
- Drysdale/Clifton Springs Community Association Inc.
- Bellarine Landcare Group

Refer Appendix B for the Community Stakeholder Workshop Meeting Notes.

2.8.3 Consultation at the Draft Master Plan Stage

The draft plan and report was displayed for public comment between 9 November and 7 December 2012 and 16 written submissions were received by email and post. The feedback received was reviewed and used to inform amendments and changes to the Draft Plan and Implementation Priorities where appropriate. Amendments to the draft plan included recommendations to upgrade the reserve fencing, protection of existing habitats along the cliff and retention of views and passive surveillance of the open space from adjoining residential properties.

3.0 Plans

BPMP-01 Existing Conditions Plan

BPMP-02 Existing Vegetation Communities Plan

BPMP-03 Master Plan

Insert BPMP-01 Existing Conditions Plan

Insert BPMP-02 Existing Vegetation Communities Plan

Insert BPMP-03 Master Plan

4.0 Implementation

The following section provides an overview of the indicative capital costs to implement each of the key improvements actions identified, and presents these actions within an overall recommended implementation framework (i.e. priorities). Please note all works estimates are for planning purposes only and are subject to funding.

The priorities are as follows:

- Mandatory (i.e. required by legislation or regulation)
- Critical (i.e. relating to risk mitigation and safety)
- High
- Medium
- Low
- Ongoing

4.1 Summary of Indicative Costs and Priorities

	MANDATORY	CRITICAL	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	ANNUAL MAINTENANCE
1.0 - Cultural Heritage	Nil	Nil	\$50,000	Nil	Nil	\$500
2.0 - Environment	\$6,750	Nil	Nil	\$347,750	\$100,000	\$5,480
3.0 - Recreation	Nil	Nil	\$124,300	\$590,250	\$475,000	\$18,670
4.0 - Adjoining Land Use	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	\$30,000	\$600
PROJECT WORKS PRIORITIES	\$6,750	Nil	\$174,300	\$938,000	\$605,000	\$25,250
TOTAL WORKS	\$1,724,050					

Indicative Cost Details

The tables on the following pages provide a detailed breakdown of the indicative costs for each action.

Exclusions and Assumptions

The following exclusions and assumptions have been made in determining the indicative preliminary opinion of probable cost information:

- The indicative costs are provided for budget guidance purposes only, the cost of individual projects may vary significantly depending on the construction method used, materials, site conditions, engineering requirements and final designs.
- Prices do not include GST
- No allowance has been made for professional fees (i.e. building and construction drawings), these could add a further 10% to key individual projects.

- No allowance has been made for a project contingency, a minimum allowance of 5% of the total project cost is recommended.
- No allowance has been made for volunteer labour or in-kind support.
- No allowance has been made for statutory planning costs or requirements. It is assumed these will be borne by Council.
- Prices quoted are based on current rates; no allowance has been made for cost escalations associated with time delays.
- No allowance has been made for service upgrades or improvements (i.e. power, water).

BEACON POINT RESERVE MASTER PLAN

IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE Prepared by TBLD P/L for City of Greater Geelong March 2013 Refer Drawing No BPMP-01, 02 and 03. Note preliminary opinion of probable cost estimates are for planning purposes only and subject to detailed design.

No.	Issue	Recommendation	Amount	Item	Rate	Cost Estimate	Priority	Predecessors	Asset Manager	Partners	Annual Maintenance Estimate
1.0 - CULTURAL HERITAGE											
1.1	There are registered sites of Aboriginal cultural significance at Beacon Point Reserve and along Scarborough Creek.	Undertake ongoing repair and maintenance of fencing to the cliff top to restrict access down the cliff and protect Aboriginal archaeological scatters present along the cliff. Refer 2.1.	1	Item			Mandatory	2.1	Environment	WAC	\$500
		A Cultural Heritage Management Plan may be required for any ground disturbing works in Beacon Point Reserve including new beach access, paths, wetland/drainage and picnic area works. NOTE: Cost estimate for CHMP is approximate only and must be confirmed with a qualified archaeologist, subject to the extent of works to be undertaken.	1	Item		\$15,000-\$50,000	High	None	Environment	WAC	
SUB TOTAL CULTURAL HERITAGE						\$50,000				MAINTENANCE	\$500
2.0 - ENVIRONMENT											
2.1	Areas of indigenous vegetation on the coastal cliff slopes need to be protected. The steep and highly eroded coastal cliffs present a significant risk to the public.	Extend existing fence along the coastal foreshore to Scarborough Creek	250	lin.m	\$25	\$6,250	Mandatory	1.1	Environment		\$125
		Install additional warning signage regarding the use of informal tracks on the cliff.	2	No.	\$250	\$500	Mandatory	1.1	Environment		
		Relocate the existing fence away from the cliff edge a further 2-3m.	350	lin.m	\$25	\$8,750	Medium	1.1	Environment		\$175
		Revegetate to increase buffer zone to the cliff edge using low indigenous vegetation to maximise cliff stability and habitat values while retaining coastal views.	1,800	m2	\$30	\$54,000	Medium	1.1	Environment	FOBP	\$1,080
2.2	Existing weed invasion in some sections of steep coastal cliffs is extensive but may also assist with cliff stability and provide habitat in the absence of other vegetation. Future removal is a high risk activity and may potentially disturb Aboriginal archaeological values, cause erosion and potentially loss of habitat.	Undertake staged weed control using specialist contractors. Weed control to utilise minimum disturbance techniques. Undertake works in a staged manner and when cliffs are dry. All works on cliffs must meet relevant Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) standards and codes of practice (working at heights) requirements. Specific Job Safety Assessments must also be carried out prior to the commencement of any works.	5000	m2	\$10	\$50,000	Low	None	Environment		\$1,000
2.3	Pest animals including rabbits and foxes within Scarborough Creek and the narrow coastal reserve may contribute to accelerated erosion and loss of indigenous fauna.	Monitor rabbit and foxes. If numbers increase, liaise with adjoining landholders to implement a control program.	1	Item		N/C	Ongoing	None	Environment	DPI / Landholders	
2.4	Lack of overstorey vegetation in the Beacon Point Reserve.	Liaise with adjoining landholders and the local community to carefully plant additional indigenous trees and shrubs along private property boundaries to improve habitat values and landscape amenity while maintaining views and passive surveillance of the adjoining coastal reserve.	1	Item		\$20,000	Medium	None	Environment	FOBP	\$600
2.5	Weeds including Gorse along Scarborough Creek. Future removal is a high risk activity and may potentially disturb Aboriginal archaeological values, cause erosion and potentially loss of habitat.	Undertake staged weed control using specialist contractors. Weed control to utilise minimum disturbance techniques. Undertake works in a staged manner and when cliffs are dry. Undertake next stage of removal works only when completed revegetation works provide equivalent habitat cover and cliff stability. All works on cliffs must meet relevant Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) standards and codes of practice (working at heights) requirements. Specific Job Safety Assessments must also be carried out prior to the commencement of any works. Liaise with adjoining landholders to coordinate weed control and revegetation.	5000	m2	\$10	\$50,000	Low	None	Environment	Landholder	\$1,000
2.6	Coastal erosion is impacting on the beach in particular areas west of Beacon Point. Temporary fencing is currently used to restrict public access and to prevent beach goers walking under steep eroded sections the cliff at high tide.	A beach renourishment program is being conducted along the stretch of beach between the Edgewater Drive access ramp and Beacon Point by CoGG in partnership with DSE. The works include new rock revetment, a new access ramp and stairs system to the beach to replace the existing stairs at Cantata Way.				N/C	Ongoing	None	DSE	CoGG	
2.7	Water quality in Scarborough Creek	Monitor water quality in Scarborough Creek. Review the need for at source water quality treatment if the water quality data reveals that poor water quality is likely to impact on the health of adjoining Seagrass beds and the Clifton Springs Aquaculture Fisheries Reserve.	1	Item			High	None	Environment	CCMA	\$500

No.	Issue	Recommendation	Amount	Item	Rate	Cost Estimate	Priority	Predecessors	Asset Manager	Partners	Annual Maintenance Estimate
2.8	Untreated urban stormwater runoff from the existing drains discharge into the bay at Beacon Point and potentially affects the coastal values and use of the swimming beach.	Investigate establishment of an off line water quality treatment wetland at Beacon Point Reserve. Provisional sums for works include:	1	Item Investigation		\$15,000	Medium	None	Environment	Engineering	
		Establish a low flow diversion pipe from the existing pit system in the reserve and from Beacon Point Road and utilise a cut/fill balance to minimise earthworks. A new off line weir pit to retain control of water levels and return flow to existing pipe network. Assume a clay liner will be required.	1	Item Civil Works		\$200,000	Medium	1.1	Environment	Engineering	
		Planting to be completed using indigenous aquatic and ephemeral species with local seed collection from Scarborough Creek/ McLeods Waterholes if possible.	1	Item Planting		\$50,000	Medium	1.1	Environment	Engineering	\$1,000
2.9	Beacon Point, like other coastal areas along the Bellarine Peninsula is directly threatened by the impacts of climate change. The specific threats to Beacon Point are from rising sea levels and more violent storm patterns contributing to accelerated coastal erosion.	Ensure investigation and design of future beach access infrastructure considers the impacts of climate change.				N/C	Mandatory	None	Environment	Engineering	
SUB TOTAL ENVIRONMENT						\$454,500				MAINTENANCE	\$5,480
3.0 - RECREATION											
3.1	Lack of all ability walking access at Beacon Point Reserve.	Undertake staged development of 1.5m wide unsealed all ability walking access tracks including:									
		Establish new walking trail from Beacon Point car park to Cantata Way beach access.	360	lin.m	\$100	\$36,000	High	1.1	Environment	Sport & Rec	\$720
		Establish new walking trail from Beacon Point car park to High Ridge Drive, including link to potential new beach access.	450	lin.m	\$100	\$45,000	Low	1.1	Sport & Rec	Environment	\$900
		As outlined in the Clifton Springs Coastal Management Plan continue staged establishment of walking trail links along the coastal reserve from Edgewater Drive/ Beacon Point to The Dell and the Clifton Springs Boat Harbour.				N/C	Ongoing	None	Environment	Sport & Rec	
		Retain as grass only informal walking link to and along Scarborough Creek.					Ongoing	None	Environment	Parks Unit	\$500
3.2	There is no footpath link from Drysdale to the coast and few footpaths in Clifton Springs. The existing concrete footpath along Beacon Point Road from Drysdale ends at Bay Shore Road.	Improve walking links from Drysdale to the coastal reserve by extending the 1.5m wide concrete footpath on the west side of Beacon Point Road from Bay Shore Road to the Beacon Point Reserve car park.	1,800	lin.m	\$100	\$180,000	Low	None	Engineering		
3.3	The beach to the east of Beacon Point Road is inaccessible at High Tide. Informal access to this beach at high tide is via a steep and eroding informal track near Scarborough Creek.	Investigate access down to the beach east of Beacon Point, between Beacon Point and Scarborough Creek. The beach access design is subject to geotechnical and cultural heritage investigations and will not be able to achieve all-ability access due to height of the cliffs.	1	Item Investigation/ Design		\$50,000	High	None	Environment	WAC / DSE	
		Any beach access structure is to meet the Siting and Design Guidelines for the Victorian Coast to minimise visual impact and disturbance to indigenous vegetation and potential cultural heritage values.	1	Provisional Construction		\$500,000	Medium	1.1, 2.9 & Beach Access Investigation	Environment	WAC / DSE	
3.4	There are limited facilities at Beacon Point. The provision of safe beach access at Beacon Point Reserve will significantly increase visitation and use levels of the reserve.	As identified in the Bellarine Leisure Needs Study and the Clifton Springs Coastal Management Plan, provide a new picnic area with upgraded picnic facilities including picnic tables and shade tree planting if beach access is provided at Beacon Point Reserve.	1	Item		\$20,000	High	1.1 & 3.1	Sport & Rec	Environment	\$400
		New picnic tables to replace the existing recycled plastic tables with more natural materials such as timber to retain informal coastal character.	4	No.	\$2,500	\$10,000	High	1.1 & 3.1	Sport & Rec	Parks Unit	\$200
		Investigate the need for additional picnic and BBQ facilities adjacent to the existing car park.				N/C	Low	1.1, 3.1 & 3.3	Sport & Rec	Parks Unit	
3.5	There are no toilet facilities on site. The nearest toilet facilities are located at The Dell (approx 1.5km from Beacon Point Reserve) and at the Drysdale town centre.	Provision of safe beach access at Beacon Point Reserve (refer 3.3) will significantly increase visitation and use levels of the reserve and beach. Investigate installation of a new toilet block adjacent to the existing sewerage pumping station (subject to provision of beach access).	1	Item		\$250,000	Low	1.1, 3.1 & 3.3	Sport & Rec	Environment / Barwon Water	\$5,000
3.6	Lack of seating in the Beacon Point Reserve and along the coastal reserve west of Beacon Point.	Install new seats at key locations in Beacon Point Reserve and along the coastal reserve, in association with new walking paths. Replace existing recycled plastic seats with more natural materials such as timber to retain informal coastal character. Locate seats in the shade where possible and to maximise views.	6	No.	\$1,250	\$7,500	High	1.1	Environment	Parks Unit	\$150
3.7	There is informal walking access along the west bank of Scarborough Creek but no link to Geelong-Portarlinton Road or through to High Ridge Drive.	If properties along Panorama Court or on the east bank of Scarborough Creek are redeveloped in the future, investigate opportunities to provide a walking trail link to Geelong-Portarlinton Road and High Ridge Drive.				N/C	Low	None	Planning	Sport & Rec	

No.	Issue	Recommendation	Amount	Item	Rate	Cost Estimate	Priority	Predecessors	Asset Manager	Partners	Annual Maintenance Estimate
3.8	The existing sewerage pumping station is an important Barwon Water asset located in the reserve to service Drysdale and Clifton Springs.	Liaise with Barwon Water to investigate potential improvements to the exterior of the pumping station. Options could include use of timber cladding or integrated public art to soften its visual impact on views from the reserve.				N/C	Low	3.5	Barwon Water	FOBP	
3.9	Beacon Point Reserve is the largest area of flat open space in Clifton Springs and is popular for informal use however the existing open grassed area surface is rough and uneven. The Bellarine Peninsula Recreation & Leisure Needs Study 2005 concluded that Drysdale and Clifton Springs were adequately serviced by existing recreation reserves, including Drysdale Recreation Reserve, and additional formal recreation reserves were not required.	Maintain management levels of spring/summer grass mowing and improve the central area of the grassed open space including minor top dressing (50mm) to improve surface for informal games and recreation only and allow additional mowing and consider establishment of drought tolerant turf.	20,000	m2	\$3	\$60,000	Medium	None	Sport & Rec	Parks Unit	\$5,000
		Management of slashed areas of grassed open space, including Scarborough Creek corridor and Edgewater Drive road reserve (4-6 cuts per year).	80,000	m2			Ongoing	None	Parks Unit		\$5,000
3.10	There are no playground facilities at Beacon Point Reserve however there are local playground facilities within 500m of the reserve at Country Club Drive and Tanderra Court.	Playground facilities are not required at Beacon Point unless there is a significant increase in visitation following establishment of the beach access. Refer 3.3.				N/C	Low	3.3	Sport & Rec	Parks Unit	
3.11	There is no directional and regulatory signage at Beacon Point Road car park.	Upgrade directional and regulatory signage at the main entry points to the reserve.	1	Item		\$10,000	Medium	None	Sport & Rec	Environment	\$200
3.12	There is no interpretive signage. There has been suggestions for establishment of a cultural/ sculpture trail.	Investigate preparation and installation of interpretive signage for natural values. Liaise with the Wathaurung to develop interpretation signage regarding cultural values if appropriate.	1	Item		\$5,000	Medium	None	Environment	WAC	
3.13	The reserve is popular for dog walking and the potential increase in use levels of the park will require provision of additional plastic bag dispensers and bins.	Provide additional dog bins and biodegradable plastic bags to encourage dog owners to clean up after their dogs in accordance with Council's Domestic Animal Management Plan.	2	No.	\$400	\$800	High	None	Environment	Parks Unit	\$200
		Investigate formalisation of open grass areas away from the new picnic area as 'dog off lead' in accordance with the current City of Greater Geelong Domestic Animal Management Plan.				N/C	High	None	Environment	Sport & Rec	
3.14	The existing reserve fence at High Ridge Drive and Beacon Pt Road is dated.	Upgrade the reserve fence at High Ridge Drive with new post and rail fence including pedestrian access point.	185	lin.m	\$50	\$9,250	Medium	None	Sport & Rec	Parks Unit	\$200
		Upgrade the reserve fence along Beacon Point Road with new post and rail fence including pedestrian access points.	120	lin.m	\$50	\$6,000	Medium	None	Sport & Rec	Parks Unit	\$200
3.15	The grassed foreshore reserve along Edgewater Drive is unfenced and could potentially be accessed by vehicles for unpermitted parking.	Liaise with CoGG Traffic Engineering to investigate the need for additional vehicle control barriers along Edgewater Drive.				N/C	Low	None	Sport & Rec		
3.16	The existing drain pits in the reserve are required to receive and discharge stormwater.	Liaise with CoGG Engineers to investigate the potential to improve the safety of the grills at existing pits.				N/C	Medium	None	Engineering	Sport & Rec	
SUB TOTAL RECREATION						\$1,189,550				MAINTENANCE	\$18,670
4.0 - ADJOINING LAND USE											
4.1	Planting of new trees as recommended in the Clifton Springs Coastal Management Plan and this master plan may impact on coastal views from adjoining residential properties.	Liaise with adjoining landholders and the local community to carefully site planting areas for additional indigenous trees and shrubs along private property boundaries. Works aim to improve habitat values and landscape amenity while maintaining views and passive surveillance of the adjoining coastal reserve.				N/C	High	2.4	Environment	Sport & Rec	
4.2	The residential boundary fencing in some areas adjoining Scarborough Creek is inconsistent with the transparent fencing along the creek corridor.	Liaise with the adjoining landowners to require use of transparent post and mesh fencing to retain passive surveillance of the reserve while restraining domestic pets and animals.				N/C	Ongoing	None	Environment	Local Laws	
4.3	Some adjoining residential properties have no fencing along their boundary to the public reserve.	Liaise with adjoining landholders to establish boundary fencing consistent with existing post and mesh fencing along Scarborough Creek.	200	lin.m	\$25	\$5,000	Low	None	Environment	Planning	\$100
4.4	Planting of exotic species in adjoining residential properties contribute to further invasion of weeds into sensitive coastal and riparian vegetation.	Liaise with adjoining landholders to coordinate weed control and revegetation using indigenous species.				N/C	Ongoing	None	Environment		
4.5	The farm land to the east of Scarborough Creek is used for grazing and values of the creek along the east bank require protection.	Liaise with the land owners to investigate installation of stock fence along the east bank of Scarborough Creek to protect the environmental values of the creek.	1000	lin.m	\$25	\$25,000	Low	None	Environment	Land Owner	\$500
SUB TOTAL ADJOINING LAND USE						\$30,000				MAINTENANCE	\$600
SUBTOTAL PROJECT WORKS (ex GST)						\$1,724,050	TOTAL ANNUAL MAINTENANCE				\$25,250
Detailed Design / Contract Administration (10%)						\$172,405					
Contingencies (10%)						\$172,405					
TOTAL WORKS (Incl GST)						\$2,068,860					

5.0 Conclusion

Beacon Point Reserve is one of the largest open space reserves located along the Clifton Springs foreshore and is currently an underdeveloped local level open space. The Beacon Point Reserve Master Plan has been developed in close consultation with the existing site users, local community and agency stakeholders and as outlined in the Clifton Springs Coastal Management Plan 2008, the overall design intent for the reserve include:

- Protect and improve the coastal biodiversity values
- Protect, and where appropriate, interpret the Aboriginal and historical cultural heritage values
- Improve recreational access to coastal reserves for the existing and planned future residential population and visitors to the region.
- Protect, appropriately manage and interpret the natural geomorphological values and Port Phillip Bay
- Involve the local community in the development of the plan and its ongoing implementation.

The Master Plan identifies key upgrades to the reserve including the investigation of beach access at Beacon Point Reserve. It is anticipated that successful provision of beach access (subject to geotechnical, cultural heritage and flora and fauna investigations, design and funding) will prompt a potential increase in visitation levels at the reserve and generate the need to upgrade the existing reserve to a neighbourhood level open space. The upgrade of facilities associated with provision of beach access and increased use levels include staged implementation of new unsealed all ability walking trails from the beach access at Cantata Way through the reserve to High Ridge Drive, a new picnic area, potential provision of BBQ and toilet facilities. If however beach access cannot be successfully achieved then provision of these facilities would not be required in the short-medium term.

The cultural heritage and environmental values along the cliff and Scarborough Creek will be protected and improved with careful weed control undertaken by specialist contractors on the unstable banks. Buffer revegetation along the foreshore reserve will be completed using low native species to retain existing views. Liaison with adjoining landholders and the local community will be sought to coordinate planting of additional indigenous overstorey trees and shrubs along private property boundaries to improve landscape amenity and habitat values while maintaining existing views.

The Master Plan seeks to provide a realistic, balanced and achievable framework to guide future development of Beacon Point Reserve, so that this key coastal reserve continues to function as passive recreation open space for both the local and wider community.

6.0 Bibliography

Clifton Springs Coastal Management Plan, *City of Greater Geelong 2008*

Drysdale Clifton Springs Structure Plan, *City of Greater Geelong, 2010*

Bellarine Peninsula Recreation and Leisure Needs Study, *Stratcorp Consulting 2005*

Domestic Animal Management Plan, *City of Greater Geelong, 2008*

Victorian Coastal Strategy 2002, *Victorian Coastal Council 2002*

Marine Coastal & Estuarine Investigation, *Environment Conservation Council 2000*

Sites of Geological and Geomorphological Significance on the Coast of Port Phillip Bay Victoria, *N. Rosengren 1988*

Appendix A -Project Fact Sheet and Responses at the Analysis Phase

Beacon Point Reserve Master Plan

Project Fact Sheet and Responses at the Analysis Phase

A fact sheet for the Beacon Point Reserve Master Plan was released by the City of Greater Geelong. Members of the community were invited to provide feedback on the Draft Master Plan and to make any suggestions directly to the council. Responses were received through email up until 16 March 2012. Below is a summary of the comments received from 10 individual submissions:

Values

- Beacon Point reserve is an important space for informal recreation
- It is valued for its off leash dog policy
- It is valued as a space for relaxation
- It is valued as a space for exercise and unstructured sport
- Beacon Point Reserve should be left as is
- Commend the council on preparing Master Plan and support it
- Appreciate the opportunity to comment on the Master Plan

Recreation

- Install a walking track right along the water's edge at the base of the cliffs from Scarborough Creek past the Reserve car park right along the foreshore to The Dell.
- Install a walking path along the western side of Scarborough Creek running approximately south-east from the Bay right to the Geelong-Portarlington Road.

Facilities

- Erect a few sheltered tables and bench seats for picnics.
- Install more wooden seats along Edge Water Drive (similar to the wonderful seat installed around a year ago at the western end of Edge Water Drive near Centaurus Avenue).
- Provision of public toilets needs to be carefully considered as part of a wider public toilet strategy for the municipality which identifies need and the criteria for the location of these new Council assets. There is the potential for an increase in vandalism and undesirable after hours use.
- Provide more bins.
- Additional unstructured facilities will attract vandalism and undesirable after hours use.

Access

- More effective integration with the rest of the excellent development from Beacon Point to Jetty Rd around the water's edge would be welcome, including safe access to the bay at the mouth of Scarborough Creek. Development of the established unofficial path/track along the creek linking with the upper High Ridge drive would make an excellent circuit for healthy exercise and allow residents children a safe route to the bay that did not involve walking on the road.
- There are safety concerns around the instability of the cliff top where people access the reserve from the car park on Beacon Point Rd. It is suggested to widen the foot traffic area at the end of the Road to provide safe access across the end of the car park between the reserve and the adjoining picnic area.
- Install steps from the Reserve at Scarborough Creek down to the water's edge.
- Install steps from the Reserve at the car park down to the water's edge.
- Continue the new steps and hand rail recently installed, towards the bottom of the road to the beach at the western end of Edge Water Drive (near Centaurus Avenue), all the way up the road to the top of the bank.

Maintenance and Management

- The entire strip along Edge Water Drive requires a small post and rail fence (similar to the fence installed around a year ago at the western end of Edge Water Drive near Centaurus Avenue) to prevent the numerous vehicles driving and parking on the grass.
- Commence frequent dog patrols.
- Monitor facilities with surveillance and implement warning signage.
- Low impact developments preferred to limit impact of increased vehicle traffic.

- Improve maintenance of beach/beach access as it is unattractive and unsafe.

Environmental

- Completely rebuild the storm water outlet and drains at the base of the road to the beach at the western end of Edge Water Drive (near Centaurus Avenue), as it is dangerous.
- The design must address the current negative visual impacts on the pumping station and the main drain pit/grill within the reserve.

Vegetation

- Plant "native" shade and bird-attracting trees right along the foreshore, from Scarborough Creek through the Reserve along the Edge Water Drive foreshore to the western end of Edge Water Drive (near Centaurus Avenue).
- Tree planting clumps to establish interest, diversity and breakup the large expanse of space may be better received by residents, striking an appropriate balance with the sharing of views.
- Enabling casual surveillance from residential properties of the users of the reserve adds interest and safety both perceived and actual therefore proposals to screen the residential interfaces with trees and vegetation are opposed.
- Community participation in weed removal, clean up and revegetation programs.
- Do not plant or build on Edgewater Drive as it will impact views and increase noise.

Appendix B - Community Stakeholder Workshop #1 Notes

MEETING NOTES

Beacon Point Reserve Master Plan

Community Stakeholder Workshop # 1

Wednesday March 28 2012, 6:00pm to 7:30pm, Springdale Neighbourhood House, 17-21 High St, Drysdale

Attendees:

20 local community members consisting of local residents and representatives of community stakeholders groups including:

- Friends of Beacon Point Reserve (FoBPR)
- Drysdale/Clifton Springs Community Association Inc. (DCSCA)
- Bellarine Landcare Group (BLG)

Fiona Finlayson (FF), Recreation and Open Space Planner, Sport & Recreation, CoGG

Alistair Bain (AB), Recreation and Open Space Planning & Subdivision Officer, CoGG

Matthew Bolton (MB), Associate, Thompson Berrill Landscape Design Pty Ltd (TBLD)

Marc Chung (MC), Landscape Architect, TBLD

1.0 WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS & PROJECT BACKGROUND

Fiona Finlayson welcomed all to the meeting and gave a brief outline of the project scope.

2.0 BRIEF OUTLINE OF PROJECT PROCESS AND TIMELINE

Matthew Bolton (MB) provided a brief overview of the project process and timeline and the following is a brief outline of the discussions:

- The project in the first phase of Research and Analysis, and the intent of this meeting is to hear the input from the community stakeholders prior to commencing the preparation of the Draft Master Plan. This community stakeholder group will be consulted again to provide feedback on the Draft Master Plan when it is prepared. A wider community consultation process will also be conducted when the draft Master Plan is finalised. The intent is to have the draft prepared and ready for community input in September/October 2012. It is however noted that there will be a busy council agenda in the lead up to elections later this year and it may also not be possible to obtain Councillor sign off for the draft to go out for consultation ahead of the caretaker period which also falls around this time.
- MB noted that a ministerial briefing note released recently announced beach enrichment programs are planned at locations around Port Phillip Bay, including areas along the Clifton Springs foreshore at Edgewater Drive.
- The Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) are looking to stabilise the cliff and improve the existing beach access at Cantata Way to restore safe access along the beach. The detailed design for the beach renourishment works however has only just commenced in consultation with CoGG Environment Unit.
- Consultation with the community regarding these works will be undertaken as a separate process to the Beacon Point Reserve Master Plan.

3.0 BRIEF PRESENTATION OF EXISTING CONDITIONS

MB gave a brief presentation summarising the existing conditions of the reserve. The following is a brief summary of queries and clarifications:

- The extent of the study area for this project includes the large area of grassed open space east of Beacon Point Road, the strip of open space going east along the edge of the cliff towards Scarborough Creek and the open space corridor along the west bank of Scarborough Creek. All three areas will form part of the Beacon Point Master Plan.
- The open space reserve, including the foreshore to high water mark is owned and managed by the City of Greater Geelong (CoGG).
- TBLD prepared the Clifton Springs Foreshore Management Plan in 2008, during which extensive community consultation was completed at the Research stage and again the Draft Management Plan stage. The recommendations for Beacon Point Reserve in the 2008 Management Plan included:
 - Revegetation of the coastal reserve with scattered coastal woodland to improve biodiversity values and provide shade.
 - Retention of views.
 - Establishment of new picnic facilities at Beacon Point Road.
 - Investigation of potential beach access.

Community survey indicated that 88% of respondents agreed with the recommendations and retention for use as passive open space.

- There is significant existing vegetation along the coastal reserve and Scarborough Creek, identified as part of the 2008 Management Plan. This information has been used to prepare the Existing Vegetation Communities Plan for Beacon Point Reserve.
- There have also been sites of cultural heritage value identified in the previous archaeological assessment completed as part of the 2008 Management Plan. These existing values also need to be considered in the preparation of the master plan.
- The need of a master plan at Beacon Point Reserve was queried. MB noted that preparation of a master plan for Beacon Point Reserve has been identified in strategic documents including the Bellarine Peninsula Recreation and Leisure Needs Study 2005, the Clifton Springs Foreshore Management Plan 2008 and the Drysdale Clifton Springs Structure Plan 2010. The master planning process is designed to deliver a plan with input from the community to guide future protection and management of Beacon Point Reserve and Scarborough Creek.
- It was noted by Graeme Smith of FoBPR that Cr Doull had confirmed that the reserve will be retained for passive open space use. MB noted that passive use includes activities that are not formal or organised sport or events, such as walking, kicking football or throwing a ball, cricket, kite flying and other informal ball games etc. Essentially activities which do not preclude other uses of the open space at the same time.
- The FoBPR noted their keen interest to assist in management of Beacon Point Reserve. MB noted that areas where the FoBPR can assist will be identified through the master plan process.

Action: *FoBPR to forward meeting notes and reserve use data completed as part of the group's previous meeting to Fiona Finlayson for forwarding to TBLD.*

4.0 WORKSHOP SESSION

The next part of the meeting was run as a workshop with comments and feedback from people present, recorded onto butcher's paper.

4.1 IDENTIFY KEY STRENGTHS AND VALUES OF BEACON POINT RESERVE

- Views to the bay, the You Yangs and the passing ships were identified as a key value.
- The open space is used for informal activities including walking, dog walking, informal cricket, kite flying, flying model aeroplanes and relaxation
- The reserve is a place where children can play informally
- Wildlife native flora and fauna values
- The peaceful nature of the reserve, it soothes the soul
- Uniqueness of the reserve
- Exercising
- Important as an informal meeting place/community space
- Outstanding natural beauty
- Beautiful space
- Open "free space"
- Availability of existing car parking along Beacon Point Road
- There are no toilets on site – reducing potential illegal camping and after hours use

It is noted that these values are generally consistent with the previous community consultation completed in 2006/2007 as part of the Foreshore Management Plan.

4.2 IDENTIFY KEY ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED IN THE MASTER PLAN

- There is no formal access to the beach at Beacon Point Reserve. The nearest stairs are at Cantata Way, approx 250m west of the reserve. However the Beacon Point beach cannot be accessed from the west at high tide due to the unstable cliff face at Beacon Point and fencing has been installed due to the risk of cliff failure.
- The existing informal beach access down the escarpment at the mouth of the creek is steep and dangerous.
- Provision of new steps /access to the beach may impact on vegetation values and risk further erosion and damage to the cliff.
- Installation of steps to the beach will increase use of the area and need for other facilities which may present issues for local residents and users.
- The spread of weeds across the site, e.g. Blanket weed, is an issue, including the potential spread of weeds and exotic plant species from private property/gardens into the reserve.
- There are no toilets on site. Installation of toilets would attract drug users, they need to be maintained continuously, need lighting, need to be vandal proof and as such are a waste of money.
- Maintenance of the reserve, e.g. grass slashing, needs to be done more regularly. It was noted that if Council is notified by residents that a particular area needs slashing, this is usually attended to very promptly.
- The Barwon Water Sewer Pumping Station located in the reserve is an eyesore.

- The lack of proper walking paths in the reserve was identified as an issue as the existing grass tracks are uneven restrict access by the elderly or people with less mobility.
- There is no exit link at the south east end of the Scarborough Creek open space corridor.
- New trees are not needed as they will impact on views, will take away the open space and screen the open space from residential properties.
- It was noted that the groynes constructed along Edgewater Dr are not effective and more groynes at Beacon Point should not be considered as this beach is already stable.
- BMX bikes and trail bikes activity in the reserve was identified as an issue.
- Lack of bins in the reserve. The existing dog bin has recently been removed or moved and needs to be replaced.
- Concern regarding the Councillor's proposal for public art as this may formalise the reserve.
- Horse riding and horse droppings in the reserve was identified as an issue.

4.3 IDENTIFY KEY OPPORTUNITIES TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE MASTER PLAN

- Opportunity to develop the master plan to reflect the community's views.
- Investigate beach access using a potential graded (previously disturbed) route starting near Scarborough Creek and angling west down the cliff.
- The draft master plan is to retain the informal and natural character of the reserve.
- Opportunity to provide a natural tactile informal play space for children.
- Opportunity for the draft master plan to identify what the Friends of Beacon Point Reserve Group can contribute and where in the reserve and provide options for the appropriate species to use for revegetation works.
- Opportunity to provide guidelines on appropriate native/indigenous plant species to plant in gardens adjoining the reserve. New planting should be undertaken using plants grown from locally sourced seed.
- Opportunity to install regulatory signage in the reserve including 'No Trail bikes'
- Any new plantings is to be strategically located to retain passive surveillance and views.

5.0 NEXT STEPS

- Feedback sought from the local broader community via local newspaper advertisements and Council website.
- Draft Master Plan will be prepared and the Community Stakeholder Group will meet again to provide feedback mid September 2012.
- Community display period on the Draft Master Plan in September/October 2012
- Final Master Plan for endorsement by Council to be continued following consultation.

6.0 MEETING CLOSE

Fiona Finlayson thanked all for their attendance and input.

Appendix C - Summary of Feedback and Responses from Community Consultation on the Draft Master Plan

No	Summary of Comments	Response
1	<p>Preservation of the resident population of pardalotes, small colourful native birds, who have colonised the cliff face at Beacon Point are unique to Australia. I fear that disturbance of gorse and other flora may disturb their habitat. Consideration needs to be given to the needs of these little birds when making choice of suitable plants.</p>	<p>The Draft Master Plan did not undertake surveys of existing fauna. Investigation of any future beach access location will be subject to geotechnical, archaeological and flora and fauna assessments as required by DSE. Major weed control works are a low priority.</p> <p>Recommendation: Add note clarifying that existing vegetation including declared weeds such as boxthorn and gorse provide important stability and habitat in absence of natural vegetation on the steep eroding cliffs. Management options will focus on control of spread and removal will not be undertaken until revegetation provides equivalent habitat.</p>
2a	<p>We would like to provide feedback on the Draft Beacon Point Reserve Master Plan as we are long-term residents (>25 years) at a property adjoining the reserve along Scarborough Creek.</p> <p>1. Open grass area of Beacon Point Reserve: We support the proposals in their entirety.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to plan</p>
2b	<p>2. New Wetland: We support the proposals in their entirety.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to plan</p>
2c	<p>3. Picnic Area: We support the proposals in principle, but recommend that the public toilets (closed at night) are made an integral component of the picnic area upgrade (independent of the formalisation of beach access) and are given a high priority.</p>	<p>As noted in the Draft Master, the establishment of toilet facilities at Beacon Point Reserve will only be considered when there is a significant increase in visitation levels following the successful provision of beach access.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to plan</p>
2d	<p>4. Foreshore & Cliff top area: We support the proposals in principle, but recommend that the extension to the unsealed walking track is included in the Master Plan without the requirement that it leads to beach access - it should be provided purely to allow the many walkers who use the Scarborough Creek area a defined and safe (surefooted) walking surface and to minimise erosion. The additional beach access east of Beacon Point is not strictly necessary, provided the beach access west of Beacon Point is not moved from Cantata Way. The cost saving to the project by deleting the second beach access could be used to completely fund the additional cost of the proposed unsealed walking track below.</p>	<p>Implementation of new unsealed walking paths at Beacon Point Reserve will be staged and aim to provide loop walking experience. If beach access cannot be established east of Beacon Point, a formal unsealed path extension of the trail will become lower priority.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to plan</p>
2e	<p>5. Scarborough Creek: We support the proposals in principle, but recommend that the proposal to continue to only provide informal grass walking along Scarborough Creek is changed to instead provide an unsealed walking track as above. The many walkers who use the unsealed grass area have resulted in a bare walking track forming that is very muddy and slippery when wet, and so the provision of an unsealed walking track not only resolves this issue but helps to control erosion.</p>	<p>There is no open space link south out of Scarborough Creek and therefore establishment of a formal path is a low priority.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to plan</p>

No	Summary of Comments	Response
2f	The proposed addition of overstorey trees west of Scarborough Creek along the reserve must be implemented such that existing views from adjoining landholders' properties are maintained, but this requirement is missing from Section A - Scarborough Creek. The views in question include sea views and long rural views over the land east of Scarborough Creek.	The Draft Master Plan recommends liaising with the adjoining land holders to establish new indigenous trees along the property boundaries to ensure that views are maintained. Recommendation: Add text to notes in Section A about maintaining views along property boundaries.
2g	We would like to see weed control measures stepped up along the reserve and embankments on Scarborough Creek, and recommend that the significant rabbit and hare control issue in this area is addressed before planting commences.	Noted Recommendation: No change to plan
3a	1. The entire strip along Edge Water Drive requires a small post and rail fence (similar to the fence installed around a year and a half ago at the western end of Edge Water Drive near Centaurus Avenue) to prevent the numerous vehicles driving and parking on the grass.	There is extensive on street parking and vehicles accessing grass areas does not appear to be a significant problem. Recommendation: Liaise with CoGG Traffic Engineering to confirm the need for additional vehicle control barriers along Edgewater Drive.
3b	2. Install more wooden seats (say half a dozen or so) right along Edge Water Drive (similar to the wonderful seat installed around a year and a half ago at the western end of Edge Water Drive near Centaurus Avenue) to sit and look at the amazing bay views.	The Master Plan recommends that new seats be installed at key locations along the coastal reserve. Recommendation: No change to plan
3c	3. Install a walking track right along the water's edge at the base of the cliffs from Scarborough Creek past the Reserve car park right along the foreshore to The Dell. Currently, the foreshore is in a terrible state and it appears no one has any pride in this area of the Bay.	Establishment of a walking track at the base of the cliff is not possible due to the risks associated with the naturally occurring cliff erosion and high tides. Investigation of links to The Dell is proposed in accordance with the Clifton Springs Management Plan. Recommendation: No change to plan
3d	4. Install a walking path along the western side of Scarborough Creek running approximately south-east from the Bay right to the Geelong-Portarlington Road.	Refer to 2d Land adjacent Geelong Portarlington Road is privately owned. The Master Plan and Structure Plan recommend investigation of this link if land is redeveloped. Recommendation: No change to plan
3e	5. Can you please include drinking water facilities at the Beacon Point Reserve (and a couple more if possible along the water front right along Edgewater Drive).	Provision of drinking fountain will be considered as part of the investigation to upgrade picnic and toilet facilities at Beacon Point Reserve, following successful provision of beach access. Recommendation: No change to plan

No	Summary of Comments	Response
4 4a	<p>My comments have, as a main aim, the need to accommodate extreme weather conditions, climate change effects, and utilizing & conserving our resources, as well as keeping it as a people friendly place.</p> <p>I do not have any costings for the below ideas, but I presume some estimates could be obtained from the work previously done in the area (as indicated below) I believe it is more appropriate to work this into a long term plan rather than short term modifications which will not achieve the desirable outcomes indicated above.</p> <p>1. I am surprised that a "Wetlands area" would be planned for a cliff-top area when the fragile falling cliff area is a known structurally unsound area.</p> <p>I would suggest this Wetlands proposal is not logical and its integrity i.e. leaking water into the cliff area would be unable to be guaranteed by anyone. i.e. especially feeding storm-water into it and potentially causing leakage into the ground and down into the bay – via the cliffs and eroding them.</p> <p>If the Clifton Springs pool at the Dell was a concern, then this proposal is in exactly the same situation as well. There were also caverns found under the ground in this area when the contractors were installing the main sewerage piping in the housed area.</p>	<p>The proposed water quality treatment wetland is aimed at removing nutrients and sediment from low flows before these are released back into the bay via the main stormwater drain. Installation of a clay lining to the wetland will ensure minimal seepage into the natural ground and a full geotechnical investigation will be completed as part of detailed design.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to plan</p>
4b	<p>2. If you want to provide a water feature area, you would be better advised to put it in the naturally occurring Scarborough Creek area. Traditionally we have put lots of infra-structure in place and running mega-litres of valuable storm-water into the bay – we need to change this philosophy!!</p> <p>Why not catch it and use it?? Why don't we provide a series of mini – dams along the Scarborough Creek to catch the water and use it for sustaining the vegetation you are considering there? I am basing this on the similar proposal recently installed in the Clifton Springs Golf Club grounds near Bayshore Ave. You would then have sufficient water to water the whole Beacon Pt Reserve If required and have a store for fire-brigades in an emergency, droughts etc. Water quality monitoring would also be easier & more reliable & excursion problems would be more traceable.</p>	<p>Scarborough Creek is a natural waterway and existing flora and fauna values preclude the modification of this system to install dams.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to plan</p>
4c	<p>3. To assist in protecting the cliff area and to provide a people friendly area at the shore-line area, I would suggest extending the shore-line out from the cliff into the water by providing suitable fill material - similar to that work done on the East side of the Clifton Springs boat ramp area.</p> <p>This would protect the bottom of the cliff from the erosion caused by rough weather & waves against the base of the cliff. It would also protect the cliffs, for a time, from the rising water levels predicted from climate change. The filled area, into the water, could then be grasses & treed with tables & seats etc, similar to the area east of the boat ramp.</p>	<p>Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) are responsible for beach renourishment works. There are no planned works east of Beacon Point.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to plan</p>
4d	<p>4. I do not see any access from the top of the cliff to the beach at the end of Beacon Point Rd, is this planned, or would people have to walk around from the steps a fair way West of Beacon Pt Rd.?</p>	<p>The Draft Master Plan recommends the investigation of a new beach access east of Beacon Point, subject to geotechnical, flora & fauna and archaeological investigations.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to plan</p>
5	<p>Why is the wetland so small? Using 1/3 of the area would be far more useful especially for birds to use for nesting and generally a place to call home. There are lots of local birds in this area, which would be very grateful.</p>	<p>The wetland catchment is relatively small and would be aimed at treating low flows only to ensure sustainability of planting.</p> <p>Beacon Point Reserve also provides the largest open flat grassed area along the coastal reserve and use must be balanced against the need for passive recreation.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to plan</p>

No	Summary of Comments	Response
6	<p>The detail as outlined in the Master Plan for the western end of the foreshore is commendable but my comments involve optimising the opportunities at the eastern end of the Reserve where Edgewater Drive and Centaurus Avenue Intersect.</p> <p>The opportunity for public beach access is more applicable than at the western reserve end of Beacon Point. There is ample space for parking off the street on the headland - the addition of bollards would stop cars travelling down the paved path to the shoreline or reaching the cliff face.</p> <p>Improving this substantial walking track would allow access for prams and pushers and assist the less mobile. The track is the best method of reaching the foreshore beaches as elsewhere along Edge Water Drive and the reserve, access is by stairs down steep cliffs. The tracks at the eastern reserve end are more prolific and attractive and connect to key locations like 'the dell'. If Council funds for expenditure on this underutilised peice of Clifton Springs coastline are tights, surely it would be more prudent to continue redeveloping the western end of the reserve.</p>	<p>The Draft Master Plan provides recommendations for the staged development of facilities including beach access at Beacon Point Reserve, which is a key open space area along the coastal foreshore as identified in the Clifton Springs Management Plan 2008.</p> <p>Improvements to other beach access points along the coastal reserve is outside the scope of this project.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to plan</p>
7	<p>I would have liked to see some play or interactive equipment for children. With a mix of aging population with visiting grandchildren and young families in the area I think a playground would be well utilised in a space where there will be BBQ facilities and access to the beach. The closest playground is at Centaurus Ave, is quite hidden and is rarely used. Another playground up at Tanderra Court is hardly used also. (From my experience)</p>	<p>The two existing playgrounds are located within walking distance to Beacon Point Reserve and are accessible to the local community. Provision of additional playground facilities at Beacon Point is not proposed in the short-medium term but may be reconsidered if beach access and upgraded picnic facilities are established.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to plan</p>
8a	<p>1. I am against upgrading the picnic area and certainly do not want toilet facilities. The rest is fine (MR)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>We understand from an enquiry made separately to the meeting that was held to discuss this that a toilet facility is not likely to be built in the early stage of the Plan's implementation until the stairs to the beach are built. We would like clarification of the proposed timetable of works.</i> 	<p>The potential provision of beach access at Beacon Point will prompt a potential increase in use and visitation levels at Beacon Point Reserve. The facilities in the park will be then required to appropriately provide the level of service and infrastructure to cater for this increase. Until there is beach access however there will be no toilet facility required.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to plan</p>
8b	<p>2. I consider it important that any beach access be constructed to the east of Beacon Point as a matter of priority. There is no mention of the walking/bike path to connect the Dell all the way to Portarlinton. (LM)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>As referred to in the opening, this is a matter that needs to be taken up with DSE and for the Friends to get a better understanding of the state of the coastline in this area. If a solution is found then then the Reserve and its surroundings will become more popular and therefore there will need to be additional facilities including a toilet and probably extended parking spaces. The Reserve already has a number of regular users and any increase after access to the beach is provided will need careful management</i> 	<p>The investigation of the location and feasibility of beach access to the east of Beacon Point is identified as a high priority in the Draft Master Plan. The Draft Masterplan also identifies the future need to complete the trail link to the Dell, as identified in the Clifton Springs Management Plan.</p> <p>Noted.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to plan</p>

No	Summary of Comments	Response
8c	<p>3. It would be great if there was some nature play space with a few boulders near the proposed wetlands. I am concerned about mosquitos that may breed as a result of the creation of the lake.</p> <p>I would like to know what type of trees that are being looked at for the boundaries though. Not sure about the prospect of toilets in the future. (ST)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>A proposal for a lake was not muted at the meetings with the consultants in March. This is not objected to and in fact may enhance the area more than envisaged. It does raise some specific questions:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>How will the dam be filled?</i> ○ <i>How will it be kept from stagnating and therefore attract mosquito breeding?</i> ○ <i>What safety restrictions will be imposed to manage the lake and ensure that it does not become a distraction to the “passive” feel of the area now?</i> ○ <i>What wildlife is envisaged to be introduced?</i> ○ <i>What OH&S rules will be imposed on the area?</i> ○ <i>Will the lake be stocked with fish?</i> 	<p>There is no intention to establish a lake. The Draft Master Plan recommends the establishment of a water quality treatment wetland. This will dry out in periods of warm weather and will not increase levels of mosquitos. Refer 4a and 5.</p> <p>The potential water quality treatment wetland will improve biodiversity and habitat values for birds however there will be no other wildlife introduced and the wetland will not support fish.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to plan</p>
8d	<p><u>Recreation</u></p> <p>1. Where is the narrow path to link High Ridge Drive with Cantata Drive shown on the Plan?</p>	<p>The narrow 1.5m unsealed path runs along the eastern boundary of the reserve and along the foreshore reserve through to the access stairs at Cantata Way. The new path is shown as a thin yellow strip on the plan.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to plan</p>
8e	<p><u>Park Facilities</u></p> <p>2. The proposed facilities are OK however refer to earlier comments regarding the timing of the installation of the stairs to the beach and the installation of a toilet facility.</p>	<p>Refer to 8b.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to plan</p>
8f	<p><u>Barwon Water Pumping Station</u></p> <p>3. It is most appropriate that the pumping station be sensitively fenced in.</p>	<p>The Draft Master Plan recommends liaising with Barwon Water to improve the visual exterior of the pumping station building.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to plan</p>
8g	<p><u>Beach Access</u></p> <p>4. We prefer that access to the beach be as suggested in Option B. Subject to the findings of the Cultural Heritage report, it would seem to be more logical that despite the steepness of the banks, that a stairway could be built to start from a point 50 to 75 meters from the mouth of Scarborough Creek. It would be appropriate if when this is being considered that The Friends could be consulted and be advised of the difficulties associated with the location of any entry point.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to plan</p>
8h	<p><u>Land Management</u></p> <p>5. This para suggests the main area of the reserve be available for “Dog off Lead” but the strip from the reserve to Scarborough Creek be “Dog on Lead” We do not see the reason for this distinction and it would be hard to police. It would be more sensible to class the whole of the Reserve area as “Dog off Lead”</p>	<p>The Draft Master Plan recommends 'dog on lead' along the Scarborough Creek corridor to protect the existing environmental values in the creek and minimise disturbance to other dogs and livestock in the adjoining properties along the corridor.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to plan</p>
8i	<p><u>Flora and Fauna</u></p> <p>6. We support the suggested flora plan in principle. The types of plants and grass replacement types are not specified but it appears that native types will be installed where possible. Minimising height of any trees and or shrubs is a most important.</p>	<p>Noted Refer 2f.</p> <p>Recommendation: Amend Draft Master Plan as per recommendation in 2f.</p>
8j	<p>7. There are a number of feral animals living in the Reserve such as rabbits, foxes and hares. There is a need to</p>	<p>The unfenced eastern boundary along the undeveloped rural properties to the east of</p>

No	Summary of Comments	Response
	<p>minimise these as they not only destroy the vegetation but also disturb the ground. Elimination of these pests will allow for more native type fauna to move in.</p>	<p>Scarborough Creek presents a significant challenge to management of pest species. The impact of pests on the environmental values and cliff stability will be monitored and pest control programs will be coordinated with adjoining land holders and DPI when required.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to plan</p>
8k	<p>8. We note that there are some residents who have access to the Scarborough Creek area to allow their livestock to roam. There is no real objection to this however if walking trails are to be formed it may be necessary to provide guidelines for this activity.</p>	<p>Council by laws do not allow the access of live stock within public open space.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to plan</p>
8l	<p>9. There are neighbours bordering on the west boundary of the Reserve who have planted non indigenous plants outside their fences. We would like guidance on how to address this. Allowed to remain or not?</p>	<p>Planting within the open space corridor is not permitted without Council approval. Exotic species are frequently weeds in coastal reserves and will eventually be moved and replaced with local indigenous species.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to plan</p>
8m	<p><u>Scarborough Creek</u></p> <p>10. We believe that it would be an advantage to have the ability to be able to exit the Scarborough Creek area to the south and walk out to Panorama Court.</p>	<p>There is no existing public access from Scarborough Creek to Panorama Ct. As outlined in the Structure Plan opportunities for future links will be considered if they arise.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to plan</p>
8n	<p><u>Cultural Heritage</u></p> <p>11. We agree that where the heritage matters are identified that they be protected although we believe that they should not be formally signposted as this will encourage vandalism and desecration.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to plan</p>
8o	<p>12. The erection of the fences further away from the cliff area is sensible but we believe that the erosion will not be curtailed unless there is better control of storm water outfall.</p>	<p>The cliffs will continue to naturally erode. The establishment of new low indigenous planting along the top of the cliff area will minimise the impact of stormwater erosion along the cliff. The existing grassed swale along the foreshore corridor will also be retained to catch overland flows before these reach the cliff.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to plan</p>
8p	<p><u>Water Quality Treatment Wetland</u></p> <p>13. We wish to meet with your experts on this matter to better understand the stormwater management process and the proposal to harvest some of the outfall for the wetlands.</p>	<p>Noted. The master plan only suggests investigation of a wetland and this will involve further consultation if it proceeds.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to plan</p>
8q	<p><u>Conclusions</u></p> <p>We have stated at the outset that the Plan in the main is acceptable to us and we support its implementation. We would like to know when plan will commence to be implemented and what stages are envisaged. There will need to be relevant signage at the Reserves entrance and at appropriate points along the way. Signs discouraging minibikes and other such activities will be necessary. More dog bag facilities and bins would be of assistance. We are willing to participate in the vegetation planting programme as we believe that participation in that part of Reserves development will confirm interest and ownership of the project for the local residents.</p> <p>We would like to hear from you regarding the DSE participation in the coastal protection programme.</p> <p>We look forward to meeting with you and the staff of the Council as the process of confirmation of the Plan progresses.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to plan</p>
9	<p>Please paved walkways (at least in the Edgewater Drive area) I walk there each day, as I have for 14 years, and each time I think of the paved walkways in all the towns I have holidayed,</p>	<p>The proposed unsealed walking paths outlined on the Draft Master Plan will provide significant improvements in all weather all ability access.</p>

No	Summary of Comments	Response
	<p>form Far North Queensland through to Northern NSW.</p> <p>We usually choose smaller locations for holidays, often much smaller than Clifton Springs, and without fail have experienced paved walkways and also boardwalks where the terrain varies. Surely COGG could do that here.</p>	<p>There are few footpaths in Clifton Springs and staged cost effective improvements to the network are seen as the most equitable way to improve access.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to plan</p>
10	<p>Currently Beacon Point is something of a “dead-end”, but this should not be the case.</p> <p>I walk with some friends from Clifton Springs to Portarlington once a year. We do it around low tide; it takes about 2 hours and is an easy and very scenic walk.</p> <p>The Beacon Point Master Plan should encourage this activity.</p> <p>Also, as a priority, there should be a cycling/walking trail along the bay coastline passing through Beacon Point and connecting to the Geelong/Portarlington Road.</p> <p>Beach access also needs to be improved and made more accessible by the mobility challenged.</p>	<p>The Draft Master Plan supports the establishment of future trail link to the lower Dell to the west, as identified in the Clifton Springs Coastal Management Plan. Beach access at Beacon Point will also be investigated and this would assist informal beach walking access through to Portarlington.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to plan</p>
11	<p>I would like to suggest a walking/cycling path around the edge of the park and through the centre. This could be in crushed rock/gravel/ or bitumen would be better.</p>	<p>Beacon Point Reserve provides the largest open flat grassed area along the coastal reserve, which is to be retained for informal recreation.</p> <p>A new unsealed walking path is proposed to provide walking link through the park from High Ridge Drive to the beach access stairs at Cantata Way. This new walking trail is located around the perimeter to maximise the grassed area available for informal recreation and diversity of use of the open space.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to plan</p>
12 a	<p>Landscape Treatment</p> <p>I support much needed improvements to Beacon Point Reserve to enhance its use as informal recreation, including formalised paths, jogging tracks, children's active recreation space, weed control and plantings (including trees).</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to plan</p>
12 b	<p>Planting of trees is appropriate however given broader resident concern this should be carefully considered to enable sharing of important established views from residential properties. Tree planting in clumps to establish interest, diversity and break up the large expanse of space is supported in striking an appropriate balance with the sharing of views. It's great that this issue has been acknowledged in the design. The plan in my view could have gone further in providing for groupings of vegetation and trees within the space rather than just on the edges particularly at the southern end where residents views would be above the canopy line in many respects.</p>	<p>Further planting within the reserve, including changes using mounds can be considered as part of investigation for the wetlands and proposed upgrade of picnic facilities.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to plan.</p>
12 c	<p>Similarly I consider that the plan could do more in terms of “low scale” mounding or rock formations and the like to add greater visual interest to the reserve space and areas for kids to explore. There is currently one small hill on the reserve and that is the spot the local kids gravitate too. Consideration should be given to manipulation of the flat landscape in the centre of the reserve to add interest and activity. The design is fairly vanilla in this respect and I know the designers can achieve a better outcome with encouragement from Council.</p> <p>Finally I'm pleased that the design addresses the current negative visual impacts on the pumping station.</p>	<p>Refer 12b.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to plan</p>
12 d	<p>Wetland</p> <p>I fully support the wetland as an environmental water treatment initiative and adding some much needed interest to the space. This is much better than drains going untreated into the bay and causing beach pollution after rain events. I really hope that this isn't costed out of the works which would deliver a very</p>	<p>Refer to 4a.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to plan</p>

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	<p>uninteresting overall result. I expect Council, may receive some opposition to a wetland with concerns of mosquitos etc. Council should show environmental leadership and champion the wetland in response to any such concerns. The large main drain pit/grill within the reserve north of the wetland is unsuccessfully protected by a galvanised railing at present. The design should address this minor eyesore through either planting or potentially relocation or expansion of the wetland to incorporate this feature.</p>	
12e	<p>Backing away from Beacon Point Reserve Beach access</p> <p>This is my main concern. Beach access from Beacon point reserve as shown on the Clifton Springs Foreshore Management Plan 2008 makes perfect sense at this point and could further add to the value and use of both an excellent section of beach and the reserve in the same way that the Dell does further down. Due to the limited public access this section of beach is not well maintained being basically spoilt by drift rubbish from the bay. The beach itself is one of the best naturally occurring sandy beach assets to this section of coast, superior to that of the Dell. The Draft Master Plan now states this as "investigate location only" which is very disappointing. I would like to see this included in the Master Plan as a Council commitment and the Council to then take this up with DSE on residents' behalf. The removal of the steps to the beach on Edgewater would seem counter productive particularly as the proposal is to replace these with another access only slightly to the west and then undertake additional beach replenishment works. It doesn't make any sense to me when works further west at the bend in Edgewater have provided beach access in any event. What we really need is to add value to Beacon Point reserve by including beach access to east of Beacon Point Road. The plan is a backing away from the Council adopted Coastal Management Plan on this point which committed to this access. Why remove one access for residents west of Beacon Point road only to replace this further west and closer to an already existing access point when the funds could be committed and shared with this master planning project adding value to both and potentially bringing forward this project on Council's capital works program. A bit of joined up government could be a beautiful thing.</p> <p>Recent beach access from Edgewater Drive which is rocky and plagued with algae at the sandy section due to close proximity of the visually unattractive and dangerous stormwater drain - not a pleasant environment for children which raises community health issues especially after rain events. Public access as committed in the 2008 Plan would enhance community use and rubbish collection/disposal by walkers and users of the space, particularly if bins were provided to assist this on-going community cleanup. I anticipate the strong community presence would willingly participate in weed removal, community clean-up and revegetation programs. Cost associated with Edgewater Drive beach replenishment works could be saved and redirected towards Beacon Point vegetation works.</p>	<p>The Clifton Springs Coastal Management Plan recommended investigation and this has been supported as a high priority in the Master Plan. Until detailed geotechnical, Flora and Fauna and Cultural Heritage assessments have been completed it is not possible to confirm if access is feasible east of Beacon Point.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to plan</p>
12f	<p>Public Toilets</p> <p>The provision of public toilets needs to be carefully considered as part of a wider public toilet strategy for the municipality which identifies need and the criteria for the location of these new Council assets. Issues of appropriate separation from residential properties combined with the need for casual surveillance from roads and other business or uses are critical. Gone obviously are the days of burying these toilets in isolated public parks which has lead to ongoing vandalism and cost to Council as well as other undesirable activities. Such possible outcomes are completely unacceptable in such an isolated family location. If toilets are to be entertained a location on west side of the Beacon Point Road water front would be superior in providing for casual surveillance to reduce undesirable activity</p>	<p>Refer 2c.</p> <p>The location of the proposed public toilet facilities has been chosen for its proximity to the existing sewer pumping station as well as the recessed nature of the topography to minimise the visual impact of this new built structure in the reserve. Its location in proximity and view from Beacon Point Road and adjoining residential properties will ensure passive surveillance in maintained while minimising impacts on views.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to plan</p>

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	<p>and vandalism. The plan identifies the need for an appropriately designed building however recessing the building behind the pumping station and away from residential view lines in the wrong design approach. The building should be close to the reserve and parking area, well designed and clearly visible for casual surveillance. Closed at night is appropriate.</p>	
13	<p>Draft Master Plan for Beacon Point Reserve is mostly on the right track and would improve access and environment of the area.</p> <p>Only concern is the proposed deviation of drainage to a small wetland- the potential for increase in fauna i.e. snakes needs to be considered. The area is close to residential houses and the potential safety issues need attention.</p>	<p>The proposed wetland will be located away from housing and as it is not connected to bushland or a natural waterway it is not likely to attract snakes.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to plan</p>
14 a	<p>Include a section on sea level rise.</p> <p>Is sea level rise being considered in your planning?</p> <p>As a resident, of course I would like to see greater access to the beach, especially west of the Cantata Steps, through to the current ramp near Caravel Ave, and also west, even beyond Scarborough Creek, to McAdams Lane, which is a great stretch of beach.</p> <p>However, nobody wants to see money wasted, so I wonder about the sense of beach renourishment against the long-term effects (beyond 2030) of rising sea levels and the very recent effect of channel deepening.</p>	<p>Climate change is a key element of all Council planning. The Master Plan is consistent with Council's Coastal Processes Study and Current Climate Change policies. The beach renourishment program is run by DSE and is outside the scope of the Master Plan.</p> <p>Geotechnical and Coastal Engineering assessment will be required as part of investigation for new stair access east of Beacon Point.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to plan.</p>
14 b	<p><u>Global warming</u></p> <p>By 2050, sea levels are forecast to be 40cm higher than present levels. For planning purposes, the official sea level rise being used by the Victorian Government is 80cm by 2100.</p> <p>In 2050, will Clifton Springs have any beach left at all, in any of the Zones (1 to 4) between The Dell and McAdams Lane? Probably not, particularly when the forecast rise is compounded by the approximate 15 cm rise that, I believe, has already occurred since the deepening of the Port Phillip shipping channel (the last step at Cantata is now almost constantly under water). Why?</p>	<p>Refer 14a.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to plan</p>
14 c	<p><u>Channel deepening</u></p> <p>I believe the public was misled about the tide (level) effect of blasting 3 metres (!) of rock from The Rip, with effects rippling all the way around the bay, including Clifton Springs. To accommodate ships with a 14m draught (without tidal assistance), The Rip was deepened to 17.3m, requiring removal of around 3 metre of rock</p> <p>(http://www.terra-et-aqua.com/dmdocuments/terra118_4.pdf, 2010). The effect on (high) tide levels was calculated to be around 8 mm, hence no effect on coastal erosion.</p> <p>(http://www.dpcd.vic.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0020/34562/DG_Provis_-_Statement.pdf)</p> <p>No effect on coastal erosion? Check out Portsea beach. The Govt argued that the loss of 2.5m of Portsea beach was due to natural storm swells. However, it coincided with channel deepening, and the sand has not returned (a renourishment plan was released in May 2012).</p> <p>The Govt's position also contradicts the statement that a one-centimetre sea-level rise can cause erosion effects of up to one metre (Sydney Morning Herald 2008, quoting study commissioned by the NSW Department of Climate Change, conducted by University of NSW).</p> <p>So What about Clifton Springs: How much has the tide level <i>really</i> been increased as a result of deepening of the Heads? When the new stairs (at Cantata Way) were built in 2005,</p>	<p>Refer 14a.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to plan</p>

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	<p>access to the beach was as easy as stepping off the last step onto sand at – except at high tide, when the last one and sometimes two steps was typically under water. At low tide, I could walk to McAdams Lane without getting my ankles wet. That is no longer possible. I believe that the water level in 2012 is around 15cm higher than it was in 2005 when the steps were constructed, and that most of the rise in water level occurred post-2009.</p> <p>The State Govt has promised \$300k to provide 15,000 tonnes of sand for Clifton Springs (http://www.starnewsgroup.com.au/indy/surfcoast/271/story/150048.html). I'm assuming most of it will be used to renourish the beach below the Cantata steps. The grant is welcomed, but unless another groyne is built, I doubt the renourishment will last the anticipated 15 years. Remember, it's taken less than 3 years to lose all sand west of the Cantata steps.</p> <p>Include a section on experience gained from past projects</p> <p>Please consider successes and failures of previous projects within the area. Also, even though The Dell is excluded from the map that you've sent me, you should look at work around The Dell too. The questions I suggest you should consider are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With the benefit of several years of hindsight, what has worked and what hasn't? Why? • What did the engineers recommend and why, ie. what was their logic? • Did Council adopt all of the engineers' recommendations? If not, why? <p>Some projects have clearly worked, such Groynes 1 (along the old jetty) & 2. Sand has built up to a height of around a metre, for a distance of around 15 metres on the east side of each groyne and imported sand has been retained. In contrast scouring has occurred to the east of easternmost (third) groyne.</p> <p><u>The ramp:</u> Whose idea was it to build a ramp access down to the beach (rather than stairs – smart decision), across a natural drainage course (dumb)? It's particularly annoying because I told one of the engineers at the time that it would not work because heavy rainstorms would quickly scour the ramp. I even recommended a better location (just to the east, along a natural high-point (near to the old stairs). My alternative ramp would have allowed stormwater to take its natural course to the bay, along with the inevitable tonnes of sediment. Instead, the 'crap-trap' has silted up, to the point where further rubbish exerted so much pressure on the safety grates that they tore away from the concrete, bolts and all. A ramp will probably always scour, but placement away from natural drains will minimise scouring.</p> <p><u>Other recent projects:</u> Decision to build new stairs at Cantata Way</p> <p>Despite the failure of the old stairs, a new set was built. These will inevitably tear apart too. Why not a ramp? Are stairs more cost-effective (taking into account the comparatively large amount of maintenance required for a ramp)? Different options and associated costs should be included in your Draft plan, to demonstrate to stakeholders that various options have been considered.</p> <p><u>Incomplete projects:</u> Decision to not build the fourth groyne</p> <p>I've been told by an engineer that the loss of sand at the Cantata Stairs is due to scouring, caused by, ironically, the groyne that was built (in 2010) to renourish the beach. There is now no sand at the bottom of the stairs –it's all been scoured away. According to an engineer that I've spoken to, this sand is being deposited all the way at Point Richards - and it's not coming back. I was told that this scouring would not have happened if the other, planned, groynes further to the east had</p>	

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	<p>been constructed. Why was groyne no.4 not built?</p>	
14d	<p><u>1.4.4 Domestic Animal Management Plan, City of Greater Geelong, 2008</u></p> <p>As a former dog-owner, I appreciated the freedom to allow the dog to run off-leash.</p> <p>What I didn't appreciate was the removal of the dog poo bins from the old (now demolished stairs). I think a bin every 150m is reasonable.</p>	<p>CoGG to provide dog bins at the entries to the reserve at Beacon Point Road and High Ridge Drive. It is important that bins can be accessed from roads for collection of rubbish, therefore spacing of 150m is not practical in many areas.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to plan</p>
14e	<p><u>2.6.2 Drainage and water quality</u></p> <p>RE: Photo 18 Existing drain pit. The photo implies that drain pits along the Reserve are typically fenced. This is not so. The unfenced drain pits are a potential hazard, moreso for dogs than humans. A dog could easily break a leg if a paw was to get caught in the relatively large gaps of the grates. My simple and relatively cheap fix is to cover the grate with chicken wire or similar fine mesh.</p>	<p>The pit is a surcharge pit and is required to receive and discharge stormwater.</p> <p>Recommendation: Liaise with CoGG Engineers to review safety of grills at existing pits.</p>
14f	<p><u>2.6.3 Coastal waters</u></p> <p>It's fantastic that we have waters that are clean enough to support mussel farming. However, the waters may not always be so clean. I recently spoke with a fisherman whose snapper (caught in the channel last year) was inedible. He told me that, when gutting them, they smelled of petrol.</p>	<p>The issue of water quality is a total catchment issue. The water quality treatment wetland proposed in the Master Plan will treat stormwater flows before these are discharged into the bay and therefore reduce the impact of untreated run off on the existing marine life and intertidal and sub tidal sea grass located in the adjoining coastal water.</p> <p>Detailed assessment of the marine values in outside the scope of this project.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to plan</p>
15a	<p>1. Beach access would be most logical at the mouth of Scarborough Creek.</p>	<p>Refer 16b.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to plan</p>
15b	<p>2. Walking paths would be good.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to plan</p>
15c	<p>3. Rubbish bin on the High Ridge Drive side of the park – lots of dog owners park up there so a bin in that location would be helpful.</p>	<p>Noted. Refer to 14d.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to plan</p>
16a	<p>1. My wife and I are Clifton Springs residents (37 years) and we are always walking along the cliff top from the Beacon point Reserve car park to Sutherland's Creek and back West to Centaurus Avenue for exercise of an evening. Now that we are unfortunately aging, we find it more and more difficult to walk along the natural uneven goat track that has been worn into the ground surface along the cliff top and we often find ourselves walking along the roadway of Edgewater Drive. This is an unsafe practice and detracts from the scenic and beautiful cliff top walk we enjoy whilst exercising. In the warmer months of the year the track is dusty and dirty and in the wetter months we have to contend with the mud and puddled water. Every evening we encounter many fellow residents enjoying the same scenic walk along the uneven, ankle breaking track and all have the same comment. Why can't the council lay a small sealed hot-mix walking track along the entire cliff top (from Sutherland's Creek to Centaurus Avenue), linking up with strategically placed seating benches for us oldies to stop at, catch our breath and take in the magnificent scenery on offer. If we are going to do some improvements, then let's do them right and make the walking track an all weather one that is usable by as many as possible.</p>	<p>Refer 9</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to plan</p>

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16 b	2. I believe that access to the beach from the Beacon Point Reserve is critical and should be developed as closely as possible to the proposed Picnic/Barbecue area, thus making it more appealing for families to use and to allow better beach walking and associated water activity access from this point.	Beach access investigation is noted as a high priority. Recommendation: No change to plan
16 c	The Drysdale /Clifton Springs area is growing at an alarming rate and we should be attracting more people to the natural beauty spots of the area, making them more user friendly and providing the amenities to assist in that purpose.	Noted Recommendation: No change to plan
16 d	The improvements to the beach and the introduction of the groynes in this area west of the Beacon Point Reserve have been great. I have observed families using the new sandy beach for entertainment and exercise in the warmer weather, an increase in beach walkers and even fishermen trying their luck from atop of the Groynes. This is fantastic, please consider my comments and keep up the good work done so far in improving this asset.	Noted Recommendation: No change to plan