

# Council Policy

**Council Policy Name:** Governance of Meelup Regional Park

**Responsible Directorate:** Planning and Development Services

**Version:** Adopted

## 1. PURPOSE

- 1.1. The purpose of this Policy is to outline the governance arrangements for Meelup Regional Park, ensuring that the Park is managed in an effective and inclusive manner consistent with the Management Plan.

## 2. SCOPE

- 2.1. This Policy is applicable to Council, the Committee, Working Group, employees and the broader community with respect to the governance of Meelup Regional Park, that is, decisions related to the planning, management, development, use or promotion of the Park, but not including day-to-day decision-making or service delivery relating to the maintenance of infrastructure or landscaped areas, collection of waste, or similar.

## 3. DEFINITIONS

Term	Meaning
Committee	Meelup Regional Park Committee, as described in the Policy Statement and generally as set out in the Committee Terms of Reference
Friends Group	Friends of Meelup Regional Park Incorporated.
Management Plan	the <i>Meelup Regional Park Management Plan July 2010</i> , or subsequent or amended plan as may be approved by the Minister for Lands pursuant to Section 49 of the <i>Land Administration Act 1997</i>
Park	Meelup Regional Park ('A Class' Reserve 21629, managed by the City of Busselton for the purposes of 'Conservation and recreation', as well as road reserves that pass through Reserve 21629).
Policy	this City of Busselton Council policy titled "Governance of Meelup Regional Park"
Working Group	Meelup Regional Park Working Group, as described in the Policy Statement and generally as set out in the Working Group Terms of Reference

## 4. STRATEGIC CONTEXT

- 4.1. This Policy links to Strategic Theme 1. ENVIRONMENT - An environment that is valued, conserved and able to be enjoyed by current and future generations, of the City's Strategic Community Plan June 2021 and specifically the following Strategic Priorities:
- a. 1.1: Ensure protection and enhancement of environmental values is a central consideration in land use planning;
  - b. 1.2: Work with the community to manage and enhance natural areas and reserves and their biodiversity; and
  - c. 1.4: Respond to the impacts of climate change on the City's coastlines through informed, long term planning and action.

## 5. POLICY STATEMENT

- 5.1. The Park is a strategic asset with significant ecological, cultural and recreational values to both the local community and the broader State of Western Australia. The City has a responsibility to provide appropriate stewardship to maintain those values into the future.
- 5.2. Given the above, the City considers it important that appropriate governance arrangements are established and maintained for the Park, and this Policy sets out those arrangements.
- 5.3. The objectives of this Policy are:
- to set out arrangements for the appropriate governance of the Park which will assist the Council in providing the stewardship to maintain the Park's significant ecological, cultural and recreational values into the future.
  - to ensure that the full range of considerations relevant to the governance of the Park are considered, including environmental, amenity, recreational, cultural, community, social, economic and financial considerations; and
  - to further build and maintain productive working relationships between the Council, City officers, community, volunteers, users of the Park, and other stakeholders.
- 5.4. To achieve these objectives Council will establish (subject to formal consideration by the Council, usually in the period immediately following each ordinary election):
- a committee pursuant to Sections 5.8 and 5.9(2)(d) of the Local Government Act 1995, to be known as the Meelup Regional Park Committee;
  - a working group, to be known as the Meelup Regional Park Working Group; and
  - the members of the Committee shall generally be members of the Working Group and vice versa.
- 5.5. To achieve these objectives, the City will also:
- notify the Working Group before making any decisions relating to the governance of the Park within the scope of this Policy; and
  - consult with the Working Group and, in the circumstances set out in the Committee Terms of Reference, obtain a decision or recommendation of the Committee, in relation to matters considered strategically important to the governance of the Park.
  - seek to support the establishment of and maintain an ongoing partnership with the Friends Group;
- 5.6. The roles of the Committee and Working Group with respect to the governance of the Park shall be broadly as follows:
- the purpose of the Committee is to consider matters that require a formal decision of the Committee and/or the Council, as set out in the Committee Terms of Reference; and
  - the purpose of the Working Group is to discuss and resolve matters in an informal, open, creative and constructive manner, as set out in the Working Group Terms of Reference.

## 6. RELATED DOCUMENTATION / LEGISLATION

- Meelup Regional Park Committee Terms of Reference
- Meelup Regional Park Working Group Terms of Reference
- Meelup Regional Park Management Plan

## 7. REVIEW DETAILS

Review Frequency		3 yearly		
Council Adoption	DATE	27 August 2019	Resolution #	C1908/172
Previous Adoption	DATE	N/A	Resolution #	N/A