



# Committee Report

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## Agricultural Advisory Committee

**Meeting Date:** March 10 2022  
**Meeting Time:** 6:00 p.m.  
**Location:** Town Hall, Council Chambers  
32 Mill Street, Thornbury, ON

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### Agricultural Advisory Committee Recommendations

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**NOTE:** The following are recommendations from the Agricultural Advisory Committee to be considered for adoption by Council

- [Receive Minutes \(March 10, 2022\)](#)

**Recommended** (Move, second)

THAT Council of the Town of The Blue Mountains receives the Agricultural Advisory Committee Minutes dated March 10, 2022 as attached, for information purposes.

**[B.3.1 CSOPS.22.022 2022 Wild Chervil Management Strategy - Director of Operations Shawn Carey](#)**

**Recommended** (Move, second)

THAT Council of Town of The Blue Mountains receives the following recommendation from the Agricultural Advisory Committee dated March 10, 2022:

THAT the Agricultural Advisory Committee receives Staff Report CSOPS.22.022, entitled "2022 Wild Chervil Management Strategy", CARRIED.

AND THAT the Agricultural Advisory Committee endorse the 2022 Wild Chervil Management Strategy, CARRIED.

## **C.1 Terms of Reference Review and Recommendations**

### **Recommended (Move, second)**

THAT Council of Town of The Blue Mountains receives the following recommendation from the Agricultural Advisory Committee dated March 10, 2022:

THAT the Agricultural Advisory Committee endorses the existing Terms of Reference as presented, CARRIED.

THAT the Agricultural Advisory Committee requests that the Committee continue to meet 6 months post election as set out under Section 4 "Membership/Voting" of the Terms of Reference, CARRIED.



# Minutes

## The Blue Mountains, Agricultural Advisory Committee

**Date:** March 10, 2022  
**Time:** 6:00 p.m.  
**Location:** Town Hall, Council Chambers - Virtual Meeting  
32 Mill Street, Thornbury, ON  
**Prepared by:**  
Kyra Dunlop, Administrative Assistant Committees of Council

**Members Present:** John Ardiel, James McKinlay, Grant McMurchy, Dennis Ouellette, Lynn Vail, Councillor Andrea Matrosovs, Randy McLeod, Shawn McKinlay

**Members Absent:** Duncan McKinlay

**Staff Present:** Director of Operations Shawn Carey, Municipal By-Law Officer Raymond White, Transportation Master Plan Project Coordinator Adam Fraser

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### A. Call to Order

#### A.1 Traditional Territory Acknowledgement

We would like to begin our meeting by recognizing the First Nations, Metis and Inuit peoples of Canada as traditional stewards of the land. The municipality is located within the boundary of Treaty 18 region of 1818 which is the traditional land of the Anishnaabek, Haudenosaunee and Wendat-Wyandot-Wyandotte peoples.

#### A.2 Committee Member Attendance

Councillor Matrosovs called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Acting Executive Assistant to Committees of Council Kyra Dunlop confirmed all members were present except Duncan McKinlay who sent his regrets. James McKinlay joined the meeting at 6:02 p.m. and John Ardiel joined the meeting at 6:05 p.m.

Town staff present were Director of Operations Shawn Carey, Municipal By-Law Officer Raymond White and Transportation Master Plan Project Coordinator Adam Fraser.

### **A.3 Approval of Agenda**

Moved by: Shawn McKinlay

Seconded by: Grant McMurchy

THAT the Agenda of March 10, 2022 be approved as circulated, including any additions to the Agenda, being Item E.1.1 Castle Glen Discussion and E.1.2. Consumer Connections

Yay (7): James McKinlay, Grant McMurchy, Dennis Ouellette, Lynn Vail, Councillor Matrosovs, Randy McLeod, and Shawn McKinlay

Absent (2): John Ardiel, and Duncan McKinlay

**The motion is Carried (7 to 0, 2 absent)**

### **A.4 Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and general nature thereof**

NOTE: In accordance with the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act* and the Town Procedural By-law 2021-76, Agricultural Advisory Committee Members must file a written statement of the interest and its general nature with the Clerk for inclusion on the Registry.

None

### **A.5 Previous Minutes**

The Minutes were discussed and additional context will be added for consideration at the next regular Committee meeting.

## **B. Staff Reports and Deputations**

### **B.1 Deputations, if any**

#### **B.1.1 Transportation Master Plan Public Information Session #2 - Transportation Master Plan Project Coordinator Adam Fraser**

Transportation Master Plan Project Coordinator Adam Fraser provided an overview of the presentation:

- Master Planning Process
- Consultation Process
- Transportation Master Plan Objectives
- Coordinator with Other Town Strategies
- Available Transportation Master Plan Study Documents
- Public Information Centre 2 Purpose, Format and Themes
- Contact Information
- Additional Resources for Question and Answer Period

Adam noted that the Public Information Centre 2 materials would be presented at the March 29 Committee of the Whole and if the materials were approved the Public Information Centre would take place between April 16 and May 8.

Committee Member John Ardiel noted that agricultural business needed to be a larger part of the discussion and that two concerns that needed to be addressed were:

- Bottleneck of traffic in downtown Thornbury;
- By-Pass or alternate route over the escarpment to facilitate the movement of goods and services

Director of Operations Shawn Carey noted that the Transportation Master Plan would assist in identifying where efforts should be focused to address those concerns and that the scope of work being completed was above what neighbouring communities had been doing in their own review of transportation. Director Carey noted that the Comprehensive Speed Limit Review By-Law would also serve to facilitate the movement of goods and services in Town.

Committee Member Randy McLeod noted that it would not be prudent to only consider local conditions and that Highway 26 was a major route connecting the Town to Meaford and Owen Sound. An alternate route that did not result in bottlenecks to neighbouring municipalities should also be identified. Director Carey noted that staff had spoken with the Ministry regarding the need for a regional approach to transportation. Adam noted that the data collection taking place through the Transportation Master Plan also put the Town in a good position to advocate for its transportation needs and identify impacts on neighbours.

Adam Fraser left the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

## **B.2 Public Comment Period (each speaker is allotted three minutes)**

NOTE: In accordance with the Town Procedural By-law 2021-76, fifteen minutes is allotted at the Meeting to receive public comments regarding Agricultural Advisory Committee matters included on the Agenda. The speaker shall provide their name and address, and shall address their comments to the Chair.

Comments shall not refer to personnel, litigation or potential litigation matters, or regarding matters that are a follow-up to a Public Meeting.

**NOTE:** Committee meetings are currently taking place virtually to assist with social distancing with respect to COVID-19. Comments received from the public that have not been included on the Agenda will be read at the meeting by the Executive Assistant.

None

### **B.3 Staff reports, if any**

#### **B.3.1 CSOPS.22.022 2022 Wild Chervil Management Strategy - Director of Operations Shawn Carey**

Director of Operations Shawn Carey provided an overview of Staff Report CSOPS.22.022. Director Carey noted that Town efforts to remove wild chervil had started because of the impacts on crop production and that enforcement would focus on reducing those impacts.

Councillor Matrosovs noted that the 2022 Map in the Staff Report should note that the spot spraying will occur where there is a presence of wild chervil.

Randy asked what the cost of the wild chervil program was. Director Carey advised that the Town had allocated a \$20,000 operating budget for the program and that the contract for 2021 has cost \$7,200.

Committee Member Dennis Ouellette noted that the Town sprayed 188 kilometres of road in 2019; 18 kilometres of road in 2020; and 16 kilometres of road in 2021. Dennis noted that wild chervil was significantly diminished and more manageable and that every effort should be made to minimize the resident's exposure to the chemicals being sprayed. Dennis noted that staff should conduct an inventory to determine where and how much wild chervil was growing. Director Carey noted that the data shown in the 2020 map was based on known locations and that 28 additional properties had been identified as having wild chervil. Director Carey noted that GPS data had helped with better location and spot-spraying of the wild chervil which contributed to the reduction in the number of roads that needed to be sprayed. Municipal By-Law Officer Raymond White noted that 4 officers were working on wild chervil monitoring as part of their regular workday.

The Committee discussed the importance of tackling wild chervil in the early spring to prevent its spread and that it was an important program for the Town to continue.

Moved by: John Ardiel

Seconded by: Lynn Vail

THAT the Agricultural Advisory Committee receives Staff Report CSOPS.22.022, entitled "2022 Wild Chervil Management Strategy".

Yay (8): John Ardiel, James McKinlay, Grant McMurchy, Dennis Ouellette, Lynn Vail, Councillor Matrosovs, Randy McLeod, and Shawn McKinlay

Absent (1): Duncan McKinlay

**The motion is Carried (8 to 0, 1 absent)**

Moved by: Shawn McKinlay  
Seconded by: James McKinlay

AND THAT the Agricultural Advisory Committee endorse the 2022 Wild Chervil Management Strategy.

Yay (7): John Ardiel, James McKinlay, Grant McMurchy, Lynn Vail, Councillor Matrosovs, Randy McLeod, and Shawn McKinlay

Nay (1): Dennis Ouellette

Absent (1): Duncan McKinlay

**The motion is Carried (7 to 1, 1 absent)**

## **C. Matters for Discussion**

### **C.1 Terms of Reference Review and Recommendations**

Councillor Matrosovs noted that the next term of Council would decide whether to proceed with the Town's Advisory Committees and that the Committee could consider providing feedback to Council regarding its' Terms of Reference. Councillor Matrosovs noted that there had been an increase in the number of meetings the Committee had held since its inception, as the Committee met very infrequently from 2012 to 2018 and subsequently had met nearly every month from 2019 to 2021.

The Committee provided the following comments:

- The Terms of Reference needed to reflect that the Committee meetings were recorded and posted to the Town website;
- The Committee was an integral part of the community and it was important that Council receive feedback from the agricultural and rural perspectives;
- There was discussion about the Committee continuing with monthly meetings versus fewer meetings during the year;
- The Purpose of the Committee had broadened its horizons from the original mandate and that Council used to bring forward topics to the Committee to comment on. A lot of presentations and staff time were spent on the Committee;
- Information should flow to the Committee in order to provide Council assistance on making decisions;
- The Committee's mandate should address climate change;
- That the Committee should continue to meet and work for 6 months post-election in accordance with its Terms of Reference.

Acting Executive Assistant to Committees of Council Kyra Dunlop noted that potential next steps for the Committees of Council before they wound down in June 2022 included the opportunity to have their last regular Committee

meeting in May 2022 and to bring forward a final report to a Committee of the Whole in June. A final report could include the Committees' recommendations on its Terms of Reference, including its mandate or meeting schedule.

Committee Member John Ardiel asked why Committees were asked to stand down in May 2022. Kyra noted that there had been robust discussion at Council during the December 2021 Committee of the Whole Budget meetings. Councillor Matrosovs noted that a consideration was the amount of staff time dedicated to Committees of Council. Director of Operations Shawn Carey noted he would speak with the Finance Department for a breakdown on the staff hours allocated to the Committee.

Moved by: James McKinlay  
Seconded by: Dennis Ouellette

THAT the Agricultural Advisory Committee endorses the existing Terms of Reference as presented.

Yay (8): John Ardiel, James McKinlay, Grant McMurchy, Dennis Ouellette, Lynn Vail, Councillor Matrosovs, Randy McLeod, and Shawn McKinlay

Absent (1): Duncan McKinlay

**The motion is Carried (8 to 0, 1 absent)**

Moved by: Dennis Ouellette  
Seconded by: James McKinlay

THAT the Agricultural Advisory Committee requests that the Committee continue to meet 6 months post election as set out under Section 4 "Membership/Voting" of the Terms of Reference.

Yay (8): John Ardiel, James McKinlay, Grant McMurchy, Dennis Ouellette, Lynn Vail, Councillor Matrosovs, Randy McLeod, and Shawn McKinlay

Absent (1): Duncan McKinlay

**The motion is Carried (8 to 0, 1 absent)**

## **C.2 Town Quarterly Newsletter Submission**

The Committee noted that they would provide recommendations for the next Town newsletter at a future Committee meeting.

## **C.3 Private Land and Conservation Authority Signage - Committee Member John Ardiel**

Councillor Matrosovs noted that she and Director of Community Services Ryan Gibbons had spoken with the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority regarding the issue of signage past the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority border. Councillor Matrosovs advised that there were red spots located on trees along the



Clendenan area but that someone who was unfamiliar with the area would not know that those spots indicated a 'No Trespassing' zone. Councillor Matrosovs noted that the use of unsanctioned trails had increased, and that the Town would be considering the Clendenan Conservation Area through the Trail Network program and which could include additional and updated signage to make it clear when people were leaving permitted areas.

**C.4 On Farm Diversified Uses and Zoning By-Law Discussion - Committee Member Duncan McKinlay**

This item deferred to the next Committee meeting.

**C.5 Follow-up Direction from Council**

Note: The following resolution was passed at Council on February 14, 2022:

THAT Council of the Town of The Blue Mountains receives the November 18, 2021 Agricultural Advisory Committee meeting recommendation as follows:

THAT the Agricultural Advisory Committee requests that Council direct staff to include information regarding agriculture in Town of The Blue Mountains, including the Slow Moving Vehicle Signs and land and wildlife stewardship and conservation efforts in the agricultural community, and general agricultural information in future Town-issued publications, in the Town website and the Explore Blue Website, and that the Committee is consulted by Town staff regarding the content, CARRIED.

AND THAT Council direct staff to include information regarding agriculture in Town of The Blue Mountains, including the Slow Moving Vehicle Signs and land and wildlife stewardship and conservation efforts in the agricultural community, and general agricultural information in future Town-issued publications, in the Town website and the Explore Blue Website, and that the Committee is consulted by Town staff regarding the content, CARRIED.

Councillor Matrosovs read the resolutions passed at Council.

**C.6 Action Item Tracking**

- Tree By-Law Sub-Committee Update
  - Councillor Matrosovs noted that she was waiting on a response from the Province regarding circulation of the document "What Municipal Council's Need to Know" and that Director of Legal Services Will Thomson had been consulted. Director Thomson had provided a response to the document in Staff Report PDS.21.080, Section D.
  - OMAFRA had provided a link to the website "Call before you Cut" with the appropriate provincial contact person on the webpage as well as to connect with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

- <http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/crops/hort/news/orchnews/2016/on-1216a4.htm>
- Interactive mapping for effected properties would be available for members of the public to use but was not yet available.
- The Committee discussed the release of provincial staff member's contact information to the Committee to connect with. Councillor Matrosovs advised that provincial staff had provided her the "Call before you Cut" webpage which included the relevant contact information, and that she was not able to forward provincial staff emails. Committee Member Randy McLeod noted that members of the public were going to have concerns about why the "What Municipal Council's Need to Know" and provincial staff member emails could not be shared and noted his opinion that a member of Council was editing what the Committee could see before Council had a discussion about the content.
- Economic Development Advisory Committee Member Update
- Parking Update, if available
- Town Newsletter Submission Topics, if any
- Nitrous Oxide Follow-up
  - No response regarding Nitrous Oxide has been received from the Christian Farmers Union. Correspondence received will be added to the agenda.
- Official Plan Update, if available
  - Planning staff will bring a presentation to the April Committee meeting.
- Water Park Update, if any
  - Staff will bring forward updates once available

## **D. Correspondence**

### **D.1 Joanne Hughes, Ontario Federation of Agriculture Re: Year in Review and Annual Politicians Meeting**

Moved by: Grant McMurchy

Seconded by: Dennis Ouellette

THAT the Agricultural Advisory Committee receives Item D.1. for information.

Yay (8): John Ardiel, James McKinlay, Grant McMurchy, Dennis Ouellette, Lynn Vail, Councillor Matrosovs, Randy McLeod, and Shawn McKinlay

Absent (1): Duncan McKinlay

**The motion is Carried (8 to 0, 1 absent)**

## **E. New and Unfinished Business**

### **E.1 Additions to Agenda**

#### **E.1.1 E.1.1 Castle Glen Discussion**

Moved by: Randy McLeod

Seconded by: Shawn McKinlay

THAT the Agricultural Advisory Committee defers Item E.1.1 to the next regular Committee meeting.

Yay (8): John Ardiel, James McKinlay, Grant McMurchy, Dennis Ouellette, Lynn Vail, Councillor Matrosovs, Randy McLeod, and Shawn McKinlay

Absent (1): Duncan McKinlay

**The motion is Carried (8 to 0, 1 absent)**

#### **E.1.2 E.1.2. Consumer Connections - Randy McLeod**

Committee Member Randy McLeod noted that Farmers Markets were one way for farmers to connect with consumers but with inflation and the retail price of food the agricultural community should consider other opportunities to connect with consumers to augment the Farmers Market model.

### **E.2 Items Identified for Discussion at the Next Meeting**

- Official Plan Review Presentation - Senior Policy Planner Shawn Postma
- On Farm Diversified Uses and Zoning By-Law Discussion - Committee Member Duncan McKinlay
- Castle Glen Discussion - Committee Member Randy McLeod
- Consumer Connections - Committee Member Randy McLeod
- Action Item Tracking
  - Tree By-Law Subcommittee Updates
  - Economic Development Advisory Committee Member Update
  - Parking Update, if any
  - Town Newsletter Submission Topics, if any
  - Nitrous Oxide Follow-up, if any
    - No response regarding Nitrous Oxide has been received from the Christian Farmers Union at this time.
  - Water Park Update, if available

## **F. Notice of Meeting Dates**

April 14, 2022

Town Hall, Council Chambers (virtual)

## **G. Adjournment**

Moved by: Shawn McKinlay  
Seconded by: Dennis Ouellette

THAT The Agricultural Advisory Committee does now adjourn at 8:37 p.m. to meet again at the call of the Chair.

Yay (8): John Ardiel, James McKinlay, Grant McMurchy, Dennis Ouellette, Lynn Vail, Councillor Matrosovs, Randy McLeod, and Shawn McKinlay

Absent (1): Duncan McKinlay

**The motion is Carried (8 to 0, 1 absent)**