

MINUTES

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF ELECTORS HELD ON TUESDAY, 2 FEBRUARY 2016 AT 7.00PM

PRESENT:

Mayor Logan Howlett (Presiding Member)
Deputy Mayor Carol Reeve-Fowkes
Clr Steve Portelli
Clr Lyndsey Wetton
Clr Phil Eva
Clr Kevin Allen
Clr Chamonix Terblanche

APOLOGIES:

Clr Stephen Pratt
Clr Bart Houwen
Clr Lee-Anne Smith

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr Stephen Cain	-	Chief Executive Officer
Mr Don Green	-	Director, Governance & Community Services
Mr Stuart Downing	-	Director, Finance & Corporate Services
Mr Daniel Arndt	-	Director, Planning & Development
Mr Charles Sullivan	-	Director, Engineering & Works
Ms Claudine Murphy	-	Media & Communications Officer
Ms Melody Waerea	-	Personal Assistant to Chief Executive Officer

1. DECLARATION OF MEETING

The Presiding Member declared the meeting open at 7:00pm and welcomed all those in attendance.

The Presiding Member acknowledged the Noongar people who are the Traditional Custodians of the Land on which we were gathered and paid respect to the Elders, both past and present, of the Noongar Nation and extended that respect to other Indigenous Australians who may have been present.

2. PURPOSE OF MEETING

This Annual General Meeting of Electors was called in accordance with Section 5.27 of the Local Government Act 1995 and the matters to be discussed were:

2.1 ANNUAL REPORT 2014-15

- (a) Copies available on the website and at the door to Electors attending.
- (b) Queries to be answered by Presiding Member or appropriate Staff.

No questions.

2.2 GENERAL BUSINESS

- (a) Written Questions / Motions on Notice.

Hamilton Hill Community Group (HHCG)

Re: Priorities and Projects planned for 2016 and beyond.

Q1. Please provide an update on the timelines and budget estimates for the remaining items contained in the 2012 HHRP Plan.

A1. The table (attached) shows the actions set out in the Hamilton Hill Revitalisation Strategy and the timeframes and cost estimates where available.

Some points of clarification can be made relating to the above actions which were compiled in late 2015 in a format suitable to report on all the revitalisation strategies.

The traffic modelling component is shown as not started as this amount is a proportional amount for this area as part of the overall city wide traffic modelling that the City carries out every year and is spent based on specific requests or tasks that come up. The Public Realm Improvement Strategy has produced a concept design and cost estimate for the upgrade of Rockingham Road from Spearwood Avenue to Phoenix Avenue and will now be produced for consultation with resident groups

A street tree inventory and audit across the whole City is an ongoing task (about 80% complete now) which will inform a City wide street tree strategy which will include the Hamilton Hill area. The auditing is expected to be completed in 16/17.

City staff continue to work with BP on the removal of the existing obstructions over the pipeline as well as progressing discussion on the master plan for the reserve.

The City already has a drainage strategy which is proposed for review in 16/17 which will include the drainage infrastructure in the Hamilton Hill area, including sumps.

Q2. What initiatives from the HHCG Plan are Council prepared to allocate funding to from its 2016-17 budget?

A2. *The City will be focussing on the actions and projects identified in the adopted Hamilton Hill Revitalisation Strategy when preparing the 2016/17 budget. These actions have been subject to extensive community consultation through the preparation of the Strategy, and they represent the priorities for Council in the Hamilton Hill area.*

In line with these actions the City will be looking at Simms Road town centre environment this year to ascertain what improvements may be appropriate to occur, and this will include community consultation. It is likely that if upgrade works are identified, then the project will transition to Parks and Engineering to deliver once budget allowances have been made by Council.

In addition, the following Grant opportunities for specific projects, may be available for the Group to pursue:

Action Item 3: Develop a Community Hub – Community Grant Program – September 2016

Action Item 4: Oral History Project – Cultural Grant Program - September 2016 (up to \$4,000 plus Lottery west Grant for balance)

Action Item 6: Beautify Simms Road – Sustainability Grant – 31 March 2016 (up to \$4,000)

(b) Other Business.

Questions from the floor

Geoffrey Sach, Coogee

Re: Poore Grove the Proposed Poore Grove Car Park Extension

Q1. Will the extension be completed by July 2016? If this car park expansion is being delayed by clearing permit complexities and the likely cost increases, would it not be more appropriate to consider constructing the additional car park capacity as originally proposed in Option 1, particularly as the land tenure for the site could well be transferred from the Public Transport Authority (PTA) to City within the existing 5 year licence period.

A1. *We are still waiting on the Department of Environment and Regulation in relation to the clearing permit. At this point in time, until they reach a decision, we don't know what the offset of the compensations is going to be so it is impossible to say if there is going to be any significant cost increases in that or not since that's a process that we don't have any control over. As soon as that decision gets handed down then we can move on to the timetable for the construction of the car park. There is no*

set date for this decision to be handed down. We were expecting one during this month. There is no opportunity to do anything further at this stage.

Q2. I believe that there is an opportunity to get that land transferred or placed under care and control by the City and that negotiations have been quite protracted for some time and I wonder when that is going to be concluded?

A2. *At this point in time Council officers are following the resolution of Council which instructed us to proceed with the option of the car park that we're looking at now. We haven't engaged with the PTA in terms of a handover or transfer of any other land. The only other land we have been looking at relates to the land to the south of the Poore Grove entrance in relation to pedestrian movements.*

Bearing in mind the initial application with the PTA is only for a lease, it's not for the transfer of any portion of land, it's only a lease for part of the land. If Council was to go back and try and change that now, there are several things that would need to be looked at in order to enter into negotiation. For instance, the State Government is now revaluating all of its planned assets. Until recently Local Governments through the Act can only acquire crown land for no more than 5% of its value. The State Government is now looking to increase that to 50% of its value. We are only pursuing at this stage a temporary lease over that site

Q3. I think there is an opportunity there for the City to have the Reserve placed on a care control or management order because it is a stranded asset and in some discussions we've had, there appears to be some opportunity for the City to get that.

A3. *This will be taken on notice and followed up on by the City.*

MOTION:

Background: Aiden Lang the unsuccessful candidate for the recent Local Government election, West Ward, City of Cockburn, supported by Andrew Sullivan, a City of Fremantle Councillor, have organised a petition to transfer the suburbs of Hamilton Hill, North Coogee and Coogee to the City of Fremantle, to provide a rate base to fund a greater City of Fremantle. The Coogee Beach Progress Association (CBPA) totally opposes this proposal and objects to this action promoted by the City of Fremantle.

Moved: Geoffrey Sach

Seconded: Ev Cortis

Motion: The CBPA requests that the City of Cockburn take the necessary action to oppose the petition prepared by Aiden Lang and to take action to retain the suburbs of Hamilton Hill, North Coogee and Coogee within the boundaries of the City of Cockburn, should the petition be lodged with the Department of Local Government.

Carried 10/0

Ev Cortis, Spearwood

Re: Rubbish on Rockingham Road at Phoenix Shopping Centre

Q1. In front of the Council building on Rockingham Road, between Phoenix and Spearwood Road, there is a lot of rubbish. I walk past there every morning and since Christmas nothing has been done with it. It is like a tip where the bus stop is and litter everywhere and I think it should perhaps put an extra bin on either side of the bus stop. The sweeper has gone past this morning and not removed any of it.

A1. *This matter will be addressed.*

Q2. The other issue is Flower gardens. There doesn't seem to be anything in the way of flower gardens. If people bring somebody else from another State or part of the world, there is nothing to associate it with other than green grass. Where there is a roundabout or a medium strip, perhaps some money can be spent on flower gardens or roses or whatever. The other places in Nedlands for example, there is a huge rose garden there. Is that feasible? And when they put the posts up, don't make it wide enough for motorcyclists to go past, make it half a metre.

A2. *Council will certainly look at beautification around this building however in years gone by Council has taken a very minimalist approach to landscaping around this particular precinct but we can certainly look into that. We have had some flower gardens around Spearwood Avenue and Hamilton Road at different times in the past.*

Dean Winnerow, Coolbellup

Re: Petition to transfer the suburbs of Hamilton Hill, North Coogee and Coogee to the City of Fremantle.

Q1. Is Coolbellup involved in this land grab as well? I was led to believe that Coolbellup was involved as well.

A1. *Not that we are aware of on this particular petition that has been circulated.*

Q2. What is the process? Have they got a chance of getting this through and those suburbs becoming part of Fremantle?

A2. *They are required to get 250 signatures from ratepayers of the affected area. Once they have 250 signatures on the prescribed form signed by eligible electors in the affected areas it is placed before the LGAB. If that proposal is accepted as a valid submission, then the affected electors of the area and the affected Local Governments are then provided with notification of the proposal and are given a period of time specified in the notification, to make a response to that particular proposal.*

Q3. Surely it can't be that easy, to just get 250 signatures in order to change the rate base of an area?

A3. *Yes it is as simple as that. At one stage the Government was looking at a different number around 5,000 as a minimum number but it currently remains as 250. If the 250 signatures are received, there is then a further process that needs to follow. At this stage it is a matter of waiting to see what gets played out in that particular arena.*

Q4. Surely the Council is against this process.

A4. *Council has already expressed its opposition and concern regarding any boundary changes to our City.*

Becky Stephen, Spearwood
Re: Coogee Beach.

Q1. Thank you for arranging the Australia Day activities at Coogee Beach. The thoughtfulness of putting more rubbish bins made the event far better than last years. The cleaners had commented after last year that it has been disgusting, but they were much happier after this year's.

Can we possibly have a plan put in place to upgrade Coogee Beach change rooms because it really is getting to the stage with the population growing and the development in the area, that there is more pressure put on these change rooms. I have had to report a couple of times about the change rooms flooding as they just can't cope with the traffic. Can we look at getting more shower cubicles, more toilets and better drainage put in?

Another problem is that a lot of people are not washing their feet before they come into the change room. Could we possibly put in something outside the change room such as a shower as they enter such as the one they have at South Beach? I have one final comment. I regularly can't shower because the cubicles are full. There are only 2 cubicles and there are a lot of people at the weekend.

A1. *Thank you for your comments regarding the Australia Day event. With regards to the change rooms, that is a very common problem with sand ingress to block the drainage. It happens in most coastal installations, people washing surfboards and various other things they take to the beach. We will certainly take on board these comments and see if we can come up with solutions that will work in with our Capital Works improvements.*

Antonio Corona, Coogee
Re: Coogee Beach.

Q1. The Shire of Cockburn try to squeeze all the blocks to make more housing. My area which is new development, the blocks become so small but huge parks. The park is cost money to the Shire and no housing. So many parks just behind me and I want to know how is the Shire collecting money without the housing only to pay expense every year or every day or every weekend to cut the grass. How much increase for rates?

A1. *With any subdivision there is a statutory requirement where a minimum 10% is required to be provided as public open space. That land is required to be transferred to the Crown and a management order is then placed with the City for ongoing maintenance. The City constantly updates its budget in terms of taking into account future increase in terms of open space and the ongoing management. Most developers when they provide the open space will also undertake an upgrade of those areas of open space in conjunction with the City's Parks Department. The developers as part of that requirement are required to maintain it for a minimum of 2 years before transferring across to the City and they also will provide the City with an account in terms of what the cost of maintenance is so that it can be built into the City's budget as we grow and increase in size.*

For the first 2 years of any new subdivision, the developer usually picks up all of the maintenance costs. It is not a cost to the city. Once the development lot has been created it has already been taxed through its rates every year to provide the City with income for the general maintenance so the city is not ending up with its large bills.

Q2. Watsonia Road, the blocks are so small. The block is 225sq.m it is smaller than my garage. The people are not buying the blocks.

A2. *If the developer still owns the block, if it hasn't sold, the developer still has to pay the City rates. The developer is carrying the cost, it is not as if no one is paying the rates for this development until it sells. The average lot size now across the metropolitan area is 350sq.m and we have some developments now which we call micro lot developments which are as small as 135sq.m for a development. This is the way of the future and what this means is that there will be more people in need of public open space for recreation purposes so it is important to have them.*

3. CLOSURE

There being no further business, the Presiding Member thanked all for participating and closed the meeting at 7.28pm

REVITALISATION PLAN

Table 5 Actions for Implement Hamilton Hill Revitalisation Strategy – Showing Current Status and Cost Estimate						
Actions	Stakeholders	Priority	Timeframe	Relevant Area of Strategic Plan	Current Status	Cost Estimate
Amend TPS3 in accordance with the Residential Density and Zoning Plan.	Lead Department: Planning Services Department	High	6 months - 1 year	Governance Excellence Demographic Planning	Complete	Internal
Amend TPS3 to introduce a land consolidation density bonus in accordance with recommendation set out in section 2.2	Lead Department: Planning Services Department	High	6 months - 1 year	Governance Excellence Demographic Planning	Complete	Internal
Amend APD 58 in accordance with the recommendations set out in Section 2.3	Lead Department: Planning Services Department	High	6 months - 1 year	Demographic Planning Infrastructure Development	Complete	Internal
Prepare POS Improvement Strategy	Lead Department: Park and Environment Department Support Department: Planning Services Department, Development Services Department and Finance Department External: Land owners	High	6 months - 1 year	Lifestyle and Aspiration Achievement	Complete	Internal
Traffic Modelling	Lead Department: Engineering Services Department Support Department: Planning Services Department	High	6 months - 1 year	Transport Optimisation	Not Started	\$35,000
Simms Road Cafe and Garden Feasibility Study	Lead Department: Planning Services Department Support Department: Development Services Department and Finance Department External: Centre land owners	High	6 months - 1 year	Lifestyle and Aspiration Achievement	Commenced	Internal
Work with land owners to prepare a Masterplans for Rockingham Road and Winterfold Road Centres	Lead Department: Planning Services Department External: Land owners	Medium	1-3 years	Governance Excellence Demographic Planning Employment and Economic Development	Complete	Internal
Prepare additional statutory planning controls for Rockingham Road and Winterfold Road Centres	Lead Department: Planning Services Department External: Land owners	Medium	1-3 years			
Prepare Public Realm Improvement Strategy for Rockingham Road and Winterfold Road Centres	Lead Department: Engineering Services Department Support Department: Planning Services Department	Medium	1-3 years	Lifestyle and Aspiration Achievement	Not Started	\$250,000
Prepare Street Tree Strategy	Lead Department: Park and Environment Department Support Department: Planning Services Department, Development Services Department	Medium	1-3 years	Lifestyle and Aspiration Achievement	Commenced	Internal
Prepare Master Plan for BP Pipeline Reserve	Lead Department: Park and Environment Department Support Department: Engineering Services Department	Medium	1-3 years	Lifestyle and Aspiration Achievement	Not Started	Internal
Drainage Strategy	Lead Department: Engineering Services Department Support Department: Planning Services Department	Medium	1-3 years	Infrastructure Development	Not Started	\$35,000