

## REJECT AND REPLACE MOTION FOR ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

Name:	Cr Katy Mair
Date of Meeting:	18 August 2020
Meeting of the:	Ordinary Meeting of Council
Item No.	CD20/8131
Title of Item	Petition to the City of Melville – Bert Jeffery Park

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### PROPOSED AMENDMENT OR REJECT AND REPLACE MOTION:

(If an amendment is proposed, please identify the words being amended and reasons for the amendment)

#### **That the Council, having considered the petitioners requests:**

- 1. Notes the petition received requesting that the development at Bert Jeffery Park be stopped; and**
- 2. Refers the matter back to an EMIS prior to returning to the next Council Meeting in September for a decision.**
- 3. Directs the CEO to advise the lead petitioner of the outcome.**

### REASONS:

1. Issues were raised questioned the required size of a safe playing field for cricket and that needs to be clarified. It has been raised at the ABF but further information should be obtained.
2. While cricket balls may not reach vehicles on Murdoch Drive, they could go into the playground. Saturday is when parents are usually off work and want to take their children to the playground. Having cricket all day Saturday will prevent any other users, especially children.
3. Placing a high fence around the playground is ugly and “caging” the children. It will not stop balls falling from above and will not stop curious children finding ways around it.



4. Insurers may suggest that the Council may not be liable for any damages or injuries caused by an errant cricket ball. However, in some instances sorry will not suffice if there is permanent disability or death caused by one of these errant cricket balls.
5. The Department of Local Government Sport and Cultural Industries website (which has adopted the Cricket Australia rules) recommends that for new cricket fields constructed after 2015, the minimum boundary for premier cricket must be 65m with a recommended boundary of 75m plus a safety buffer of 20 to 40m. The Applecross Cricket Club and other Clubs that play at Bert Jeffery Park are Grade A premier players and their playing Association the WA Suburban Turf Cricket Association require a 68.5m boundary. Ignoring non-compliance issues is unsafe work practice and we, as a Council, should ensure the rules are enforced.
6. Enforcing a 68.5m boundary would mean that it would extend into the existing children's playground which also has a low limestone wall located 67m from the cricket pitch and is a hazard to the cricket players who could be running backwards within the boundary and could trip and fall on playground equipment.
7. The rules of cricket are that balls that fall outside the boundary score six (6) runs. Consequently, every batsman seeks to hit the ball outside the boundary which is the reason the safety buffer is required.
8. The amenities building is planned to be located at the edge of the 68.5m boundary and within the 20m safety buffer which means observers at the building could be at risk.
9. The suggested size of the amenity building is very small and could possibly become inadequate in a short space of time. Consideration needs to be given to increasing the number of showers and toilets. However, there should be no club room at the facility and no liquor license at the kiosk. This amenity block could be used by such sports as Soccer and Australian Rules Football.
10. Discussions at EMIS should also cover whether cricket should remain at Burt Jeffrey Park because of safety risks and reconsider all options to relocate it elsewhere including the purchase of more public open space or making arrangements with schools or other organizations that may have available grounds.

**SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_