

**MINUTES  
OF THE  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF ELECTORS  
HELD IN THE  
CONFERENCE ROOM, MELVILLE CIVIC CENTRE  
AT 6.30PM ON  
WEDNESDAY, 2 DECEMBER 2015**



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**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF ELECTORS HELD IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM, MELVILLE CIVIC CENTRE, 10 ALMONDBURY ROAD, BOORAGOON, COMMENCING AT 6.30PM ON WEDNESDAY 2 DECEMBER 2015.**

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**1. PRESENT**

His Worship the Mayor, Russell Aubrey

**COUNCILLORS**

**WARD**

Cr C Schuster (Deputy Mayor) (From 7.24pm)	Applecross/Mount Pleasant
Cr N Pazolli	Applecross/Mount Pleasant
Cr J Barton, Cr G Wieland	Bicton/Attadale
Cr C Robartson, Cr M Woodall	Bull Creek/Leeming
Cr R Aubrey, Cr D Macphail	City
Cr P Phelan, Cr L O'Malley	Palmyra/Melville/Willagee
Cr N Foxton, Cr T Barling	University

**2. IN ATTENDANCE**

Dr S Silcox	Chief Executive Officer
Mr M Tieleman	Director Corporate Services
Mr J Christie	A/Director Community Development
Mr S Cope	Director Urban Planning
Mr L Hitchcock	A/Director Technical Services
Ms K Johnson	Executive Manager Organisational Development
Mr J Clark	A/Executive Manager Legal Services
Mr G Ponton	Manager Strategic Urban Planning
Mr P Prendergast	Manager Statutory Planning
Mr T Capobianco	Manager Building Services
Ms K Brosztl	Manager Engineering Design
Mr P Kellick	Manager Asset Management
Mr J Bird	Manager Parks and Environment
Mr T Cahoon	Manager Health and Lifestyle
Ms L Hartill	Manager Neighbourhood Development
Ms L Reid	Manager Cultural Services
Mr B Dawkins	Manager Neighbourhood Amenity
Mr K Yeoh	A/Manager Financial Services
Mr M Duncan	Manager Information and Communications Technology
Ms J Arbel	Marketing and Communications Coordinator
Mr N Fimmano	A/Governance and Compliance Program Manager

At the commencement of the meeting there were 32 Electors of the City of Melville and one member of the press in attendance.

**3. APOLOGIES**

Cr C Schuster for late arrival at 7.24pm.

**4. LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Nil.

**5. INTRODUCTION OF ELECTED MEMBERS AND OFFICERS**

His Worship the Mayor, R Aubrey, introduced individual Elected Members and Senior Staff to the meeting and advised that the City's Management Team were in attendance and would be available to meet electors after the meeting.

**6. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

**6.1 FINANCIAL INTERESTS**

Nil.

**6.2 DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST THAT MAY CAUSE A CONFLICT**

Nil.

## **7. BUSINESS**

### **7.1 NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF ELECTORS**

The following Notice of Meeting was advertised in the West Australian Newspaper on Wednesday, 11 November 2015 and the Melville Times Community Newspaper on Tuesday, 24 November 2015, in addition to being displayed on public notice boards at all the City of Melville libraries, the Civic Centre and the City's website. The notice read:

#### **“Annual General Meeting of Electors**

Electors are invited to the Annual General Meeting of Electors on **Wednesday, 2 December 2015** in the Conference Room of the City of Melville Civic Centre, 10 Almondbury Road, Booragoon commencing at 6.30pm.

Order of Business:

1. To receive the Annual Report for the year ended 30 June 2015.
2. General Business

Elected Members and staff welcome your questions regarding the City of Melville, the Annual Report or any matter relating to the Notice of Meeting. Click [here](#) to download a question form and email to [corpsupp@melville.wa.gov.au](mailto:corpsupp@melville.wa.gov.au)

In order for complex questions to be answered at the Meeting, questions must be received by **5.00pm on Friday, 27 November 2015**.

Copies of the Annual Report will be available on the City of Melville website from Wednesday 25 November 2015 and printed copies from Monday 30 November 2015 at the Melville Civic Centre and all City of Melville Libraries.

**Dr Shayne Silcox  
Chief Executive Officer”**

His Worship the Mayor read out the Manner of Conduct of the Meeting.

## **7.2 MANNER OF CONDUCT OF THE MEETING**

1. It is a requirement to advise that in the event of an emergency, everyone should take direction from officers who will guide you to the exit points of the building.
2. Toilets are located immediately before the entry to the Council Chambers.
3. All present are required to sign the attendance register at the entry to the Conference Room.
4. Speakers must be Electors of the City of Melville.
5. The proceedings are being taped for the purpose of production of the minutes and speakers are requested to use the microphones each time they speak.

The Minutes will include a summary of any questions asked and a summary of the response provided.

6. No other audio or visual recording is to be undertaken without the permission of the Presiding Member.
7. Speakers are asked to clearly give their name and address each time they speak.
8. Upon a motion being proposed, each speaker is to address the Chair.
9. All addresses are to be limited to a maximum of five (5) minutes. Extension of time is permissible only with the agreement of a simple majority of Electors present (*Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996 Regulation 17*)
10. No persons are to use offensive or objectionable expressions in reference to any Member, employee of the Council, or any other person (8.3 of Standing Orders).
11. All Elected Members and Directors attend this meeting to observe the proceedings and hear comments from Electors. All questions and comments should be directed to the Mayor who may invite a response from the Chief Executive Officer, Presiding Members of Committees, Directors or Elected Members.

## **8. PRESENTATION OF CITY OF MELVILLE COMMUNITY ANNUAL REPORT 2014/2015 INCLUDING FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015.**

His Worship the Mayor advised that copies of the Community Annual Report 2014/2015 had been circulated and had been available on request from City of Melville, libraries and the City's website.

**The Mayor asked for a general agreement from Electors that the meeting would conclude at approximately 8.30pm.**

## 9. GENERAL BUSINESS

### CITY OF MELVILLE COMMUNITY ANNUAL REPORT 2014/2015

His Worship the Mayor called for a mover and seconder to receive the Community Annual Report 2014/2015.

At 6.35pm Mr M McCormick of Applecross moved, seconded Ms M Beilin of Applecross –

**That the Community Annual Report 2014/2015 for the Year Ended 30 June 2015 be received.**

At 6.36pm the Mayor submitted the motion which was declared

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

His Worship the Mayor read out questions that were received in writing prior to the meeting.

#### 9.1 Mr P Best, Willagee

##### Question 1

*Will Melville Council adopt the Western Australian Whole of Government Open Data Policy, endorsed by Cabinet and launched by the Premier on 2 July 2015?*

*The purpose of the Whole of Government Open Data Policy is to improve management and use of the public sector's data assets in order to deliver value and benefits for all Western Australians. The Policy is available here <http://www.gcio.wa.gov.au/GCIO/media/Publications/Open-Data-Policy.pdf>*

*Data is considered 'open' when it is:*

- *released and available for the general public (not for exclusive use);*
- *easily discoverable;*
- *in formats that are modifiable, non-proprietary and machine- readable;*
- *licensed to enable reuse and redistribution; and*
- *available at no cost to users.*

*The principles of Open Data are that it is:*

- *Open by default*
- *Easily discoverable*
- *Usable*
- *Timely, as up-to-date as possible*

##### Response

The City has reviewed both the Open Data Policy and the datasets that are currently available through the Open Data Portal of the Western Australian Government. It should be noted that the majority of data sets have been provided by Landgate, who are the lead agency in the policy development, and that the data provided is almost entirely only spatial in nature at this stage.

The City is not the owner of spatial datasets of any size, however data is progressively being collected that may be appropriate for inclusion in the future.

The City currently provides relevant information via the City's online mapping tool. This includes property information, aerial photography, planning and zoning, Local Planning Scheme No 6 zoning, street trees and access information for disabled persons. Much of the source data for the mapping tool is the same open data available for download.

The publishing of Open Datasets by the City will be examined in the future and will take into account relevant aspects including privacy, cost and resourcing implications.

### **Mr P Best, Willagee**

#### Question 2

*Will Melville Council adopt a policy of not permitting Motions Without Notice, as default, except for items specifically recognised as emergencies, procedural or trivial?*

*The City, the Mayor and individual Councillors have committed themselves to Open and Transparent Government. This requires that Councillors and residents receive timely notice of intended decisions.*

*To effect this policy it would be necessary to prepare and publish all Motions at least by the Thursday preceding a Council meeting. The wording of a proposed Motion should be settled before publication, with appropriate input from Council officers, to ensure clarity, legality and effectiveness.*

*In the case of exceptions, a Motion could not be put before Council without notice unless authorised by a majority vote of Council.*

#### Response

Council processes must be flexible enough to allow for urgent matters to be brought to the Council decision making process. Council's Local Law, approved by the Parliamentary Joint Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, is consistent with all other Local Governments. Not permitting Motions without Notice would be in breach of the *City of Melville Standing Orders Local Law 2003*. It is a requirement of the Local Law that the Council vote by absolute majority to discuss a Motion without Notice and that the Council "is satisfied that sufficient information has been provided and that the urgency of the matter is such as to warrant an immediate decision by the Council".

### **9.2 Ms K Castle, Ardross**

#### Question

*What is the plan for the redevelopment of the Mount Pleasant Bowling Club site, assuming it does move?*

*If residential, will there be green title blocks and/or apartments?*

#### Response

The Mount Pleasant Bowling Club site is a Crown Reserve owned by the State Government of Western Australia and is vested under Management Order to the City of Melville with a lease to the Mount Pleasant Bowling Club Inc.

Ownership and legal control of the site falls under the Minister for Lands and the Department of Lands. The decision over the future of the site should the Mount Pleasant Bowling Club vacate, rests with the Minister for Lands. The Club has, on more than one occasion, sought advice from the City on the ongoing sustainability of the Club in its current form and what options are available to it to improve the facility for its members.

The City of Melville will explore options with the Department of Lands to potentially acquire the Mount Pleasant Bowling site from the State Government with the aim that any funds ultimately derived from the redevelopment of the site being allocated to offset costs associated with recreational improvements, like new bowling club facilities, etc.

No plan or concept has been prepared with respect to options for the Mount Pleasant Bowling site by the City of Melville. If the Department of Lands agreed to sell or give the site to the City of Melville, the site would need to go through a rezoning and community consultation process as part of the approvals process for any proposed redevelopment concept. It is envisaged that any proposed redevelopment concept if possible in the future would be in keeping with the existing residential area, the local planning scheme and public open space strategy.

### **9.3 Mrs E Nicholson, Applecross**

#### Question 1

*Street Trees Murdoch Drive, Murdoch*

*In November, the City constructed a footpath on the west side of Murdoch Drive between Leach Highway and the Piney Lakes Reserve entrance. A number of street trees were removed*

- a) *How many mature street trees were removed by the City?*
- b) *Why wasn't a meandering footpath constructed (as a lot of other councils do) which would have saved if not all the trees, the majority of them?*
- c) *How much did the footpath cost ratepayers?*

#### Response

- a) The City must be flexible to respond to the changing needs of the community, such as bike paths, etc. In relation to your question, fifteen trees were removed for the project. These will be replaced with 30 trees as per the City's policy, with 19 trees along the shared path and at least 11 trees in the Reserve.
- b) A meandering path was not the best option. In the early design stages of the project it was noted that a large number of trees would have been impacted on, even if a meandering shared path was constructed, which would have resulted in significant root damage to trees. A number of the trees that were removed were declining in health due to diseased or had poor structure.

To ensure minimal impact upon the Reserve and existing major irrigation infrastructure, the most viable option was to align the path with the existing road kerb.

- c) The estimated cost of the project is \$318,000.



**Mrs E Nicholson, Applecross (Continued)**Question 2

*Ordinary Meeting of the Council 12 May 2015*

*15. Motions of Which Previous Notice Has Been Given*

*15.1 Development of Funding Options to Mitigate the Effects of Climate Change*

- a) *Would you please provide a progress update to the above motion moved by the Mayor requesting the CEO to provide a report on funding options to fund an "urban forest"?*

*In the minutes of the May meeting, some of the Mayor's reasons for putting forward the motion were;*

*"In particular Increasing tree canopy cover will assist in reducing the urban heat island effect, by cooling the City, providing shade and improving the aesthetics and amenity of the City. It will also provide essential vegetation and nature corridors that support the movement of wildlife and increase biodiversity.*

*Green infrastructure is considered to be an essential element within the streetscape environment and the development and implementation of an Urban Forest Strategy will contribute to the health and well-being of our community."*

- b) *How does the City/Mayor reconcile the above rationale for an urban forest with the recent removal of a number of mature trees on Murdoch Drive in order to build a footpath?*

Response

- a) Funding options were presented at the Elected Member Information Session held on 25 August 2015 in accordance with the Council Resolution.
- b) The development and implementation of an Urban Forest Strategy will not preclude the need for future tree removals. There are a number of trees across the City coming to the end of their lifespan and the City will be developing a removal and replacement programme as part of the Strategy.

The City is committed to enhancing the urban forest and reducing the urban heat island effect. When a tree is removed, in accordance with Council Policy the City will plant two replacement trees.

Question 3*Declared Surplus*

*The declared surplus for the 2014/2015 year was \$4.5 million approx. How does the City intend to spend this surplus?*

### Response

The 2014/2015 Annual Report and Financial Statements, together with the unqualified Independent Auditor's Report and opinion, were adopted by the Council at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Tuesday 17 November 2015. At the same meeting direction was sought from the Council as to the distribution of the \$4,484,869 cash surplus identified in the audited financial statements.

Of the \$4,484,869 surplus \$250,000 has already been allocated in the 2015/2016 Budget to reduce the 2015/2016 rates increase amount. With respect to the allocation of the balance of the 2014/2015 cash surplus the Council unanimously resolved as follows:

That the Council allocate the 2014/2015 surplus of \$4,234,869 to the following accounts and projects –

- Infrastructure Asset Management Reserve \$2,097,465
- Community Facilities Reserve \$429,602
- Community Facilities Reserve (Synthetic Turf Project - Murdoch University) \$250,000
- Infrastructure Asset Management Reserve (Shirley Strickland Reserve Verge Parking Project) \$400,000
- Rates Equalisation Reserve Account \$1,057,802

### **9.4 Ms S Faulkner, Mount Pleasant**

Canning Bridge Senior Citizens' Club, 64 Kishorn Road, Mount Pleasant

#### Question 1

1. *Who owned the land on which the Canning Bridge Senior Citizens' Club was located at the time a decision was made to close the facilities and sell the land?*

#### Response

Lot 100 (No. 13) The Esplanade Mount Pleasant is a freehold land parcel owned by the City of Melville both currently and at the time a decision was made to close the Canning Bridge Senior Citizens Club.

#### Question 2

2. *Were there any conditions or limitations restricting the sale or disposition of the land and its facilities? Please specify:*
  - (a) *what those conditions or limitations were;*
  - (b) *whether the conditions or limitations were satisfied; and*
  - (c) *if so, how they were satisfied.*

#### Response

None.

**Ms S Faulkner, Mount Pleasant (Continued)**Question 3

3. *What was the most recent valuation placed on the whole of the land on which the Canning Bridge Senior Citizens' Club was based at 64 Kishorn Road, Mt Pleasant prior to its closure?*

Response

The valuation placed on 64 Kishorn Road, Mount Pleasant by the City's appointed independent valuers as at 30 June 2015 was \$5,180,000.

Question 4

4. *Has the land been sold and, if so, to whom?*

Response

No and no decision has been made to sell the site.

Question 5

5. *What sum of money is the City of Melville scheduled to receive from the sale of the land (or, how much has it already received if in fact the sale has already taken place)?*

Response

Please refer to the response in Question 4.

Question 6

6. *How are the proceeds of the sale of the land received by the City of Melville to be used and applied in the City of Melville, in particular?*

- (a) *Is it proposed to invest the whole of any portion of the proceeds in facilities for the health and recreation of senior citizens in:*

- (i) *the Mt Pleasant area;*  
(ii) *any other location in the City of Melville.*

*Please specify the proportion and proposed use of the funds?*

- (b) *If not, why are the proceeds not being applied for the benefit of senior citizens of the City of Melville?*

Response

Refer to the response in Question 4.

**Ms S Faulkner, Mount Pleasant (Continued)**Question 7

7. *The City continues to advertise the existence of the Canning Bridge Senior Citizens' Club at 64 Kishorn Road, Mt Pleasant on its website. Does this Club:*

(a) *Still exist;*

Response

Yes.

Question 7 continued

(b) *If so, where and when does it meet;*

Response

The Club is located at St David's Hall, Bombard Street Ardross.

Question 7 continued

(c) *What activities are carried out for and on behalf of the Senior Citizens at the location(s) at which it now exists;*

Response

The Club is an incorporated not for profit association and run their activities independently.

Question 7 continued

(d) *Has the closure of the Canning Bridge Senior Citizens Club facilities at 64 Kishorn Road, Mt Pleasant resulted in a decline in the numbers of persons taking advantage of the services of the club?*

Response

This data is not provided to the City as the Club no longer operate from a City owned facility.

Shirley Strickland Reserve

Question 1

*What changes and modifications to the playing fields and clubrooms on the Shirley Strickland Reserve were requested by the sporting clubs and associations named in paragraph 3 of the Council Resolution passed at 7:58 pm on 21 April 2015 consequential upon discussions held with Councillor Schuster prior to and after the passing of the Resolution?*

**Ms S Faulkner, Mount Pleasant (Continued)**Response

The City has received numerous requests over the years relating to, among other things, the sports fields, storage, floodlighting and Club/change room facilities.

The City has previously received communication from Mount Pleasant Bowling Club highlighting sustainability concerns for the sport of Bowls and a desire to move into a sporting hub, supporting the City preferred model of community hubs.

Since the resolution was passed, all Clubs have been contacted to ascertain their needs as part of the concept planning engagement process.

The City will be progressively working through all its sporting reserves to review usage and potential future requirements for both sports and community use.

Question 2

*Has the City of Melville directly or indirectly prepared any preliminary sketches (whether draft or not) incorporating any such requested changes and modifications?*

Response

No draft sketches have been prepared as a result of the motion presented to Council. A sketch will be drafted early in 2016 and provided to the community as per the process outlined on the 'We're listening' web page for Shirley Strickland Reserve Concept Plan.

Question 3

*Will any such sketches be made available now to the Electors and, if not, why not?*

Response

As per the response to Question 2.

Question 4

*Has the City of Melville directly or indirectly given any commitment (preliminary or otherwise) to make changes or modifications to the playing fields and clubrooms of Shirley Strickland Reserve as requested by any of the sporting clubs and associations referred to in the relevant Resolution of 21 April 2015?. If so, please provide details of any such commitments?*

Response

No. The City is investigating the appropriate mix of sports to be played at the Reserve and will produce a concept plan taking into consideration all feedback received.

### **9.5 Mr T Faulkner, Booragoon**

#### Question 1

*Was the land on which the Canning Bridge Senior Citizens Club operated originally acquired by way of a gift to the Council?*

#### Response

The land was purchased by the City. The City's records confirm the purchase.

#### Question 2

*If it is the case that it was a gift, was it gifted for the express purpose of being used to provide a facility to be used by Seniors?*

#### Response

The land was not a gift to the City.

### **9.6 Mr M McLerie, Booragoon**

#### Question

*Will the City consider further improvements to its complaints procedure to include the requirements for:*

- (a) the CEO to provide a summary status report of all written complaints received to Council monthly,*
- (b) the City administration to provide a briefing on any specific complaint and for it to facilitate meetings with the complainant and relevant officers if requested by any Council member at any time, and*
- (c) Council members to form a complaint committee to investigate and provide a report with recommendations back to Council in the event the complaint is escalated to an external body or is about the CEO or Mayor.*

*I request permission to address the meeting in relation to this.*

#### Response

The City of Melville's Complaints Handling Process and Guiding Principles are based on elements of the complaints handling process as identified in *the International Standard ISO 10002:2006 Customer Satisfaction – Guidelines for complaints handling in organisations*.

Opportunities for improvement are identified in the **ICSS: 2010–14 Recertification Report Customer Service Institute of Australia, July 2014**. This recertification process is carried out every two years.

In October 2014 the City of Melville was recognised at the Australian Service Excellence Awards for outstanding customer focused organisations – winning both the Western Australian and National Local Government Award. The City is a national benchmark organisation for the Local Government Sector.

The City's Complaints Handling Process and Procedures has been reviewed by the Ombudsman and acknowledged to be a model for other local governments.

### 9.7 Mr E Nielsen, Booragoon

Question Time Item 6.1, OMC 13 October 2015.

#### Question 1

*With respect to the response to my question No 1, what provision in the Local Government Act did Mr Christie (Director of Technical Services) use to override Section 5.33 of the Act in his determination not to table the Electors' Motion of August 17, 2015, so that Council could deliberate and consider the Motion as required in accordance with Section 5.33 (1)?*

#### Response

The Director Technical Services did not override Section 5.33 of *the Local Government Act 1995*. The motion from the Special Meeting of Electors held on 17 August 2015 was included twice in a report to the Council on 15 September 2015. The Council noted the motion at item 1 of the Council Resolution relating to Special Meeting of Electors – Perth Freight Link that was carried unanimously.

#### Question 2

*With regard to the puzzling response to my question number 2, it is clear that the City recognises the function of Section 5.33 (1). How can it be said that 'the Council did have the opportunity to resolve to withdraw its support for Roe 8 and the Perth Freight Link at the Council Meeting on 15 September 2015' when the Electors' Motion was not tabled for Council to deal with?*

#### Response

The response to Question 1 addresses this question.

#### Question 3

*Considering the text in the Minutes of the OMC 15 September 2015 page 23, that reads that the Council 'Notes the motion carried by the majority of Electors at the Special Meeting held on 17 August 2015' why did none of the councillors make the call for Section 5.33 (1) to be adhered to, so the matter could be dealt with appropriately?*

#### Response

The City's actions relating to the motion from the Special Meeting of Electors is consistent with the requirements of Clause 5.33 of the *Local Government Act 1995* and the matter was dealt with appropriately.

**9.8 Mrs S Taylor-Rees, Bicton**Question 1

*Please advise the current funds in the Refuse Facilities Reserve, total funds spent in the past financial year and how much was contributed to the fund by the City last financial year?*

Response

As at 30 June 2015 the Refuse Facilities Reserve had a balance of \$5,875,109. The amount set aside in that Reserve at the end of the financial year was an unbudgeted \$1,081,856 which arose out of expenditure savings from Waste collection and disposal operations.

Question 2

*Why does the City continue to suggest that Public Open Space of Melville Glades Golf Course is required to be sold off for high density housing to fund the clean-up of the contaminated site at John Connell when in actual fact there will be no clean up just a cover up?*

Response

The City has at no stage decided that the potential John Connell redevelopment (Melville Glades Golf Course) will contain high density housing.

John Connell Reserve is classified by the Department of Environmental Regulation as “Contaminated – Remediation Required”. The extent of remediation works required in response to this classification is currently being investigated. The Melville Glades Golf Course-John Connell Reserve Master Plan Project has explored a series of options for the precinct which include enhancements to the local community and responses to the contamination issue. The possibility of introducing additional residential housing into the precinct is being considered to offset the cost of these initiatives. Additional community engagement on the project is to be undertaken prior to further consideration by the Council.

Question 3

*Please advise how much the City of Melville budgets annually for street trees? How much funding is allocated to each individual tree and how many trees are planted each year on this budget? Given the Mayor has pledged to increase and grow an “Urban Forrest” in the City of Melville when will the budget for this increase and what if anything has the City committed to ensuring this vision is acted upon?*

Response

The 2015/2016 budget for street trees is \$2,251,543. This amount is inclusive of all maintenance and replacement cost. The City does not set budgets based on individual trees, the City plants approximately 650 street trees per year.

The City is currently developing an Urban Forest Strategy, including canopy cover analysis and thermal imaging across the City; once this is developed and adopted by Council it will guide the City on the future management of its trees.



## 9.9 Gunvor Kjersti Velure, Ardross

### Question

*What is the principle which Council applies with regard to Public Open Space in the area of the City of Melville and can it confirm that it will not act in a way which may lead to a loss of Public Open Space in the City or, in particular, at Shirley Strickland Reserve as part of the proposed redevelopment of Shirley Strickland Reserve which is currently being considered?*

### Response

The City's provision of public open space is guided by the Public Open Space Strategy. Included in the aims of this strategy is the equitable distribution of public open spaces throughout the City. Changes to the provision or function of open space would generally only occur if there were changes in the community's needs and/or priorities.

In terms of the Shirley Strickland Reserve the land is currently reserved as Local Open Space and there are no proposals to alter that classification. The City of Melville is developing a concept plan for the redevelopment of Shirley Strickland Reserve and is currently seeking community input on the project. The current engagement process is intended to result in the preparation of a draft concept plan. Further community input would then be sought on the draft concept with a final concept plan presented to the Council for consideration in June-July 2016.

The City has purchased a total land of approximately 57,000sqm or 5.7 hectares, being:

- Carawatha=12,000sqm
- Kadidjiny = 38,000sqm
- Mt Pleasant=4,000sqm
- Bicton Substation (Murray Road)=3,000sqm

This adds to the current 750 hectares of Public Open Space in the City, which includes parks, bushlands and foreshore areas.

This relates to an investment the City spends on parks overall (new equipment, maintenance, etc) of:

### **Land Purchase Costs**

Melville Primary School Melville	\$5,500,000
Carawatha Primary School Willagee	\$5,187,500
70-72 Ogilvie Road Mount Pleasant	\$3,300,000
58-60 Murray Road Bicton	\$2,200,000
<b>Sub-total purchase costs</b>	<b>\$16,187,500</b>

### **Development/Redevelopment Costs**

Heathcote Applecross	\$5,500,000
Former Melville Primary School (Kadidjiny Park)	\$4,299,028
Less grants received from the Federal Government	(\$2,754,466)
Former Carawatha Primary School (Carawatha Park)	\$1,450,222
70-72 Ogilvie Rd (Mount Pleasant Park)	\$231,764
<b>Sub total redevelopment</b>	<b>\$8,726,548</b>

<b>Total All Costs</b>	<b>\$24,914,048</b>
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## **9.10 Mr M McCormick, Applecross**

### Introduction

*If the WAPC recommends at its meeting on 15th December 2015 that the Draft LPS 6 be approved subject to minor amendment then the documentation will be returned to the City of Melville to undertake the required modifications.*

*As the City will be aware, a decision will be handed down in the near future, by the State Administration Tribunal, in relation to the proposed McDonalds development application for the corner of Reynolds Road and Canning Highway in Applecross.*

### Question 1

*Given the urgency of this issue, could the City please ensure that the amendments required by the WAPC or Planning Minister are made to the proposed Draft LPS 6 within 14 days of being notified by the WAPC and or the Minister for Planning?*

### Response

The City's understanding is that the Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC) will make a recommendation to the Minister for Planning with respect to Local Planning Scheme 6 (LPS6). The Minister would then notify the City of his decision with respect to LPS6 to approve, refuse or support subject to modifications. The City would need to examine the content of the Minister's decision. Whilst the City is keen to expedite the finalisation of LPS6 a 14 day turn around may or may not be achievable.

### Question 2

*Can the City please call a Special Meeting of Council to be convened to approve or adopt the new Draft LPS 6 as amended, within 14 days of receipt of the notice from the WAPC or Planning Minister of the required amendments?*

### Response

The details of the Minister's determination are not yet known. Once the Minister's decision is received, consideration will be given to whether the matter is required to be referred to Council and options to progress timely finalisation of the Scheme. The calling of a Special Council Meeting is an option for the City and can only be considered once the Minister's decision has been received.

### Question 3

*Assuming that the revised Draft LPS 6 is adopted/approved by the City at the Special Meeting, can the City please courier the new Draft LPS 6 back to the WAPC the day following the Special Meeting?*

### Response

As the City is keen to progress finalisation of LPS6 it is expected that the documentation would be couriered or hand delivered to the WAPC as soon as practicable following the necessary endorsement and execution.

His Worship the Mayor invited questions from the meeting attendees.

His Worship the Mayor reminded the Electors of the Manner of Conduct in relation to questions from the floor –

1. Speakers must be Electors of the City of Melville
2. Speakers are asked to clearly give their name and address each time they speak.
3. No persons are to use offensive or objectionable expressions in reference to any Member, employee of the Council, or any other person (8.3 of Standing Orders).
4. All Elected Members and Directors attend this meeting to observe the proceedings and hear comments from Electors. All questions and comments should be directed to the Mayor who may invite a response from the Chief Executive Officer, Presiding Members of Committees, Directors or Elected Members.

#### **9.11 Mr B Higgins, Attadale**

*You mentioned at the start of the meeting that a notice of this meeting had been placed in an edition of the West Australian and also in last Tuesday's Melville Times 24 November 2015. Was a similar notice placed in yesterday's edition of the Melville Times, if not, why not?*

The A/Executive Manager Legal Services, Mr J Clark responded that the City is required to give 14 days public notice of the meeting and that was covered by the advertisement in the West Australian on Wednesday 11 November 2015. A copy of the advertisement was also placed in the Melville Times on the 24 November 2015, on the City's website and also on noticeboards at the Civic Centre, libraries and recreation centres. There was no advertisement put in Tuesday's 1 December 2015 edition of the Melville Times or West Australian Newspaper.

#### **9.12 Mr P Best, Willagee**

*Can the City confirm that in the context of 139 councils in Western Australia, that the City is not on the watch list of 93 councils which the Minister claims are not producing adequate financial reports and information?*

The Chief Executive Officer, Dr S Silcox responded and confirmed.

#### **9.13 Mrs S Taylor-Rees, Bicton**

*If you could just clarify with regards to John Connell and the contaminated site. On the website it says that you will be addressing the issue of the contaminated site so can you please explain what addressing the issue will be? Will you be removing contaminants or will you just be putting one metre of fill over the site and addressing that way and if so why the cost and why do you have to sell off public open space if you are not removing contaminants, you are only covering it up?*

The Director Urban Planning, Mr S Cope responded that the City is currently considering what action it will take in relation to the remediation and hasn't made any final decisions.

Mrs S Taylor-Rees

*The Refuse Facilities Reserve of \$5.8 million. Why is the City looking at selling off public open space? Why has it not been substantially committing to this reserve long term and why would it look to sell a public open space to address a contaminated site. I would like to know why the Refuse Facilities Reserve appears to have been substantially overlooked? Considering this Council has several contaminated sites that it would appear that long term, the solution to address these contaminated sites is to sell off public open space?*

The Chief Executive Officer, Dr S Silcox responded that the City is in the very early stages of investigating a number of options to remediate the John Connell Reserve to ensure the best outcome for the community of the area. All options will need to be considered in context of the impact on the rates of the broader community. Information will be presented to the Council for consideration in due course.

Monitoring bores have been installed at the site to collect data to assist with the consideration of the remediation options for the site.

Mrs S Taylor-Rees

*Thank you that was a great response but could you answer my question please and that was why hasn't any funds been committed to the Refuse Facilities Reserve and also if you could clarify the term remediation? When you use the word remediation what exactly does that mean because I don't believe it means removal in your terminology, of contaminants?*

The Chief Executive Officer, Dr S Silcox responded that remediation is intended to make the site the best condition possible. It could cost \$10 million to remove what is there.

The funds have been held in the Reserve since before I commenced with the City and would be used in some form if the site was to be remediated.

Mrs S Taylor-Rees

*My question was why hasn't the City committed substantial funds to this Reserve over a number of years? I am just wondering why no serious funds have been committed to this site knowing we have got serious contaminant issues in the City of Melville and it appears that the long term vision to address these issues is to sell off public open space to fund it?*

The Director Corporate Services, Mr M Tieleman responded that the history of the Refuse Facilities Reserve goes back many years and the genesis of the funds that went to that Reserve initially was when the City did run the John Connell tip site as an active tip site and the Council saw fit to take some of the proceeds that were earned from gate fees and place those into the Refuse Facilities Reserve for two purposes. One purpose was to set up the alternative waste treatment plant which required a large investment at the Canning Vale Regional Resource Recovery and Resource site which is run by the South Metropolitan Regional Council. That was done and the remainder is to be used for opportunities such as those being discussed.

Since the tip closure the City has allocated any surplus funds from Waste operations into the reserve with \$1 million being allocated this year.

The Reserve funds have been spent to put down the monitoring bores, which gives officers and the environmental advisors the necessary information to determine any future works that may be required to rehabilitate or remediate the site.

This information is being collected over a period of time and once we get a good understanding of the emissions from the former tip site then we will be able to determine what remediation plan needs to be put in place. It could range from doing nothing to having to remove to substantial parts of the site.

**At 7.24pm Cr Schuster entered the meeting.**

**9.14 Mr T Faulkner, Booragoon**

*Does the Council regard St David's Church as adequate replacement for the Senior Citizens Centre that operated at 64 Kishorn Road?*

The Manager Health and Lifestyle, Mr T Cahoon, responded that the City considered it an adequate replacement and that a substantial amount of work done was with the group and that was the site that was chosen and deemed to be most appropriate for their activities.

Mr T Faulkner

*If it is an adequate replacement why is the current site still being advertised and why isn't St David's Church being promoted as the Senior Citizens Centre for Mount Pleasant area?*

The Manager Health and Lifestyle, Mr T Cahoon responded that this was an oversight and would be corrected.

Mr T Faulkner

*You said they were given some options, was an option an option to remain where they were?*

The Manager Health and Lifestyle, Mr T Cahoon responded that it was not an option. There has been work done with the group over five to seven years around relocating from that site.

Mr T Faulkner

*So for 30 years you have been trying to relocate the same group?*

The Manager Health and Lifestyle, Mr T Cahoon responded that the Group were asked if they wanted to relocate. The group were notified and the City has been working with the Group for five to seven years on relocation from that site.

Mr T Faulkner

*But they weren't given an option to remain?*

The Manager Health and Lifestyle, Mr T Cahoon responded that the Group were not given that option.

Mr T Faulkner

*How many groups that operated out of the Senior Citizens Centre now operate out of St David's?*

The Manager Health and Lifestyle, Mr T Cahoon responded that is a question for St David's as the City does not have that information.

Mr T Faulkner

*So you closed it and gave them nowhere to go?*

The Manager Health and Lifestyle, Mr T Cahoon responded that that was an option for some of the Groups to consider.

Mr T Faulkner

*Are any of the groups that used to use the Senior Citizens Centre now being promoted as likely users of the relocated bowling club at Strickland oval re indoor bowls?*

The Manager Neighbourhood Development, Ms L Hartill responded that the City and the Community Development staff have a very good working relationship with that Group and have worked with them for a number of years. As a strategic site, they were aware for many years that they would be relocated from that area and they were very involved in the selection of a different facility and they chose to go to St David's and the Anglican Church invited them, made some modifications to the area and so they operate as an independent incorporated group.

They are not part of the City of Melville as such and the activities that they run, how they recruit and the members that they have are solely independently run by them. The City maintains a close working relationship with that Group because the City supports Seniors.

### **9.15 Mrs E Nicholson Applecross**

*My question is about the cultural facility that the City of Melville is thinking of building, the \$38 million cultural facility. Is it true that 12 people will be handpicked by the City to form a consultative committee in order to advise the City of how the cultural facility it should go about? That is the rumour that is going around?*

The Chief Executive Officer, Dr S Silcox responded that it is a rumour.

Ms E Nicholson

*It is talk around the City that this is planned to happen?*

The Chief Executive Officer, Dr S Silcox responded that if the question related to the Community Planning Process, there is a Community Group involved to assist the City in determining the planning and consultation process.

Ms E Nicholson

*So is it made up of 12 people that you are handpicking?*

The Chief Executive Officer, Dr S Silcox responded that the Group is not hand-picked and queried if the question related to Heathcote?

Ms E Nicholson

*Is it by ballot? No this isn't Heathcote this is the cultural facility.*

The Chief Executive Officer, Dr S Silcox responded that the City has a group that are working through Heathcote matters and we have a group that are working through a consultation process with the community planning.

Ms E Nicholson

*It is nothing to do with the proposed cultural facility at Garden City?*

The Mayor, Russell Aubrey responded that the information was incorrect.

Ms E Nicholson

*When it comes up to the cultural facility, will it be put out to public consultation considering it is a \$38 million cost involved and it may be important to ratepayers to know where our money is going to be spent?*

The Chief Executive Officer, Dr S Silcox responded that the Council has already made a decision in relation to the cultural facility and what will go in the cultural facility. There will be some consultation in relation to the layout of the facility.

Ms E Nicholson

*Will it be public consultation or will it be made out to the public or will those 12 people be only allowed to consult on it?*

The Manager Cultural Services Ms L Reid, responded that the proposed library and cultural centre has been approved but the City will then work with the community to discuss what types of activities will occur in the facility, the design of them, how people will participate and that will be an open process that will engage with the community to co-design the space.

Ms E Nicholson

*Can I ask a supplementary question?*

*How much is AMP putting towards the building of the cultural facility? That is another rumour that is flying around.*

The Chief Executive Officer, Dr S Silcox responded that that information is commercial in confidence at this time.

Ms E Nicholson

*Will we find out later on?*

The Chief Executive Officer, Dr S Silcox confirmed that the information would be available in due course.

Ms E Nicholson

*How much later on?*

The Chief Executive Officer, Dr S Silcox responded that the information would be available when deemed appropriate in the process.

The Mayor, Russell Aubrey advised that the building has to go out for tender and it would be inappropriate if the City should indicate that level of detail about where the funds and what funds are available. It is as simple as that we would disadvantage ourselves significantly by doing so.

Ms E Nicholson

*So the community at large won't be allowed to consult on whether we actually have this \$38 million four storey cultural facility? We are going to be asked whether we want the bowls club in there or the drama club in there but I am talking about the actual building of the facility. Will that be open public discussion or is that just going to be decided by the admin?*

The Chief Executive Officer, Dr S Silcox responded that Councillors are elected to make decisions. Council have made the decision in relation to the facility. There will be facilities that no doubt will be rationalised as a result as this facility. It will become a major hub and entertainment precinct within the City.

For the information of the meeting, AMP are also negotiating with other local governments and they don't wish for information to become public at this stage as it would put them at a disadvantage with their discussions with other local governments. It should be noted that the figure of \$38 million is an assumption.

Ms E Nicholson

*That was publicised in the Herald?*

The Chief Executive Officer, Dr S Silcox responded that the commercial sector that build these facilities know what the Council is budgeting and hence it puts the City at a disadvantage. It remains to be seen what the end figure will be and what the Council will decide. There are a number of processes that we have to go through to ensure that we get the best outcome in relation to the facility.



Ms E Nicholson

*So the renovations were done in the library fairly recently. Was that done in anticipation of the library lasting another 10 or 20 years or was that done knowing that the library was going to be demolished?*

The Chief Executive Officer, Dr S Silcox responded that the renovation was done in anticipation that the library would shift. New shelving and fittings were purchased where the investment can be moved into the other facilities, into this facility or other City facilities.

Ms E Nicholson

*My last question is we have got \$95 million in cash reserves. How much more is the City going to accumulate before they actually start spending it on their ratepayers and lowering people's rates?*

The Chief Executive Officer, Dr S Silcox responded that it was an interesting question as it is very misunderstood. The City does not have \$95 million unrestricted money in reserves. There are monies that are restricted for specific purposes such as long service leave and annual leave. The City also has \$1.2 billion worth of assets and some \$33 million in reserves for the replacement of those assets. How much money do we need in reserves? The appropriate amount is \$1.2 billion depreciated at 20 – 30%.

Ms E Nicholson

*Can I ask one more thing?*

*The rates reduction reserve which you stated was about \$1.5 million, when will that actually be used and will it ever be used or do we get to certain level and then use it? When do ratepayers get that money?*

The Director Corporate Services, Mr M Tieleman responded that in preparation of the 2015/2016 budget, \$1,190,819 of the balance was used of the Rates Equalisation Reserve. When preparing the budget the City budgeted to use \$1,190,819 out of that Reserve of last year's surplus which was used to reduce rates. It goes in and it will come out in the following year. The reason for establishing the Reserve was because in the past we were budgeting on estimates and in some years the City didn't achieve the surplus that was forecast and therefore it was problem. Now the City ensures it knows the exact number from audited accounts and it is that amount that is transferred into the Reserve. There was a one year delay and now the City is on track and was able to take out that \$1.2 million to reduce rates knowing that it actually had that money.

Ms E Nicholson

*The Mayoral car policy, there is an agreement between the Mayor and the City of Melville as to the how much the Mayor puts towards private usage of a vehicle I think it is about \$178 per month am I entitled to see that agreement or is that confidential as well?*

The Mayor, Russell Aubrey responded that if the decision is his, he was happy for that information to be made available and that he makes fortnightly contributions.

Ms E Nicholson

*\$178 per month that takes up the whole cost of the car you just pay for air in the tyres and topping up with the oil. The rest is paid by the Council. Am I allowed to see that agreement between the Mayor and the City of Melville or is it FOI limited?*

The Acting Executive Manager Legal Services Mr J Clark, advised that as the Mayor has indicated he is willing for it to be viewed, on that basis there isn't an issue. It would be a matter of making an appointment so the documentation can be available.

### **9.16 Neil Williams, Mount Pleasant**

*Just wondering about the replacement of Canning Bridge. What was happening with that and how does that fit in the Canning Bridge precinct. How does it fit in the replacement of Canning Bridge or whatever else you choose to use?*

The Acting Director Community Development, Mr J Christie, responded that the Canning Bridge itself is not an asset owned by the City of Melville and that it is owned by Main Roads WA and certainly it is part of the Canning Bridge Structure Plan. Main Roads WA are reviewing the requirement for infrastructure across the Canning River but at this stage there is no commitment to replace or extend the Bridge. The replacement of the Bridge is an option as part of development of the Canning Bridge precinct, which includes this side of the river and the City of South Perth.

Mr N Williams

*Have they consulted you about that? Any timing to fit in with development down at Canning Bridge precinct?*

The Mayor, Russell Aubrey responded by advising that Main Roads WA are preparing concept plans and there is lot of planning about upgrades to Canning Highway and the Bridge. Of course any development is contingent on funding being available and the will to do it. Whilst there is understanding amongst the bureaucrats that this is a priority road for the City and for the State but that doesn't mean it can get funding.

Mr N Williams

*Which number between 1 and 10 priority?*

The Mayor, Russell Aubrey responded that personally for him it was a 2, for the politicians it was probably 200.

Mr N Williams

*Can I just thank Clive because Clive mentioned the word tunnel in a vision of his. I am just wondering whether a tunnel might work well to replace Canning Bridge? Could we bring a tunnel back past Riseley Street into Kearns Crescent and what effect that would have on potential POS and trees and hide all the cars from our vision when they are lined up waiting in a queue to go somewhere which Colin knows about? I think he calls it the big con but we call it something else?*

The Chief Executive Officer, Dr S Silcox responded that there is currently not much information available. Main Roads WA are currently considering the area around Canning Bridge and the options to reduce congestion but at this stage it is very conceptual.

The Mayor, Russell Aubrey responded that due to the linkages with up to six tunnels that would be required and that would be complex and expensive.

Mr N Williams

*What do you think of the concept of sinking all that traffic back before Riseley Street, maybe Kearns Crescent from there?*

The Mayor, Russell Aubrey responded that the City would be lobbying for solutions that are achievable.

Mr N Williams

*Can't we fund some of these projects with the contribution of redevelopment because there will be some more land made available from a project like that that may be able to be built over? I think it was Vienna, a Sydney architect was asked to go over, Harry Seidler (architect for QV1 Building) was asked to build such a tunnel in the middle of Vienna and build things over the tunnel. So things are possible?*

The Mayor, Russell Aubrey responded that a tunnel would be difficult to negotiate as a contribution from a developer.

Mr N Williams

*How many apartments are going to be built up there at Garden City to locate some customers on site?*

The Director Urban Planning, Mr S Cope responded that there has been a development approval given for one site for approximately 120 dwellings so that will deliver 120 dwellings in that vicinity on the corner of Davy and Marmion Streets. There will be total in the order of 450 dwellings but in the wider Melville City Centre Structure Plan Area which includes all of the area bounded by Marmion, Riseley, Almondbury and Davy but also land on the other side of the road. The total number of new dwellings is in the order of 1,000—over a period of 20 years or so.

Mr N Williams

*How high will the apartment towers be?*

The Director Urban Planning, Mr S Cope responded that of the apartment towers which have been approved already, there is one tower of 15 storeys and one of 13 storeys. The height will be in the order of 45 – 50 metres for the higher tower.

Mr N Williams

*What is the effect of overshadowing from neighbouring properties that would be affected by that because of that location?*

The Director Urban Planning, Mr S Cope responded that in that location the shadow falls mainly on the site itself or on Marmion Street.

Mr N Williams

*Is that summer and winter?*

The Director Urban Planning, Mr S Cope responded that the benchmark for shadowing is taken at the winter solstice so these comments relate to winter as well as summer.

Mr N Williams

*Is it possible that consideration could be given to some apartments on the extreme north side in Almondbury Road because they won't affect anything other than shadow onto Garden City itself?*

The Director Urban Planning, Mr S Cope queried if the question related to the North side or the South side of Almondbury Road?

Mr N Williams

*South side of Almondbury in the body of Garden City as it exists.*

The Director Urban Planning, Mr S Cope responded that there has been some consideration in the preparation of the Structure Plan for this area to location of apartments on the South side of Almondbury as well as the North side. The North side is currently zoned for apartment development that can occur. On the South side the current planning by the owner only relates to the western portion of the site so the City is yet to see any firm proposals for residential development on the south side.

The Chief Executive Officer, Dr S Silcox suggested that Mr Williams might like to make a time to speak with the Strategic Planning Officer and view the plans.

Mr N Williams

*Are you able to provide more toilets that are more convenient to get to, more central than having to walk a long way down tunnels to service areas if that is possible?*

The Mayor, Russell Aubrey responded that this was not for the City to decide as it is on private property. The cultural centre will have one and we will continue to provide our facilities.

Mr N Williams

*The reason I am asking is because numerous ones are the ones they have near service areas and store rooms to other shops and they have been closed off to the public. They would probably number about three or four so you are left with only a few?*

The Chief Executive Officer, Dr S Silcox responded that the City has an Access and Inclusion Panel that reviews the planning and the issues associated with access. Dr Silcox suggested that if Mr Williams came into the office to view the plans he could discuss the availability of facilities with the same service area.

Mr N Williams

*Were you aware of the methane gas that is generated from landfill sites and how much more toxic it was than CO<sup>2</sup>?*

The Chief Executive Officer, Dr S Silcox responded that if the question was in relation to John Connell Reserve then the City was aware of the methane gas and the associated issues. The City had a generating plant taking gas out of the facility that no longer is operational as the gas levels were low. This is why the City has partnered with the SMRC to look at recovering the waste rather than burying waste so there are no legacy issues like this for the City.

Mr N Williams

Mr Williams commented on the amount of waste from food shops at Garden City.

*Is it possible to make sure that the shops do not throw their waste out so that it goes into a landfill site? In fact could it be used on-site for a garden on the rooftop of some of the shopping centre?*

The Chief Executive Officer, Dr S Silcox responded that legislation ensures that the City is mandated to pick up waste from residents. The City has no mandate in the commercial sector. The City cannot mandate how AMP manages their waste. The State Government has increased the landfill levy to try and divert waste into other better streams than composting or putting it in the ground for contamination.

### **9.17 Ms R Faulkner, Booragoon**

*I heard the Council earlier talking about the street urban plan and wanting to put in more trees around the area. I note that the type of trees that you put in are Jacarandas. I also note that every time you have pulled down a tree you say you are going to replace two. It takes 50 years for these trees to be suitable for birds to live in. Jacarandas are not suitable nesting trees for birds. I then find there is beautiful Tuarts as there was on this Garden City site are you going to plan when you put in your 38 million facility to replace those beautiful Tuarts because you think that you can replace them by two trees that are going to take another 50 years? How are you going to address this?*

The Acting Director Community Development, Mr J Christie responded that when mature trees are removed it takes a significant time for those trees to grow back to that stature and for some of these trees, it takes over 175 years to 200 years to form the natural hollows where cockatoos nest. With regard to Garden City the City is working through the development concepts for the site and will endeavour to retain as many of those trees as possible. There are some implications associated with providing and accommodating the building but the City will give every emphasis to retaining as many trees as possible. That is the same for Riseley Street with upgrades to the road network. The City has had redesigns of intersections to retain trees on Riseley Street. The City is very cognisant of that fact and will do everything it can to retain the mature trees.

Ms R Faulkner

*But the trees you are replacing these mature trees with are Jacarandas or box trees they are not the native trees for this area?*

The Acting Director Community Development, Mr J Christie responded that the City does plant Jacarandas in some streets but not all streets and it is not the only tree that we use. The City is reviewing that as part of the strategy to try and ensure that it is planting more endemic species of Western Australia. There are some areas, such as Applecross where Jacarandas have been planted for heritage value. The City does not plant box trees any more.

The Chief Executive Officer, Dr S Silcox responded that the City receives more requests for removal of trees than requests for planting of trees.

The City is looking at an Urban Forest Strategy and what it needs to do to achieve the Strategy. The two trees may not be planted in the same area but they are planted.

### **9.18 Mrs S Taylor-Rees, Bicton**

*Just following on from the street trees, if we are speaking to the converted then why doesn't this Council make a commitment to the Urban Forest Strategy and commit funds because presently there is a lot of talk about what you can do but I can see that this Urban Forest Strategy will stretch out for years and years. Because it has no funding, we have a public art levy on buildings why don't you introduce an environmental levy to offset the loss of trees that we are having?*

The Chief Executive Officer, Dr S Silcox responded that a number of options have been presented to Council. The strategy was only asked for a short time ago and staff are working through the process.

The Mayor, Russell Aubrey advised that the results of the analysis in the strategy are expected in the first half of next year.

Mrs S Taylor-Rees

*So from the time that you moved this urban forest strategy it will be at a minimum of at least 12 to 18 months before any substance comes of it if it does?*

The Mayor, Russell Aubrey responded that the City of Melville is the first local government in Western Australia to be moving forward with an Urban Forest Strategy.

Mrs S Taylor-Rees

*The Mount Pleasant Bowling Club what is the vesting? You said it was vested to the City but you didn't say what the vesting was?*

The Chief Executive Officer, Dr S Silcox responded like all vestings they are State owned and they are vested for recreation purposes.

Mrs S Taylor-Rees

*So it's POS?*

The Chief Executive Officer, Dr S Silcox responded that it is vested for recreation purposes, they are different.

Mrs S Taylor Rees

*Mount Pleasant has 5% public open space so I am at a loss as to why this Council would suggest the sell-off of Mount Pleasant Bowling Club when the State directive is 10% and Mount Pleasant is 5%. In fact it's equal third lowest in the City of Melville for public open space and you are suggesting increased density by selling off land for increased housing?*

The Mayor, Russell Aubrey queried as to whether the Public Open Space calculation included the foreshore?

The Director Urban Planning, Mr S Cope responded that there is a requirement in the State Government Legislation that at the time of subdivision 10% of the subdivisible land can be required to be given up as open space but that requirement is not retrospective so where there are established suburbs that were developed many years ago there is no requirement for Local Government to seek to make up a perceived shortfall and as was noted during that last exchange when foreshore reserves are included in the calculations and other reserves that are not local open space per se, the allocation is considerably greater and in fact the City is moving to prepare a public open space strategy which is taking account of best practice guidelines from State Government.

Mrs S Taylor-Rees

*In relation to LPS Scheme 6, the draft 2014, careful consideration will need to be given to proposals for further increases in residential densities in those suburbs with deficiencies in the quantity of open space. So how do you address the fact that it has 5% and you are suggesting selling off for increased density and I am well aware that directions 2031 has increased now and the City of Melville has to have 18,000 new dwellings by 2031 but where is the thought or the gumption to also increase public open space if we are increasing dwellings by 18,000 which is substantial?*

The Mayor, Russell Aubrey responded in the last seven years the City has provided approximately 5.7 hectares of Public Open Space. The provision of Public Open Space is an expensive concept and the City has to consider the wider impact of those decisions and endeavours to do this in a cost neutral manner.

The Chief Executive Officer, Dr S Silcox responded that the City needs to be innovative in the ways in which it achieves Public Open Space for the community without having to draw on rates.

To go back retrospectively and provide 10% Public Open Space will cost in the billions of dollars across the City. If the community is happy for us to go to them for \$1 billion to provide 10% open space across the City then that is doable. If not, then we have got to be innovative and think of ways of how we can achieve it without going to the ratepayers for additional money.

Mrs S Taylor-Rees

*How do you correlate the fact that you can support \$38 million for a new library and cultural centre yet redevelopments of John Connell have to come from sell off of public open space? You did not go to the public with regards to the new library and cultural centre yet the sell off POS has to happen for any remediation works.*

The Mayor, Russell Aubrey responded that the questions relating to the Cultural Centre and John Connell Reserve had been dealt with.

Mrs S Taylor-Rees

*I am asking about the relationship, why would you not go to the ratepayers about a \$38 million investment yet you expect the ratepayers to sell off public open space to fund remediation?*

The Mayor, Russell Aubrey responded that City is aiming to create more Public Open Space by remediating the old tip site.

Mrs S Taylor-Rees

Mrs Taylor-Rees introduced her question with the following comments:

- 1 A LED sign on a trailer has been placed on Canning Highway and reported to the City seven weeks ago.
- 2 This is non-compliant with the City of Melville signage policy.
- 3 Another similar trailer is located 500 metres away on Canning Highway.
- 4 Mrs Taylor-Rees advised that she had spoken to Main Roads on this matter.

*I would like to know why the Council is not addressing something that is not compliant with their own policy?*

Mr S Silcox, Chief Executive Officer responded that the City had replied to the issue via email and matter would be presented to the Council.

Mrs S Taylor-Rees

*So I would like to know if a fatality happens there because of driver distraction, why the City is not addressing it?*



Mr S Cope, Director Urban Planning responded that the City is communicating with Main Roads on the signage being referred to and the City is expecting a response in the next few days. The Council policy on outdoor signage does allow for consideration of portable illuminated signage and there has been an application lodged so before the City takes compliance action the City is awaiting the determination of the Development Application which is subject to advice from Main Roads.

At 8.11pm Cr Aubrey left the meeting and returned at 8.13pm.

At 8.20pm Cr Woodall left the meeting and returned at 8.23pm.

### **MOTIONS MR G CRAWFORD**

At 8.29pm Mr G Crawford of Attadale moved, seconded Mr A Syed of Attadale -

#### **Motion 1**

**That Council adopt a standing instruction that any request to the City by an individual or group to seek permission to poison and change a grassed amenity or open space area must be referred to the City's Manager Parks and Environment or in his absence Director, Technical Services who is to assess the validity of the request.**

**If the request is deemed not consistent with community supported management plans or not consistent with Resident/User expectations then it is denied.**

**If considered not inconsistent then Manager (or Director) is to oversee the process of proper notification and consultation with area residents and recreational user groups. If not supported by majority of residents/users request is also denied.**

At 8.32pm the motion was declared

**CARRIED (12/2)**

At 8.34pm Mr G Crawford of Attadale moved, seconded Mr A Syed of Attadale -

#### **Motion 2**

**That the City of Melville establishes and commits to a schedule for the delivery of a park management plan for each of the 14 (or is it 18?) major reserves commencing with the delivery of a management plan for Attadale foreshore reserves following on from the 2001 fully consulted and Council approved concept plan.**

At 8.37pm the motion was declared

**CARRIED (12/0)**

At 8.39pm Mr G Crawford of Attadale moved, seconded Mr A Syed of Attadale -

### **Motion 3**

The review of the 2001 plan to follow the same process that prevailed in the development of 2001 concept plan that being the establishment of a working committee with representatives from the two acknowledged Attadale community groups (namely, Friends of Attadale Foreshore, Friends of Attadale Parks and Amenity Areas) local residents and / or ratepayers and representatives of recreational user groups.

### Amendment

At 8.43pm Mrs S Taylor-Rees of Bicton moved, seconded Mrs E Nicholson of Applecross –

*That the “Swan Estuary Reserves Action Group (SERAG)” be inserted before the words “local residents”.*

At 8.49pm the amendment was declared

**CARRIED (12/6)**

### **Substantive Motion 3**

*The review of the 2001 plan to follow the same process that prevailed in the development of 2001 concept plan that being the establishment of a working committee with representatives from the two acknowledged Attadale community groups (namely, Friends of Attadale Foreshore, Friends of Attadale Parks and Amenity Areas), Swan Estuary Reserves Action Group (SERAG) local residents and / or ratepayers and representatives of recreational user groups.*

At 8.50pm the substantive motion as amended was declared

**CARRIED (18/0)**

At 8.42pm Cr Schuster left the meeting and returned at 8.45pm.

**MOTIONS – MR M McLERIE****Proposed Motion - Improving Council oversight of complaints**

At 8.51pm Mr M McLerie of Booragoon moved, seconded Mr A Syed of Attadale –

**Council adopt a Complaints Policy that at a minimum requires:**

- 1. The City CEO to provide a report on all written complaints to Council at least monthly. The report should include at a minimum:**
  - 1.1. Complainant name.**
  - 1.2. A summary of the nature of the complaint.**
  - 1.3. Date complaint received and if resolved a summary of the outcome.**
  - 1.4. If not resolved whether escalated and/or referred to an external body.**
- 2. If a Complaint has been escalated to any external body the CEO must inform Council as soon as possible.**
- 3. A Council member can request the City administration to provide a briefing on any specific complaint at any time. A Council member may meet with the complainant and relevant City officers at any time to better understand the nature and detail of the complaint.**
- 4. Council must form a specific complaints committee to investigate and provide a report with recommendations back to Council (Complaints Committee) in the event a complaint is about the CEO or Mayor, is referred to an external body or at least 2 Councillors request to do so for any complaint or series of complaints.**
- 5. The Complaints Committee, supported by independent advisers as required by the committee, must consist of at least 2 independent Council members for any complaint other than those about the City CEO or Mayor in which case the committee must consist of at least 3 independent Council members.**
- 6. Any Council member can elect to join any Complaint Committee.**

At 8.57pm the motion was declared

**CARRIED (20/0)**

On behalf of the Elected Members and Staff of the City of Melville, His Worship the Mayor thanked everyone for their attendance and wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy and safe New Year.

**10. CLOSURE**

There being no further business, His Worship the Mayor, R Aubrey, declared the Meeting closed at 8.58pm.