



MOUNT BARKER HILL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

SECTION 5.9(2)(a) LGA 1995

Committee Brief

The duties of the committee are to advise the Council with regard to:

- a) *The mechanisms needing to be employed to light the communication tower;*
- b) *Working with the Trails Advisory Committee regarding integration of trails into other Mount Barker Hill proposals; and*
- c) *Further development of the present Rotary lookout and the potential for other lookouts, including information boards.*

A meeting of the Mount Barker Hill Advisory Committee was held in the Committee Room, Lowood Road, Mount Barker WA 6324
8:00am on Friday 29 May 2020

Rob Stewart
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Committee Members:

Cr C Woltering (Chair), Cr Jon Oldfield, Cr Ken Clements and Cr S Etherington (Deputy Cr Len Handasyde) (Resolution NO. 284/19 and 53/20)

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1 DECLARATION OF OPENING / ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

8.07am The Presiding Member declared the meeting open.

2 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES / LEAV**3 E OF ABSENCE (PREVIOUSLY APPROVED)**Members Present

Cr K Woltering – Presiding Member

Cr J Oldfield

Cr K Clements

Cr S Etherington

Staff

Mr A Budrikis, Executive Manager Strategic Development

Ms L Adams, Economic Development Officer

Other

Cr L Handasyde

Cr C Pavlovich

Mr K Hansom, GSCORE

4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved Cr J Oldfield, seconded Cr S Etherington:

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Mount Barker Hill Advisory Committee, held 17 March 2020 as circulated, be taken as read and adopted as a correct record.

CARRIED

5 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Nil

6 REPORTS OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

6.1 LIGHTING OF TOWER ON MOUNT BARKER HILL

Electrical Lighting Design

Mr Budrikis advised that BCA Consultants were preparing a cost estimate for the proposed lighting concept they have developed. The proposed lighting would be based on LED lighting. BCA has advised that lighting the entire height of the tower would be expensive and has advised that a maximum illumination height of 180m may be achieved with LED lighting.

6.2 MOUNT BARKER HILL – MTB TRAILS (GSCORE)

Mr Hansom briefed committee members on the progress of the mountain bike (MTB) trails concept plan for Mount Barker Hill (Tower Hill). The proposed trail network would include two green trails, six blue trails and two black trails. There were seven descent trails and three ascent trails. One of the ascent trails would be an easy green ascent trail.

Mr Hansom advised that the highest use of the trails would be by families and groups. The committee confirmed that attracting the main stream market was the priority for the MTB trails. Mr Hansom also advised that the MTB concept trail designer, Mr John Dingey of Magic Dirt, confirms that the proposed trail mix would suit all types of MTB riders. There were enough challenging trails (black) to ensure those riders seeking a challenge would want to come to the trail network.

Mr Hansom advised that if events were to be held then an appropriate spectator management plan would need to be developed to ensure spectator control and environmental protection. In addition a shuttle service would be an advantage. Such a service could utilise the fire break access tracks located on the eastern and northern boundaries. The suitability of these tracks, and any required works, will need to be confirmed by the Executive Manager of Works and Services and an appropriate budget confirmed.

The shuttle service could be operated casually by riders as required or a service provided by the Shire if Council considered this appropriate.

The cost of the proposed MTB trails was also discussed. Mr Hansom advised the current project cost estimate was around \$400,000.00. Additional costs for design of approximately \$30,000.00 - \$40,000.00, costs of road works to the firebreaks, fencing, signs and a contingency need to be included in the total project budget.

In general, committee members thought that the project should be built in a single stage.

6.3 MOUNT BARKER HILL CONCEPT PLAN (GSCORE)

The committee discussed the draft Mount Barker Hill landscape concept plan developed by Mr Chad Elton of Emerge Associates.

Feedback included (refer to annotated map attached):

- The priority is the boardwalk and trail to the astronomy platform (Stage 1);
- The astronomy platform won't work where it is in the draft plan. The platform needs to be on solid rock to eliminate vibration: refer to marked up plan 'astronomy rock';
- The boardwalk is to be simplified to cut costs, remove leg to south, emphasis on the boardwalk around the western side of the hill: note costs of sections to be considered;
- Wheelchair accessibility to pathways/boardwalk is required;
- Parking to be concentrated in a larger carpark 07 area. Carparks 05 and 06 as shown on attached plan to be removed;
- Are toilets needed immediately - is it better to not have them in order to attract bus tours to the town centre?; and
- Construction, and where possible design, should be carried out by local trades as much as is possible.

COMMITTEE DECISION

Moved Cr J Oldfield, seconded Cr K Clements;

That it be recommendation to the Council:

That the Chief Executive Officer asks the South Coast Alliance to cooperate with the Great Southern Center for Outdoor Recreation Excellence (GSCORE) to obtain funding for the four mountain bike trail (MTB) developments proposed at Mount Barker Hill, City of Albany and Mt Hallowell as included in the GSCORE Great Southern Regional Trails Master Plan 2020–2029.

CARRIED

7 GENERAL BUSINESS

NIL

8 NEXT MEETING

Next meeting TBA

9 CLOSURE OF MEETING

9:47am The Presiding Member declared the meeting closed.

CONFIRMED: PRESIDING MEMBER _____ DATE: ___ / ___ / ___