



RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

Committee Brief

The duties of the committee shall be:

- *prepare a draft Shire of Plantagenet Recreation Strategic Plan for the consideration of the Council;*
- *utilise the July 2008 Plantagenet Sport and Recreation Needs Assessment and any other report considered pertinent by the Committee; and*
- *liaise as necessary with community groups Recreation Centre Advisory Group, the Department of Sport and Recreation and other bodies.*

A meeting of the Recreation Advisory Committee
held in the Council Committee Room, Lowood Road, Mount Barker
at 8.00am on Thursday 1 October 2009

Rob Stewart
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Committee Members:

*Cr B Hollingworth, Cr D Nye-Chart, Cr A Budrikis and Cr K Clements – 228/08, 232/08,
Section 5.9 (2)(a)*

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1 DECLARATION OF OPENING / ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

8.25am The Presiding Member declared the meeting open

2 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIESPresent

Cr Ken Clements (Appointed Chair in the absence of Cr Bill Hollingworth)
Cr Deb Nye-Chart
Cr Andrus Budrikis
Mr Rob Stewart
Mr Peter Duncan
Mrs Nicole Selesnew

Apologies

Cr Bill Hollingworth

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved Cr A Budrikis, seconded Cr D Nye-Chart:

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Recreation Advisory Committee held on 22 September 2009, be accepted.

CARRIED

4 RECREATION PRECINCT PLANS – AMENDED PLANS

The following draft Council Report for the Ordinary Meeting of the Council to be held on 13 October 2009 was considered by the Recreation Advisory Committee:

SPORT AND RECREATION PRECINCT PLANS - ADOPTION OF THE PLANS FOR FROST PARK, SOUNNESS PARK AND KENDENUP

File No: N12807
Responsible Officer: Rob Stewart
Chief Executive Officer
Author: Nicole Selesnew
Manager Community Services
Proposed Meeting Date: 13 October 2009

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to recommend the endorsement of the Sport and Recreation Precinct Plans for Frost Park and Sounness Park in Mount Barker and Kendenup.

BACKGROUND

The Recreation Advisory Committee (RAC) presented draft Sport and Recreation Precinct Plans for Frost Park, Sounness Park and Kendenup to the Council on 28 July 2008. The Council resolved to amend the draft plan for Kendenup to show the passive recreation area including skate park on the western side of the railway line and to advertise the Frost Park, Sounness Park and amended Kendenup draft plans for public comment for a period of 45 days.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

The RAC was established pursuant to Section 5.9 (2) (a) of the Local Government Act 1995.

Further, the Council's Local Government Property Local Law empowers the Shire to determine the various uses of local government property, including recreational uses.

EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

The draft Sport and Recreation Precinct Plans were displayed at the Shire Administration Office, Mount Barker Recreation Centre, Mount Barker Public Library and the Shire website. Copies of the plans were also posted to all sport and recreation clubs that were involved in the planning process. An advertisement was placed in the Plantagenet News advising residents about the availability of the plans for public comment.

Forty submissions were received from sport and recreation clubs, people actively playing sport and interested citizens. A majority of submissions supported the plans and several submissions suggested alterations to the plans.

Following the distribution of the draft Sport and Recreation Precinct Plans consultation has occurred with numerous members of the public and sport and recreation groups, representatives from the Mount Barker Community College and the Department of Sport and Recreation and Gerard Healy, planning consultant.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The adoption of the draft Sport and Recreation Precinct Plans does not immediately tie the Council to expenditure on the proposed facilities. However, there will be an expectation from sport and recreation groups and the public that the Council moves forward with the proposed developments.

The 2009 / 2010 adopted budget lists capital expenditure for a multi-sports precinct at Sounness Park, Mount Barker (\$100,000) and an allocation for the Kendenup Skate Park (\$50,000).

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications for this report.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

The Council's Strategic Plan, Community Services, aims to:

'Deliver, or facilitate the delivery of, a range of services which respond to, and reflect, the physical, social and cultural well being of the community.'

In order to achieve this, the Council's current community services and facilities are being reviewed to:

'Evaluate different options for providing community services and facilities.'

OFFICER COMMENT

The public comments for the Sport and Recreation Precinct Plans were varied from general support of the concepts, suggestions for plan alterations, identification of opportunities for further collocation and resource sharing and criticism regarding the planning process and / or outcomes.

When considering the public comments the RAC supported several of the suggestions for plan alterations for the following reasons:

Public Comment	RAC recommendation
<p><i>Sounness Park</i> Combine the soccer and hockey pitch to one pitch with a synthetic surface</p>	<p>Local past and present hockey players have submitted a majority of the public comment submissions supporting a synthetic hockey pitch at Sounness Park. All hockey training and matches are presently played in Albany due to the lack of a local facility.</p> <p>The installation of a synthetic turf compared to a grass pitch is preferred due to the superior playing surface and ease of maintenance. The cost of installing a synthetic turf is in excess of \$600,000 (pending the necessary ground work and type of synthetic turf) however ongoing maintenance is negligible.</p> <p>A recent meeting with a representative from the State Hockey Association and Lower Great Southern Hockey League resulted in considerable support for a local synthetic turf and identified opportunities for joint use of the synthetic turf including soccer, junior cricket, outdoor netball and 'outdoor / indoor' hockey. Examples of joint use are occurring throughout the country.</p> <p>The installation of a synthetic hockey turf was identified in the draft Sport and Recreation Precinct Plan for Frost and Sounness Park, however joint use with another sporting code was not proposed. If soccer required more space than one pitch, then additional pitches could be marked on the football oval.</p>

	<p>The advantages of a joint use turf will result in the installation of one of set of lighting suited for both sports (as compared to lighting around both a soccer and hockey pitch) and will increase the use of the synthetic turf and associated 'turf fees' to aid fund turf replacement costs.</p> <p>The dimensions of a soccer and hockey field are very similar with a soccer pitch being the larger in length by 9m and width by 9m.</p> <p>By relocating the soccer pitch to a joint use turf site, the area left vacant by the soccer pitch can be utilised for a cricket specific area.</p>
<p><i>Sounness Park</i> Relocate the turf cricket wicket from the football oval to the former soccer site, to create a cricket specific area.</p>	<p>Feedback from both the local cricket clubs and the football club is that the retention of the turf cricket wicket on the football oval will not work unless the turf wicket is removable which is costly and requires significant maintenance.</p> <p>A representative from the Junior Cricket Club suggested the turf wicket be relocated to the former soccer pitch site where it could remain indefinitely. This would provide a cricket specific area for junior and senior cricket clubs. Additional temporary cricket pitches may be located on the synthetic turf or the football oval if / when required (a temporary pitch would need to be installed on the football oval if this was used as a cricket ground. Temporary pitches are readily available).</p>
<p><i>Frost Park</i> Incorporate an extension to the race track via a chute along the south eastern side of the track</p>	<p>This feedback provided by the Mount Barker Turf Club will result in races being started in the chute (distance pending) and horses racing along a long straight prior to negotiating any bends, resulting in a better quality of horse racing.</p>
<p><i>Kendenup</i> Identify the eastern side of the railway line as a future expansion area for passive recreation facilities and acknowledge that entry to the eastern side of the railway line will be through the existing vehicle crossing points and not a pedestrian crossing.</p>	<p>Several comments received from Kendenup residents did not support the passive recreation developments shown on the western side of the railway line due to the limited space and identified the eastern side of the railway line as a preference.</p> <p>Residents also queried the absence of a pedestrian crossing across the railway line and suggested that the Shire should negotiate with WestNet Rail for a pedestrian crossing.</p> <p>Shire staff have spoken with representatives from</p>

	<p>WestNet Rail as recently as 21 September 2009 and have been advised that a pedestrian crossing is not possible due to safety concerns.</p> <p>Local Kendenup groups such as the Kendenup Community Development Association are supportive of passive recreation developments (in particular the skate park) on the western side of the railway line due to a pre-existing Shire lease along the rail corridor and access from the townsite.</p> <p>The RAC has continued to support passive recreation developments on the western side of the railway line however would like to acknowledge future expansion across to the eastern side of the railway line if necessary. Advice from WestNet Rail has been that expansion to the eastern side of the railway line would only be supported if a fence was erected along the railway line and that access was via the existing vehicular crossings.</p>
<p><i>Kendenup</i> Relocate the proposed Kendenup Community Recreation Centre to the north east corner of the Agricultural Grounds area; and</p>	<p>A public meeting was organised in Kendenup on 31 August 2009 by the Kendenup Community Recreation Centre Committee, to gain community consensus regarding the location of the proposed community building. The building was originally mapped on the southern end of the tennis courts within the Agricultural Grounds site.</p> <p>Sixty four people attended the Kendenup meeting of which 58 people voted to relocate the proposed building to the north eastern corner of the Agricultural Grounds site.</p>
<p><i>Kendenup</i> Retain the trees around the tennis courts.</p>	<p>Comments received from Kendenup tennis players requested the trees around the tennis courts be retained to provide a wind break for tennis players.</p> <p>With the relocation of the Community Recreation Centre building to the north eastern corner of the Agricultural Grounds site it is important to note this consideration, to ensure the trees around the courts are retained regardless of a proposed building development nearby.</p>

Shire staff met with Gerard Healy on 23 September 2009 to discuss the proposed amendments to the plans. Gerard supported the amendments and redrafted the plans. Copies of the amended Sport and Recreation Precinct Plans for Frost Park, Sounness Park and Kendenup were presented to the RAC on 1 October 2009. The

Committee endorsed the plans for presentation to the Council. Copies of the amended plans are attached.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

THAT:

- 1. The Sport and Recreation Precinct Plans for Frost and Sounness Parks and Kendenup, as provided in Attachment One, be endorsed.**
- 2. The Recreation Advisory Committee be requested to prepare an implementation timeline and schedule of funding sources for the Precinct Plans.**
- 3. The Recreation Advisory Committee be requested to present the implementation timeline and schedule of funding sources to the Council for consideration during the 2010 / 2011 budget preparation process.**

Following discussion it was decided to amend references to the Sport and Recreation Precinct Plans to Sport and Recreation Precinct Development Plans.

Moved Cr A Budrikis, seconded Cr D Nye-Chart:

That the draft amended 'Sport and Recreation Precinct Plans – Adoption of the plans for Frost Park, Sounness Park and Kendenup' Council report be presented to the Council at its Ordinary Meeting to be held on 13 October 2009.

CARRIED

5 GENERAL BUSINESS

Amendments to draft Sport and Recreation Precinct Plans:

The following amendments are to be made to the draft Sport and Recreation Precinct Plans:

- Incorporate the phrase 'Development' in the plan title, for example Sounness Park and Frost Park Precinct Development Plan and Kendenup Precinct Development Plan;
- Identify the future Kendenup Community Recreation Centre building as a footprint on the plans rather than a building outline and parking area;
- Amend the text in relation to the Kendenup Community Recreation Centre to state:

'Proposed Community and Recreation Building.
Construction of a new multi-use building.'

- Incorporate a reference to the turf wicket on the senior cricket oval at Sounness Park.

Flora Survey

Wendy Bradshaw from South Coast Natural Resource Management organisation is conducting a flora survey at the proposed Community and Recreation building site at the Kendenup Agricultural Grounds.

Attachments:

- (1) Draft Sport and Recreation Precinct Plans for Frost Park and Sounness Park in Mount Barker and Kendenup..

6 NEXT MEETING

No date proposed.

7 MEETING CLOSURE

8.55am.

CONFIRMED:CHAIRPERSON _____ **DATE:** ____ / ____ / ____