



RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

SECTION 5.9(2)(a) LGA 1995

The duties of the committee shall be:

- a) *Oversee and make recommendation to the Council regarding the implementation of special projects that align with the Shire of Plantagenet Strategic Community Plan;*
- b) *Liaise as necessary with community groups Recreation Centre Advisory Group, the Department of Sport and Recreation and other bodies; and*
- c) *To advise the Council on the strategic direction of recreation throughout Plantagenet.*

A meeting of the Recreation Advisory Committee
was held in the Shire of Plantagenet Committee Room, Mount Barker
at 2:00pm Monday 14 August 2023


Julian Murphy
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Committee Members

*Cr K Woltering (Chair), Cr B Bell, Cr K Clements, Cr M O'Dea, (Deputy Cr S Etherington) -
(Resolution NO. 176/21)*

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Membership

Cr K Woltering (Presiding Member)

Cr B Bell

Cr K Clements

Cr M O'Dea

Cr S Etherington (Deputy for any member)

1 DECLARATION OF OPENING / ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

11.00am The Presiding Member declared the meeting open.

2 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES / LEAVE OF ABSENCE (PREVIOUSLY APPROVED)Members Present

Cr K Woltering - Presiding Member
Cr K Clements
Cr M O'Dea
Cr B Bell
Cr S Etherington (Deputy)

Staff

Mr G Clark, Chief Executive Officer
Mrs N Selesnew, Acting Manager Community and Recreation Services
Mr M Bird, Pool Co-ordinator
Mr Z Hambley, Pool Staff

Apologies

Nil

Observers.

Cr L Handasyde

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved Cr Bell, seconded Cr Clements:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting held on 22 November 2022 as circulated, be taken as read and adopted as a correct record.

CARRIED

4 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Part 5, Division 6, Local Government Act 1995.

Nil.

5 ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

5.1 YOUTH ADVISORY GROUP REVIEW

5.1.1 SHIRE OF PLANTAGENET YOUTH ADVISORY GROUP - REVIEW

File Ref:	TBC
Attachments:	
Responsible Officer:	Nicole Selesnew Acting Manager Community and Recreation Services
Author:	Isabelle Draffehn Community Development Officer
Proposed Meeting Date:	22 August 2023

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to review the value and achievements of the Shire of Plantagenet Youth Advisory Group (YAG) over the past two years.

BACKGROUND

The Recreation Advisory Committee (RAC) discussed community engagement and consultation options for the development of the Youth Precinct at Wilson Park at its meeting held on 4 March 2021. The Community Development Officer recommended the establishment of a Youth Advisory Group to guide this process, in combination with other consultation processes.

The RAC considered a briefing paper on the proposal to establish a Youth Advisory Group at its meeting held 29 June 2021, resulting in a report to Council seeking endorsement of its recommendation to establish a Shire of Plantagenet YAG.

At its meeting held on 27 July 2021 the Council resolved:

That:

- 1. A Youth Advisory Group be formed for a minimum period of two years as per the terms of reference included in the Proposal to Establish a Youth Advisory Group briefing paper June 2021 with membership open to young people aged 12 – 25 years old.*
- 2. A review be presented to the Recreation Advisory Committee at the conclusion of the two-year period.'*

The report proposed three specific outcomes for the Shire of Plantagenet YAG:

1. Guide the development of the Youth Precinct Concept Plan and delivery of a range of youth events and programs to activate the space (2021/22).
2. Provide input and drive development of a Youth Plan to give the Shire a long-term approach to youth planning and program delivery (for 2022/23).

3. Oversee a Community Youth Grants Program whereby small grants between \$500 and \$1,000 can be allocated to youth focused projects submitted by the community, to be assessed and approved by the YAG with updates provided to the Recreation Advisory Committee (for 2022/23). Funding of \$4,000 for this proposal is included in the draft FY2021/22 budget.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

There are no statutory implications for this report.

EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

External consultation has occurred with the Mount Barker Community College, the Great Southern Community Development Network and the Youth Affairs Council of Western Australia.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications for this report.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Policy implications do not apply for this report and it is the opinion of the author that policy development is not required.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

There are no budget implications for this report.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no legal implications for this report.

ASSET MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are no asset management implications for this report.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

The Shire of Plantagenet Corporate Business Plan 2022/23 – 2025/26 provides:

At *Outcome 1 Community* the following Strategies:

Strategy 1.1.1:

'Provide and promote appropriate and safe spaces and activities for youth to socialise.'

Accordingly, the recommended outcome for this report aligns with the Corporate Business Plan.

RISK MITIGATION IMPLICATIONS

There are no risk mitigation implications for this report.

STRATEGIC RISK IMPLICATIONS

There are no strategic risk implications for this report.

REGIONAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no regional implications for this report.

OFFICER COMMENT

The Shire of Plantagenet YAG's first meeting was held on 24 August 2021, in partnership with the Mount Barker Community College (MBCC). The MBCC's Leadership Group comprising head students, prefects and year group leaders, forms the basis of the YAG. Membership is not limited to College students and members of the community are able to attend. It is worth noting that the time and location of the YAG meetings may preclude other youth, who are no longer engaged at school, from participating.

The Community Development Officer set out an initial four-month program with fortnightly meetings, which were aligned with the existing MBCC Leadership Group.

This arrangement provided the following benefits:

- resource support
- building on existing successes of the established Leadership Group and a group of interested youth
- confidence and reassurance to the youth (based in a familiar environment with a key familiar teacher creating a safe environment)
- opportunity to build on other youth focused initiatives being delivered by the MBCC avoiding duplication and increasing reach of the group and
- delivery of the YAG program within a safe operating environment meeting child safety principles.

The YAG achieved the following outcomes within the first two years of operation:

- the group designed their own logo
- provided feedback to the Council through engagement sessions on
 - the development of the Wilson Park Recreational Precinct Masterplan
 - the Great Southern 2050 Cycling Strategy (and trails development)
- developed and facilitated three workshops/events and

- provided feedback to the Council on its school holiday program and other events for young people held throughout the year.

Staff changes at the Shire and the MBCC from mid-2022 affected the productivity of the YAG in its second year. A reassessment of operational arrangements of the group in early 2023 identified that monthly meetings are satisfactory and that planning for youth programs and activities with the YAG is more productive during Term 1 and Term 2 of the school year. This approach is based on the student's commitments towards exams and the Year groups 11 and 12 finishing early in the second semester.

On a regional scale, engagement with youth was identified as a common challenge which was raised recently at the Great Southern Community Development Network Meeting and at a workshop facilitated by the Youth Affairs Council of Western Australia.

Despite the challenges there hasn't been a clear outcome regarding how to improve engagement opportunities with youth. Therefore, it is recommended that utilising the MBCC Leadership Group as the basis for the YAG ensures a strong connection with youth and provides the Shire with a representative group of young people to connect, consult and liaise with.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the:

1. Youth Advisory Group partnership with the Mount Barker Community College continue to be supported.
2. Youth Advisory Group be used as a consultative body, providing input into plans and strategies that impact on the Shire of Plantagenet's youth.
3. Preparation of a Youth Plan focussing on long term strategies to engage with and support youth be noted, with progress on a Youth Plan temporarily suspended until appropriate resources are available.

AMENDMENT

Moved Cr Woltering, seconded Cr Clements:

That the item be discussed at a Council workshop with regard to the role, scope and composition of a Youth Advisory Group.

CARRIED

5.2 MOUNT BARKER MEMORIAL SWIMMING POOL STAGE 1B; PROJECT SCOPE

Stage 1B of the Mount Barker Memorial Swimming Pool project comprises new and refurbished aquatic spaces including a Learn to Swim and Splash Pool, 50m pool refurbishment, plant upgrade, heating system, shade structures and minor infrastructure (bbq, storage shed etc).

The extent of the redevelopment is undecided due to a number of factors:

- Funding received from the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries through the CSRFF program is less than anticipated
- Construction costs have continued to rise which impacts the scope and affordability and
- Councillors need to discuss concepts in more detail for decisions to be made.

To keep the project moving forwards and to assist decision making, some key project parameters need to be confirmed. These are as follows:

Community Priorities (top 10 priorities listed in order of community importance)

1. Learn to swim (LTS) infrastructure and access to LTS programs
2. Warmer water
3. Changerooms – accessible, parenting facilities and warm showers
4. Retain the 50m pool
5. LTS to cater up to Stage 4 swim programs
6. Access year round
7. Hydrotherapy
8. Surrounds of the pools a flat surface – no step/channel or lip
9. Consider ongoing operational costs and
10. Storage and function room

Report - Consulting Great Southern, Needs Assessment Report. October 2019.

Heating:

- 'Hybrid' heating solution preferred comprising water cooled photovoltaic cells powering electric heat pumps
- Minimum 250m² of solar panel space required – can be installed on building and/or shade structure roofs
- Electrical infrastructure upgrades likely required (75amp power supply necessary)
- Estimated construction cost of \$350,000

Report - Norman, Disney and Young, Mt Barker Memorial Pool – Pool Heating Review. 13 December 2022

Pool Plant and Operating Equipment:

- Several critical items of plant have reached the age / level of condition where failure is to be expected. Items are beyond maintenance
- Plant is likely to suffer mechanical failure without notice
- Upgrade of the entire plant system is required, including the building that houses the plant room. Existing balance tank is undersized and is recommended for replacement with a 55m³ tank
- Items that have been upgraded in recent years (and are not at risk of failure) include the chlorine gas detection system, switchboard and circulating pump

Reports:

David Watson of Shenton Aquatic, Mount Barker Swimming Pool, Plant Room Condition Report. Undated. Report findings have been supported by the GHD Condition Assessment Report. Norman, Disney and Young, Swimming Pool Water Treatment – Schematic Design. 24 August 2020.

Chlorination:

- Chlorination is delivered by 70kg bottles of chlorine gas
- System is not in compliance with health and safety regulations
- While chlorine gas is comparatively cheap, it constitutes a higher safety risk and requires robust safety procedures around its use. The dangerous nature of the gas is a deterrent to people changing cylinders.
- Other chlorination systems should be considered (such as granular form)

Report – Norman, Disney and Young, Swimming Pool Water Treatment – Schematic Design. 24 August 2020.

Pool Condition and Remaining Life Assessment Outcomes:

- Tests and investigations predict that the pool copings will not commence corrosion for at least 50yrs
- Remaining service life of the pool reinforced concrete shell is predicted to be 20+ yrs provided pool cracks are repaired and hydraulic pipes are repaired or preferably replaced
- Earth bonding needs to be addressed in any refurbishment or new works
- Recommended strategic option to maximise the facility life span is to *retain the existing 50m pool and associated elements and carry out full scale remediation / upgrade works. Replace the toddler / wading pool.*
- Further investigation and assessment should be completed before a major investment in facility upgrades.

Report – GHD, Mount Barker Swimming Pool Stage 2 Investigation – Remaining Life Assessment. December 2019.

DLGSCI – CSRFF Funding

- \$750,000 funding – contract signed
- Priorities for the funding are: learn to swim facilities, increasing the water temperature to support extended use, remediation works to the main pool, infrastructure that promotes accessibility and an upgrade to the plant and filtration systems.
- Funding has not been allocated to specific components so there is flexibility on where it can be spent, provided expenditure is in line with the priorities
- Funding cannot exceed 1/3 of eligible project expenditure (ie 1/3 of the total cost of the priorities)
- Will not fund items that do not promote physical recreation (ie play facilities, bbq, landscaping, carparks etc)
- Construction to be completed by June 2025. Some flexibility around this date if the project is well underway.

Pers comm. CSRFF Funding Team and Great Southern Regional Manager

Safety Considerations

- Pool safety is maximised by adequate supervision. Design should be based around supervision optimisation for both parents / guardians and lifeguards
- Main safety risk spaces are the Splash Pool and LTS interaction. Consider repositioning these so the Splash Pool is closer to the main supervision point (Kiosk / Entry).

- Fencing around pool areas is not recommended as it impedes visibility / supervision and slows access in an emergency. A majority of pool sites have removed all internal fencing with the exception of pools that have very deep water bodies, such as dive pools and water polo pools (eg 1.8m depth and deeper)
- Fencing within the pool itself (ie a grill style fence similar to the existing toddler pool) also impacts on visibility and can slow access in an emergency. Children will circumnavigate these fences easily. Lane ropes are used by a majority of pools instead
- 0.7m is very deep for a Splash Pool space. Recommend keeping the depth below 0.5m
- Handrails are not required around the Splash Pool and can slow emergency access into the water. May also be used as 'swings' by children. However, handrails are required on both sides of a ramp entry.
- Confirmed that separate filtration and plant operating systems will be required for the two pool spaces.
- Discussed various aspects of Concept Options 1 – 3, with several having advantages and disadvantages.

Online Meeting, Eddie Gibbs and John East from Royal Life Saving (aquatic safety advisers).

Masterplans

Three Masterplans have been prepared for the pool, titled Option 1, Option 2 and Option 3. The options have been amended following Council workshops, meetings and forums. The Masterplans were attached for discussion

Also attached were three sections of the Masterplans, focussing on the LTS and Splash Pool areas, to help review these areas.

Discussion Outcomes**50m Pool Space:**

1. Address the priorities identified in the 'Remaining Life Assessment Report' (December 2019 - GHD Consulting) including:
 - a. Repair pool cracks (investigate options such as pouring a second floor, filling etc)
 - b. Repair expansion joints
 - c. Address earth bonding requirements
 - d. Repaint bowl
 - e. Address hydraulic pipes in need of repair (assessment process identified very few issues with the pipework)
 - f. Repair associated infrastructure (tiling, pool ladders etc)
2. No Wet-Deck consideration at this point in time.
3. Review accessibility options based around minimal disturbances, for example a hoist.

Splash Pool / Learn to Swim (LTS) Pool:

1. Priority is for the development of an interactive, engaging Splash Pool space
2. A 25m, 3 lane LTS pool is not a priority at this point in time. A smaller, functional and affordable LTS space may be considered
3. Wet-Deck construction for the new water body to be incorporated into design plans
4. Investigate the re-orientation of the Splash Pool / LTS space by 90 degrees, so the Splash Pool is positioned east – west along the Mead St boundary and the LTS space is located to the north of the Splash Pool (also aligned east – west)
5. Investigate the advantages / disadvantages of:
 - a. Separating the Splash Pool and LTS pool water bodies (albeit located in close proximity)
 - b. Can these be serviced by the one operating system? If so, what are the implications / limitations?
 - c. If these cannot be serviced by one operating system cease investigations. There is no intention to install and operate three pool operating systems.

6. Review shade structures for the Splash Pool / LTS pool space. Options other than shade sails to be considered, such as louvre style shade structures. Shade and seating by the Splash Pool area is high priority.

Pool Operating System:

1. Replacement of the existing operating system acknowledged as a necessity, including a new, larger balance tank.
2. Investigate the option of using the existing balance tank for the new Splash Pool / LTS water body
3. Investigate whether the Waste Water tank can be used for both water bodies
4. Investigate alternate chlorination systems moving away from the dangers associated with chlorine gas. If chlorine gas is the preferred system determine whether there are safer methods to handle the gas.

Heating:

1. Further consideration of the heating system options including current capital costs and projected operating costs (with accurate predictions on off-set costings such as solar power returns)
2. If a hybrid heating system is preferred – determine whether a power upgrade to the site is required and where photovoltaic cells can be located (including connectivity and weight issues)

Storage:

1. Consideration for temporary storage in the site during the refurbishment phase.
2. Determine if the proposed storage spaces are sufficient for requirements.

Current Operating Considerations:

1. Check the compliance of the perforated fence design. Is the height sufficient? When will the fence be complete?
2. Ensure the sealing of the verandah area is complete prior to the start of the new season
3. Review the installation of shade sails over the terraced area.

Action:

Staff to undertake investigations as outlined above and report back to the Council.

6 NEXT MEETING

TBA

7 CLOSURE OF MEETING

3.26pm The Presiding Member declared the meeting closed.

CONFIRMED: PRESIDING MEMBER _____ DATE: ____/____/____