

MINUTES OF ANNUAL ELECTORS' MEETING

HELD ON

Tuesday 16 March 2021 AT 7.00 PM

IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 83 MANDURAH TERRACE MANDURAH

PRESENT

MAYOR	R WILLIAMS	
COUNCILLOR	C KNIGHT	NORTH WARD
COUNCILLOR	P JACKSON	NORTH WARD
COUNCILLOR	A ZILANI	NORTH WARD
COUNCILLOR	D PEMBER	EAST WARD
COUNCILLOR	M DARCY	COASTAL WARD
COUNCILLOR	P ROGERS	TOWN WARD

MR	A CLAYDON	ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
MS	C MHOVILOVICH	DIRECTOR BUSINESS SERVICES
MRS	J THOMAS	DIRECTOR SPLICE AND COMMUNITY
MR	J CAMPBELL-SLOAN	DIRECTOR STRATEGY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
MRS	L SLAYFORD	MINUTE OFFICER

EIGHT MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY.

1. OPENING OF MEETING

Mayor Williams opened the meeting at 7.00pm welcoming electors, Elected Members and City officers in attendance.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Mayor Williams acknowledged that the meeting was being held on the traditional land of the Bindjareb people, and paid his respect to their Elders past and present.

3. APOLOGIES

Councillor J Green and Mr M Newman, Chief Executive Officer

4. DISCLAIMER

The Mayor advised that no person should rely on any comments made by Members or officers until formal written advice is received by that person.

5. ANNUAL REPORT PRESENTATION

5.1 2019/2020 ANNUAL REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PRESENTATION

The Mayor presented an overview of the City's vision, achievements, projects completed and currently underway. The Director Business Services delivered an overview of the City's financial position.

Councillor P Rogers left the Chamber at 7.24pm and did not return

6. DISCUSSION OF 2019/2020 ANNUAL REPORT

The Mayor invited electors to raise issues and ask questions.

6.1 M ROBINSON: ELECTRIC VEHICLES

Mr Robinson queried if there was a timetable for conversion to electric vehicles operated by the City of Mandurah.

The Director Built and Natural Environment explained that the City currently is committed to exploring all fleet options as technology evolves. The City is not committed to introducing electric vehicles at present due to efficiency concerns. The City is exploring future possible options including hydrogen power.

7. DISCUSSION OF GENERAL BUSINESS

The Mayor invited electors to raise issues and ask questions.

7.1 B MITCHELL: GRANT FUNDING

Mr Mitchell queried why grant funding had appeared to be diminishing.

The Director Business Services confirmed there were a number of reasons for grant funds declining including changes in eligibility, the grant amounts reducing, or the grant program no longer being available.

Mayor Williams advised that both Federal and State Governments had reduced funding to local governments in key service areas which impacts local government's ability to fund works without rate increases, particularly in relation to road funding. Mandurah has been deemed ineligible to access some regional funding which the City is addressing via its Advocacy Strategy with both State and Federal governments to gain further access to regional grants.

7.2 P HICK: PHOSPHORUS SOILS

Mr Hicks requested clarification in regard to Elected Members and the organisation's understanding of the use of provisions for land development to reduce phosphorus levels in soils.

The Mayor acknowledged the impact of this aspect on the environment and particularly the waterways.

The Director Built and Natural Environment acknowledged Mr Hicks concerns relating to phosphorus in landfill and undertook to review the City of Mandurah practices.

7.3 P HICK: CHRMAP

Dr Hicks asked what had happened to CHRMAP – Coastal Hazard Risk Management and Adaptation Plan.

The Director Built and Natural Environment informed the meeting that the project had been temporarily paused due to the resignation of a key consultant. The Director will ensure an update on the progress of CHRMAP will be provided to all key stakeholders.

7.4 B MARTIN: STREET PRESENT PERSONS

Mr Martin outlined some issues associated with street present persons sleeping on private property in the city centre and asked of options in relation to a police booth in the city centre.

Mayor Williams advised that in the first instance people should always contact the Police regarding such matters. Discussions with the West Australian Police Force has indicated that Police staffing levels are demand driven therefore people need to report issues to support demand in this area. The City has had discussions with Police in regard to renting a space in the Smart Street Mall with a Police booth type set-up however the requirement for this has not been justified. Police have increased foot patrols in the CBD which has been welcomed and has had a positive effect for businesses.

The Mayor and Director Place and Community gave an overview of the City's Street Present and Homeless Strategy including co-location of services, such as community showers and the Peel Kitchen, along with the State Government funded Assertive Outreach program and Common Ground model which would be delivered shortly.

7.5 J CUMBERWORTH: MANDURAH PRECINCT PLANS

Mr Cumberworth asked if land developers were finding the current Precinct Plans too restrictive and if they were challenging any of the Precinct Plans.

The Director Business Services advised that the City's Local Planning Scheme 12 was currently with the Western Australian Planning Commission for endorsement. Once LPS12 is endorsed, the City would commence the review of the Precinct Plans in consultation with landowners in the various areas.

Mayor Williams advised that Developers generally initially liaised with the City to ascertain requirements and ensure proposals are discussed to ensure it benefits both parties.

7.6 J CUMBERWORTH: TRAFFIC CORRIDORS

Mr Cumberworth requested clarification as to whether “traffic corridors” were being created in the urban centre.

The Director Built and Natural Environment advised that there are no traffic corridors that will be widened apart from Pinjarra Road. Pinjarra Road is identified in the Peel Region Scheme as a major corridor and to accommodate the widening, the State Government needs to acquire the land before the City can carry out the works.

7.7 M ROBINSON: GREENING SPACES

Mr Robinson requested clarification on the City’s Greening Spaces policy and if residents could be made aware of such policy.

The Director Built and Natural Environment invited Mr Robinson to a meeting to discuss Public Open Space and how it aligns to the Greening Mandurah Framework.

7.8 M ROBINSON: CONTROLLED BURNS

In relation to controlled burns Mr Robinson queried if local indigenous experts could be involved to ensure burns are kinder to the environment as a whole.

Mayor Williams suggested that Mr Robinson meet with relevant officers to discuss this matter in further detail.

7.9 G BROWN: PEEL STREET ROADWORKS

Mr Brown queried the rationale for the recent Peel Street roadworks between Anstruther Road and Forrest Street.

The Director Built and Natural Environment explained that the Peel Street reconstruction and widening is to be undertaken in stages to match the grant funding that the City is receiving. The first stage was from Anstruther Road to Forrest Street. The section that has the cycle lane is a temporary arrangement until the third stage is complete. The second stage will be underground power for the remaining of Peel Street. The third stage will be the continuation of reconstruction and widening, which will meet the same standards as the Peel Street project from Anstruther to the Mandurah Train Station. This will complete the major road connection from the Mandurah Train Station to the City Centre.

7.10 N TAYLOR: SOLAR BUS CONNECTIONS

Mr Taylor asked if a solar bus system could operate from the Mandurah Train Station to the city centre.

Mayor Williams advised that part of the Transform Mandurah plan was to ensure transport linkages to the City Centre. The type of transport system to be implemented had not been determined at this point in time.

7.11 G BROWN: SHORT STAY ACCOMMODATION

Mr Brown requested clarification on the City's short-stay accommodation policy.

The Director Built and Natural Environment advised that information in relation to short-stay accommodation will be forwarded to Mr Brown.

7.12 B MITCHELL: FORMER BOWLING CLUB LAND

Mr Mitchell asked what the City's intention was in relation to land on Peel Street where the former bowling club was located.

The Director Built and Natural Environment advised the land is being considered as part of the review of the City's Property Strategy.

7.13 P HICKS: HALLS HEAD PARADE LAND (OLD YACHT CLUB SITE)

Mr Hicks queried if the Halls Head Parade Old Yacht Club site was included in the abovementioned landholdings.

The Director Built and Natural Environment confirmed the site was not under consideration as it is a reserve owned by the Crown and under the care, control and management of the City of Mandurah.

7.14 M ROBINSON: CLEAN AIR POLICY

Mr Robinson asked if the City would consider implementing a clean air policy.

Mayor Williams advised there was a Greening Mandurah Framework which assisted in this area but not a formal policy.

The Director Built and Natural Environment confirmed that the City carries out air quality monitoring at Calypso Reserve, Halls Head.

7.15 B MITCHELL: SOUND POLLUTION CHECKS

Mr Mitchell queried if sound pollution points were also in existence.

The Director Built and Natural Environment advised that noise pollution monitoring was available however it is only available via the noise complaint process.

7.16 S MUIR: GRANTS INTEREST

Ms Muir asked if grant monies on hold were able to earn interest and where any such interest was allocated.

The Director Business Services advised that current interest rates were very low and therefore revenue earned on interest is not impacting the City's revenue at present. Different grants have different conditions, some require interest to be declared and used within the project and therefore the interest is allocated to the project. Other grants allow the interest to be used to contribute to the City's revenue and therefore the interest is allocated to the general funds of the City.

8. CLOSE OF MEETING

Mayor Williams thanked electors, Elected Members and staff for their attendance. There being no further business the Mayor declared the meeting closed at 8.15pm.

CONFIRMED (MAYOR)

