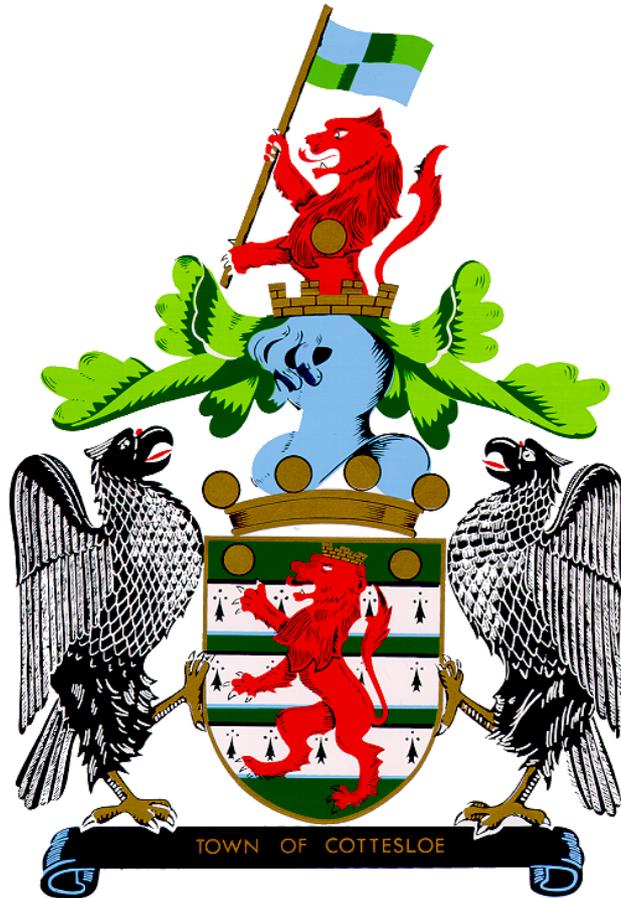


TOWN OF COTTESLOE



MINUTES

ANNUAL GENERAL ELECTORS' MEETING

HELD IN THE WAR MEMORIAL TOWN HALL
COTTESLOE CIVIC CENTRE
WEDNESDAY, 30 November 2011

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF ELECTORS'
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(1) MAYOR'S WELCOME

Mayor Morgan declared the Meeting open at 7.00pm and welcomed all present.

PRESENT

Mayor Kevin Morgan
Cr Jack Walsh
Cr Rob Rowell
Cr Greg Boland
Cr Katrina Downes
Cr Peter Jeanes
Cr Yvonne Hart

Officers:

Mr Carl Askew	Chief Executive Officer
Mr Geoff Trigg	Manager Engineering Services
Mr Andrew Jackson	Manager Development Services
Mrs Lydia Giles	Executive Officer

Electors:

Chris Wiggins
Phillipa Wiggins
Davina Goldthorpe
Peter Goldthorpe
Damien Stilwell
Phil Patterson
Ruth Greble
Gabor Bedo
John Adrewartha
David Cohen (POST)

(2) SUBMISSION OF APOLOGIES

Cr Sally Pyvis
Cr Victor Strzina
Mr Mat Humfrey Manager Corporate & Community Services

Leave of Absence (previous approved)

Nil

(3) DISCUSSION OF THE CONTENTS OF THE ANNUAL REPORT

Mayor's Report

The Mayor addressed the following points from his report:

- Once again Local Government reform and potential amalgamation with our neighbours has consumed significant time and resources this year.

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Council's resolved position remains to conditionally support a Regional Transition Group (RTG) process in order to develop a Business Plan which can demonstrate the benefits of reform and provide information to our community with our immediate neighbours in Claremont, Mosman Park and Peppermint Grove. Council's preferred approach is to use the Regional Subsidiaries Bill currently before parliament as a way to take advantage of resource sharing and regional service delivery whilst retaining the qualities of local representation and decision making. The current metropolitan review being pursued by the Minister for local government aims to reduce the number of local governments and the review will conclude in June 2012 with recommendations to the Minister.

- Local Planning Scheme 3 – During the year the Town has submitted its proposed planning scheme, received and advertised the Ministers' required modifications, analysed in excess of 1,800 public submissions and resubmitted Council's preferred position. Council's position is based upon the Enquiry by Design principles, themselves the result of a compromise position, noting that there is scope for development increases above 12m only on certain sites and with appropriate setbacks. Council's consultants have rigorously applied these principles to "push the envelope" on all beachfront sites and its plan allows for maximum development whilst retaining the human scale and heritage reputation of Perth's most iconic beachfront. Our strategy must underpin and direct the development of the foreshore, but our foreshore development plan for the public reserves will require significant funding to deliver the improved infrastructure and amenity so deserved. It is anticipated that Council's efforts in the public domain will be complimented by similar quality development in the private sphere. We are now once again awaiting the Ministers formal approval of our Planning Scheme. The new scheme was originally intended to last for five years so it is now time for Council to commence the process of our next review.
- Our current depot is at the end of its serviceable life and Council is actively pursuing relocation to a new site so that the existing depot land can be freed up and realised in order to support Council's strategic priorities including the foreshore redevelopment. In addition our current Civic centre sits on freehold land owned by the Town and we need to ensure that if some form of amalgamation or reform of local governments were to take place that this significant heritage listed community asset remains secure and vested for future community use and enjoyment.
- Our new Library and Community Centre is now complete and represents an outstanding example of resource sharing between Councils, a physical demonstration of excellent local planning and environmental sustainability and a welcome resource for our community now and into the future.
- Curtin Avenue continues to be an unresolved issue with increasing traffic movements. There has been no movement from the State for over 20 years and there is nothing in the forward estimates for the next 15 years. We have busy level crossings, two major highways running

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parallel to each other, hardly a 100 metres apart with a rail line running down the centre interspersed with short level crossings. It’s been years since we agreed on the design, with the last stage being the Enquiry by Design which considered potential solutions which now must be a priority for the State Government.

- During the summer the Town, thanks to the generous support of LotteryWest, was able to totally refurbish and restore the Civic Centre roof, a project that took many months and cost approximately \$400,000.

Chief Executive Officer’s Report

The CEO addressed the following points from his report:

- 2010/11 has been a busy year for the administration and a number of significant milestones have been achieved.
- In the Planning and Development area local government reform has been a constant workload. In addition the Town also managed to review its wards and boundaries and as a consequence reduced the number of elected members in time for the 2011 elections. The beachfront debate has dominated our community consultation with the Ministers modifications attracting significant community comment. Our Local Planning Scheme No. 3 is now with the WAPC for referral to the Minister for approval. In addition State Government changes have included the latest Planning reform legislation, Development Assessment Panels, requests for surplus land and Directions 2031, all of which will impact upon us in the coming years.
- Within the Works area the relocation of the Council Depot has taken significant officer time and resources and a number of options have been pursued. Whilst the Town is still in negotiations with the Cities of Nedlands and Subiaco we have also reignited interest from the Town of Mosman Park and we are actively working on a joint solution for 2012. In addition, during the summer period we jointly worked with the Department of Transport to undertake a geophysical study of our beachfront in order to better inform our development, management and protection of the beachfront against the effects of climate change. We were also successful in securing a Federal government grant for upgrade works at the TAPSS centre in Forrest Street. The Town’s works crew continues to deliver high quality services and undertake essential daily works across the Town and they have once gain been supported along the beachfront by Coastcare and its many volunteers for which I extend my thanks and gratitude.
- In the Corporate and Community Services areas we continue to perform well managing the many customer service demands in a timely and efficient manner. Our finances are in good shape and our budget increases both this year and last have been amongst the lowest in the western suburbs and broader metropolitan area. This year we also changed our rating for PROCOTT and the Town Centre from Specified Area Rating to Differential Rating. PTA patron parking on Grant Street

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has been a challenge for us and we have worked with Council and the local community to resolve it.

- The area of sustainability has once again been a focus for Council with the Grove Library being our shining example of sustainable development. We also achieved milestone 4 from ICLEI for our Waterwise programs and activities, played host at Cottesloe Beach of the national launch of the Keep Australia Beautiful campaign and have continued with our successful and well regarded Native Plant Subsidy Scheme, Cott Cat shuttle service, Living Smart courses and our Sustainability Calendar. In addition we continue to progress our major strategy of achieving Carbon Neutrality for the Town.
- Our community events and activities have also been a highlight over the last 12 months including "hosting" the Australia Day event at the Civic Centre on behalf of Cottesloe, Mosman Park and Peppermint Grove and saw increases in attendances at all our major events including Hullabaloo, Twilight concerts, Music for Pleasure, Sculpture by the Sea, ANZAC Day and Pioneers Day.
- Quality staff is critical to both success and excellent customer service and we have, during the year, welcomed new staff to the team at Cottesloe. Whilst turnover of staff is inevitable we continue to provide a smiling face at the front counter and are always willing to help residents and ratepayers with their enquiries. In addition we also reviewed and completed our new Enterprise Agreement with all staff and this was endorsed by Fair Work Australia in May.
- Finally the CEO thanked the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, and Councillors (past and present) for their support, leadership and hard work during the year and also thanked the staff for their professionalism and commitment to providing quality services to our local community. In conclusion he wished all residents best wishes for a safe and happy Christmas and New Year.

Moved by Davina Goldthorpe, seconded by Greg Boland

That the Mayor’s report, Chief Executive Officer’s report, Annual Financial Statements and Auditors report be received.

**Carried
No dissent**

(4) GENERAL BUSINESS:

The Mayor opened the meeting to General Business and questions from the floor.

Mr Chris Wiggins

Q1: Beachfront plan – when it will be provided to the community

A1: The Mayor responded that it has gone to community twice and it will be finalised by Council in February and it will be available for community to view again at that time.

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- Q2: In relation to Parking the Foreshore plan proposes the elimination of carpark No. 1 and reduction of carpark No. 2. Mr Wiggins suggested the impact of such changes requires careful consideration?
- A2: The Mayor responded that parking and amenity at the beachfront t are an important part of the proposed Foreshore Plan. There is a need to increase the use of public transport including our shuttle service from the train to the beachfront. In relation to car park #1 this will be reduced in size to create more public space and promenade however car park #1 will remain with its current capacity or possibly increase that capacity as well as exploring off-road options on Napier and Forrest Street as a way to compensate for any loss for car park #1. As Marine Parade moves west toward car park #1 there will be increased alfresco and informal areas created. The intention is not to reduce current capacity.
- Q3: In relation to the Civic Centre are there any plans to focus on water initiatives such as water resistant plants?
- A3: The Mayor confirmed that the Town is working toward a restoration of the Civic Centre gardens as per the prepared Heritage Plan for the site. Council has advanced works on repairs to many of the walls in the grounds and acknowledged that this was an ongoing commitment. The standard of the garden has been improved however there is more work to do including many of the plantings.

Mr Phil Patterson

- Q1: Mr Patterson asked about the tattoo parlour in the Town centre?
- A1: The Mayor confirmed that the Town had advice that the tattoo parlour is operating contrary to planning approval and that the Town was pursuing all legal avenues to address this.

The CEO confirmed that there were appeals at both the SAT and District Court which are being jointly pursued and it is likely that both will impact upon each other. The SAT will be finalised in December and the result will inform the prosecution on the District Court.

Cr Rowell inquired if the Town would be taking steps to put a definition of tattoo parlour into its new Planning Scheme as a non-permitted use.

The Manager for Development Services advised that this was under consideration and would be the subject of legal advice.

- Q2: Does the rose garden play a significant role in the heritage of the Civic Centre
- A2: The CEO responded that it was part of the original heritage plan and it therefore plays a significant role in the conservation of the gardens.

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Mrs Philippa Wiggins

Q1: In light of the potential for amalgamations, Mrs Wiggins asked about potential privatisation of the Civic Centre.

A1: The Mayor confirmed that the Civic Centre and grounds are freehold asset and as such could be looked at by any future amalgamated Council. He confirmed that Council will work to ensure that Civic Centre is protected as a community asset as well as increasing usage of the Civic Centre and grounds.

Q2: How much was spent on the Speed bump on the Broome Street?.

A2: The Manager Engineering Services responded that it cost Council \$33,500 to purchase and install. They are now stored at the Depot for future use.

Ms Wiggins commented that the Council should consult the residents who are going to be affected by it before installing such devices in the future.

The Mayor confirmed that the Town does take the issue of speed and road safety seriously and that future solutions need to be sympathetic to the area and should involve lateral deflections as opposed to vertical deflections where possible, as there are less noisy and more aesthetic. Council has a strong commitment to consultation with its community.

John Adrewartha

Q: In relation to street sweeping, why is it done before the bulk waste collection. Is there a schedule available so that people can move their vehicle.

A: The Manager Engineering Services responded that depending on what sector the street sweeping is done once a month. On major streets it is usually done once a week. Generally the Town knows the schedule each month but he recommended to contact the Depot for schedule inquiry.

He agreed that there was a benefit to coordinating sweeping to take place after bulk verge collections where possible.

Mr Phil Patterson

Mr Patterson congratulated the Council on the effort to rehabilitate the Civic Centre ground's and the gardens. He commended contractor Andrew Furr on his work on the stage area.

Q: Mr Patterson asked about the Napoleon Street traders in the Town Centre and the impact on business? He also asked how the current Town Centre can be improved?

A: The Mayor responded that the Town is working on a plan with Procott to improve the area and this included work on the Town's own land assets as well as aesthetic works on footpath and streetscapes.

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Cottesloe is different from Claremont in size and scale and retains its village feel with walkways and laneways. Whilst LPS3 will impact upon development opportunities such as building heights on the southern sides Cottesloe will retain its open air style. In addition the Town must work with its neighbor in Peppermint Grove as our Town Centre is currently fragmented across the two Councils.

(5) CLOSURE

The Mayor extended his appreciation to all those in attendance, wished everyone a happy Christmas and safe New Year and declared the meeting closed at 7:50 pm.