



COTTESLOE COUNCIL NEWS

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News in brief...

Meetings at Civic Centre

NEXT Council meeting Monday September 22, at 7pm.

Development Services Monday September 15, 6pm.

Works and Corporate Services Tuesday September 16, 7pm.

Planning applications for November close October 1.

Ramp is ready for go-ahead

WITH complete public support for a disability access ramp to the North Cottesloe beach-side facility, Cottesloe is still waiting for State permission to build.

The ramp would provide access for people with disabilities to reach the toilets, showers and change rooms below the Barchetta and surf club. Under the WA Disability Act councils must provide disabled access to their facilities and services, and this suggested improvement drew wide public approval. Cottesloe asked the WA Planning Commission for a go-ahead in June.

Now Council has instructed staff to stand by and be ready to put the ramp in place as soon as WAPC approval comes through, intending it should be in use by the end of September.

Road safety

AFTER extensive public consultation earlier this year Cottesloe will now consider a new five-year programme for Road Safety Improvement and Speed Restriction, beginning in 2009/10.

Few people made submissions during the consultation period, and only two matters arose. One involves the crossing of Curtin Avenue at Napier Street, and Cottesloe has applied for Blackspot funding at this point. The other concerned a speed reduction plan for the southern end of Marine Parade. The proposed solution is a low-rise speed plateau, rather than a hump. Staff explained that two such plateaux installed in Railway Street near Seaview Terrace have drawn no noise complaints.

Meter-Eye gets 'aye-aye'

HUNDREDS of parking bays on Marine Parade will shortly be monitored by electronic Meter-Eye devices.

After successful testing in the busy Napoleon Street shopping area, the Council made a complete study of parking throughout Cottesloe. Last September it decided to use the system on the beachfront subject to public consultation.

Consultation

Advertisements, press publicity and online information were all used to elicit public submissions during October and November 2007, but none were received.

Tendering

Roll-out of the Meter-



Remote monitoring of parked vehicles allows better use of ranger's time.

Eyes was delayed by an unusual tendering scenario. When planning to spend over \$100,000 on a project councils must seek tenders.

But Meter-Eye is a unique product available from only one source. So Cottesloe had to wait for legal confirmation that it could buy the equipment without going through the normal tendering process.

Cost of the Meter-Eyes and related equipment - computer software, hand-held programmers, street signs - totals \$170,691.

Efficiency

Initial costs are expected to be offset by increased infringement revenue of up to \$220,000. Labour-saving is another benefit, as rangers' work is reduced by the automatic monitoring.

On Marine Parade, Meter-Eyes will be used in 134 bays in No. 1 car park; 354 bays in No. 2; and 34 bays between Forrest/Napier Streets.

Refurbishing the Council's Civic Centre offices will continue until April 2009. Until then staff are working in the upper parts of building, so visitors should enter the grounds by the upper gates on Broome Street. Currently, Council and committee meetings are unaffected by the building work.



Library Lotto win

SENIOR librarian Tricia Hille has won the congratulations of the Library Project Steering Committee for gaining a grant of \$650,492 towards building and equipping the new library. Last month Cottesloe joined the other local councils, Peppermint Grove and Mosman Park, in endorsing the tendering process for the new library.



Cott grants bid to fix Blackspots

APPLYING for State and Federal Blackspot grants is an annual opportunity for local councils to improve their roads.

In the current round, Cottesloe has asked for funds to provide median islands at the intersections of North / Elizabeth Sts; Curtin Ave / Napier Sts; Marine Pde / Eileen St;

North / Lyons Sts.

Other applications are for seagull and median islands at Grant / Mann Sts; lighting at Broome / Forrest Sts; and improved lighting between

Broome / Eric Sts and the Jarrad St intersection.

If Cottesloe's applications are successful, the Town would pay one-third of costs, the grants two-thirds.



WA Govt must 'get on bike' plan!

COTTESLOE is committed to sustainability, Travelsmart and integrated transport commitments in order to reduce powered vehicle usage and increase alternative modes of transport.

Under the Western Suburbs Bike Plan (adopted with Claremont and Nedlands in 1999) the local councils have done a lot of work. Cycling conditions have improved, but more needs to be done.

Cottesloe's own proposed Local Bike Plan aims to

make specific improvements, primarily to bike and dual-use paths.

Paths

Details of the Local Bike Plan are available at the Council website and Civic Centre. Included are extension of the Curtin Avenue shared path and a new railway bridge at Eric Street. Other possibilities are widening/upgrading the foreshore path, and a dual-use path from Forrest Street to Curtin Avenue. Another consideration is removal of some parking bays along Marine Parade, though this would have implications for peak-season parking demand.

Consultation

The Town's consultants used widespread advertising, a public meeting and study of previous reports comments and complaints in producing the new Bike Plan. Now Council want to hear from the views of the broad community. Public comments are needed by October 15th, please. If adopted, a five-year plan of action would be developed, hopefully with the aid of DPI Cycling grants to meet at least half the costs.

What do you think?

Comments, please on:

- Standing Orders Local Law
- Local Bike Plan both by Wednesday October 15th

NEW LAW AIMS FOR BETTER GOVERNMENT

MAKING the Council's regular meetings more effective and efficient is the aim of a new, proposed Local Law for Cottesloe.

It's called the Standing Orders Local Law, and yes, it does include a ruling on whether councillors should stand up, or sit, when speaking!

But this is just one aspect of the proposal. Many matters - such as Public Statement Time, participation at committee meetings, and duration of speeches - will be of interest to the wider community.

Consult

The draft is based on a legal model, and Cottesloe wants to consider public submissions before going ahead and submitting the new Law for approval by the State Minister for Local Government.

Details are available online and at the Civic Centre. Please submit your comments by Wednesday October 15th.

THE 2008 Cottesloe Great Gardens Competition is on once again, recognising wonderful examples of bio-diversity, creativity and water-wise features.

Now's the time to nominate your favourite garden in the neighbourhood - or even your own!

Look out for the nomination form in your letterbox and ensure you return it the Civic Centre offices by Friday October 17.

More than residential...

A range of gardens can be nominated including school gardens, those on business premises - even street-scapes, verges and parks, as well as residential front gardens.

The only conditions are they must be visible from the street or footpath and be located in Cottesloe!

Great prizes will be on offer, so its time to get gardening!

Additional nomination forms are available on the website or at the council offices; but please contact Jade Hankin, the Town's Sustainability Officer, if you have any further queries.