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Rates to build Town assets

THERE will be an overall rate increase of 5 per cent in the 2005/06 budget. However, Mayor Kevin Morgan pointed out that half the Town's ratepayers would pay no increase. Full details of the budget will be carried in next month's Council News page.



"Council pruned discretionary spending from this year's budget, and we can do so in future. However, rate increases are inevitable to avoid running our assets into the ground," said Kevin Morgan.

"The Town's long term programmes to sustain our road, footpath and drainage networks will be met by a series of graduated, relatively small increases over a number of years - rather than one big rate hike. A 3% increase would have just maintained our existing, unsustainable, funding level. Instead, Council chose to go marginally higher, to 5%.

"This will pay for the first year of the programme, allowing us to invest 50% per cent more on roads, footpaths and drainage than we could in 2004/05."

State revaluation

"Some ratepayers, particularly large commercial owners, face significant rate increases because of land revaluations by the State Government. But these revaluations also mean that this year more than half our ratepayers will pay NO more overall - despite Cottesloe's 5% increase."

Eric Street

"Sale of the Eric St sump land was opened for public comment last month. Just one submission was received - from SOS Cottesloe - suggesting proceeds should go to a 'heritage conservation incentive fund'. However, Council decided the funds should be included in the new budget for infrastructure projects for the benefit of the total community."

Mercury lights on the way out

ANOTHER Town Five-Year Plan - this time for street furniture - will turn off the yellow mercury vapour lights used in some areas and now found to be environmentally damaging.

Other improvements under the plan include the 'tactile pavers' (pictured in last week's Post) to improve

road safety, particularly for vision-impaired people.

Some potentially dangerous litter/rubbish bins have also been identified for replacement, and there are proposals for new safety hand-rails, benches and seats, coloured brick paving and bollards.

Public comment, please

Voting to adopt in principle the five-year plan, Council also called for public comment, by Monday, July 25, in time for the proposals to be considered for final adoption at the August meeting.

PAP adopted

COTTESLOE'S Principal Activities Plan for 2005-2009 was adopted. No public submissions (advertised May 2005) were received.

Clive Road re-zoning

A PLAN to re-classify part of Clive Road, currently used by the National Measuring Institute, for residential development has been supported by Council. An application has been received to build 14 homes on the 3,000m site. To enable the plan to go ahead the Council will amend the Cottesloe Town Planning Scheme to transfer land from Public Purposes to Residential Zone.

The amendment must first be approved by the Environmental Protection Agency, then it will be advertised and made available for public inspection and comment.

(The application first came to Council in April 2005 and was deferred until public forums on the Town planning Scheme Review were held in May/June.)

Meetings at Civic Centre

NEXT Council meeting - July 25, at 7pm.

Committees:

Works and Corporate Services - July 19, 7pm.

Development Services - July 18, 6pm.

Planning applications for SEPTEMBER close on AUGUST 3.

Last month at Council...

Appointing 'Gardens Appeal' fund-raisers

A COMMITTEE of Councillors and community members will be formed to help raise the \$3 million estimated for restoration of the Civic Centre. Because the lion's share of the restoration work involves the Centre's grounds, a suggested title for the venture is the 'Cottesloe Civic Centre Gardens Appeal'. Nominees will be invited to join, and Council hopes to form the fundraising committee in August.

Revitalising Stirling Highway

ALSO advertised for public comment in May was a WESROC inspired 'strategic vision' for Stirling Highway. No submissions were received from Cottesloe residents. However, the Council will advise WESROC that Cottesloe supports the key objectives which will be presented to state government. In particular, Councillors stress the need for parallel bicycle routes away from Stirling Highway itself. Council also supported meeting the Minister for Planning regarding redevelopment of the highway.

Barchetta: drinks

PATRONS of Barchetta on Marine Parade may soon be able to buy alcohol, for consumption with bona fide meals, within the premises. Council agreed to the application, on condition that no alcohol is served after 11pm; the restaurant completes any necessary health works and has sufficient storage; and BYO remains available. Also, alcohol can only be consumed in the area covered by the lease which does NOT include the adjacent, outdoor, dining area.

Not all councillors favoured the application, which was passed by six votes to four. The Barchetta proprietor must now also seek permission from the WA Planning Commission and the Office of Racing, Gaming and Liquor

Where calendars come from...

COTTESLOE Primary children were an enthralled audience when our local Earth Carers rolled up with an exhibition promoting the themes of next year's Waste Calendar. Introduced two years ago, the calendar features artwork by local children and carries full details of the Town's waste disposal and recycling programmes.

Earth Carers also took the show to North Cottesloe primary, all pupils from both schools are encouraged to enter the 2006 Cottesloe Earth Carers Waste calendar competition.

"Children are able to base their artwork on a number of waste themes, including the 3R's of waste - Reduce, Reuse and Recycle," said Arthur Paine of Earth Carers.

Other themes are 'Pick up after your Pooch', littering, composting, worm farming and 'Say No to Plastic Bags'.

Winners will receive some great prizes as well as the pleasure of seeing their art in the calendar which is distributed free of charge to all local Cottesloe residents.

Prizes

Prizes of \$25 book vouchers are being provided by Books and Robinson Rubbish and Recycling, Adams Pharmacy, Super Value (Cottesloe), The Singing Tree, Dewsons (Mosman Park) and the Town of Cottesloe.



Primary pupils absorbed in Earth Carers display were encouraged to make artwork for this year's Waste Calendar.

Calendar

The calendar is printed on 90 per cent recycled paper made from sugar cane waste. It carries full details on verge collections, bulk waste and recycling services, as well as useful and interesting tips for a clean green home, composting and worm farming, disposal of toxic waste, and protecting our waterways.

Earth Carers training

Earth Carers are volunteers who work closely with the Town of Cottesloe to raise awareness and educate local residents about ways to minimise waste. An Earth Carer volunteer training course is to be held on 30 July. If you would like to become involved, or just want more information, please call Arthur on 9285 5005.

Music for Pleasure Concerts in Town

10 July The Real Sing
Classic songs of yesteryear
Cost: \$10 (Conc. \$10)
Book: Ph: 9335 1157
(Kelvin Fowler)

17 July Intermezzo
Eclectic, renaissance motets to close harmony jazz
Cost: \$12 (Conc. \$5)
Book: Ph: 9319 1137
(Nicky Sullivan)

24 July The Gloria Wilson Singers
Choral - classical to music theatre
Cost: \$12 (Conc. \$8)
Book: Ph: 9446 8764
(Gloria Wilson)

31 July Duo Lenz
Classical guitar duo
Cost: \$14.50 (Conc. \$11.50)
Book: Ph: 9444 6425
(Richard and Ruth)

TOWN OF COTTESLOE Presents MUSIC FOR PLEASURE CONCERTS
Sunday afternoons in winter
3.00pm - 5.00pm
War Memorial Town Hall
(5 June - 28 August, 2005)
Ticket prices include afternoon tea.

14 August Psallite
Four part vocal group - early music
Cost: \$12 (Conc. \$8)
Book: Ph: 9388 7758
(Sarah)

21 August The Westcoast Barbershop Harmony Club
A Capella harmony singing (barbershop)
Cost: \$12 (Conc. \$8)
Book: Ph: 9399 6972
(Geoff Wilkins)

28 August The Windbags
Vocal group, musical comedy
Cost: \$15 (Conc. \$12)
Book: Ph: 9448 5403
(Chris Fillis)

Office-space study for Centre

AFTER studying architects' ideas for the Civic Centre, Council will engage a consultant to assess various options for use of the historic buildings. These options must provide either commercial or community benefit, or both, and make fullest use of the Centre and also meet Council and local community needs.

Of the architectural recommendations, Council has ruled out one which would have entailed construction of a new office building on the grounds.

Cottesloe's Strategic Plan confirms Council's commitment to keep the Civic Centre as its administrative headquarters, and provide a good standard of space for

staff, where customers (the community) can be better served.

Staff

Currently, 35 full-time staff work at the Civic Centre and staff levels have remained constant for almost 20 years. In 1995, a report showed that staff numbered 36, and had done so since 1987.

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