

March 16
2013



**COTTESLOE
COUNCIL NEWS**
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Budget review brings ...

Good news for Town rate payers

A SIX-month review of Cottesloe's budget for the current year shows a healthy position, allowing the Town to pursue a range of necessary programmes and spending, while also allocating an amount to reserves.

This boost to reserves will reduce pressure on rates in coming years.

Mat Humfrey, the Town's manager of corporate services, told the Council that Cottesloe now has the opportunity to pursue a series of projects which were deferred from the original 2012-2013 budget.

"We can also allocate some of the funds to re-

serve," he said. "This is particularly important as a buffer against years when large projects might be subject to cost over-runs or inflationary pressures."

Such prudent planning allows potential future projects to be funded from savings rather than rates.

"A recent example is the \$400,000 Station Street sump project, which is being fully-funded from reserves."

The budget surplus arose from a combination of grants, planning applica-

tion fees, more efficient operation of the Meter Eye parking system and collection of infringements, higher than expected interest on term deposits, and reductions in other spending.

New projects now made possible include road works in Hillside, North, and Federal Streets; purchasing noise monitoring equipment; and installation of shade sails at Jasper Green playground.

Approximately \$300,000 will be transferred to reserves.

Five-year plans sustain the Town

MANAGEMENT of every aspect of Cottesloe's natural and built environment is sustained through a wide range of five-year plans that allow officers to plan and finance efficiently.

In February updated plans were approved for the following aspects:

Natural areas management; local and major road rehabilitation; buildings; plant replacement; playgrounds; laneway upgrading; reticulated areas and groundwater bores; cycling facilities; road safety and speed restriction; footpath replacement; Civic Centre and surrounds. Details of all the five-year plans are available in Council minutes.

OVERCAST skies deterred nobody on the first Sunday of Cottesloe's Sculpture by the Sea exhibition. The whole beachfront area was crowded, with parking space at a premium. Visitors are reminded that the easy way from Cottesloe Station to the beachfront, and back, is aboard the free Cott Cat bus, which will carry you every day until the sculpture show ends on March 25.



Heritage experts are coming to Cottesloe

COTTESLOE is hosting the Local Government Heritage Management and Planning Seminar for WA's State Heritage Office over two days this month. The prestigious event will allow delegates to visit outstanding heritage icons and buildings in Cottesloe.

New Scouts hall supports community

COUNCIL approval of a rebuilt Scout Hall and Community Centre on Eric Street will return local scouts and cubs to their own home, after several years 'camping out' at the Civic Centre Lesser Hall.

The new building will also house the Cottesloe Playgroup and allow non-water based training activities, plus storage facilities, for North Cott Surf Life Saving Club.

Residents in the immediate area responded favourably to a council request for comments.

The building is described as 'relatively modest in scale' and unlikely to sig-

nificantly affect the amenity of neighbours.

All street trees will be retained outside the site (65 Eric Street) on the verges, together with a cluster of trees at the rear.

News in Brief ...

Flying an indigenous flag

COTTESLOE will contact representatives of local indigenous people and the Cottesloe sub-branch of the RSL for comments on the concept of flying the Aboriginal Flag at the Civic Centre outside the War Memorial Town Hall.

Come and Play!

SUNDAY afternoon concerts at the Town's Civic Centre are a favourite winter diversion in Cottesloe. If you are part of a musical group, or an individual performer, you are now invited to apply for the chance to appear.

The concerts happen every Sunday in July and August. Please contact our community development officer Sherilee Macready - 9285 5000 - for an application form.

Meetings at Civic Centre

NEXT Council meeting - Monday March 25, at 7pm.

Development Services - Monday March 18, 6pm.

Works and Corporate Services - Tuesday March 19, 7pm.

Planning applications: For May - lodge by April 9, 2013.

Disability Services Advisory Committee - Tuesday April 30, 10.30am.

Cycle Instead Bike Week March 17-24



● 2-hour cycling skills sessions for children and parents - in time for Ride2School day! Come to the Civic Centre, March 16. Details on Town website.

● Reconnect with your old bike at the Grove Community Centre, Sunday March 24, at a workshop by Dismantle. Details on Town website.

Fitness on Jasper Green

LOCAL residents will be asked to comment on a request that the Town install fitness equipment on Jasper Green. Councillors have commented on the popularity of the area and the value to the general community of such facilities.

The only other exercise equipment in Cottesloe is located on Marine Parade. Potential cost of equipment installation is between \$10-20,000.

Staff report that recently complaints have been received from residents about commercial fitness classes using equipment on Jasper Green.

Give us your ideas to improve Vlamingh



RECENT rehabilitation of the area around the Vlamingh Memorial site - located at the southern end of Cottesloe, opposite Beehive Montessori - highlighted the need for improvements.

Cottesloe Coastcare have enhanced the site by restoring native vegetation and engineering staff intend replacing footpath slabs and steps to the viewing area under one of the Town's current five-year plans.

Now the Council invites public comment on a general refurbishment of the memorial and surrounds.

In 2008 the Council discussed

the memorial and rejected the suggestion it be moved to Cottesloe's main beach area. There is no intention of reviving that idea.

Comments and suggestions regarding the Vlamingh Memorial will also be invited from Cottesloe Coastcare. Works could be considered for inclusion in the 2013/2014 budget.

Missed bin? Call the Hotline!

IF for some reason a waste-bin collection is missed, Cottesloe residents now have a dedicated line - 9449 3396 - to call for assistance. This will be the quickest and most efficient way to sort it out.

HOWEVER ... if for some reason your bin goes missing (unlikely as that seems) you should call 9285 5000 (the Council's own office line). This is also the number to use if a bin needs repair.

Clean bins

The Town has received complaints about smelly bins, overflowing rubbish,

birds and vermin feeding on food from uncovered bins. These problems are easily avoided with a little forethought, and you can read all about it on the Town's website. Cottesloe's environmental health officers have written a guide - 'Effective Waste Management in Cottesloe' and it's also available at the Town's Civic Centre offices.



Switchover day is April 16

OUR old analogue televisions will go dark on April 16 and the only way to watch free-to-air programmes will be via a digital TV, a set-top box, or a digital recorder.

Already, 93 per cent of homes across Perth have gone digital, and are able to view all 17 digital channels. The other plus is improved picture and sound quality on all programmes.

Practical help and guidance about the switch - and assistance schemes for eligible people - is available by calling 1800 201 013; or online at www.digitalready.gov.au