

August 13
2012



COTTESLOE COUNCIL NEWS

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Budget Newsletter

EVERY household in the Town has received a full-colour pamphlet outlining the Cottesloe 2012/2013 budget. With a modest rate increase of 4.95 per cent, setting the level was no easy task for the Council.

The Council is aware that increased costs across the board are putting pressure on household and business budgets. However, Mayor Kevin Morgan explains, the Town is also experiencing cost increases.

"We need to maintain the replacement and maintenance schedules of Cottesloe's assets, to avoid rate shocks in future years," he writes.

"The Town's administration will be keeping very tight control on all expenses in an effort to keep future rate increases to a minimum."

If you require a copy of the Budget Newsletter, please contact the Town offices at the Civic Centre.



Il Lido - one of the contentious Marine Parade sites

Beachfront legal challenge

LEGAL proceedings to challenge the validity of the decision by the Minister for Planning to require Cottesloe to modify its draft Local Planning Scheme No. 3 so as to provide maximum building heights greater than those sought by the Town were announced at the July Council meeting.

The proceedings are limited to challenging the requirement that the Town modify LPS3 to provide maximum building heights in excess of five storeys for the OBH and the Lido sites.

Mayor Kevin Morgan explained:

"The basis of the challenge is that the circumstances set out in State Planning Policy 2.6, in which these

developments commercially viable, because the EbD showed that they were more than viable under the low-rise plan.

"Why have the Premier and his government resorted to putting forward false reasons?"

"It is possible that the Minister may change the policy in order to ultimately outflank the Town. Therefore it's important that we keep shining a light on the State Government's planning processes."

The Mayor went on to point out that, unfortunately, there are limited legal grounds to challenge the five-storey limit for the remaining beachfront sites, even though no explanation has yet been given to the Town for the extra storeys.

"Clearly it is not because of anti-social behaviour, because most of this was resolved by our liquor licensing working group.

"Nor could it be for better cafes and small bars, as these would have resulted under the low-rise in any event.

"Nor could it be to increase resident population to use the bars and cafes, because we know the residents above the cafes and bars will be least likely users of such facilities.

"Nor are the extra storeys necessary to make the

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Solar to cut Greenhouse Gas

SOLAR panels installed at the Civic Centre will make big savings on the Town's electricity bills and be an important contributor to the Town's plan to cut greenhouse gas emissions.

The Town reached step 2 on a journey towards carbon neutrality in July, by developing its Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan. Assisted by local consultants Greensense, an energy audit was undertaken at Council's administration building. Also, staff were surveyed for ideas on emissions reductions, and a workshop set reduction targets.

The resulting document has been published on the website, and outlines actions to reduce emissions with the approach of 'least-cost' abatement.

Priority

Solar panels are the first priority. Following approval from WA's Heritage Council, Cottesloe will install a solar array at a cost of approximately \$45,000. The cost is expected to be off-set by energy cost-savings.

Other actions include upgrading all the building's lighting to LEDs, and a grant application under the Federal Government Energy Efficiency Programme for upgrading of streetlights to more energy-efficient technology.

Beach ramp is a priority in Cottesloe's Disability Plan

IN ACCEPTING Cottesloe's Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2012-2017, Councillors heard that one of the projects in the short to mid term will be the universal access ramp at Cottesloe Beach. This was also identified in the Town's Foreshore Redevelopment Plan. At an expected cost of nearly \$300,000 (\$200,000 of which is being funded by LotteryWest) it represents a significant investment in universal access.

They also heard that many of the Town's built assets were constructed at a time when universal access points were not part of their original design and construction. This means that the Town must retrofit many of these assets to ensure that everyone can

access them. The most obvious example of this is the Civic Centre, with its many stairs and levels - which can provide a challenge for people with limited mobility. The Town has begun a program of retro-fitting, however there is still a way to go.

IN a recent meeting with the Shark Response Unit Manager of the Department of Fisheries, Mayor Kevin Morgan has discussed detection systems, deterrent methods, aerial surveillance, communications and research.

Specifically, talks centred on how to streamline the current alert systems if sharks are seen, so that up to date information is given to beach users as soon as possible.

The Mayor raised the possibility of engaging and linking government and private sector involvement in detection technology research, to increase funding sources



Protecting beachgoers

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Figs stay, for now

COUNCIL has declined the request to remove two fig trees from Congdon Street. Instead, officers will develop a plan for planting on the median strip, before a future removal and replacement of the trees, which will also include revegetation of both the verge and median strip.

Also declined was a request from property owners on Ozone Parade to remove three New Zealand Christmas trees from the verge.

Meetings at Civic Centre

Next Council meeting Monday August 27, at 7pm.

Development Services Monday August 20, 6pm.

Works and Corporate Services Tuesday August 21, 7pm.

Strategic Planning Committee Wednesday August 22, 7pm

Planning applications: For October - lodge by September 12

Music for Pleasure



EVER-POPULAR Jay Weston returns to Cottesloe this month in the penultimate concert of this winter's musical season, which continues for the next three weeks.

All MFP concerts are on Sunday afternoons, from 3pm-5pm, in the War Memorial Town Hall at the Civic Centre. Ticket prices include afternoon tea.

Booking information:

12 August
Petrina Bishop
Light Jazz/Swing
Cost: \$15 (Conc. \$10)
Book: Ph: 0409 127 282 (Petrina)

19 August
Jay Weston
Cabaret, Musical Theatre, Light Opera, Jazz
Cost: \$20 (Conc. \$15)
Book: Ph: 0402 149 887 (Jan Greer)

26 August
Key Notes and Company
From Opera Classics to Musical Comedy
Cost: \$15 (Conc. \$10)

Councillors honoured



LONG-serving Councillor and Deputy Mayor Jack Walsh was honoured with the Long and Loyal Service Award from WALGA (WA Local Government Association) prior to the association's Annual General Meeting in Perth on August 1.

Photographed here recently with Water Minister Bill Marmion, Jack first became a Cottesloe Councillor on October 1998 and has served as deputy-Mayor since October 2007.

Jay Birnbrauer

At the Volunteers Sundowner in May 2012 the Council recognised and acknowledged the contributions of former Councillors Jo Dawkins, Davina Goldthorpe and Dan Cunningham. At the July Council meeting Jay Birnbrauer was also presented with a plaque in recognition of his contribution to Cottesloe Council and the local community.

Resident in Cottesloe for more than 30 years Jay (a retired Associate Professor of Psychology at Murdoch University) was a member of Cottesloe Council in the Central Ward from May 1999 to May 2003 and again in October 2007 to October 2011.



"Jay served as a member of the Development Services and Strategic Planning Committees, as well as the Events Committee, Community Safety & Crime Prevention Committee, Station St Redevelopment Working Group and PROCOTT Board," said Mayor Kevin Morgan.

He was also Deputy Chair of Development Services Committee, a member of Cottesloe Coast Care, and Earth Carers; and is a former President of SOS, the Cottesloe ratepayers association.

Local Laws gazetted

Beaches

Cottesloe's Beaches and Beach Reserves Local Law 2012 came into force on July 26. Its purpose is to control usage of the beaches, behaviour within the beaches and reserves, and to conserve the beach reserves.

Standing Orders

Also gazetted on July 12 and in force from July 26 is the Council's Standing Orders Local Law. The effect of the law is to enable better Council and Committee decision making, ensure orderly conduct of meetings and to make more efficient use of time devoted to meetings.

Copies of both new Laws can be inspected at the Council offices, the Grove Library, or downloaded from the Town website.