



H a w k e s b u r y C i t y C o u n c i l

**ordinary
meeting
business
paper
supplementary**

date of meeting: 8 August 2000

location: Council Chambers

time: 7.30pm

ORDINARY MEETING

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ITEM: 259 **Acquisition of Land - Proposed link construction Colonial Drive to Berger Road**

FILE NUMBER: GT230/011 PT04 & GC281/076/ENG/ORH08LBX.E27

PREVIOUS ITEM: 54, GPC Section 2 - Infrastructure (25.07.2000)

REPORT:

As resolved at the General Purpose Committee held on 25 July, 2000 a site inspection was held at the intersection of Woods Road and Collith Avenue.

A site inspection was carried out at 2.30pm on Saturday 5 August, 2000. Councillors present at the inspection were the Mayor, Councillor RP Stubbs and Councillors L Allan, BJ Calvert, D Finch, GJ Gilling, PR Rasmussen, LC Sheather and CJ Woods.

RECOMMENDATION:

That:

1. Further action in relation to the purchase of properties to enable the road link between Colonial Drive and Berger Road be deferred until such time as the rezoning of land in the North Bligh Park area proceeds.
2. Council investigate the purchase of land necessary to connect the ends of Woods Road.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

oooO END OF ITEM 259 Oooo

ITEM: 260 **Powell Park Bush Regeneration Project**

FILE NUMBER: PK/052/ENG/ORH08LBX.E26

PREVIOUS ITEM: 55, GPC Section 2 - Infrastructure (25.07.2000)

REPORT:

As resolved at the General Purpose Committee meeting held on 25 July, 2000 a site inspection of Powell Park was carried out.

A site inspection was carried out at 2.00pm on Saturday 5 August, 2000. Councillors present at the inspection were the Mayor, Councillor RP Stubbs and Councillors L Allan, BJ Calvert, D Finch, GJ Gilling, PR Rasmussen, LC Sheather and CJ Woods.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the area of Powell Park that is currently mown be retained in its mown state and a path be provided to Bellbird Avenue.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

oooO END OF ITEM 260 Oooo

ITEM: 261 Delegates Expenses - Interstate Travel**FILE NUMBER:** GP092/004/CSV/ORH08LBX.C23

REPORT:

The Australian Sister Cities Association Conference is to be held this year in South Australia from 2 - 5 October, 2000. Councillor Sheather has indicated that he wishes to attend the conference and is a delegate on the Hawkesbury Sister City Association.

The Sister Cities Association Conference has a theme dedicated towards the future of the Australian Sister Cities Association in the new millennium. This theme canvasses innovative ideas in the context of globalisation, economic development, information technology, art and culture.

In accordance with Council's Policy, interstate travel or conference expenses exceeding \$1,500 (registration, airfares, accommodation and out-of-pocket expenses) are required to be reported and resolved by Council. The cost for attendance at the conference will be approximately \$1,900.

Sister City relationships were established with Temple City, California in 1983 and Tamba, Japan in 1998. Over the years a close relationship has developed between the Sister Cities and Hawkesbury which has been beneficial, particularly to our younger generation, in understanding the different cultures of the two countries. Councillor Sheather has been a member of the Hawkesbury Sister City Association for thirteen (13) years and has spent a considerable amount of his own time in progressing the Sister City movement.

It is recommended that Council support the attendance of Councillor Sheather at the National Australian Sister Cities Association Conference from 2-5 October, 2000 at an estimated cost of \$1,900.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council support the attendance of Councillor Sheather at the National Australian Sister Cities Association Conference from 2-5 October, 2000 at an estimated cost of \$1,900 (one thousand nine hundred dollars).

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

oooO END OF ITEM 261 Oooo

ITEM: 262 **Bicycle Steering Committee**

FILE NUMBER: GR030/009/ENG/ORH08LBX.E29

REPORT:

Following Council's resolution to re-establish the Bicycle Steering Committee invitations were forwarded to the organisations nominated and advertisements placed in the local paper calling for nominations from the community for representatives of the specific areas nominated.

To date representation has been advised from Roads & Traffic Authority, Police, CAMWEST, RAAF, Triathlon Club and the Schools. No response has been received, at this stage, from the University of Western Sydney.

In relation to a representative of cyclists in Richmond and west of the river and cyclists in Windsor and all other areas, three nominations have been received, two specifically in relation to the Richmond and west of the river area and resident of Glossodia nominating an interest in serving on the committee. It is considered that all three nominees would be suitable representatives on the committee and it is suggested that they be appointed as the representatives of the two areas outlined.

The RTA has advised that their representative would only be available at the end of August for an initial meeting due to commitments with the 2000 Olympics, or early November should this not occur. It is further considered that the committee should now proceed on the basis of the responses received, leaving the UWS representation open at this stage.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the nomination of John Jose, Andrew Docking and Hugh McKinnon received for representation on the Bicycle Steering Committee be accepted, which includes the additional representative in relation to the Richmond and west of the river, and Windsor and all other areas.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

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ITEM: 263 **Blaxlands Ridge Ponds - EPA Position on Closure**

FILE NUMBER: P209/535/GMA/ORH08LCX.G28

REPORT:

The following is the text of a letter received from the Executive Director Sydney Region, NSW Environment Protection Authority:

“The EPA firmly supports the early closure of the Ponds, and Council’s decision at its 11 July 2000 meeting is a positive step to this end. The following information repeats and summarises the EPA position previously expressed in writing and verbally by our Mr Neale Philip at Council’s committee meeting on 25 July 2000. The information covers the environmental justification for closure of the Ponds, the agreed closure plan, EPA licensing of the closure plan, and future development in the South Windsor sewage treatment plant catchment area.

Environmental justification for closure

The environmental imperative for closure of the Blaxlands Ridge Ponds has been demonstrated by the EPA’s nutrient load assessment, and by water quality results in the recently released Turnbolls Arm Creek sampling report.

Closure should realise favourable environmental outcomes for the Hawkesbury-Nepean catchment, especially in the reaches of the river within Council’s boundaries.

- *Annual phosphorus loads to this section of the Hawkesbury-Nepean catchment from sewage effluent would decrease by approximately 15 per cent.*
- *The annual phosphorus load to South Creek would increase by less than 4 per cent, and the annual nitrogen load would increase by less than 1 per cent. The EPA would take this small short term increase into account when negotiating future nutrient load limits for all licensed operators releasing nutrients to the South Creek catchment.*
- *The nutrient load to the Colo catchment from Blaxlands Ridge would be reduced to nil.*
- *There is insufficient data to quantify an expected equivalent decrease in annual nitrogen loads.*

A decrease in nutrient load would make an important contribution towards a reduction in stimulation of aquatic plant growth, resulting in lesser standing crops of algae and organic matter in the Hawkesbury-Nepean catchment. On balance, there would be nett environmental benefits from reductions to the stress on bushland, wetlands and the Colo River, weighed against minor impacts in the South Creek catchment.

The closure plan

The closure plan currently agreed between the EPA and Council officers provides for all of the remaining septage collected in the 3 Towns area (26 per cent of the total generated) being diverted from the Blaxlands Ridge Ponds to the McGraths Hill and South Windsor STPs, in the ratio of 80/20 respectively. The EPA understands that these two plants currently receive 40 per cent and 34 per cent of the total septage generated in the 3 Towns area respectively. The EPA also understands that the current performance of the South Windsor sewage treatment plant places some doubt on the ability of the plant to receive additional septage from the 3 Towns area serviced by the Blaxlands Ridge scheme. For this reason, the EPA would now prefer that the remaining septage be diverted to the McGraths Hill plant alone.

The agreed closure plan provides for the future retention of access to the Ponds, but only for emergency storage of septage when access to Council's sewage treatment plants on the eastern side of the Hawkesbury River is prevented by floodwaters. In these circumstances, the stored septage would be allowed to evaporate over time, rather than be discharged from the Ponds or reloaded into tankers for transport on to the sewage treatment plants.

The EPA accepts that the agreed closure plan is an interim solution to the sewage-related problems in the 3 Towns area. The EPA supports reticulated sewerage under the Priority Sewerage Program as the preferred long-term solution, and the EPA gave the proposal a high priority environmental ranking in the last round of assessments. The EPA has no plans to re-assess the environmental priority of the future reticulated scheme if the Blaxlands Ridge Ponds are closed under the current closure plan.

EPA licensing of the closure plan

To give regulatory effect to the closure, the EPA would issue a statutory notice attaching new conditions to the EPA licence for the Ponds. There is no administrative fee payable to the EPA over the issue of such a notice. The new conditions would prohibit receipt of septage wastes at the Ponds after the final closure date, except in the emergency circumstances described above. The new conditions would also prohibit the discharge of the emergency receivals to the environment.

The EPA understands from discussions with Council officers that the diversion of the remaining septage from the Ponds may not actually require variations to the treatment plant licence limits. After all the septage is diverted to the McGraths Hill and South Windsor STPs, the agreed concentration limits imposed by EPA licences on effluent discharged from the plants will be kept under regular review via monitoring results. Council will need to demonstrate its continued best efforts to maintain as high an effluent discharge quality as practicable from both its plants whilst treating all the septage from the 3 Towns area. The EPA is prepared to consider changes to licence limits if required, to accommodate the increased loads of diverted septage from the Ponds.

Future development affecting the South Windsor sewage treatment plant

The EPA takes the view that this important issue should be addressed separately from the issue of closure of the Blaxlands Ridge Ponds. The EPA understands that Council's desired rate of land development in the area over the next few years will overtax the current capacity of the South Windsor plant. Servicing of planned infill development and additional urban areas may be in

doubt, without some changes to the plant's capacity, operations and/or its discharge quality limits. Council has already identified that consequential licence limit exceedances at the plant would increase over the next few years.

The EPA recognises there has been a number of recent exceedances of effluent concentration limits at the South Windsor plant. I can confirm that the EPA does not intend to take prosecution action against Council over these recent exceedances. Rather, I can assure Council that the EPA will continue to negotiate with Council, first reviewing the plant's current and likely future performance figures in close consultation with Council officers, and then exploring all options for regaining full compliance status. Such options do not exclude minor changes to licence limits.

However, the EPA has done a preliminary assessment of the potential nutrient load increase that would occur if proposed land developments proceeded over the next few years before augmentation of the South Windsor plant. The assessment suggests that there would be a significant increase in nutrient loads to South Creek as a result.

Assurances have been given that negotiation will continue to be the EPA's first response. But, a substantial level of environmental assessment and community consultation will be required before any decision is contemplated that would relax the South Windsor licence limits, however temporarily, to accommodate land developments that may produce a significant increase in the nutrient loads to South Creek.

I trust that the above information clearly sets out the EPA's position in relation to two of the conditions that council has set for closing the Blaxlands Ridge Ponds. The EPA urges Council to take the final step to close the Ponds at the earliest practicable date."

RECOMMENDATION:

That the information be received.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

oooO END OF ITEM 263 Oooo

ITEM: 264 **Olympic Trading**

FILE NUMBER: GR030/056/GMA/ORH08LCX.G30

REPORT:

The Hawkesbury Policy Command have advised that the following licensed premises have availed themselves of the 24 hour trading during the Olympic and Paralympic Games being from 2 September, 2000 to 29 October, 2000:

Hotels: Jolly Frog Hotel, Windsor
 Bird in Hand Inn, Pitt Town
 Richmond Inn, Richmond
 Royal Hotel, Richmond
 Tourmaline Hotel, Vineyard

Nightclub: Jupiters Nite-Spot Nightclub, Richmond

Restaurants: The Snooty Fox Restaurant, Richmond

RECOMMENDATION:

That the information be received.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

oooO END OF ITEM 264 Oooo

ITEM: 265 **Request for Extension of Hours - Licensing Court - Night Club/Restaurant - 10 West Market Street, Richmond (formerly Cougars)**

FILE NUMBER: P2338/45/EVD/ORH08LCX.V24

PREVIOUS ITEM: 252, Ordinary (08.08.2000)

REPORT:

Council is referred to Item 252 in the "Reports for Determination" section of this business paper.

On 7 August 2000 the following facsimile was received from Superintendent Area Commander Bob White of NSW Police concerning the request for an extension of trading hours at 10 West Market Street, Richmond.

"I write with reference to the application for the grant of a License for Stingers Night Club due for consideration by Council Tuesday 8 August 2000.

I have had cause to review my earlier agreement to the grant of the Night Club Licence. My growing concern relates to issues of public safety and therefore the 'public interest' in approving yet another licensed premises which would trade into the early hours of the morning at Richmond. As you know 7 of 18 hotels (2 at Richmond) and 4 of 11 Clubs(1 at Richmond) are licensed to trade to 3 am in the Hawkesbury. Jupiters Night Club is licensed to trade to 6 am.

In the past two months 95 Hawkesbury motorists have been charged with prescribed Concentration of Alcohol (PCA), Drive Under the Influence of Alcohol or Refuse Breath Analysis. In the past month alone 54 persons were so charged with 16 being in the high range (beyond .15) and 19 in the mid range (.08-.15) PCA

My analysis indicates that a number of drink driving offenders are detected in the early hours of the morning, some with almost four times the legal limit of .05. The bulk come from licensed premises.

The Macquarie Region now heads the list of fatal motor vehicle incidents for the State and Hawkesbury has the most fatalities in the Region with 10 for the year. Of those 10 fatalities 5 are believed to have had alcohol as a contributing factor.

In the past 18 months, alcohol has been linked to 375 incidents of assault, malicious damage, street offences, resist police and breaches under the Liquor Act and Registered Clubs Act.

I have recently responded to representations from the Mainstreet Committee, the Local Member for Hawkesbury (on behalf of a concerned Richmond businessman) and the Minister for Gaming and Racing relative to increases in public drunkenness in Richmond CBD.

My opposition to any further late trading licenses is based upon a clear escalation to drink driving, increases in fatal motor vehicle incidents, and the perception of growth in public drunkenness by Richmond business people. My view is that the Richmond area is already well served through the late trading establishments who offer the service of alcohol and adult entertainment.

I urge you to reject this application”

RECOMMENDATION:

That the information be received.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

oooO END OF ITEM 265 Oooo



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