



general
purpose
committee

2
section

infrastructure

GENERAL PURPOSE COMMITTEE - INFRASTRUCTURE

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ITEM: 21 **Yarramundi Reserve****FILE NUMBER:** DA0144/93 PT4, P825/145 PT2, P825/105 PT2/END/INE29NBX.E03

REPORT:

A report to the Ordinary meeting on 10 April 2001 outlined a proposal from Mr Peter Graham to contribute to the plan of management (POM) for Yarramundi Reserve. It also outlined Council's contribution, that is \$29,040 for the fencing of the road frontage to the reserve.

At that meeting Council resolved:

"That the Department of Land and Water Conservation be requested to fully fund the cost of the plan of management and Mr Graham's offer be directed to them for consideration."

In the interim, a meeting between officers from the Department of Land & Water Conservation, Mr Peter Graham's legal representative and Mr Peter Graham, advised, in correspondence received from P S Graham & Associates, that in part:

"Council should take advantage of an offer by Peter S Graham and request him to prepare a draft POM."

This draft POM would be assessed by Council's experts and placed on exhibition for public involvement.

The plan would become the property of Council and would be amended by them as a result of expert and community involvement.

The Council would then submit their plan to the Department of Land and Water Conservation for their consideration."

Correspondence has since been received from P S Graham & Associates stating:

"I wish to withdraw my letter of 7 May 2001 and submit the attached."

"RE: YARRAMUNDI PARK - PLAN OF MANAGEMENT"

At a meeting today at Allen Allen & Hemsley's office in Sydney with John Filocamo and Andrew McAnespie from the Department of Land and Water Conservation, Noel Hemmings Q.C. and Peter Graham it was established that the preparation of the Plan of Management (POM) appears to have stalled.

The suggested approach was that, with Council support, P S Graham would display his proposal before or during the development of the POM or/and it becomes part of the POM. Having this proposal available before or during the development of the

POM would allow the public consultation that needs to occur during the development of the POM to be based on a clear understanding of Graham's proposal. If there is a reasonable level of community support, Graham's proposal could be developed within the overall context of the POM that is formally advertised for public comment.

This draft POM would be assessed by Council's experts and placed on exhibition for public involvement.

The plan would become the property of Council and would be amended by them as a result of expert and community development.

The Council would then submit their plan to the Department of Land and Water Conservation for their consideration."

In effect it appears that the previous offer to fund the POM has been withdrawn.

A Brief for Preparation of a Plan of Management for Yarramundi Reserve has been prepared identifying issues which need to be covered; aims and outcomes of the plan, specific site issues, budget, community consultation and timetable.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Department of Land and Water Conservation be requested to fully fund the cost of the Plan of Management for Yarramundi Reserve.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

Oooo END OF ITEM 21 Oooo

ITEM: 22 Draft Landscape Design for Pool Park, South Windsor**FILE NUMBER:** PK/288/ENG/INE29NBX.E10**REPORT:**

As previously reported a landscape design has been prepared for the park with the aim of ensuring that the park is a safe and pleasant place for residents and visitors alike. The design aims to resolve several current issues and also provide recreational facilities for local residents.

The main goals of the design are:

- to exclude vehicles from the reserve and to control parking for the Oasis Swimming Centre.
- to provide a fully fenced area for people to have dogs off-leash; this area will have appropriate facilities for disposal of animal waste.
- to provide recreation facilities such as playground, picnic settings, walking paths, beginners skating facility and amenities.
- to ensure that the park retains existing trees, and also to encourage and allow more planting to occur throughout the park

The development is proposed to be staged over several years, with \$25,000 set aside in current year's budget. The total development cost would be in the order of \$400,000.

The draft landscape design was advertised for public comment from the local community over a four week period. A communication plan incorporating a direct mail campaign to targeted key stakeholders was also implemented during this period. This also served as an information delivery to inform current and potential users of the proposal.

Written feedback was received from eight parties. Generally comments were favourable. Concerns and input received included:

Car park

- query whether capacity is adequate, particularly at peak times
- concern that shade would be largely eliminated, encouraging parking on grass
- need for formalised bus/coach parking and turning
- need for formalised staff parking at Oasis
- possibility of vacant land (corner Church and Drummond Streets) being used as a staff car park or resumed for use as an overflow car park.
- any car parking area be tarred not gravel

Proposed Action

The proposed sealed car park will double the current area, with the grassed area being fenced off. Formalised bus/staff parking is to be considered. Landscaping and tree planting will be undertaken to increase possible shade area.

Playground

- need for formal area containing swings, seesaw and slippery dip to replace those which were removed due to disrepair

Proposed Action

Suitable equipment be installed once funding becomes available.

Vegetation

- further screening of southern Oasis "glass wall" to reduce light leakage into neighbourhood at night required

Fencing/Dog Area

- concerns that accessibility for children decreased
- one person is opposed to the fencing of the "off-leash" area but they did not provide a reason for their opposition

Proposed Action

It is proposed that access to the dog fenced "off leash" area be provided by more than one gate.

Skate Park

- safety concern about the positioning of a skateboard facility in an unsupervised area

Proposed Action

Alternative locations be investigated for the provision of a skate park.

Other issues that were raised that did not directly relate to the design plan are:

Road Access

- suggestion that Church Street be closed, access via Drummond Street only

Surrounding Land

- suggestion for integration of land (corner Cox and Ham) into project for maintenance purposes, area be considered for dog "off leash"
- suggestion that Crown land (George St) be incorporated into the project as parking or sold to help fund the project

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RECOMMENDATION:

That the draft landscape design as amended be adopted.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

Oooo END OF ITEM 22 Oooo

ITEM: 23 **Richmond Park Draft User Policy****FILE NUMBER:** PK/202 PT9/ENG/INE29NBX.E09

REPORT:

Due to its popularity, usage of Richmond Park has increased for markets and other special events over the past several years. To ensure the facility is not severely damaged through overuse, and to ensure it is available in an equitable way to a wide variety of groups, a draft policy was drawn up.

The draft policy was sent to approximately 150 groups/ individuals which included previous bookers of the Park, Chamber of Commerce, affected businesses along the Main street, Tourism Hawkesbury, Main street Committee, residents surrounding the Park, media, Hawkesbury Sports Council, Sporting Associations utilising the park, Heritage Committee and other relevant community organizations or groups.

Comments/concerns were received from 17 different parties and are outlined below. The largest issue relates to the prevention of vehicles in the park with a perceived ramification of the markets ceasing and the negative impact on the community.

Vehicles

There is major concern that banning vehicles in the park will prohibit the markets and affect the community/local businesses/charities and tourism. Stallholders include elderly/disabled or those with young children who require their vehicles for loading/unloading, holding of stock or to form part of their stall.

There are concerns that by excluding vehicles in the park there would be a decline in the available parking within the local business area for shoppers. It is a concern of the market organisers that this may cause stall holders to look elsewhere and thus the markets would cease altogether.

Bond

The amount of the bond is too large for smaller users.

Banners/Signs

A clarification is needed for consistency of what is considered appropriate.

Definition of Area

The policy needs to include wording to separate areas ie.

- a) outskirts (managed by Council) and
- b) oval (managed by Sports Council)

Wording

The wording "and Sports Council" be included in the relevant areas.

The definition of a "market" and "special event" is sought.

Clarification: is requested regarding the refundable bond in relation to rubbish removal and its guidelines.

Bookings

Applications for use of the oval (during the summer cricket season) be lodged prior to 30 June of each year.

Questioning: how changes to the policy would affect advertised events for this year.

Insurance

An issue to consider regarding cars in the park area, is the increasing number of claims for compensation by owners of vehicles being hit by cricket balls.

Environment

Concerns that park deterioration is due to neglect rather than overuse. Questions of what tree replacements and regeneration programs are implemented.

Suggestions Received

- Levy put on park users to aid with maintenance costs
- Restrict the number of stall holders in markets
- Restrict the number of winter markets
- Different surfaces be investigated for use in specific areas

RECOMMENDATION:

That a public meeting be held, scheduled for late June 2001 to discuss the issues and develop possible solutions with concerned parties and the matter be further reported to Council.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

Oooo END OF ITEM 23 Oooo

ITEM: 24 Federal Black Spot Program Funding**FILE NUMBER:** GG021/171 PT1/END/INE29NBX.E01

REPORT:

The Local Government & Shires Association (LGSA) is urging Councils to write to their local members of parliament to express support for the Federal Road Safety Black Spot Program. It is understood that this program is only funded until the end of the 2001/2002 financial year.

The Federal Road Safety Black Spot Program is:

- *Cost effective*

An evaluation of similar programs shows a return of \$4 in community road safety benefits for every \$1 spent.
- *Consultative*

Widespread community consultation and participation is encouraged to address local concerns. Councils, community groups and motorists' organisations are encouraged to nominate sites for treatment.
- *Well Targeted*

Priority is given both to locations with a history of serious road accidents as well as sites identified through the road safety audit process which ensure that identified treatments are in place before casualties occur.

Since the Black Spot Program's inception, 497 black spots in NSW have received road safety improvements worth more than \$61.8 million. This has clearly substantially increased the capacity of Local Governments to respond to identified local road safety hazards. Reinforcing this approach is the Australian Local Government Association's (ALGA) National Road Funding Campaign seeking a commitment of the Black Spot Program beyond 2001/2002, as well as an increasing black spot funding from \$40 million per annum to \$100 million per annum for at least four years, which was supported by Council at its Ordinary meeting of 8 May 2001.

RECOMMENDATION:

That representations be made to the federal local member of parliament to express support for the Federal Road Safety Black Spot Program and request extension past the 2001/2002 financial year.

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ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

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Item: **25****ITEM: 25 Upgrading Richmond Park War Memorial****FILE NUMBER:** PK/202/ENG/INE29NBX.E08**REPORT:**

Discussions with the Richmond RSL have occurred over a number of years regarding the possibility of upgrading the War Memorial at Richmond Park. The concerns of the Richmond RSL include the usage of the memorial as a playground by bus patrons. They would also like the memorial to commemorate all wars and conflicts.

In consultation with the RSL a design has been developed that includes moving the bus shelter to the northern extremity of the bus zone. The Richmond RSL request that Council fund this memorial upgrade which is estimated at \$60,000. The RSL would seek a \$4,000 grant through the Department of Veteran Affairs, the maximum amount under this funding application.

PLAN

The costs associated with this design are:

1	Demolish present bus shelter	\$2,000
2	New replacement bus shelter	\$17,000
3	Boundary brick wall (30m x 600mm x 230mm)	\$5,000
4	Curved brick wall - 1.8 - 2.0h x 20 - 25m x 230mm	\$15,000
5	Brick electrical Box- lockable doors etc	\$500
	- DPP, timer for light, outlets for PA etc	\$1,000
6	Flood light	\$1,100
7	2 x raised gardens (2/3000 x 1000 x 500 x 110mm)	\$6,600
8	Garden establishment - soil (5 tons @ \$23/tonne)	\$200
	- mulch (12 cubic m @ \$12/cm)	\$200
	- irrigation (supply and install drip system)	\$500
	- Plants	\$2,000
9	Paved area (86.25m ²)	\$5,000
10	3 x hose cocks	\$400
11	Re-site bubbler	\$300
12	Supervision	\$1,600
13	Wheel Chair Access	<u>\$1,600</u>
TOTAL		\$60,000

Funds are currently not available to progress this project and based on the level of funding available it is unlikely that it could be supported for some time.

RECOMMENDATION:

That:

1. The design plan be referred to the Heritage Committee for comment.
2. Funding be considered in future budget allocations.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

Oooo END OF ITEM 25 Oooo

ITEM: 26 **2001-2002 Natural Heritage Trust Grants - Greening Australia (NSW)**

FILE NUMBER: GG021/205, GG021/206/ENG/INE29NBX.E06

REPORT:

Greening Australia (NSW) is applying for a grant from the 2001-2002 Natural Heritage Trust to boost seed stocks at four regional seed storage facilities.

The aim of the project is to consolidate best practice record keeping, seed storage facilities and to supply 5kg of local provenance seed covering, 15-25 different species, to each region. The project will run from October 2001 until September 2002.

Hawkesbury City Council has been asked to provide in kind support to the project by providing:

- Regional target species list
- Seed collection target area information
- Stakeholder communication and networking
- Volunteer labour
- Seed storage facilities/record keeping facilities
- Promotion of project through newsletters and local media

The support can be provided through current staff levels and volunteer groups.

RECOMMENDATION:

That in kind support of the project be provided through provision of:

- Regional target species list
- Seed collection target area information
- Stakeholder communication and networking
- Seed storage facilities/record keeping facilities (at community nursery)
- Promotion of the project through newsletters and local media.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

Oooo END OF ITEM 26 Oooo

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ITEM: 27 **Capital Assistance Program 2001-2002 - Department of Sport, Recreation and Racing**

FILE NUMBER: GG021/172/ENG/INE29NCX.E07

REPORT:

The 2001/2002 Capital Assistance Programme has been announced with applications due by the 25 July 2001. Completed applications together with supporting information will need to be forwarded to the Metropolitan West Region, Parramatta Office, in the first instance.

Last year the Hawkesbury received \$31,791.00 from Department of Sport and Recreation Grants.

The applications that were successful included: resurfacing of the Bligh Park tennis courts, to build a half basketball court at Wilberforce Park and to purchase a ski boat to take disabled people skiing. (Department of Sport and Recreation).

Arrangements have been made to advertise the program in the local paper and applications are forwarded directly to the Department. The Department will assess all applications and then forward them to Council for prioritisation.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the information be received.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

Oooo END OF ITEM 27 Oooo

ITEM: 28 **Mulgrave Road - Pedestrian Access from Windsor High School to Mulgrave Railway Station**

FILE NUMBER: 1362/R PT2/ENG/INE29NCX.E02

REPORT:

At its meeting of 12 December 2000, Council resolved:

"That:

- 1 The provision of a concrete footpath between Windsor High School and Mulgrave Station be included for consideration and be given a high priority in the 2001/2002 Capital Works Program.*
- 2 Council request the State Government and Department of Education assist by paying 50% of the cost."*

Correspondence was forwarded on 22 December 2000 to both the Minister for Education and Training, the Hon John Aquilina and the Director General Department of Education & Training NSW requesting the 50% of the estimated total cost of the works (\$40,500) from Windsor High School to Mulgrave Railway Station.

A reply from the Minister on 12 March 2001 advised in part:

"I regret to advise that while the Department of Education and Training (DET) has considered this request, the DET's capital works budget is provided to build new schools in growth areas and upgrade existing schools.

The DET is therefore not in a position to allocate funding for projects which are primarily the responsibility of the local council."

It is interesting to note that the **only** requests that have been received for the provision of a footpath on Mulgrave Road are from the School/P&C and it is doubtful that a footpath could be justified if the school did not exist at its current location.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the information be received.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

Oooo END OF ITEM 28 Oooo

ITEM: 29 Playground Equipment**FILE NUMBER:** GP010/015/ENG/INE29NCX.E04

REPORT:

Regular inspections of playground equipment is undertaken to ensure safety requirements are being met and maintenance is undertaken to limit Council's liability in relation to accidents which may occur on equipment.

The 'Playground Doctor' undertook an assessment of all Council's playground equipment in January 2001. The aim of the assessment was to give an overall view of the condition of our playground equipment, as well as to identify any repairs needed.

In general the maintenance of the playground equipment was good, however there were a number of repairs required. Age of the equipment and subsequent wear was a major issue in relation to these repairs. Based on a ten year life span, which is generally the accepted industry standard for replacement of playground equipment, approximately 50% of our current playground equipment is nearing or past the end of its lifespan. Whilst some equipment is repairable there were three locations, on this occasion, where equipment could not be repaired. These were: Wilberforce Park, Maraylya Park and Youl Place, Bligh Park. The reasons were non compliance to Australian Standards and safety issues.

Whilst the replacement cost for the playground equipment at Wilberforce Park has been placed in 2001/2002 Parks Improvement Programme, both Youl Place and Maraylya have not. Both Youl Place and Maraylya Park are in the high priority projects list, however, they had not been planned for replacement in the next five years due to funding constraints. Altering priorities may help achieve replacement of these playgrounds earlier however it is likely other equipment will need to be removed during this period. The reason that this is likely to occur is that there are still a large number of playgrounds that are on the high priority projects list for replacement, that have not been included in the next five years Parks and Improvement Program.

The replacement cost of the equipment in the high priority list currently stands at approximately \$450,000. It must be noted that within the next five years there will be playground equipment on the medium priority list that also require replacement. The replacement cost of the medium priority equipment currently stands at approximately \$800,000.

Two hundred thousand dollars is allocated annually for the entire Parks Improvement Program. This program covers a wide range of works and thus could not justified on upgrading playground equipment alone.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the information be received.

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ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

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