

MINUTES

KALAMUNDA ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE 6PM THURSDAY 3 MAY 2018 OPERATIONS CENTRE BOARDROOM, 10 RAYMOND ROAD WALLISTON

1.0 OPENING OF MEETING – Presiding Member
Welcome

2.0 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES - Presiding Member

Attendance

Committee Members

Kevin Goss – Presiding Member

Mark Schilling – Deputy Presiding Member

Rupert Duckworth – Community Representative

Peter Forrest – Community Representative

Councillor Sara Lohmeyer – Councillor Delegate

Councillor Cameron Blair – Councillor Delegate

Victoria Laurie – Community Representative

Alison McGilvray – Community Representative

Apologies

Councillor Brooke O'Donnell – Councillor Delegate

Staff

Joanne Smith – Manager Parks & Environment

Dallas Lynch – Coordinator Natural Environment

Brett Byfield – KEAC Support Officer

3.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

8 February 2018

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of KEAC held on the 8 February 2018, as published and circulated, are confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

Moved: Mark Schilling

Seconded: Alison McGilvray

Voted: Unanimous

Special KEAC Meeting 22 March 2018

That the Minutes of the Special Meeting of KEAC held on the 22 March 2018, as published and circulated, are confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

Moved: Mark Schilling
Seconded: Alison McGilvray
Voted: Unanimous

Note: The Special Council Meeting of the 22 March 2018 did not reach a quorum of members. Where agreement was reached, it was brought to this meeting for resolution at Agenda 7.0.

Matters arising – 22 March 2018

5.2 – Local Environment Strategy – A consultant is coming on board with the writing of the strategy. To be further discussed in Agenda Item 6.6.

4.0 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

4.1 Disclosure of Financial and Proximity Interests:

- a) Members must disclose the nature of their interest in matters to be discussed at the meeting. (Section 5.65 of the *Local Government Act 1995*)
- b) Employees must disclose the nature of their interest in reports or advice when giving the report or advice to the meeting. (Section 5.7 of the *Local Government Act 1995*)

Nil

4.2 Disclosure of Interest Affecting Impartiality

- a) Members and staff must disclose their interests in matters to be discussed at the meeting in respect of which the member or employee has given or will give advice.

Nil

5.0 CORRESPONDENCE

- 23/04/2018 - Email from Chair to KEAC Members, notifying of meeting with the CEO of the City of Kalamunda
- 22/04/2018 - Email from Peter Forrest to KEAC Members regarding Biodiversity Workshop
- 22/04/2018 – Email from Victoria Laurie to KEAC regarding Biodiversity Workshop
- 02/05/2018 – Email from Peter Forrest, providing information regarding Special Council Meeting

6.0 ITEMS FOR COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION – Presiding Member

6.1 Forrestfield North Structure Plan

Background

The Forrestfield North District Structure Plan was approved by the Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC) on the 29 September 2016. The Structure Plan provides for significant urbanisation to an area that is currently Rural/Light Industrial in nature. At the KEAC Meeting of the 27 October 2016, the Manager Strategic Planning provided a presentation on the current and future planning of Forrestfield North.

In earlier discussion on its work plan KEAC saw an opportunity to draw on sustainability principles when advising on Forrestfield North development. At KEAC's 5 May 2017 meeting, Strategen briefed the Committee on their work towards the environmental component of the Local Structure Plan.

Details

The Forrestfield North Local Structure Plan (Residential Precinct) went to the Special Council Meeting of the 30 April 2018, for the purposes of adoption for public advertising. The Council Agenda is available at: <http://www.kalamunda.wa.gov.au/files/74024280-bdeb-4ae6-b058-a8ce01159853/SCM-Agenda-30-April-2018.pdf>.

The Senior Strategic Planning Officer provided the following information:

The proposed Local Structure Plan (LSP) seeks to create a planning framework to coordinate future subdivision and development over 90 existing properties within the Residential Precinct of the LSP area.

The Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Precinct is still in the process of development. Significant inputs regarding the future form and function of car parking arrangements associated with the new station are being progressed with the State Government.

The proposed LSP comprises of the following key elements:

- a) Residential Land Uses;
- b) Primary School;
- c) Public Open Space (POS);
- d) Conservation;
- e) Community Uses;
- f) Environmental Management (including Noise / Bushfire);
- g) Movement Networks; and
- h) Water Management.

The City will be hosting the following sessions for those interested in learning more or commenting on the plan:

Information Sessions:

High Wycombe Library – Monday 21 May, 5pm to 6pm

High Wycombe Library - Wednesday 23 May, 5pm to 6pm

Community Workshops:

High Wycombe Community and Recreation Centre - Wednesday 13 June, 5pm to 6.30pm

Woodlupine Community Centre – Monday 18 June, 5pm to 6:30pm

Have Your Say:

- Complete a survey online at engage.kalamunda.wa.gov.au or pick up a hard copy from the City of Kalamunda Administration building (2 Railway Road, Kalamunda).
- Write a submission and send via email to enquiries@kalamunda.wa.gov.au or post PO Box 42, Kalamunda WA 6926.

Comments on the Local Structure Plan close 5pm Monday 2 July 2018.

The Local Structure Plan is out on the engagement website:

<https://engage.kalamunda.wa.gov.au/local-structure-plan-forrestfield-north-residential-precinct>

The Local Structure Plan was passed on the 1 May 2018, to advertise to the community for submission.

Member Comment

Members spoke on the resolution of Council. Noted that the Forrestfield North will have a significant effect on the local residents. The Local Structure Plan is for the Residential Precinct; the Transit Orientated Precinct will be available later. The transport side of things not being dealt with by Council; it is outside of its scope and with the State Government.

It was noted that resumptions will be a significant issue, especially where it relates to creation of reserves for conservation and public open space.

The EPA have made a submission on the structure plan, specifically concerned with the smokebush in the area. Where smokebush has been found, plans will be required to protect the plants. For private properties, this may have an effect on how they can be developed. Removal of smokebush, whether private or public, can lead to prosecution.

KEAC could be of help to Council in facilitating an engagement process.

Resolution

KEAC to form a Working Group, to be made up of the following members, with the support of the Manager Parks & Environment:

- Rupert Duckworth (convener)
- Cr Sara Lohmeyer
- Victoria Laurie

The Working Group is formed to discuss with staff members the Forrestfield North Local Structure Plan. Specifically, the queries the Working Group will take to staff include:

- To understand the relationship between the current protections within Forrestfield North against the requirements of the EPA.
- What are the restrictions on landowners relating to protection of vegetation?
- What would the State and Federal Governments do to protect the smokebush in the area, and whether there would be any provision of funding for acquisition of land? Compensation for landowners, not just through the Local Government or the Development Scheme, but through State or Federal funding.
- Consider a blanket purchase of the area, for development.
- Relate multiple strategies to Forrestfield North.
- Why wasn't canopy cover and heat mitigation considered? The Structure Plan should include details on how this might be achieved, including development layout and the role of streetscapes.
- Ongoing maintenance of reserves – how this is to be paid for.
- Brand Road landfill site – what could happen if cost to remediate is too great?

The Working Group will report back on the KEAC Special Meeting of the 18 June 2018.

Moved: Victoria Laurie
Seconded: Peter Forrest
Vote: Unanimous

6.2 Dual Density Design Guidelines

Background

At the Special Meeting of the 22 March 2018, KEAC was advised that the City of Kalamunda adopted Local Planning Scheme No3 Amendment No 82 on 18 January 2018, providing direction on subdivision density codes applied in dual density designated areas. KEAC may wish to consider the implications of applying this Policy with regard to the City's local environment.

<http://www.kalamunda.wa.gov.au/Services/Planning/Major-Projects/Dual-Density-Codes>

Areas that are subject to Dual Density Coding have been approved by the Minister for Planning. The Dual Density zoning came into effect when it was gazetted on 8th February 2018. Development applications and subdivision applications within Dual Density Coded areas can now be submitted to the City, or in the case of subdivision, submitted to the Western Australian Planning Commission. Comments are currently being sought from the WAPC prior to final endorsement.

Details

Originally a presentation was to be presented by an officer. Due to other meetings being run at the same time, the presentation was not provided.

Member Comment

KEAC's concern is with the possible impact of the Dual Density Design Guidelines on vegetative cover, given that subdivision is allowable within the R-codes.

The Dual Density Design Guidelines were modelled on the Design WA guidelines. They don't take into consideration vegetation and biodiversity in the criteria for upgrading density. Consideration needs to be made relating to the heat island effect, biodiversity, and wildlife corridors.

A positive of the guidelines was that the higher density zones are generally surrounded by public open space.

It was considered that there is a need for criteria relating to maintaining or offsetting canopy cover for the heat island effect. Significant canopy is being removed. Revegetation is important, to bring back canopy to reduce heat island effects, which can have significant community health implications.

Education through a report, or by another method, regarding the heat island effect and wildlife corridors, should be considered.

Resolution

Noted by the Committee, with the comment that other strategies and protections could take effect on application of these Guidelines.

6.3 MAIDA VALE MASTER PLAN

Background

At the Special Meeting of the 22 March 2018, the following information was provided:

The Maida Value Masterplan first phase of community and key stakeholder engagement has now closed. The City's consultant prepared an *Opportunities and Options* paper was received by officers in the previous week. The consultant was to meet with internal stakeholders in the following week to seek feedback. The draft plan will then be completed with cost estimates for endorsement by Council in August 2018 for release for public comment.

Feedback from KEAC will be sought during the public comment period. A presentation to KEAC is arranged for the meeting of 2nd August 2018 to consider the objectives, key considerations and recommendations, and community input for the project.

It was noted that an item regarding the Maida Vale Masterplan would be considered at the KEAC meeting of 3 May.

Details

Originally a presentation was to be presented by an officer. Due to other meetings being run at the same time, the presentation was provided.

Officers have stated that the Draft Master Plan for Maida Vale Reserve will be presented to Council for consideration in June.

Resolution

Deferred to the next meeting, 7 June 2018.

6.4 STIRK PARK MASTER PLAN

Background

At the Special Meeting of the 22 March 2018, the following information was provided:

The Stirk Park Master Plan first draft was considered by Council at the December Ordinary Council Meeting, where a deputation of petitioners requested that a skate park be considered for inclusion in the master plan. Community engagement for consideration of the skate park will commence late March, for a 30-day public comment period. Council will consider community feedback and officer recommendations.

Members commented on the need to align concepts and timing for the Town Centre Plan with the Stirk Park Master Plan projects.

The survey for the Kalamunda Skate Park is available at <https://engage.kalamunda.wa.gov.au/kalamunda-skate-park>.

Details

Originally a presentation was to be presented by an officer. Due to other meetings being run at the same time, the presentation was not provided.

Officers stated that the Public Comment period in relation to the proposed inclusion of a skate park within the Stirk Park Master Plan, concluded on the 1 May 2018, with results and feedback being collated. This item shall also be presented to Council for consideration in June.

Member Comment

Masterplan should be looked at overall, as part of the Town Centre planning. KEAC's concern is with what is being done with stormwater management and remediation in Stirk Park.

Resolution

Noted, with a request for advice on the planned drainage works, and the scope of the project.

6.5 LOCAL BIODIVERSITY STRATEGY UPDATE

Background

The Chair and Deputy Chair met with the City of Kalamunda's staff members on the 24 April 2018 relating to the draft Public Open Space Strategy, and the issues raised in the 22 March Special Meeting concerning identification of ecological viability of reserves. Discussion included:

- The future relationship between the Public Open Space Strategy and the Local Biodiversity Strategy, with the Local Biodiversity Strategy informing planning decisions involving the Public Open Space Strategy
- The Local Biodiversity Strategy explaining the larger story around City of Kalamunda Reserves, much as the Public Open Space Strategy does for recreation - including regional linkages, connectedness and corridors, representation of vegetation / ecological complexes, etc
- The Local Biodiversity Strategy also setting a vision for 'nature space' in the City of Kalamunda.

Details

The Manager of Parks & Environmental Services and the Coordinator Natural Areas are working on a simplified template-driven methodology for updating the ecological assessments. An update on the proposed work was provided to the meeting.

Member Comment

There was agreement in the meeting with the CEO, the Director Asset Services, Director Development Services, and the Manager of Community Services that an updating of the biodiversity of reserves was important.

Regarding the Public Open Space Strategy, there was good interpretation of the role of recreation and enjoyment in these spaces, but the biodiversity/nature space narrative was not developed. It was proposed that this be picked up in the Local Biodiversity Strategy.

In that meeting, additional dot points were added to the Public Open Space document. Its wording will be adjusted. It was generally a successful meeting.

A member queried how the Local Biodiversity Strategy would be used. The Strategy documents what the current assets are, where they are, and what management is required to maintain them. Through the ecological viability prioritisation process, the top reserves are identified and budget allocated appropriately. There is a tracking process for management actions.

From the Powerpoint presentation provided by the Coordinator of Natural Areas:

Action Plan – Improve management and actions to protect reserves; a requirement to review the Strategy, as to how successful the actions were.

Budget – Top 20 priority reserves for weed control, revegetation, etc to maintain their biodiversity. A baseline is taken with the 2008 Local Biodiversity Strategy, which allows for comparison, and measurement of achievement to date.

Day to day operations – in the City of Kalamunda environmental, parks, fire management are all managed in the one business unit, which allows for better coordination and improved communication.

The strategic use of the Local Biodiversity Strategy is to inform other policies and planning decisions. Bushfire mitigation risk planning being reviewed at the same time

Local Biodiversity Strategy being updated – as it is a benchmark, this allows review of success in maintaining the reserves.

Work plan for the committee – look at Local Biodiversity Strategy, as it is being updated, over consecutive meetings. Funding has been identified for the writing of the document. Review and be confident in the ecological assessment criteria. With regular updates to be provided to KEAC, work through the document.

A lot of local governments are reviewing their Local Biodiversity Strategies at similar times. The Local Biodiversity Strategy will be informed by KEAC, and the Local Environment Strategy

Resolution

Noted that changes have been made to the Public Open Space Strategy based on the correspondence provided by KEAC and the follow-up meeting with senior staff.

Noted the presentation on the methodology for ecological assessment of City reserves, drawing on the earlier Local Biodiversity Strategy. The Local Biodiversity Strategy will be a regular meeting item for review.

6.6 Local Environment Strategy

Member Comment

Examples relating to the Local Environment Strategy (LES) were provided by the Coordinator Natural Areas prior to the meeting for the Cities of Perth and Busselton, and for the Yarra Regional Council in Victoria.

In workshops last year KEAC's formed its view on the framework for the Local Environment Strategy. The community has now been engaged. A significant amount of information is currently being collated.

The Manager Parks & Environment provided a snapshot of the survey results in a presentation. Strong support for doing more to protect environmental values was noted.

In June a draft LES document will be provided to KEAC.

KEAC members were asked to review the documents previously sent by the Coordinator Natural Areas. The KEAC Support Officer is to re-send the email relating to the three examples of Local Environment Strategies previously provided.

Resolution

Noted the feedback on the consultation period, and the committee is confident in the process as laid out by the Parks & Environment Team.

6.7 Tree Protection Measures

Member Comment

As suggested by the Manager Parks and Environment KEAC could assist the Council on this contentious issue by writing a discussion paper on the topic of tree protection. A working group could delve deeper into how workable protections for vegetation could be created, the controls that exist and the issues relating to community understanding.

This work could be linked to considering the impact of the Dual Density Guidelines.

Resolution

That the working group formed for the Forrestfield North Structure plan will broaden its task to review the options for vegetation protection, and provide a working paper to the next meeting of KEAC.

Moved – Cr Sara Lohmeyer

Seconded – Victoria Laurie

Voting - Unanimous

7.0 URGENT BUSINESS WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE PRESIDING MEMBER

7.1 Approval of Resolutions from the 22 March 2018

Background

The Special Meeting of the 22 March 2018 did not have a quorum of members to make official recommendations to Council. To resolve this issue, KEAC members were asked to ratify the decisions made at this meeting.

The recommended resolutions included:

Local Environment Strategy

That KEAC **endorse** the Local Environment Strategy framework for **development of the document and that the following are included:**

1. Clear explanation of its purpose and differentiation of what is, and what isn't in the strategy.
2. Strengthening the accountability through monitoring and reporting against KPIs.

Local Environment Strategy Engagement Plan

That KEAC supports the Engagement Plan as a method of engaging stakeholders in the Local Environment Strategy, and that the following actions are undertaken:

1. Adequate time is provided for consultation.
2. Common accessible language is used
3. Information is spread as widely as possible.

Public Open Space Strategy

That KEAC:

1. Accept the scope and intent of the Public Open Space Strategy but have some recommendations on the environmental assessment of the reserves.
2. Provide recommendations in relation to conservation assessments of individual POS reserves.
3. Query the rationale used to assess the environmental value of reserves, and in particular those recommended to be transferred.
4. Propose updating the original assessment of the ecological viability of the reserves, with the priority being those reserves identified for transferring.
5. Support a review of POS reserves as linkages and wildlife corridors taking into account natural areas that aren't vested with the City of Kalamunda.

Meeting Schedule

That Members confirm meeting dates for KEAC as follows:

22 March 2018 – Special Meeting

3 May 2018

7 June 2018 – Special Meeting

2 August 2018

6 September – Special Meeting

8 November 2018

7 February 2019

2 May 2019

1 August 2019

Final Special Meeting of KEAC – 5 September 2019

Action Plan

That the action plan be approved as a general guide to actions for KEAC. The action plan will be reviewed and revised as required at each meeting.

Resolution

That the recommended resolutions from in the 22 March Special Meeting be ratified, with the modified resolution highlighted in bold, as being resolutions of the Kalamunda Environmental Advisory Committee.

Moved **Cr Sara Lohmeyer**
Seconded **Alison McGilvray**

Vote Unanimous

7.2 Reporting to Council

KEAC's role is to delve into issues for Council consideration, and ensure resolutions go to Council as separate Report Items.

8.0 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

7 June 2018

9.0 CLOSURE

8:52pm