



MINUTES

KALAMUNDA ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ORDINARY MEETING 6PM THURSDAY 4 MAY 2017 ADMINISTRATION BUILDING FUNCTION ROOM

1.0 **OPENING OF MEETING - Presiding Member**

The Presiding Member opened the Meeting at 6:00pm, and welcomed all in attendance.

2.0 **ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES - Presiding Member**

Committee Members

Kevin Goss – Presiding Member
Rupert Duckworth – Committee Representative
Peter Forrest – Committee Representative
Joy McGilvray – Community Representative
Councillor Sara Lohmeyer – Councillor Delegate
Councillor Noreen Townsend – Councillor Delegate
Joanne Smith – Acting Coordinator Parks & Environment
Sam Assaad – Manager Asset Maintenance

Apologies

Mark Schilling – Deputy Presiding Member
Councillor Brooke O'Donnell – Councillor Delegate
Mark Simpson – Deputy Committee Representative
Cameron Blackburn – Deputy Committee Representative
Mike Burbridge – Community Representative

Members of Staff

Brett Byfield – Minutes Secretary
Peter Varelis – Manager Strategic Planning

Consultant

Dale Newsome, Strategen Environmental

The Presiding Member confirmed Peter Forrest as the Member deputising for Mike Burbridge, Rupert Duckworth deputising for Mark Schilling, and Cr Sara Lohmeyer as deputising for Cr Brooke O'Donnell.

3.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

- KEAC Committee Meeting 2 February 2017

Moved: Cr Sara Lohmeyer
Seconded: Rupert Duckworth

Confirmed unanimously

- Special KEAC Meeting 23 March 2017

Moved: Joy McGilvray
Seconded: Cr Sara Lohmeyer

Confirmed unanimously

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.

The Committee Chair, Kevin Goss, notified the meeting that he is on the executive of the NRPG as a non-voting member. He stated that his relationship with the NRPG would not affect his interaction with KEAC.

5.0 CORRESPONDENCE

Email from the Shire of Kalamunda inviting submission on the Draft Community Strategic Plan. Refer to Item 6.2.

6.0 ITEMS FOR COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION – Presiding Member

6.1 Matters Arising from Previous Meeting

Trees on Private Property: At the 23 March 2017 meeting KEAC resolved that it:

- Asks that Council consider the value in assessing what the extent of tree loss on private land may possibly be within the municipality based on developments allowable under current R codes.
- Requests that Parks & Environment and Planning Staff inform the Committee on what planning and regulatory decisions the Shire has authority over, as opposed to the WA Planning Commission, for several types of development, including building extensions on existing properties, subdivisions, strata title developments, and planning scheme changes (R codes, land use change)

No updates are current for these two items; an update will be provided at the next meeting.

6.2 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.

KEAC at its meeting of the 2 February 2017 meeting resolved to request that the soon to be appointed Consultant for developing the Forrestfield North Local Structure Plan attend the March special meeting to discuss environmental and sustainable development matters relating to Forrestfield North. While the March meeting was too close a timeframe, an alternative date of the 5 May 2017 was accepted.

Consultant Presentation

Dale Newsome of Strategen Environmental provided a presentation on the environmental aspects of the proposed Forrestfield North development. The reason for presenting was to provide early consultation with KEAC, and note its comments prior to drafting the Local Structure Plan.

Strategen is a member of a large and sophisticated Project Team for the Forrestfield North Structure Plan report, with TPG the lead consultant.

The project brief provided to Strategen recognises Forrestfield North's high conservation value and the need for a local reserve system. This has been reinforced by the EPA having questions regarding the conservation of the natural values of the area.

Innovation and Sustainability Strategy – This is a requirement of the brief with key issues to include transportation and smart technology, water resources, urban

form, movement networks, climate response, economic prosperity (building on the rail), and community wellbeing.

Environmental values – A survey of declared rare flora has previously taken place, with *Conospermum undulatum* (Wavy-leaved Smokebush) and *Isopogon drummondii* distributed in the area. A map of the areas where Black cockatoos were found was displayed, with a survey of suitable hollows. An area becomes a high conservation value if no breeding/feeding grounds are in the surrounding areas, within 5 to 10 km. The area contains remnant *Banksia* woodland which is now a threatened ecological community. Conservation covenants are an option.

Runoff management – Water capture and retention and mitigating its impact on water table depth is a consideration for approving any development. In this case the development is not allowed to put more water into Poison Gully Creek. However, the area lacks groundwater and there is not much irrigation. Safely disposing of additional runoff will be a priority, with the possibility of managed aquifer reinjection (MAR) to groundwater, like the Hartfield Park project, more likely than water treatment, for water re-use.

Poison Gully Creek – The management of the creek is another area of investigation, balancing access and protection. Currently there is some erosion to the creek currently and access to the creek is difficult with the creek being very steep. There is also the managing of the significant fire risk to surrounding areas from the vegetation surrounding the creek.

Opportunities and aspirations:

- Strong alignment of intent of Shire, Community and project team
- Precinct activation – variety of roles and uses
- Sense of place – existing industrial, natural and cultural values
- Connectivity – enhancing surrounding areas – pedestrian and commercial
- Water – limited groundwater available – options for wastewater treatment or MAR
- Energy and climate response – natural values enhanced to manage the 'heat island effect'
- Developer Contribution Scheme – Enabling mechanism – density = higher value
- Optimising engineering and landscape design will be challenged by the fragmented ownership
- Noted that the Placid Waters at Coodanup is a development that showed strong environmental values
- Look at the design, and try to do as well as possible with environment

The Manager Strategic Planning's closing comments from the presentation were that the Shire has developed a consultation plan, which includes discussion with KEAC. In late May/June there will be broader discussion with stakeholders about where the report is at, and where it is going. Another information session will occur with landowners, including on how it will affect their land. Land assembly will be constrained due to fragmented land.

The draft plan will be prepared, go to Council and then go out as a Draft Plan. During the consultation period, it will be formally referred to KEAC.

Member Comment

The key issues for the Committee include:

- Mitigating the extremely hot environment in the area, with powerful easterly winds, puts a premium on retaining mature trees
- Significant numbers of black cockatoos traverse the area, particularly during the morning.
- Orientation of streets will be important, to avoid wind corridors
- Buffer areas protecting Poison Gully Creek with the suggestion of vegetated fingers coming off the Creek
- Developer contributions – clear policy relating to clearance of residential lots, and keeping vegetation.
- POS areas – space for children in open space
- There is an opportunity for KEAC to ask for a presentation on sustainability aspects of the draft Plan
- Importance of streetscape planting and POS plantings
- With allocated Public Open Space, 2% is usually restricted open space, 8% usually set as active POS. This is normally a requirement of the WAPC. In the case of Forrestfield North, will likely need to have a significantly higher percentage of restricted Public Open Space devoted to conservation of vegetation.
- A KEAC member noted that the contaminated site opposite Pioneer Park and the aboriginal heritage values of Poison Gully Creek are both part of social media discussion.

6.3 Submission on the Shire of Kalamunda Draft Strategic Community Plan

Background

The Shire of Kalamunda has requested that KEAC provide a submission on the draft Strategic Community Plan. The Public comment period is from the 1 April to the 12 May 2017.

When considering the Local Environment Strategy at the meeting of the 23 March 2017, KEAC noted that in the Kalamunda Shire's draft Strategic Community Plan there is provision for reporting progress against environmental indicators that cover biodiversity, sustainable water, waste diversion, clean energy and greenhouse gas level. These could define the scope of the LES. It was also noted that the draft Strategic Community Plan had the LES as part of its planning.

It was also noted at the 23 March 2017 KEAC meeting, that Kalamunda Clean and Green had moved up from priority number 3 to 2, supported by community feedback on the importance of protecting and enhancing environmental values and of environmental sustainability.

Details

Attachment 1 provides a copy of the Kalamunda Advancing 2027 draft Strategic Community Plan. Of particular interest to KEAC is page 13 of the document.

Due to the short time frame between the KEAC meeting and the deadline for the closure of the public comment period, please ensure that you have ideas and comments, that can be included in the agreed submission of the Kalamunda Environmental Advisory Committee at this meeting.

Member Comment

The Manager Asset Maintenance noted that the Shire is very strong in its environmental values on public land. The issue that is difficult to deal with is developments on private land, where WAPC has control.

The Chair noted his comments, and suggested that the Strategic Community Plan should clearly differentiate conserving environmental values on public land through its own actions and on private land through community actions, rather than as it currently shows with conserving of natural values over all land

There was some concern over the performance measures in the Strategic Community Strategic Plan; the main issue with there being no baseline to measure against. Tree canopy levels maintained, amount of water recycled and amount of energy saved, are not a useful if not measured as a base. There is a need for baseline surveys.

A Member noted his concern over the process, feeling that consultation had been superficial. A Councillor Representative noted that consultation on this draft is taking place, in shopping centres, brainstorming events and via social media.

Resolution

KEAC recommends:

- That Council makes clearer in the draft Strategic Community Plan what the Shire of Kalamunda does on public lands, and what occurs on private land in the community; and
- That Council provides the Clean and Green component of the draft Strategic Community Plan, with the comments received from the community, back to KEAC for further comment.

Moved: Rupert Duckworth

Seconded: Peter Forrest

Vote: Unanimous

Specific suggested changes include:

- Split the Biodiversity conservation outcome from Shire Leadership.
- Change the Modern waste management outcome to Best practice waste management
- Change to wording of Environmental sustainability to Environmental, social and economic sustainability
- Include bushfire mitigation as an environmental consideration (currently Priority 1: Cares and interacts, Objective 1.2 – third dot point) with. Priority 2, Objective 2.2 the natural area to hold it

- Add Strategy 2.2.3 - Manage fuel loads on Shire land using environmental sustainable principles
- Split Strategy 2.3.1 into two - Identify and implement strategies to reduce waster according to the 'waste hierarchy', and identify and implement strategies to increase the amount of reuse
- Satisfaction with waste services activities is not a good measure. KEAC suggests deletion of the measure
- Suggested replacement measure for reducing waste – per capita volume of waste is reduced
- Change the existing measure to the amount of waste that is diverted is increased
- Document hierarchy needs to be explained in the Strategic Community Plan, to show the implementation path via the Corporate Business Plan and other strategies
- Concerns with performance measures overall in the Community Strategic Plan.

Resolution

KEAC recommends to Council that the success measures in Priority 2: Kalamunda Clean and Green are inadequate. KEAC requests that improved measures are included in the next version of the Strategic Community Plan and suggests that KEAC can help with this.

Moved: Sam Assaad
Seconded Joy McGilvray
Vote: Unanimous

7.0 URGENT BUSINESS WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE PRESIDING MEMBER

7.1 A Committee Member brought forward concerns regarding the Aldi Site, and how the car park was being developed. It was noted that Development Services will be providing a response directly to the Member, and that KEAC does not deal with individual developments.

7.2 The Manager Asset Maintenance updated Members on the status of the Waste Management Strategy, noting that the second version of draft Strategy is going to Council in June, and will be referred to KEAC.

7.3 The Coordinator of Parks & Environmental Services met with the EMRC regarding the policies and strategies relevant to the Shire that have been released by the EMRC. Some clarification was provided.

8.0 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

3 August 2017

9.0 CLOSURE

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.