



**MINUTES OF THE ELECTORS' GENERAL MEETING, HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, 135 CANNING HIGHWAY, EAST FREMANTLE ON TUESDAY, 25 FEBRUARY 2020 COMMENCING AT 6.32PM.**

**1. OPENING OF MEETING**

***Present***

Mayor J O'Neill	Presiding Member
Cr C Collinson	
Cr K Donovan	
Cr J Harrington	
Cr A McPhail	
Cr D Nardi	
Cr A Natale	
Cr A Watkins	

Mr G Tuffin	Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
Mr A Malone	Executive Manager Regulatory Services (EMRS)
Mr P Kocian	Executive Manager Corporate Services (EMCS)
Mr S Gallagher	Operations Manager (OM)
Mr A Driver	Senior Ranger (SR)
Ms J May	Executive Assistant to CEO

There were 24 electors in attendance.

**2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

*"On behalf of the Council I would like to acknowledge the Whadjuk Nyoongar people as the traditional custodians of the land on which this meeting is taking place and pay my respects to Elders past, present and emerging.*

**3. WELCOME TO GALLERY**

The Mayor welcomed 24 members of the public and thanked them for attending tonight's meeting.

**4. INTRODUCTION OF ELECTED MEMBERS AND STAFF**

Mayor O'Neill introduced staff members and elected members.

**5. APOLOGIES**

Cr M McPhail

**6. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS ANNUAL MEETING OF ELECTORS**

**Moved Mrs P Newton, seconded Ms M Hood**

**That the Minutes of the Electors' Meeting held on 29 January 2019 be received.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**7. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION****7.1 Contents of the Annual Report**

Mayor O'Neill highlighted the following projects that commenced or continued through 2018/2019:

- **MARKYT Survey**  
East Fremantle highlighted as one of the highest performing councils in the index.
- **East Fremantle Oval Precinct Master Plan**  
Community engagement was completed and vision plan produced. A supporting detailed business plan due for completion in 2020.
- **Preston Point Road North Recreation Precinct Master Plan**  
This project has been initiated to provide direction for recreational facilities and is currently out for community consultation until 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020.
- **Glasson Park Toilet**  
The new public toilet was installed at the Park.
- **Integrated Traffic Management and Movement Strategy**  
This project will review and provide recommendations for active movements (pedestrian and cycling), parking and traffic movement was commenced and is due for completion mid 2020.
- **Heritage Awards and Trail**  
Council received a Heritage commendation for the Town Hall and carried out a revitalisation of its Heritage Trail.
- **Waste Education Officer & Implementation of FOGO**  
A new position was created to assist with the implementation of the FOGO rollout.
- **Fremantle Recycling Centre**  
Council partnered with the City of Fremantle to offer this service free to its residents.
- **Strategic Resource Plan**  
A new Strategic Resource Plan was developed to incorporate all informing plans & project budgets over a 15 year period (Corporate Business Plan, Asset Management Plans, Workforce Plan etc).
- **Leeuwin Barracks Divestment**  
This project is continuing to proceed, the sale of land is still scheduled to be disposed of by 2024. We have been advised the Metropolitan Regional Scheme (MRS) Amendment & Local Planning Scheme (LPS) are due for lodgement around the middle of the year.



- **Public Art Initiatives installed throughout the Town of East Fremantle**
- **East Fremantle Festival in George Street**  
Continues to be a very successful event.
- **John Tonkin Interpretative Node**  
This Node which represents cultural and natural values was completed during the 2018/19 year. The Nyoongar Advisory Panel have identified six additional nodes along the foreshore, there are 25 in all.
- **Neighbourhood Link Program**  
This service moved from Dovenby House to the Tricolore Day Centre providing care and social support for 180 clients.
- **Community Highlights**  
There were a number of community highlights including networking for local businesses.
- **Strategic Goals**  
There was further development of our strategic priorities: Social, Economic, Built Environment. Natural Environment, Leadership and Governance.
- **Town Planning Amendments 14 and 15**  
The amendments relating to the Roofing 2000 (Amendment 14) is still ongoing a decision from the Minister is due any time now, and the Royal George Hotel (Amendment 15) site has been finalised. The building height has been fixed at 43 AHD or the equivalent of up to 7 storeys.  
  
Relevant staff were thanked for their efforts in the administration of these Amendments.
- **Community Engagement**  
Whilst many improvements have been made, we are still looking how to further improve our engagement with the community.
- **Defibrillators**  
A number of external defibrillators were installed around the Town.
- **Urban Streetscape and Public Realm Style Guide**  
Streetscapes are seen as a very important issue. This project was initiated to assist Council and developers to work together for a consistent approach to streetscapes within the Town.

Mr J Farmer, 19 Sewell Street

- **Public Art**  
Queried whether restoration work had been carried out to the artwork at Raceway Park.

The Mayor advised that work had recently been carried out to this public artwork.



- **Royal George Hotel Amendment 15**

Queried the current status of this Amendment. The EMRS advised that Council had received advice this week that Amendment 15 had now been gazetted with a maximum height of 43m AHD. Following a further question regarding the deadline for the restoration requirement, the EMRS advised that the developers had advised that an application for restoration works would be submitted in the coming weeks.

- **George Street Heritage Area**

Advised that in the 1980's Council had gazetted George Street as a historic precinct with street guidelines for development. It appeared in recent times there had been approvals for inappropriate development that detracted from the street. Will the style guide address this?

The EMRS advised that the urban streetscape and public realm style guide would address tree planting, street furniture etc. Council had last month adopted a George Street designated heritage area which had specific development controls for the properties located within this precinct.

Mr J Newton, 45 Alexandra Road

Advised that the Annual Report document was a very good report, the best he had ever seen for the Town.

**Moved Mr J Bird, seconded Mr J Farmer  
That the 2018-19 Annual Report be received.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## 7.2 **General Business**

### 7.2.1 **Climate Change Action**

**Mrs Booth** (13 Angwin Street) outlined a motion she wished to submit on behalf of a number of other attendees in recognition of:

- (i) the increasingly destructive impacts of carbon emissions, climate change and global warming;
- (ii) the need for action to redress these impacts to be undertaken with foremost priority and urgency by every individual, family, community group; government agency and corporation;
- (iii) the unique leadership role local government can play in setting an example and motivating the community to reduce their carbon emissions;
- (iv) the commendable initiative already taken by the Town of East Fremantle to include the "mitigation of climate change impacts" within its Strategic Plan (Strategic Priority 4.3/4.3.1), and its formal recognition of the climate emergency. (Minutes: November 2019 Council Meeting)

**Mr G MacNish** (39/46 East Street) agreed that State and Federal Government had failed to provide leadership in this area and supported the need for action to come from local government and the community.

**Ms C Innes** (37 Hubble Street) suggested Council could show the way by commencing a solar panel/battery storage installation program.



The Mayor advised that Council had subsidised the installation of solar panels at the East Fremantle Bowling Club which as well as having environmental benefits had assisted the Club with its power costs. Solar lights had been recently installed in the Tricolore Community Centre carpark, solar powered Town entry signs would soon be installed and Council was also looking at LED street lighting. Consideration may be given to a solar panel loan fund.

**Ms R James** (75 Fortescue Street) remarked that as a small local government East Fremantle had a chance to band together to be brave and innovative in addressing the climate change emergency.

**Mr D Flynn** (62 Allen Street) advised that he had noticed at least 7 dead or dying street trees in Allen Street and a couple more on his way down to the Town Hall tonight. He had raised the matter of street trees at last year's Electors' Meeting and had been advised Council had a budget allocation of \$50,000 for approximately 100 trees. Mr Flynn queried whether staff costs were included in the allocated figure.

OM advised that Council's Urban Streetscape and Public Realm Style guide would guide locations, and species of trees etc.

The Mayor advised that it was acknowledged that planting more trees was one way to assist with the impacts of climate change.

Mr Flynn's query regarding staff planting costs was taken on notice.

**Moved Mrs S Booth, seconded Mrs M Flynn**

**That Council is requested to act with urgency to:**

- (i) develop a Community Climate Action Plan (CCAP) identifying ambitious targets, the corporate projects, role modelling and leadership actions Council will undertake to build a responsive community working actively to reduce its carbon emissions 'footprint';
- (ii) develop the CCAP within a prescribed time and provide the needed resources, including ongoing employment of a sustainability manager to coordinate action for a successful CCAP;
- (iii) develop the CCAP drawing on scientific and corporate knowledge, the experience and achievements of other local government authorities and creative local community input;
- (iv) host, in the near future, the first of a series of community forums with the participation of climate change experts to build residents' awareness of, support for and active engagement in the CCAP agenda; and
- (v) establish an expert climate action reference group, including community representation, to guide the development and implementation of the CCAP.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Mayor O'Neill** advised that this motion would be considered by Council at its March Council Meeting. He advised he would be surprised if it wasn't supported.

### **7.2.2 Fortescue Street Footpath**

**Mr A Kane** (33 Fortescue Street) asked when the footpath on the western side of Fortescue Street was going to be completed.



OM explained the rating system for Council infrastructure and advised that this section was included in the Capital Works budget for next year (2020/21).

**7.2.3 Glasson Park**

**Mr G MacNish** (39/46 East Street) thanked Council new toilet and swings in Glasson Park and queried whether there was a problem with the irrigation system as the grass was not growing well. Mr MacNish also remarked that the Norfolk Pine was badly pruned to install the Christmas Lights, which are great.

The Mayor advised that Council staff would investigate the irrigation and advised that the pruning was a mistake by the tree contractor.

**7.2.4 Carob Trees – Gill Street**

**Mr J Bird** (39 Gill Street) complimented staff on the exceptional pruning of two carob trees in Gill Street.

**7.2.5 Future of SMRC**

**Mr J Bird** (39 Gill Street) asked whether there were going to be problems being part of the SMRC – will members be left holding the baby?

The CEO advised that the Town only had approximately 4½% equity holding in the organisation with four years left (2023) to run on the SMRC loans. Council's exposure was quite limited compared to the other members, Cities of Fremantle and Melville.

**7.2.6 Thank you**

**Mayor O'Neill** thanked everyone for coming to tonight's meeting and advised Council looked forwarding to continuing a positive and constructive relationship with the community.

The Mayor also thanked elected members and staff for their ongoing efforts and support.

**Mrs P Newton** (45 Alexandra Road) advised that she considered this was the best Council East Fremantle had ever had and urged the other members of the gallery to come along to every Electors' Meeting, not just when they had something to raise.

**Mr J Bird** (39 Gill Street) advised, on behalf of all the ratepayers, that elected members and staff do a very good job.

**8. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING**

There being no other business Mayor O'Neill thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed at 7.20pm.