



SHIRE OF YORK

THE ANNUAL ELECTORS MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY, 6 FEBRUARY 2019 COMMENCING AT
5.03PM IN THE LESSER HALL, YORK TOWN HALL, YORK

The York Shire Council acknowledges the traditional owners of the land on which this meeting will be held.

1. OPENING

- 1.1 Declaration of Opening
Cr David Wallace, Shire President, declared the meeting open at 5.03pm

2. ATTENDANCE

- 2.1 Members
Cr David Wallace, Shire President; Cr Kevin Trent, Deputy Shire President; Cr Denese Smythe; Cr Heather Saint; Cr Pam Heaton; Cr Jane Ferro
- 2.2 Staff
Paul Martin, Chief Executive Officer; Suzie Haslehurst, Executive Manager Corporate & Community Services; Darren Wallace, Executive Manager Infrastructure & Development Services; Helen D'Arcy-Walker, Council & Executive Support Officer
- 2.3 Apologies
Cr Denis Warnick
- 2.4 Leave of Absence Previously Approved
Nil
- 2.5 Number of People in Attendance
There were 6 people in the Gallery at the commencement of the meeting

3. ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE SHIRE OF YORK FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018 (Available on the Shire of York website or in alternative formats on request)

RECOMMENDATION:

Moved: Geoff Feddersen

Seconded: Pat Hooper

"That the 2017/18 Annual Report for the Shire of York be received as presented, including:

- (a) *The Independent Auditor's Report, for the year ended 30 June 2018; and*
(b) *Shire of York Annual Financial Report for the year ended 30 June 2018."*

CARRIED: 12/0

4. GENERAL BUSINESS

Geoff Feddersen

From the past dealings with this Shire, Paul Martin, CEO is aware that I am not a person that spends time criticizing Council, rather, wishing to work with Council, tonight there are a couple of concerns I wish to express, which it is hoped will correct a perceived attitude towards Balladong Country Estate (BCE).

Question 1(a):

Balladong street verge adjacent to BCE – continuing ant infestation into Villa's along Balladong Street.

Response provided by the Executive Manager Infrastructure & Development Services:

I thought the problem had been fixed. Now I am aware that it hasn't I will be organise with the Depot staff to retreat the verge for ants.

Question 1(b):

No response to have a missing street tree replacement.

Response provided by the Executive Manager Infrastructure & Development Services:

There is an allocation in the Budget for street trees, however this time of the year is not a good time to plant. The replacement tree for Balladong Road will be included in the next plantings.

Question 1(c):

Weeding of this verge is having to be done by residents, I understand that Balladong Street is under the control of Main Roads WA, however I would be surprised if the Shire did not receive money in grants to carry out maintenance on Main Roads controlled streets in York?

Response provided by the Executive Manager Infrastructure & Development Services:

The Shire does not receive any money from Main Roads for maintenance of street verges.

Question 2:

Redmile Street verge adjacent to Caravan security area, soft sand is making it difficult for residents accessing the secured area, promise of a load of gravel being dumped and roughly spread on the area, was apparently laid aside when the area was observed to be a crossover, Global Care group via BCE was then encouraged to apply for a Community Funding Grant that would provide the funding. Not good advice as the application requires Quotations for all works, the specification for crossover construction, requires 100mm road base, etc. Quotes for this was \$8,000.00. End of story, why could we not have stayed with a load of gravel? Then everybody would be satisfied.

Response provided by the Chief Executive Officer:

The Council considered making a contribution to this at the last funding round and it was not supported. The Chief Executive Officer is happy to meet with Balladong residents to discuss.

Question 3:

Submission to the Council to have its 'approval in principle; to:

1. Having Balladong Street speed limit reduced from 60 to 50 kph, and
2. Having existing Aged Road warning Signs Relocated

I must compliment the professional approach to our submission taken by Darren Wallace, Executive Manager Infrastructure & Development on his presentation and recommendation to the Councillors. I am still awaiting confirmation of Councils decision.

More verbal dialogue between Council and BCE, would be a great help. Perhaps a meeting between the Council and the Chairman and CEO of Global Care Group could be arranged, as a step forward. Just an idea.

Response provided by the Shire President:

A report was presented to the December Ordinary Council Meeting. However Councillors did not support the lowering of the speed limit from 60 to 50 kph, or the relocation of the Aged Road warning signs. Councillors did request the installation of additional signs to the east and west of the existing signs.

Question 4:

Prior to my wife and I leaving for a 4 month caravan trip to Queensland June-August 2018, I had a meeting with our Shire CEO, regarding Councils response to the proposed relocation site for RV travellers to York and was shown the selected site and ground plan, adjacent to the Croquet Club and the assurance that it would be commenced in May and completed by December 2018. Could you please give some idea of the problems that you have met which have stopped construction.

Response by Chief Executive Officer:

There have been issues with staff change overs, and issues with drainage and I will ask the Executive Manager Infrastructure & Development Services to provide more details.

Response provided by the Executive Manager Infrastructure & Development Services:

There has been a change to the drainage design which has not worked as planned. This needs to be revisited and also what can be put into the river.

Pat Hooper**Question 1:**

Given that the York Tennis Club and York Bowling Club surrendered their 'own' Clubhouses to enable the YRCC to be built for the consolidation of sporting resources in York on the understanding that the resulting building would become a multi club Clubhouse, where do these Clubs now stand in terms of the possibility that the YRCC will be leased out to 'private operators'?

Remember that the Bowling Clubhouse was built using funding from the members and a totally repaid loan as well as the surrendering of a 'liquor licence' and contributing \$80,000 towards the project.

Will Council guarantee that current arrangements between the YRCC and these two Clubs will continue, that is, operating hours and usage of the YRCC as their Clubhouses should the building be privately leased?

Response provided by the Shire President:

It is still up to the Council to make that decision about who operates the bar and kitchen at the YRCC. At the last meeting of the Steering Group at the YRCC, they resolved to move towards becoming an Incorporation. This would be the Council's preferred option.

All clubs will be looked after, which is what Council wants – they want the clubs to have a good club spirit.

Question 2:

If a Management Group is put in place it will be separate to the sporting clubs. Will there be a guarantee if those clubs remain.

Response provided by the Shire President:

The association is the preferred option, it is a work in progress. It will be up to the association to work with clubs to make sure everyone's needs are met.

Question 3:

I advised the Shire of a program called 'Small Hall Concerts' approximately 4 months ago. This program related to interstate musicians providing entertainment in country/rural towns across Australia.

Has there been any opportunity for staff to follow up on this proposal as it would have an excellent chance to showcase York?

Response provided by the Chief Executive Officer:

A successful grant application was applied for, for further works, lighting, etc to the Town Hall. One condition is to provide performances in the Town Hall which will be undertaken in the next 12 months.

Question 4:

Are the Councillors aware of the fact that the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries is currently drafting a new '*Local Government Act*'?

Have they been briefed as to the potential that the new legislation will bring to Local Governments? Are Councillors aware that the current legislation allows that '*Local governments can provide services which have community benefits*'? Do Councillors understand that a significant number of the community believe that the YRCC does benefit the community?

Response provided by the Shire President:

Councillors are fully aware and Cr Trent is fully across this. The Local Government Act Review has been discussed at Council Concept Forums. With regards to the YRCC there are other places in town that offer hospitality. Council agrees that the YRCC benefits the community but does not believe the Shire should be running a bar and restaurant.

Question 5:

During 2018 I made a presentation to Council regarding a Noongar man, Jimmy Melbourne.

Jimmy was born in York and is believed to have been the first Aboriginal man to play Australian Rules Football in both the Western Australian League and the Victorian Football League.

Has the Shire considered any way in which this achievement can be acknowledged?

I note with interest that Nicky Winmar, a Noongar footballer from Pingelly has been rewarded national recognition for his actions in calling out racism.

Perhaps in a small way we as a community could recognise the pioneer footballer who started the pathway for footballers such as Nicky.

Response provide by the Shire President:

We will place this matter on the Agenda for the next York Honours Reference Group which looks at such requests.

Brian Lawrance

Question 1:

“Research shows sports clubs and community organisations help to develop social capital (the social fabric or glue of the community) and are good barometers of community strength and health”, and “there is HIGH reputational risk to the Shire that closure of the Bar and Restaurant will cause considerable dissatisfaction to the entire sporting community” are both sentences taken from Item: SY184-12/18.

It would appear that the findings were ignored by Councillors at the December Council Meeting when considering the Item, so I ask did any of the Councillors read the article in the West Australian on Saturday 2 February by Mitchell Woodcock entitle “Sports clubs the beating heart of regional communities”?

This article would appear to fully support the premise that the staff wrote in the Item supporting documentation and would Councillors therefore consider the findings and the article in further discussions on matters relating to the YRCC’s future?

Response provide by the Shire President:

Council has resolved to move forward their preferred options for a sporting club or association to run the YRCC. The biggest loser is the Football Club as they need funding to run their club. Unfortunately someone has to make the hard decision, the clubs need to get their heart and soul back together. The Shire should not be running a restaurant and bar. The Shire should be looking at footpaths, roads, etc. The Council hope that a community group or a sporting club step forward and run it.

Question 2:

The Project Officer, in her original submission that was made said that the Shire needs to get out of it, as it’s running at a loss.

Response provide by the Shire President:

There is a need to move forward with Council’s preferred option.

Marie Forster

Question 1:

In the December issue of Community Matters, the Works update states – “January will see bitumen works to the York High School pick up/set down area commence and line marking to identified areas”. Can you please tell me why this safety issue hasn’t been addressed prior to the start of the new school year?

Question 2:

Can you tell me when these works will be completed?

Response provide by the Executive Manager Infrastructure & Development Services:

It is all in the timing of getting the company to York to do the sealing. It will now be carried out in the next school holidays.

Mike Gill

Question 1:

My question is to the Chief Executive Officer –

Can you explain why you failed to establish a clear time line in your review of Tender 01/16/7. You did not establish that Tenders closed on the 5 December. Then the Shire met with Howson Technical on 15 December and then received a proposal from Howson Technical to carry out the design on the 16 December.

Response provided by the Chief Executive Officer:

It was a detailed report covering many issues. It was not our intention not to include the time line.

5. CLOSURE

The Shire President thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 5.35pm.