

TOWN OF BASSENDEAN

NOTICE OF THE MEETING OF THE RIVER PARKS COMMITTEE

Dear Committee Member

A meeting of the River Parks Committee of the Town of Bassendean will be held in the Council Chamber, 48 Old Perth Road, Bassendean, on Tuesday 7 August 2018, commencing at 3.00pm.

Mr Michael Costarella
ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

2 August 2018

A G E N D A

Please note: The River Parks Committee meeting will need to conclude at **5:00pm** as a Town Assets Committee meeting as been scheduled following this meeting.

1.0 DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners

The Town of Bassendean acknowledges the past and present traditional owners of the land on which we gather to conduct this meeting, and pays its respects to their Elders, both past and present.

2.0 ATTENDANCES, APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

3.0 DEPUTATIONS

4.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION – ITEM 4.1

That the minutes of the River Parks Committee meeting held 8 May 2018, be confirmed as a true record.

5.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDING PERSON WITHOUT DISCUSSION

6.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

7.0 BUSINESS DEFERRED FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Nil.

8.0 REPORTS

8.1 Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage - Draft 2018-2023 Ashfield Flats Reserve Works Program (PARE/DESCONT/6) Simon Stewert-Dawkins Director Operational Services

APPLICATION

The purpose of the report is to provide an update in regards to the Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage draft Ashfield Flats Concept Plan and the public consultation currently being undertaken

ATTACHMENT

Attachment No. 1:

- Ashfield Flats– DPL&H Community Briefing 30/7/18
- Powerpoint presentation

BACKGROUND

At the February 2018 Rivers Parks Committee meeting, the Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage representative presented as a deputation to the Committee, the attached draft 2018-2023 Ashfield Flats Reserve works programme for consideration.

The Department continued to liaise with Elected Members, as well as with other interest groups, including AshfieldCAN, Water Corporation and Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions.

Council (OCM – 29/05/18) received the report on a meeting of 8 May 2018 River Parks Committee meeting and resolved in part to:

- Note the Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage is working with key stakeholders and seeking comments on the draft 2018-2023 Ashfield Flats Works Program;
- Request the Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage receive and acknowledge the Committee feedback on the proposed draft 2018-2023 Ashfield Flats Works program;
- Request the Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage amend the Draft 2018-23 Ashfield Flats Concept Plan to reflect the plan prepared by the Town of Bassendean to include:
 - A path alignment adjacent to the proposed fence line and a treatment that is suitable for cyclists, prams and wheelchairs;
 - An additional river access point (as suggested on the TOB map) that is stabilised and appropriate for public access; and
 - A fence that curves around to be at right angles to the riverbank at all access points to limit access to restoration areas; and
- Endorse the concept plan for Stage 1 of the Works Program subject to the above amendments;

In addition, Council requested that the Town upload the draft amended Ashfield Flats Reserve Concept Plan and Works Program to the “Your Say” Town of Bassendean website for community consultation, which commenced on 11 June 2018. Officers also arranged to the plan to be advertised via the Bassendean Briefings and promoted using the Town's Facebook page, so that members of the public who were unable to attend the community briefing, could view the presentation (see attached).

On 30 July 2018 at 7pm, a representative from the Western Australian Planning Commission and the Department of Planning Lands and Heritage provided a community briefing to 36 attendees on the draft Concept Plan.

The closing date for public submissions is Monday 13 August 2018 and in accordance with Council (OCM – 29/05/18) resolution the “Your Say” feedback will be provided directly to the Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage for their consideration.

The Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage has indicated that it will provide a report on the community feedback received to the River Parks Committee meeting on 6 November 2018,.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Community Strategic Plan 2017-2027; Strategic Priority 2: Natural Environment

Objectives <i>What we need to achieve</i>	Strategies <i>How we're going to do it</i>	Measures of Success <i>How we will be judged</i>
2.2 Protect our River, Bushland Reserves, and Biodiversity	2.2.1 Protect and restore our biodiversity and ecosystems	Community / Stakeholder satisfaction Survey (River, Bushland and Reserves)
	2.2.2 Sustainably manage significant natural areas	
	2.2.3 Partner with stakeholders to actively protect, rehabilitate and enhance access to the river	Biodiversity and Bush Condition (“Keighery” Scale of bush condition) measurement

COMMENT

At the Community Briefing held on 30 July 2018, the Western Australian Planning Commission advised that they had received a grant of approximately \$200,000 to undertake a Hydrological Study of Ashfield Flats Reserve, including the Chapman Street drain. This study is anticipated to take between 18 to 24 months to complete.

The Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage has previously advised that it is keen to work with key stakeholders to progress a final Ashfield Flats Reserve concept plan and as a consequence, the timing around when the proposed works are undertaken would be subject to the Town of Bassendean and the Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions being in agreement.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION – ITEM 8.1

That the Committee notes that the:

1. Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage's draft Ashfield Flats Reserve Concept Plan and Works Program has been promoted via the Bassendean Briefings and Facebook posts and made available for public comment from the 11 June 2018 until the 13 August 2018 using the "Your Say Bassendean" website; and
2. Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage has indicated that it will provide a report on the community feedback received to the River Parks Committee to be held on 6 November 2018.

8.2 Ashfield Flats Reserve – Fox Activity (Ref PARE/MAINT/68 - Jeremy Walker Senior Environmental Officer)

APPLICATION

The purpose of the report is to present to the committee the fox monitoring reports for Ashfield Flats, Bindaring & Pickering Park.

ATTACHMENT

Attachment No. 2:

- May 2018 Bindaring Park & Pickering Park Fox monitoring Report
- May 2018 Ashfield Flats Fox Monitoring Report
- July 2018 Quotation Fox trapping program using cages - Ashfield Flats
- July 2018 Quotation Fox & Cat trapping program Using Cages - Bindaring & Pickering Park.

BACKGROUND

At the May 2018 River Parks Committee meeting, Officers presented the November 2017, Fox Monitoring Report for Council owned land within Ashfield Flats and quotation from the contractor to undertake further monitoring and trapping of both the Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage and Council land.

Council (OCM – 29/05/18) supported the Committee’s resolution and resolved to receive the November 2018 Fox Activity Survey, noted the Natural Area Management Services (NAMS) Fox Monitoring & Trapping Program, that the program is currently under review by the Western Australian Planning Commission; and requested that the Town of Bassendean includes fox monitoring to Pickering Park and Bindaring Park.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Community Strategic Plan 2017- 2027 Strategic Priority 2:
Natural Environment

Objectives <i>What we need to achieve</i>	Strategies <i>How we’re going to do it</i>	Measures of Success <i>How we will be judged</i>
2.2 Protect our River, Bushland Reserves, and Biodiversity	2.2.1 Protect and restore our biodiversity and ecosystems	Community / Stakeholder satisfaction Survey (River, Bushland and Reserves) Biodiversity and Bush Condition (“Keighery” Scale of bush condition) measurement
	2.2.2 Sustainably manage significant natural areas	
	2.2.3 Partner with stakeholders to actively protect, rehabilitate and enhance access to the river	

STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

Local Government Act 1995

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

In July 2018, the Town obtained a quote of \$7,145 to undertake a fox trapping program for both Town of Bassendean land & Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage (DPLH) land utilising cage traps and also a quote of \$7,145 to implement a cage trapping program for both foxes and feral cats at Bindaring & Pickering Park.

It should be noted that in accordance with the Town’s Purchasing Policy, an additional quote is being obtained.

The Department of Planning Lands & Heritage has advised that the cost of the fox mitigation program can be apportioned by the respective management areas for DPLH and the Town of Bassendean. Taking the DPLH feedback into consideration, the Town manages approximately 10.6% of the fox mitigating area and on that basis, the Town’s estimated financial contribution equates to \$757. However, this figure could be lower, depending on the additional quotes received.

COMMENT

The Town commissioned Natural Area Consulting Management Services to undertake the fox monitoring and trapping programs for both Ashfield Flats and Bindaring & Pickering Park. The Ashfield Flats monitoring occurred between 15 and 21 May 2018, Bindaring & Pickering Park monitoring occurred between 22 and 27 May 2018.

The following is a summary of the results from the Monitoring programs reports:

Ashfield Flats

The report shows signs of fox activity within the flats through visual evidence of scats and carcasses of small birds. From the cameras installed, foxes were recorded at sites A3, A7, A8 & A10 which fall within both the Town of Bassendean and Department of Planning Lands & Heritage managed land.

During monitoring, the consultant inspected a previously documented fox den located near site A4. The den was found to be collapsed with no signs of the den being reopened or signs of any other dens in the area. The report does state that several domestic dogs were recorded at sites A1, A3, A4, A8 & A9 (photos included as an attachment). In all cameras captured, the dogs were recorded off lead with capture times being between 6:30am and 5:45pm. The consultant has advised that the available control methods for the site are either soft jaw foot traps or cage traps. Each methodology has advantages and disadvantages. Below is the table extrapolated from the report specifying advantages and disadvantages for each trapping method.

	Soft Jaw Foot Traps	Cage Traps
Advantages	Traps are easily camouflaged, increasing the potential for a successful capture	Lower probability of injuring non target animals
	Trap Placement is not as limited by topography and surroundings	
Disadvantages	Higher potential to injure domestic animals	Harder to achieve successful capture as foxes will not readily enter traps
		Topography restrictions on potential trapping locations due to size of trap
		More labour intensive than soft jaw foot traps due to size of cages

The City of Kalamunda recently had an incident with a domestic dog becoming trapped and injured as a result of being trapped within a soft jaw trap. The City of Kalamunda released a statement advising that the traps were installed with signage advising residents of the trapping program and that dogs must be secured on leads where signage is present.

The report specifies that the Town of Bassendean and Department Planning Lands & Heritage prepare an internal risk assessment to determine which method of trapping is preferable. Officers have undertaken an assessment of the proposed trapping methods and given the incidents that have occurred within other Councils and the recorded off lead dog activity from the monitoring program, Officers determined the soft jaw traps are too high risk for domestic animals to become injured, therefore cage trapping is the preferred methodology.

The Department of Planning Lands & Heritage, Field Management Coordinator feedback regarding the fox report and the associated costs to implement the fox management program was follows:

Natural Area Consulting Management Services (NAM) is a company that specialises in pest eradication services.

In relation to Ashfield Flats, it has proposed two options in relation to the current fox issue and I have recommended that cage traps be used. I will also be contacting Jeremy Walker in the next couple of days regarding risk assessment however you can see from the photos in NAM's Ashfield Flats Monitoring Report of May 2018, that dogs off leads at Ashfield Flats continues to be a very problematic issue and may compromise whatever risk assessment is put in place. The cost of the fox mitigation program can be apportioned by the respective management areas for DPLH and TOB.

The fox management report recommends that the best time of year to undertake trapping is late winter early spring, with the exception of not trapping during August & September as this is vixen lactating time.

Bindaring & Pickering Park

The report showed that no foxes were recorded through camera monitoring, however, signs of fox activity were noted within the reserve through visual findings of fox scats, possible fox digging marks and evidence of a fox run seen along south/west side of wetland behind the houses off Watson Street.

The report specified that six individual cats were recorded during the monitoring period, with only one cat visibly collared. The contractor found remains from a pigeon but were unable to determine if this was from a fox or a cat.

As with the Ashfield report, the methods for controlling foxes are the same. The risk of soft jaw foot traps injuring domestic animals is still high, and therefore Officers prefer the cage trapping approach for Bindaring & Pickering Park. The report outlines there is an issue with feral cats within the reserve and a contractor is recommending that both foxes and cats be targeted using cage traps simultaneously.

The report recommends that the best time of year to undertake trapping is late winter early spring with the exception of not trapping during August & September, as this is vixen lactating time.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION – ITEM 8.2

That the Committee recommends to Council that it:

1. Receives the May 2018 Fox Monitoring reports for Ashfield Flats, Bindaring Park & Pickering Park;
2. Notes that Officers do not recommend that soft jaw traps be implemented within Ashfield Flats or Bindaring & Pickering Park due to potential injuring to domestic animals;
3. Recommends the cage-trapping program be implemented, targeting both foxes and feral cats within Bindaring & Pickering Park during the month of October, in accordance with the Natural Area Consulting Management Services (NAM) report recommendation;
4. Recommends cage trapping be implemented targeting foxes within the Ashfield Flats Reserve in the month of October, in accordance with the Natural Area Consulting Management Services (NAM) report recommendation with the cost divided proportional on the basis of the land area being managed by Department of Planning Lands & Heritage and Town of Bassendean.

8.3 Water Corporation Drainage for Liveability Program Stormwater Drains (Ref WATR/MAINT/2 – Jeremy Walker, Senior Environmental Officer)

APPLICATION

The purpose of the report is to provide the Bassendean Rivers & Parkes Management Committee with an update on the Water Corporation's Drainage for Liveability Program.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment No. 3:

Letter to Water Corporation and response letter (Drainage for Liveability program).

BACKGROUND

On 21 September 2016, the Drainage for Liveability Program, a collaboration between Water Corporation and Department of Water, was announced. The program has been designed to enhance the value to the community of stormwater drains and basins across Western Australia.

At the Bassendean Rivers and Parks Management Committee (BPRMC) meeting, on 11 November 2016, a report was presented to the Committee seeking feedback for a submission to Water Corporation regarding its Drainage to Liveability Program.

The Bassendean Rivers and Parks Management Committee (RPMC - 4/11/16) noted the Council (OCM – 35/10/16) resolution concerning the Water Corporation's Drainage for Liveability Project and suggested an expression of interest application be collated and presented to Council for consideration for the:

- Chapman Street drain between the outlet and the Villiers Street road reserve; and
- Site 17 drain at the corner of Railway Parade and May Holman Drive.

In May 2017, Officers presented a report to Council which included a collation of submissions received from the public and feedback from BRPMC, and Council (OCM-11/5/17) resolved the following:

1. Notes the public submissions for the drainage for liveability program, attached to the ordinary council meeting agenda of 23 May 2017;

2. Endorses submitting to the water corporation, applications for inclusion in the drainage for liveability program, based on submissions received, for water corporation drainage sites:
 - 9994 (Second Avenue and Third Avenue);
 - 9984 (Third Avenue and Fourth Avenue);
 - 9982 (Reid Street, Clarke Way, Hamilton Street);
 - Railway museum east compensating basin;
 - 9983 (Iveson Place, Hamilton & Reid streets);

On 28 July 2017, Officers held a meeting with the Water Corporation's Principal Drainage & Liveable Communities Officer and Department of Water representatives, to discuss the above drainage sites.

At this meeting, Officers were advised that a formal response will be provided when Department of Water funding becomes available.

As no formal response or update on the State Government's funding for the drainage for liveability program was provided (see attached) the Town wrote to the Water Corporation on 26 April 2018, seeking an update concerning any possible funding opportunities.

On 19 May 2018, the Town received a response from Water Corporation (see attached) regarding its drainage sites advising that a small amount of funding became available in February 2018 and Water Corporation is currently determining a criteria for assigning co-contributions to the proposals received.

Furthermore, the Water Corporation's Manager, Drainage and Liveable Communities advised that she would be happy to meet with relevant Officers of the Town and advised that the drainage for liveability program is not a developed grant scheme, but based on partnership projects with a collaborative approach to improving liveability aspects of the Water Corporation's drainage assets, and that the Department is particularly keen to take a strategic approach in improving water quality in the area and leveraging activities and source funding from identified agencies.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Community Strategic Plan 2018- 2028 Strategic Priority 2: Natural Environment

Objectives <i>What we need to achieve</i>	Strategies <i>How we're going to do it</i>	Measures of Success <i>How we will be judged</i>
2.2 Protect our River, Bushland Reserves, and Biodiversity	2.2.1 Protect and restore our biodiversity and ecosystems	Community / Stakeholder satisfaction Survey (River, Bushland and Reserves) Biodiversity and Bush Condition ("Keighery" Scale of bush condition) measurement
	2.2.2 Sustainably manage significant natural areas	
	2.2.3 Partner with stakeholders to actively protect, rehabilitate and enhance access to the river	

STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

Local Government Act 1995

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

As part of the 2018-19 Operational Budget, Council (OCM-9/07/18) allocated \$20,000 to plan for living streams. As outlined below, at this stage, the Water Corporation has indicated that it intends to undertake site/feature surveys of its drainage sites and that the Western Australian Planning Commission are undertaking a hydrological study.

COMMENT

On 25 July 2018, Town of Bassendean officers held a meeting with the Water Corporation's Principal Drainage & Livable Communities Officer and Department of Water & Environment Regulation Project Manager, to identify possible options to move forward with the Water Corporation drainage sites, being:

- 9994 - Second Avenue and Third Avenue;
- 9984 - Third Avenue and Fourth Avenue; and
- Railway Museum east compensating basin.

The Water Corporation representatives at the meeting advised that they would seek funding to undertake a site/feature survey for 9994 and 9984 sites, to assist with the risks and opportunities of these sites. In regards to the Railway Museum's compensating basis, the Water Corporation stated that this site was listed as a potential contaminated site and further internal investigations are required.

In regards to the Water Corporation drainage sites, commonly known as Chapman Street Drain, located at 9982 - Reid Street, Clarke Way, Hamilton Street and 9983 - Iveson Place, Hamilton & Reid Streets, the Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions (DBCAs) provided a grant of approximately \$200,000 to the Western Australian Planning Commission to undertake a Hydrological Study of Ashfield Flats Reserve, including the Chapman Street drain. This study is anticipated to take between 18-24 months to complete.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION- ITEM 8.3

That the Committee recommends to Council that it notes:

1. The Water Corporation's intended actions for drainage at sites located at:

9994 (Second Avenue and Third Avenue);
9984 (Third Avenue and Fourth Avenue); and
Railway Museum - east compensating basin; and

2. That the Western Australian Planning Commission has commenced a Hydrological Study of the Ashfield Flats Reserve, including the Chapman Street drain, as outlined in the 7 August 2018 River Parks Committee agenda.

9.0 MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

10.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS OF NOTICES OF MOTION FOR THE NEXT MEETING

11.0 **CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS**

12.0 **CLOSURE**

The next meeting date to be held on Tuesday, 6 November 2018 commencing at 3.00pm.