

TOWN OF BASSENDEAN

NOTICE OF A SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

Dear Council Member

A Special Meeting of the Council will be held on Tuesday 31 May 2016, in the Council Chamber, 48 Old Perth Road, Bassendean, commencing at 7.00pm. The purpose of the meeting is to:

1. Consider the Outcome of the community engagement process to locate the new State Football (Soccer) to Ashfield Reserve
2. Confirm the recruitment process for the employment of a Director Strategic Planning.

Mr Bob Jarvis
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

27 May 2016

A G E N D A

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.

Members of the public are requested to please sign the Attendance Sheet located in the Council Chamber.

2.0 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME & ADDRESS BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

2.1 Public Question Time

Members of the public who wish to do so may ask questions that relate to items on the Agenda

2.2 Address by Members of the Public

Members of the public who wish to do so may address Council at this point for items included the agenda.

It should be noted that Public Statements are not recorded in the minutes. Statements raised by members of the public must be regarding items on the agenda.

3.0 ATTENDANCES, APOLOGIES & APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

4.0 DEPUTATIONS

5.0 REPORTS

5.1 Community Consultation Results: State Football (Soccer) Centre (Ref: COUP/USAGE/9 - Graeme Haggart, Director Community Development)

APPLICATION

The purpose of this report is to for Council to receive the results from a period of community consultation into a request to short list Ashfield Reserve as a potential site to locate the new State Football (Soccer) Centre and to determine what action to now take.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Summary of Discussions with Impacted Sporting Groups

BACKGROUND

At the April 2016 Ordinary Council Meeting it was unanimously resolved (OCM - 33/04/16) that contingent on approval from the Department of Sport and Recreation (DSR) that the Town implements a community consultation process on whether the community supports Ashfield Reserve being considered as a possible venue for the development of a State Football (Soccer) Centre. The resolution provides for consultation via an advertisement in the local paper, information on the Town's and Department's website, social media, consultation with stakeholders and a direct mail survey to 500 households in the Town and reports the results to a Special Council Meeting to be conducted on Tuesday 31 May 2016.

Officers of the DSR agreed to the consultation strategy and agreed to meet half the consultation costs.

It was agreed the consultation period be 9 May to 25 May.

A sample questionnaire was produced by Officers of the Town for proofing by DSR who responded with a simplified survey, that with minor agreed changes, became the basis of the "paper based" survey to households and available in the Library and Customer Service Centre; and "on line" on the Town's website.

A list of 500 households in the Town was randomly produced from the rates database and surveys posted in the first week of May. The digital survey went live on the Town's website on 9 May. Response boxes and copies of the survey were made available to the public in the Library and Customer Service Centre from 9 May.

One-on-one key stakeholder sporting group discussions were conducted on 4 May, ahead of the community consultation period commencing.

Along with social media posts an advertisement was placed in the Eastern Suburbs Reporter in the 10 May 2016 edition.

COMMENT

USER GROUP CONSULTATIONS

One on one discussion was conducted with four main user groups being Ashfield Sports Club; Bassendean Caledonian Soccer Club; WA Christian Football Association; and Bassendean Junior Cricket Club.

Common to all was a desire to maintain or improve their facilities as they all see an increase in membership in the future.

Ashfield Sports Club are keen for the project to be realised and for them to be included in the new administration facility as a tenant. They will require retaining their identity in so doing and to negotiate suitable tenancy terms including administration, social and storage space and bar takings income arrangements.

Bassendean Caledonian Soccer Club is supportive of the proposal. They have a long tradition at Jubilee Reserve and would prefer to remain at the venue however “would be foolish to not take the opportunity to become a co-tenant at Ashfield if it was offered” and they could negotiate satisfactory arrangements.

WA Christian Football Association has grown and now operates at three “hub” venues – North, South and East, with Ashfield being the East venue. They are keen to retain the venue, but can be flexible with programming, given they anticipate further growth as an entity. Continued access to junior-sized pitches would be a required outcome and administration office space would be beneficial.

Bassendean Junior Cricket Club currently plays on Jubilee Reserve, and through growth, Ashfield Reserve. It is their preference to consolidate all usage to Jubilee Reserve. To do so require the aspect of the Reserve currently allocated for Soccer to be freed up for cricket. It was agreed an alternative could be accessing the Cyril Jackson Senior Campus oval as the “overflow” venue.

In discussion with DSR it was agreed that the Fire Brigade Running Track is required to be provided in the new facility and so no discussion was entered into with that group.

Other user groups including personal training and dog obedience do not require infrastructure and therefore were not consulted in this round of consultations.

SURVEY RESULTS

The overall results are:

All Responses				
	Yes	No	No Pref.	Total
On Line	98	33	5	136
Paper Based	64	18	8	90
Total	162	51	13	226
Percentage	71.7	22.6	5.7	100.0

In all, 227 completed surveys were submitted, being 136 on line and 91 paper based survey responses. (Note that two paper based surveys did not answer the preference question, while one response chose both “no” and “no preference”.)

Of the 500 posted out surveys, a total of 71 were returned, equating to a little less than a 15% return rate. The numbers of households who received the survey but completed it on-line is not known.

With approximately 3 in 4 respondents supporting the proposal, the results ran strongly in favour of consideration for the State Football (Soccer) Centre being located on Ashfield Reserve.

Responses from Ashfield Residents				
	Yes	No	No Pref.	Total
On Line	19	9	1	29
Paper Based	15	4	0	19
Total	34	13	1	48
Percentage	70.8	27.1	2.1	

21.1% of all respondents are residents in Ashfield. This rate of response over represents Ashfield in the responses.

Never the less, the result is not dissimilar (approximately 3 out of 4 supporting the proposal) when isolating responses to those received from residents in Ashfield.

It is notable that 33 (24.3%) of website survey respondents were from localities other than the Town.

	Bassendean	Ashfield	Eden Hill	Other	Total
Digital	66	29	8	33	136
Hard Copy	59	19	11	2	91
Total	125	48	19	35	227
Percentage	55.1	21.1	8.4	15.4	100.0

It should be noted that the validity of the survey was questioned as it was claimed to be poorly worded and inadequately explained. It was also noted that in not requiring respondents to mandatorily identify themselves that the results could be skewed by multiple entries.

The DCD is of the view the response rate is adequate to provide a high level of confidence that the outcome reasonably represents the broader community position on the matter.

CONCLUSION

There is generally strong support for the proposal in the community. Even in Ashfield where impact on amenity and lifestyle is likely to be greatest, there remains significant support for the proposal.

All sporting groups likely to be affected by the proposal are supportive or see benefits to them if the project proceeds.

PRINCIPLES

Council may wish to consider principles that are non-negotiable if deciding to provide support for Ashfield Reserve being considered for the State Football (Soccer) Centre.

Such principles could include:

- a) The project cost to be fully met by the State Government;
- b) That both Ashfield Sports Club and Bassendean Caledonian Soccer Club be offered tenancy in the new Administration building at an affordable rate;
- c) The Fire Brigade Running Track be provided in the facility plan;
- d) The District Level Playground be retained on the Reserve;
- e) That the project include any costs associated with renovations to Jubilee Reserve resulting from the project;
- f) That the Town retains a management order for Ashfield Reserve including the leasehold site of the State Football (Soccer) Centre;
- g) A Lease Agreement over the State Football (Soccer) Centre site be entered into with the Town;
- h) Grounds maintenance costs and asset renewal planning be a part of the Lease Agreement negotiations;

- i) Public access and fee for use arrangements to the pitches outside the leasehold area to be managed directly by the Town;
- j) An Ashfield Reserve Advisory Committee of all user groups on the Reserve including but not limited to Soccer Clubs be established;
- k) Capacity to continue to host the Australia Day Celebrations on Ashfield Reserve be retained;
- l) Traffic management, Parking and lighting plans be required to the satisfaction of the Town; and
- m) A community engagement process to be maintained throughout the project.

STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

Local Government Act 1995

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

The State Football (Soccer) Centre may align with the following key themes and strategic objectives of the Corporate Business Plan 2015-2019:

Town planning and built environment

- Foster enhanced public space and street appearance.

Economic wellbeing and prosperity

- Build a strong local business economy to benefit the community;
- Redevelop and revitalise local centres; and,
- Strengthen the Town profile as a tourist destination.

Arts, heritage and culture

- Maintain the rich culture of heritage of the community; and,
- Encourage and support community connections.

Inclusiveness, lifelong learning, health and social wellbeing

- Build a sense of belonging and connectivity in community; and,
- Provide a safe environment.

Leadership and governance

- Strengthen and formalise partnerships.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

There are no financial implications inherent in this report.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION - ITEM 13.2

That:

1. Council notes the community consultation outcomes, where out of a total of 227 responses received, three in four respondents support the Ashfield Reserve being shortlisted for consideration as a potential site for the State Football (Soccer) Centre;
2. The CEO notifies the Department for Sport and Recreation that Council supports Ashfield Reserve being shortlisted for consideration as a potential site for the State Football (Soccer) Centre; and
3. The following principles are conveyed to the Department for Sport and Recreation as non-negotiable by Council to be factored in the Department's feasibility process:
 - n) The project cost to be fully met by the State Government;
 - o) That both Ashfield Sports Club and Bassendean Caledonian Soccer Club be offered tenancy in the new Administration building at an affordable rate;
 - p) The Fire Brigade Running Track be provided in the facility plan;
 - q) The District Level Playground be retained on the Reserve;
 - r) That the project include any costs associated with renovations to Jubilee Reserve resulting from the project;
 - s) That the Town retains a management order for Ashfield Reserve including the leasehold site of the State Football (Soccer) Centre;
 - t) A Lease Agreement over the State Football (Soccer) Centre site be entered into with the Town;
 - u) Grounds maintenance costs and asset renewal planning be a part of the Lease Agreement negotiations;
 - v) Public access and fee for use arrangements to the pitches outside the leasehold area to be managed directly by the Town;
 - w) An Ashfield Reserve Advisory Committee of all user groups on the Reserve including but not limited to Soccer Clubs be established;
 - x) Capacity to continue to host the Australia Day Celebrations on Ashfield Reserve be retained;
 - y) Traffic management, Parking and lighting plans be required to the satisfaction of the Town; and

- z) A community engagement process to be maintained throughout the project.

Voting requirement: Simple majority

6.0 CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

6.1 Strategic Planning Officers - 2016 Workforce Plan (Ref: GOVR/LREGLIA/15 Bob Jarvis, Chief Executive Officer)

This matter is to be considered with members of the public excluded from the Chamber under Clause 5.23 (2) (c) and (d) of the Local Government Act 1995, as the Officer report discusses details of a proposed contract to be entered into.

7.0 CLOSURE