

TOWN of BASSENDEAN

MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING OF ELECTORS

HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, 48 OLD PERTH ROAD,
BASSENDEAN, ON THURSDAY 22 OCTOBER 2015, AT 7.00PM

1.0 DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

The Mayor declared the meeting open, welcomed all those in attendance and acknowledged the past and present traditional owners and custodians of the land on which the meeting was being held.

2.0 ATTENDANCES & APOLOGIES

Present

Councillors

His Worship the Mayor, Cr John Gangell
Cr Mike Lewis, Deputy Mayor
Cr Gerry Pule
Cr Paul Bridges
Cr Robert Brown
Cr Renee McLennan

Officers

Mr Bob Jarvis, Chief Executive Officer
Mr Michael Costarella, Director Corporate Services
Mr Graeme Haggart, Director Community Development
Mr Simon Stewert-Dawkins, Director Operational Services
Mr Brian Reed, Manager Development Services
Mrs Amy Holmes, Minute Secretary

Public

23 members of the public were in attendance.

3.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

3.1 Petition – Bassendean Primary School

A petition was presented to the Ordinary Council Meeting in September 2015, requesting that Council hold a special meeting of electors to discuss the following matters:

- Parking and transport planning and infrastructure at the Bassendean Primary School;
- Alternative options for parking along Whitfield Street and West Road adjacent to the Bassendean Primary School; and
- Traffic management and safe transport options for students at the Bassendean Primary School.

Ms Anne Phillips, 122 Kenny Street, Bassendean

Ms Phillips raised the issues of parking, traffic and safety around the school and advised that the P & C will be making an application for a children's crossing.

Ms Jeanette Maddison 41 Harcourt Street, Bassendean

Ms Maddison asked if Council have any alternatives to the traffic calming device currently being used on West Road.

The CEO advised that the school has been successful in receiving funding for 40km/hr flashing lights to be installed very soon, and has applied for a crossing attendant (warden).

The Director Operational Services advised that the traffic calming devices have been there for a number of years and there are no plans to remove them at this stage. The Town has approached Main Roads on at least two occasions requesting assistance for children to cross the road safely. In the past we have been told that there are not sufficient numbers to meet the criteria.

The CEO commented that as the school had recently undertaken a count of children crossing the road, we would submit that information to Main Roads to see if it meets the criteria.

Mr Jai Wilson, 78C Hamilton Street, Bassendean

Mr Wilson asked if alternative options have been considered.

The Director Operational Services responded that Council has a Local Area Management Plan and that this can be accessed on the Town's website. Zebra crossings require sufficient pedestrian numbers to meet the criteria for Main Roads to install.

Ms Jeannette Maddison, 41 Harcourt Street, Bassendean

Ms Maddison requested that Council consider other options to slow the traffic down on West Road.

Mr Kevin Prior, 15 Bridson Street, Bassendean

Mr Prior raised concern about the speed of traffic on Bridson Street and the safety of children trying to cross the road.

Ms Nonie Jekabsons, 6 Barton Parade, Bassendean

Ms Jekabsons raised the idea of walking buses where parents/volunteers walk with children to school and asked whether this was an initiative that Council could take on to involving all primary schools.

The Mayor responded that the Town could consider engaging with the schools and their P & C associations.

Ms Stacey Molloy, 18 Elder Parade, Bassendean

Ms Molloy commented that St Michael's are very keen on introducing a walking bus and would welcome some leadership and facilitation by the Council.

The Mayor responded that it is something that could potentially be considered by Council's Liveable Town Advisory Committee.

Ms Carolyn Warr, 4 Watson Street, Bassendean

Ms Warr asked if Council are aware of how effective kiss and drive areas are and whether it is something the Council could get involved in and help push along.

The Mayor responded that it is something that would need to be driven by the school. Some schools have volunteers who keep the traffic moving and stop parents from parking in the drop zones.

The CEO commented that the school needs to educate parents to help address parking issues.

The CEO also advised that Council has applied for funding to develop Whitfield Street into a boulevard so that pedestrians and bicycles will have priority over cars.

Mr Jai Wilson, 78C Hamilton Street, Bassendean

Mr Wilson referred to Hillcrest Primary School who have a very successful kiss and ride system and suggested a similar design be implemented on West Road.

Ms Kristy Chester, 7B Harcourt Street, Bassendean

Ms Chester asked where the responsibility lies in terms of street parking and traffic.

The CEO responded that the Town has a responsibility for street parking and restrictions. A kiss and ride system would need to be implemented by the school.

Ms Kylie Turner, 3/78 Hamilton Street, Bassendean

Ms Turner commented that the Town needs to enforce parking restrictions more regularly.

The Mayor responded that the Town would not advocate for a Ranger to be there every morning but there is an opportunity for Rangers to do more random checks.

The Director Operational Services advised that he would arrange for spot checks to be undertaken.

The Director Community Services commented that senior staff at St Michaels school are very proactive in managing the traffic outside their school. Education staff need to be involved in encouraging parents to do the right thing.

Ms Margaret McCulley, 51 West Road, Bassendean

Ms McCulley commented on the removal of the traffic lights on West Road as contributing to the traffic problem.

Ms Carol Seidel, 55 Broadway, Bassendean

Ms Seidel commented that in the past there was a proposal for a traffic warden on West Road but it was knocked back as there wasn't sufficient numbers. More parents would allow their children to walk to school if they were confident their children could cross the road safely.

Mr Kevin Prior, 15 Bridson Street, Bassendean

Mr Prior commented that the road design on Guildford Road needs to be looked at to extend the 40km/hr school zone into Bridson Street.

The Mayor advised that the 40km/hr zones are specifically around the schools. Other local streets are 50km. Main Roads would need to designate a local road as a 40km zone.

Mr Moss Johnson, 6 Barton Parade, Bassendean

Mr Johnson commented that a greenway, incorporating Bridson Street, would provide a secure pedestrian and cycling avenue and alleviate some of the traffic problems.

The CEO advised that the Town has applied for funding to design a bicycle boulevard.

The Director Operational Services commented that the Department of Transport have funding available and the Town has put in an application for Whitfield Street for the design component. The Second phase is to undertake the construction.

Ms Joyce Tasma, 6 Harcourt Street, Bassendean

Ms Tasma suggested Council contact Hawaiian property group to see if they could provide parking for parents to park and walk to school.

Ms Tasma commented that with the high density living and an increase in the number of cars, West Road is a major congestion area near the school, Harcourt Street and the deli.

Ms Edwina Ryan, 39 Harcourt Street, Bassendean

Ms Ryan commented that there are serious traffic hazards near the deli, entrance to the school carpark and entrance to Harcourt Street and no one is responsible for them. Someone from Council needs to observe the traffic in the area and appreciate what is going on. A zebra crossing would seem to be a simple option.

Ms Nonie Jekabsons, 6 Barton Parade, Bassendean

Ms Jekabsons commented that a bicycle/pedestrian boulevard on Whitfield Street would be really good in discouraging people from using cars. There needs to be one way traffic flow around the school and street trees need to be incorporated to calm the traffic.

Ms Anne Phillips, 122 Kenny Street, Bassendean

Ms Phillips asked about the school bus bay on Whitfield Street adjacent to the school.

The Manager Planning Services responded that it is not a public bus bay and would assume the school requested it for school excursions etc.

Mr Geoff Coates, 115, Kenny Street, Bassendean

Mr Coates suggested the Council involve in Travel Smart Programme.

The CEO responded that the Town would contact the Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council and talk to the Travel Smart Officer to seek their input.

Mr Jai Wilson, 78C Hamilton Street, Bassendean

Mr Wilson asked if there are any plans to review the angle parking on Whitfield Street.

The CEO advised that it will be done as part of the design phase for the bicycle boulevard.

Ms Kylie Turner, 3/78 Hamilton Street, Bassendean

Ms Turner suggested the road reserve along Whitfield Street be used for school parking.

The CEO responded that the school has not made a request to Council for parking.

Ms Turner asked what would happen to the end of Bridson Street in the event of a bicycle boulevard.

The CEO responded that theoretically it should be a safer environment for everyone as pedestrian and bicycles would have priority over cars.

Mr Jai Wilson, 78c Hamilton Street, Bassendean

Mr Wilson referred to the angled parking on Hamilton Street outside St Joseph's Church and asked what was the process followed to make this happen and are there any other angled parking areas in the Town.

The Director Operational Services responded that the angled parking on Hamilton Street has been there for a number of years and the question would need to be taken on notice.

The Manager Planning Services responded that the Town recently installed angled parking Old Perth Road by the Wellness clinic.

MOTION 1

MOVED Jai Wilson, Seconded Lachlan Foley, that the staff of the Town of Bassendean, as a matter of priority, undertake all that is necessary to develop and produce a detailed design for angled parking options on Whitfield Street adjacent to the school in the vicinity between Harcourt Street and the southern boundary of the school, so as to replace the existing parallel parking. Such works shall provide design options on all angles available given the relevant Australian Standards and Town policies and retain the path between the school fence and road. Such designs shall also be incorporated into any plans arising from the greenway plan for the street and shall be made publically available.

CARRIED

MOTION 2

MOVED Jeannette Maddison, Seconded Edwina Ryan, that the Council look at alternatives to the current calming devices on West Road and as previously discussed the issues involving the exit and entry to the carpark of the school and the inadequate sized parking bay outside the deli and that Council liaise with Main Roads in relation to the issues of traffic congestion all the way up to the Bassendean Village Shopping Centre.

CARRIED

MOTION 3

MOVED Carol Seidel, Seconded Kylie Turner, that the Council contact Main Roads to consider providing a traffic warden for Bassendean Primary School.

CARRIED

MOTION 4

MOVED Carolyn Warr, Seconded Kristy Chester, that the Council work with Bassendean Primary School to get the existing park and ride working effectively.

CARRIED

MOTION 5

MOVED Stacey Molloy, Seconded Jai Wilson, that the Council help to facilitate a full range of local schools by way of a workshop or other forum to investigate alternative travel options for students including a walking bus and other suitable alternatives to driving.

CARRIED

MOTION 6

MOVED Joyce Tasma, Seconded Margaret McCulley, that the Town of Bassendean gets in contact with Main Roads and request they undertake an assessment of the traffic flow along West Road and surrounding roads.

CARRIED

MOTION 7

MOVED Kylie Turner, Seconded Stacey Molloy, that the Town of Bassendean liaise with the Hawaiian property company about allocating a parking area at the Bassendean Village Shopping Centre for parents to park and walk their children to school.

CARRIED

5.0 CLOSURE

There being no further business, the Mayor declared the meeting closed, the time being 8.15pm.