



STRATEGIC BRIEFING FORUM

HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS,
953 SOUTH COAST HIGHWAY, DENMARK,
ON TUESDAY, 19 JANUARY 2016.

The Council Forum and Briefing session follows the suggested format proposed by the Department of Local Government Operational Guidelines (Number 5 January 2004). The role of such forums is to allow opportunity for elected members and senior officers of the Council to come together outside of the formal meeting process to discuss matters that do not require formal decisions, do not discuss matters on the Ordinary Council Meeting Agenda but to discuss matters that might be conceptual (brain storming etc.), informative (updates on progress with matters) or administrative in nature. For this reason they are normally held 'in committee'. Disclosures of Financial, Impartiality and Proximity interests are still to be recorded and dealt with if they arise.

1. **DECLARATION OF OPENING BY THE PERSON PRESIDING**

10.00am - The Presiding Person opened the Forum.

RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/APPROVED LEAVE OF ABSENCE

MEMBERS:

Cr David Morrell (Shire President) and Presiding Person
Cr Kelli Gillies (Deputy Shire President)
Cr Yasmin Bartlett
Cr Ceinwen Gearon
Cr Jan Lewis
Cr John Sampson
Cr Roger Seeney
Cr Rob Whooley

STAFF:

Cliff Frewing (Chief Executive Officer)
Gilbert Arlandoo (Director of Infrastructure Services)
Kim Dolzadelli (Director of Finance & Administration)
Annette Harbron (Director of Planning & Sustainability)
Gregg Harwood (Director of Community & Regulatory Services)

APOLOGIES:

Nil

ON LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

Cr Dawn Pedro

ABSENT:

Nil

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Nil

2. PRESENTATIONS/DEPUTATIONS

- 10.00am GREAT SOUTHERN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
- Bruce Manning, CEO, Great Southern Development Commission (GSDC)
 - Role of GSDC
 - established as a statutory authority under the Regional Development Commissions Act 1993
 - Responsible to the Minister for Regional Development
 - Purpose – to promote economic development in the southern regions.
 - Great Southern Regional Blueprint
 - Transformational Project Assessment
 - Themes
 - Growing value
 - Access to energy
 - Water for growth
 - Avenues to opportunity (transport)
 - Connected to Great Southern
 - Destination to natural choice
 - Strong communication
 - Recently Funded Projects
 - Denmark Treated Wastewater Scheme (Royalties for Regions \$15m)
 - Breath Film (Royalties for Regions \$1.5m)
 - Other neighbouring local government projects
 - Projects under development include;
 - Tree Top Walk
 - Denmark Agricultural School accommodation
 - William Bay
 - Great Southern Tourism Trails projects
 - South Coast Aquaculture
 - Denmark East Development Precinct
 - 2015/16 Community Chest Fund Applications close 17 March 2016
- 10.30am WILLIAM BAY NATIONAL PARK – DEPT. PARKS & WILDLIFE
- Michael Murphy & Allison Donovan, Dept. of Parks & Wildlife, Frankland District
 - William Bay Denmark tourist infrastructure renewal concept
 - Royalties for Regions funding
 - Program to provide world class visitor facilities
 - Project consistent with previous plans & the Great Southern Regional Blueprint
 - Increased number of visitors to William Bay National Park – now 250,000 per annum
 - Need to develop Business Case for project costing \$8.4m total budget (Shire contribution \$350,000)
 - Works over the next 3 years (dependent upon funding);
 - Sealing roads, toilets & shelters, car parks, trail construction, landscape, dual use paths, public art, Greens

Pool to Elephant Rocks at locations such as Waterfall Beach, Madfish Bay and Mazzaletti Beach

- WOW Trail – integrated / concluded project WOW 1st Stage

- 11.00am WILSON INLET – PROTOCOL REVIEW (*tentative*)
- Brett Ward, Dept. of Water re Status of Review

Brett Ward sent through apologies prior to the meeting advising that he was unable to attend due to an unforeseen circumstance.

- 11.45am WILSON INLET RESTORATION GROUP (WIRG) – WILSON INLET DELTA MAPPING
- John Xanthis, Vice President of WIRG and member of the Denmark Environmental Risk Assessment Working Group (DERAG)
 - Need to remove sand in Inlet channel to improve water flow and create water barrier.
 - 4WD accessing nesting bird island
 - Concern about Water Corporation's proposed new bar opening protocol
 - Concern also about impact falling rain levels required to naturally flush Inlet.
 - Kees Koning
 - Poor exchange of water between Inlet and the Ocean.
 - Channels are being partly infilled with incoming marine, sands
 - Removal of pinch points necessary to facilitate increased water flow.
 - Referred to presentation to Council in 2010 - agreed to remove 10,000m² from eastern channel and 5,000m² from the western channel – but not done
 - Major Issues
 - 2 non openings of Inlet in 5 years
 - If bar not opened
 - Feeding grounds for migrating birds are inundated
 - Some fish species will not breed
 - Little fish recruitment
 - Improving Water Exchange
 - Continue 2010 excavation channel
 - Deeper channel at entrance to Eastern Channel
 - Wider channel
 - Advantages of good water management include;
 - Excavated channel increases seawater exchange
 - Clean Inlet
 - Fish recruitment
 - Increased tourist boats

Outcome:

It was noted that a report was being prepared for the February 2016 meeting for approval to apply for a dredging permit.

3. REPORTS

3.1 Corporate Calendar

Matters for interest from the Corporate Calendar for the next two months.

FEBRUARY

- 9 February - Council Meeting & Dinner
- Statutory Compliance Return to be completed
- Budget Review required - FM Regulations 33
- Commence Budget & Forward Plans Preparation
- Quarterly Staff BBQ
- 20 February – Monthly Information Bulletin published
- 28 February - end of prohibited burning period
- Age Friendly Community Study Review (due 2016)
- Disability Access & Inclusion Plan (DAIP) Review (due 2018)
- Local Laws Review (every 8 years pursuant to section 3.16 of the LGA. Last done April 2008. Due 2016)

MARCH

- 1 March – beginning of restricted burning period
- 7 March – Public Holiday (Labour Day)
- 1 March – Council Meeting & Dinner
- 20 March – Monthly Information Bulletin published
- 22 March – Council Meeting & Dinner
- Advertise Community Financial Assistance Grant (CFAG) & Cultural Development Fund (CDF) rounds
- 25 March – Public Holiday (Good Friday)
- 28 March – Public Holiday (Easter Monday)

Outcomes:

Noted.

3.2 Outstanding Resolutions Discussion

Matters for interest from the Monthly Information Bulletin Status Report (update on progress with Council resolutions).

Outcomes:

Noted.

3.3 Road Markings – South Coast Highway near Springdale Road Intersection

Cr Seeney asked that this matter be raised for discussion and provide further detail.

Outcomes:

Chief Executive Officer thanked Councillor Seeney for the information and advised that a letter would be written to Main Roads WA (MRWA) asking them to review the line markings at this location. Attention was also drawn to the need to extend the 60kph speed restriction further east past the School. The Chief Executive Officer advised this would also be included in the letter to MRWA.

3.4 City of Perth Bill – Request for Support

The City of Subiaco are requesting Council to support its position regarding the State Government's arbitrary decision to excise 3,000 residents from the City of Subiaco. A copy of the letter is attached for the information of Councillors.

Outcomes:

Chief Executive Officer advised that a letter would be written to local politicians in relation to the undemocratic boundary change and seek their support to defeat this part of the City of Perth Bill.

3.5 Councillor Farewell

Council Policy P040131 (Councillor Service & Farewell Policy) states that, *“Upon retirement of office or failure to secure an additional term of office as a continuing Councillor, an official presentation and partners function shall be held to recognise the Councillor’s service to the Council. The reception to include former Councillor(s) and their partner(s) as well as new Councillor(s) and their partner(s).”*

The Shire President has discussed the matter with former Councillor and Shire President, Ross Thornton, who, in liaison with other former Councillors, believes that sometime in February 2016 would be suitable. Councillors to discuss a suitable date, time and venue.

Outcomes:

A Saturday in February suited most elected members – the Chief Executive Officer will liaise with the President to determine a date.

3.6 Councillors and Senior Staff Bus Tour

Councillors have previously discussed the merits of a bus tour and Cr Lewis has asked that the matter be raised once again to determine Councillors thoughts on the matter. Should Councillors agree that such a tour would be beneficial then a day / date could be agreed upon so that the Chief Executive Officer can make the necessary arrangements.

Outcomes:

Preference was given to conducting two tours – one in February as a familiarisation tour which would benefit the new elected members, the Chief Executive Officer and Director of Infrastructure Services followed by a further tour in May as part of the budget process. Tours to be conducted on a non-meeting Tuesday. Chief Executive Officer will liaise with the President to confirm dates.

4. STRATEGIC DISCUSSION

To discuss and formulate philosophies, ideas, strategies and concepts for the development of the local government and district.

4.1 Light Industrial Area / East River Road Bridge

The Chief Executive Officer and the Director of Planning & Sustainability to provide a presentation on the background and current status of the projects.

Outcomes:

The Director Planning & Sustainability provided an overview and update on the work done in relation to the implementation of the Local Planning Strategy which was adopted by Council in October 2011 and by the WAPC in May 2012 after a lengthy community consultation exercise. In particular, reference was made to the progress made in relation to the Industrial land located to the west of McIntosh road.

The Chief Executive Officer and Director then referred to specific matters relating to the Industrial land proposal including:

- *Project consistent with Great Southern Regional Investment Blueprint*
- *Strategy Identified Industrial Area at McIntosh Road and Shire has since purchased land*

- *New Connector Road (indicative alignment) proposed linking Scotsdale Road to Denmark-Mt Barker Road crossing over Denmark River – actual crossing point to be determined*
- *Extensive future residential development on western side of Denmark River*
- *Employment nodes on eastern side of the river (service park, industrial area, Shire, high school, GSIT, Ag School, Albany)*
- *Level of development will result in increasing pressure of Town traffic on the existing bridge*

Rational / Benefits of Strategy

- *No new Industrial Land available*
- *Existing zoned land fully utilised*
- *Need to rezone 'Town' Industrial zoned land to higher use and relocate Council Depot and other businesses*
- *Opportunity to upgrade road system in area*
- *New bridge provides second East-West access should existing town bridge close*
- *Upgraded / new roads will service industrial area, airport and new subdivisions*
- *Minimise traffic in Town and existing bridge*

Funding / Project Manager

- *Funding implications for Shire over number of years with likely major contributions from Government Agencies*
- *Shire has already invested \$596,000 in land acquisition of Industrial land with further land acquisition required*
- *Road works can be funded from future road grants*
- *The cost of bringing public utility services to the industrial land would ordinarily be excessive*
- *Because of the scale of the project and the extent of government funding involved, Landcorp preferred Project Manager as they are able to absorb some of the costs associated with bringing the land to market*

Future actions

Chief Executive Officer advised :

- *A report will be prepared for the February meeting of Council*
- *Work will need to be done in relation to further land acquisition*
- *The exact location of the new bridge will need to be determined*
- *Media releases will be necessary*

5. GENERAL BUSINESS

5.1 Items for potential discussion at subsequent Briefing Forums

No discussion.

Outcomes:

The Chief Executive Officer advised that he had some thoughts on the briefing forums and will be having discussions with the President over the next few weeks.

6. CLOSURE

There being no further business, the Presiding Officer closed the meeting at 3.30pm.