

# Northern Grampians Shire Council

## Stawell Recreation Advisory Group Meeting - Minutes

The meeting held at 6pm on Wednesday 6 November 2019 at Stawell Town Hall Foyer.

Chair: Cr Emerson

To attend: Reg Smith, Ian O'Donnell, John Griffiths, Jess Cass, Kay Dalton, Tony Dark (NGSC)

Apologies: Lynne Jenkinson, Rob Lembo, Scotney Hayter, Chantal Thomas (NGSC), , Michael Brierly (NGSC), Naomi Goode (NGSC)

1. Minutes of the previous meeting: 24 April 2019  
Tabled as received

2. Business arising from the previous meeting:

As per General Business item

3. General Business

Item	TOPIC	Discussion	Action/ Outcome
1.1	North Park Project	<p>Overview of the status of the North Park project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Tender for Construction 2nd August 2019</li><li>• Power Upgrade, location and cost</li><li>• Council Meeting to be held on 11 November 2019 to award or not award construction contract.</li></ul>	<p><b>Next steps and Actions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Construction Contract</b> pending Council decision which will take place at the council meeting on Monday and the group will be notified of the outcome. Members are welcome to attend council meetings. We do not have a timeline but more will be known after Monday.</li><li>• <b>Governance</b> arrangements for user groups to be worked through.</li><li>• <b>Contribution</b> agreement for Swifts to be prepared and executed.</li><li>• <b>Site Plan - Construction site and access.</b> Kaye had concerns about how the netball courts would be impacted and, as per the April advisory group meeting, the builders will have a delineated area that will be fenced and the courts will not be impacted as it will only be parking and certain site access that will be impacted during construction. We also discussed the future of the existing clubrooms and also the Amateur Athletic Club buildings. Cr Emerson stated that Council had not made a decision about the future of them and this would be an item for discussion going forward. Reg stated that the CFA would be interested in discussing options for the football clubrooms as they are expecting to hold an event in a few years time. Jess explained that the current Amateur Athletic Club members are not looking to move to the new clubrooms at this stage as there is a lot of history in the existing rooms. Tony Dark explained that if the project proceeds next week that he asked the users to have an open mind to discuss the future of the North Park precinct and the new building and how all clubs can take advantage of the new investment into a state of the art facility. The building will have new change rooms and amenities, social space and has an area for memorabilia for multiple clubs and all clubs need a positive and open</li></ul>

			<p>approach to discussions about what is the best for all involved going forward. Tony Dark also mentioned that council is keen to revisit the whole of North Park site as there are many changes to use since the last plan in 2011. This review would enable current users to look at how the whole of North Park precinct will look and interact including access, buildings and current user needs. This review includes how parking and multiple use can be best managed during the busy periods of participation but the key is open and positive input and an understanding that change can take time to understand and can be a good thing if the right approach and attitude is taken.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Budget</b> finalisation is to be signed off by Council. Cr Emerson explained that the project construction costs have been estimated to exceed the original budget substantially and council will make the decision on Monday of how the shortfall will be covered if the project proceeds. Cr Emerson also advised that council looked at ways to cut costs and this will continue, if the contract is awarded on Monday, with the input from the preferred builder to ensure we look at all options for the project. Tony Dark explained that whilst the original Quantity Surveyor estimates were above the current project tender expectations the escalation is not isolated to the North Park project based on discussions with Sport &amp; Recreation Victoria (SRV). SRV advised that many projects have been costed higher due to varying reasons. Due to the cost escalation for the project there will be unfunded projects such as storage sheds, landscaping and furnishings so it was discussed that the users may need to look at ways to contribute by way of extra cash or in kind to finish the project.</li> <li>• <b>Updates</b> - Group will be advised of any changes to the project timeline, etc.</li> <li>• <b>Communication plan</b> - How to best communicate throughout this process? It was discussed that a letter drop, media releases, email, face to face with a flyer explaining process and maybe an information night to go over the extent and expectations of the project could all be explored for the communication plan. This would be implemented by council and the group would be invited to provide input.</li> </ul>
1.2	<p><b>North Park Multipurpose Precinct Development Plan 2011</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Netball Court Redevelopment - Update</li> </ul> <p>Total projects over \$1M completed since 2011 include - Synthetic Running Track, Oval Lighting, Netball Courts, Tennis courts &amp; lighting, tracks, pathways and flood mitigation dams.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Total cost for the project has escalated to over \$600k for 2 courts which is double the original estimations. This is due to the results of soil tests and the need for higher standard of engineering for a concrete court.</li> <li>• Council staff working on developing the project options and application.</li> <li>• Kaye expressed concerns with the state of the courts at the moment and that they are not using all the courts which is impacting the sport. They have approx 60 juniors utilising the courts and as some courts are unusable there is pressure on the club as parents do not want to be there for extended periods as the programming period for the games is extended to cater. They have the unskilled players using court no 1 as they are assessed as at less risk as they are just learning the game therefore are less</li> </ul>

			<p>impacted by the condition of the court. Kaye stated that they need a minimum of 4 courts required for them and also the schools etc. Tony Explained that Council has had the courts assessed by 2MH Consulting who are technical consultants for netball Victoria and we will continue to monitor the courts for safety, risk and usability.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concern about impact on courts whilst building being completed.</li> </ul> <p><b>Action:</b> Council developing project scope, costings, court design and funding strategies.</p>
1.3	<b>Stawell Parks Master Plan</b>	<p>Endorsed by Council March 2019</p> <p>Master Plan booklet - handed out</p> <p>Outcomes and projects inclusion in future Council budget decisions including opportunistic funding applications</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding application - Victorian Fishing Authority \$100k Fishing Infrastructure Program - Fishing Platform for Cato Lake - Unsuccessful</li> <li>• Funding application - Heritage Victoria Living Heritage Grants - \$200k Ticket boxes restoration Central Park - No co contribution required and we were successful in obtaining \$80k towards this project.</li> <li>• Future recreation projects subject to Council confirmation by June 2019 and beyond include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Waites Robson site consultation and project development. The recent consultation had an outcome that Council has decided that the site is not suitable for a skate park. More work will be done in relation to the use and the group would like to be involved in this by way of input. Cr Emerson mentioned that there is some support to look at the reuse of a fountain in this space but no formal decisions have been made.</li> <li>2. Central Park hard surface surrounds to be done in this current budget period similar works to previous years.</li> <li>3. Central Park Clubroom Concept designs (includes netball facilities also targeted to align with 2021/22 netball strategy)</li> </ol> </li> </ul> <p><b>Action:</b> Updates and inclusion in consultation for relevant projects as required.</p>
1.4	<b>Advisory Group Membership</b>	Nominations for the next term	<p>Implement the process to extend the term of the Advisory Group as all attendees are happy to be ongoing in their roles within the group.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Tony to work through the requirements for extending the role of the advisory group.</p>

**Other discussed:**

No Club or individual updates other than the details mentioned above.

Meeting stopped at

3. Wrap Up: *[Confirmation of task allocation]*

4. Close: 7.15pm