

Northern Grampians Shire Council

Stawell Recreation Advisory Group Meeting - Minutes

The meeting was held at **6.00pm** on 24 **February 2021** via **virtual Microsoft Teams meeting**.

Chair: Cr Emerson

Present: Cr Emerson, Reg Smith, Kay Dalton, Ian O'Donnell, Lynne Jenkinson, Tony Dark (NGSC)

Apologies: Nathan Baker, John Griffiths, Rob Lembo, Scotney Hayter, Zander McDougall (NGSC)

1. Minutes of the previous meeting: 17 November 2020

Motion moved that they were true and correct Lynne Jenkinson and seconded Reg Smith

2. Business arising from the previous meeting:

User Fees – Accumulated Funds – Clubs contacted and Tony is waiting on some outstanding proposals and invoices.

3. General Business

Item	TOPIC	Discussion	Action/ Outcome
1.1	North Park - New Multipurpose Clubrooms	<p>1. Timelines and works – Tony advised that BLR Construction would handover Friday 26/2 (previously 15/2) to Council following a full cleanup of the facility. The group were advised the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gas company is to connect gas very soon.• Goal posts are now installed• Tables and chairs have been delivered to the site.• Sheds arrived and to be installed.• Covid Plan is to be created for the facility.• Planned availability for user groups – Mid March. Agreement to be finalised by then to ensure all stakeholders responsibilities are in order.• Official opening would be targeted for Saturday 17 April for Swifts home game. This will depend on the grant acquittal, council approval and the availability of the relevant Ministers of government.	<p>Action: Cr Emerson would report to Council the outcome of the vote for the terracing project.</p>

		<p>A key decision or recommendation from the group was required for the terracing of the front of the building to the oval design. Cr Emerson explained the two options explained below:</p> <p>Option 1: The design of a simple construction to complete some form work for access and drainage and then level out with some garden beds and grassed area. This option would allow for a smaller budget and then if possible finish off later if possible. Has a fear that if we spend all the money now then we don't have any for things that go wrong.</p> <p>Option 2: The design presented to the group was the full design which was the complete tiered seating and landscaping which is the more expensive option. This would complete the redevelopment now.</p> <p>There was considerable discussion and around the best use of the money, the timing of the works, the end result for the opening of the facility, the fear of other cost items that may come up after using the facility and the concern of not finishing the development now. The costs was discussed but was explained as being confidential and Cr Emerson asked for a vote which resulted in a 3 to 2 vote to recommend proceeding to complete the full construction (option 2).</p>	
1.2	North Park Skate Park	<p>Concept designs tabled and an overview of the process of consultation was explained by Tony Dark including the facility is a regional size, several sessions for community feedback were undertaken, the project is a part of Council's 10 year capital program and would require funding to deliver. Cr Emerson suggested anyone provide feedback over the next weeks or months but the consensus from the group was that the overall design looked very good and relevant to the space and fit for purpose.</p>	Action: Nil
1.3	Storm Damage	<p>Tony Dark provided some feedback on the recent damage caused by storm Thursday 11 February where some cars, running track and netball court were damaged from the freak winds. It was expected that insurance companies would cover the cost of damage were applicable.</p>	Action: Nil
1.4	North Park Netball Courts	<p>The 3 court design was tabled for discussion. The design was completed by 2MH Consulting who provide advice to Netball Victoria. The three courts were confirmed by the group as the preferred minimum required to cater for all netball competitions including Horsham District League club Swifts and Stawell Interchurch Association. The courts also catered for schools and other local clubs who require the facilities for training. Consultation was conducted with all groups and letters of support for the current Victorian Stimulus grant application has been received. The new netball courts would provide a safer environment for all participants being closer to the clubrooms for safer pedestrian access to facilities, provide the north/south aspect for playing and would have compliant lighting and infrastructure. The project aligns with Council's netball strategy and the group confirmed their understanding of the</p>	Action: Tony to provide the minutes to our Grants officer for the funding application.

		project and the importance of the facilities given the current state of the courts and provide their full support for the current grant and future grant opportunities.	
1.5	North Park Soccer Lighting Project	The design of lighting project was tabled for discussion to support the World Game Application to provide lighting for the soccer pitch and athletics track. The project is a part of Council's 10 year capital program to enable the Stawell Pioneers Soccer Club to be able to train under satisfactory lights. The club currently uses the car park lights which only provide small lighting to one corner of the pitch. New lighting will enable the whole pitch to be used and provide a safer environment for participants. It was discussed that soccer is growing and it is mainly due to the sport providing opportunities for the multicultural community and female athletes that are increasing in numbers in our community. The project was fully supported by the group.	Action: Tony to provide the minutes to our Grants officer for the funding application.
1.6	North Park Masterplan	Masterplan update was provided to advise that with the activity and projects being undertaken and considered for the reserve that the previous precinct plan needed to be review and updated. The group understood the need for the review and were advised that they would be a key party to the review process.	Action: Nil
1.7	Stawell Parks Precinct Plan - Outcomes and Actions	<p>Project update relating to the precinct as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Central Park Fencing – Delayed due to Heritage regulations and non approval of black chainmesh therefore other options are to be considered. Feedback from the group suggested that you needs to see through to the reserve and it is great to be opened up similar to what happened with the previous hedge removal. The group recommend that the current gal mesh is suitable and if a picket fence type option for the front gates to ticket boxes was to be a consideration then they would like to see photos and example before anything progressed further. Also Haitz Lane needs to be looked at as it currently has corrugated iron fencing so the residents need to be consulted for any change. ● Portable grandstands – 6 have been completed and the final two will be completed by Easter 2021. ● Waites Robson – Project deferred until future date due to other projects delivered as a part of Council's funded project delivery. ● Concept design project for female friendly change rooms and second netball court at Central Park – Council. 2MH Consulting will deliver the concept design including consultation with users. A session was held 23 November 12pm for those that could attend. Concepts being drafted and will be presented when available for input. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Action: Tony to provide the feedback to Infrastructure department about the fencing project. 2. Action: Tony to provide the concepts to the group when available for input.
1.8	User Fees 2020/21	<p>2019/20 - Fees waived due to Covid impacts.</p> <p>Group members advised it is hard to fundraise, may be a stop start season therefore opportunities to raise revenue will be critically impacted by the ongoing management of covid restrictions and regulations. All clubs have the challenge of re starting their sports, engaging volunteers and participants which will put pressure on their operations and fundraising opportunities.</p> <p>Recommendations of waiver of current year 2020/21 totaling approximately \$11,000 support by the group.</p>	Action: Tony to submit a recommendation to Council for waiver of user fees for the 2020/21 year

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Other discussed:

Cr Emerson provided some information about the Stawell Gift and the club will make a final decision on 5 March about its event this year. There are a few options of how it may be managed in 2021 and they remain positive about this years event.

Reg Smith advised that the fire brigade have written to Council about their interest in the old football clubrooms and still keen to take on the building. Cr Emerson said it was looking reasonably positive but Council will need to make a decision very soon and they will visit the premises to inspect.

Cr Emerson advised that there may be a need for more regular meetings with short notice given there is a lot of activity happening and the major opening of NP clubrooms.

4. Close time: 6.56pm