

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY SUB-COMMITTEE

Meeting held in the Conference Room, Operational Services Area, Level One of Civic Centre, 10 Watson Terrace, Mount Gambier, on Tuesday 1st December 2015 at 7:30 a.m.

MINUTES

PRESENT: Cr P Richardson (Presiding Member)
Crs D Mutton, I Von Stanke and S Mezinec

COUNCIL OFFICERS: Daryl Sexton, Director - Operational Services
Aaron Izzard, Environmental Sustainability Officer
Sarah Moretti, Administration Officer - Operational Services

APOLOGIES: Nil

COUNCIL MEMBERS

AS OBSERVERS: Nil

WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE BOANDIK PEOPLES AS THE TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF THE LAND WHERE WE MEET TODAY. WE RESPECT THEIR SPIRITUAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE LAND AND RECOGNISE THE DEEP FEELINGS OF ATTACHMENT OUR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES HAVE WITH THIS LAND.

MINUTES: Cr Mutton moved that the minutes of the previous meeting held on Tuesday, 3rd November 2015 be taken as read and confirmed.

Cr Mezinec seconded

Carried

QUESTIONS: (a) With Notice - nil submitted.
(b) Without Notice - nil received.

1. GOVERNANCE - Committees - Election of Environmental Sustainability Sub-Committee Presiding Member - Ref. AF11/858

Goal: Governance

Strategic Objective: (i) Demonstrate innovative and responsible organisational governance

The Presiding Member reported:

- (a) At its meeting on 17th March, 2015 Council confirmed the 1 year appointment of Cr Richardson as Environmental Sustainability Sub-Committee Presiding Member from 24th February 2015.
- (b) In preparation for the expiry of the 1 year appointment term the Environmental Sustainability Sub-Committee and Council may now consider the appointment of a Presiding Member for the period from 2nd February 2016.

The election of Presiding Member is by the Committee from amongst its own number.

- (c) The following election process is summarised from Council's C410 Conduct of Meetings Policy:

"If only one nomination is received then that Member is to be declared Corporate and Community Services Presiding Member.

Where more than one nomination is received a secret ballot shall be conducted forthwith without debate. Resolutions will be passed to endorse the voting process and appoint the Chief Executive Officer (or any other Senior Officer present at the meeting) as Returning Officer to declare the result and draw lots (if/as necessary).

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- *Any Member present at the meeting may be nominated.*
- *A Member not in his or her seat at the meeting does not vote.*
- *The candidate with the highest number of votes (or where two or more candidates receive the equal highest number of votes to first name drawn in the lot) shall be declared the Corporate and Community Services Presiding Member.”*

There is no Conflict of Interest whereby a nominated candidate votes for themselves.

- (d) The Environmental Sustainability Sub-Committee may now accept nominations (and conduct a ballot - if necessary) to determine the Presiding Member from 2nd February 2016, or otherwise seek nominations for presentation to a subsequent meeting.
- (e) Environmental Sustainability Sub-Committee meetings from February 2016 will continue to be scheduled monthly on the same days/times as in 2015.

Cr Von Stanke moved it be recommended:

- (a) **The report be received;**
- (b) **the above process to appoint the Presiding Member for the Environmental Sustainability Sub-Committee be adopted.**

Cr Mutton seconded

Carried

2. GOVERNANCE - Committees - Environmental Sustainability Sub-Committee - Call for Nominations - Ref. AF11/858

Goal: Governance

Strategic Objective: (i) Demonstrate innovative and responsible organisational governance

- (a) The Director - Operational Services called for nominations for the position of Presiding Member for the Environmental Sustainability Sub-Committee;
- (b) The following nominations were received:

Cr Mutton nominated Cr Von Stanke to be Environmental Sustainability Sub-Committee Presiding Member.

- (c) The Returning Officer declared Cr Von Stanke be elected to the position of Presiding Member for the Environmental Sustainability Sub-Committee on and from 2nd February 2016.

3. GOVERNANCE - Environmental Sustainability Sub-Committee - January 2016 Meeting Arrangements - Ref. AF11/2602

Goal: Governance

Strategic Objective: (i) Demonstrate innovative and responsive organisational governance

Cr Von Stanke moved it be recommended:

- (a) **The Environmental Sustainability Sub-Committee scheduled for January 2016 be cancelled.**

Cr Mutton seconded

Carried

4. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT - Community Consultation - Environmental Protection (Air Quality) Policy 2016 Impact Report - Ref. AF15/257

Goal: Environment

Strategic Objective: (i) Plan and implement infrastructure to protect and enhance the natural and built environment, including in response to climate change influences
(ii) Support initiatives that value and preserve our unique environment and contribute to environmental sustainability

The Presiding Member reported:

- (a) Good quality air is vital to the health of our community and the natural environment. Effective regulation of air pollution is essential to ensuring South Australians are safe from air pollution. Recent scientific research has drawn strong links between air pollution and adverse health impacts, particularly in susceptible parts of the community which include children, the elderly and sick.
- (b) The draft Environment Protection (Air Quality) Policy 2016, proposed by the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA), is the result of an extensive review of the legislation and policies used in the regulation and management of South Australia's air quality. This policy proposal has been opened to public consultation until 5pm, Friday 15th January 2016.

A copy of the draft is attached for your reference.

- (c) The draft proposes several changes to the existing regulations which will have an impact on the residents of Mount Gambier. These changes relate to outdoor burning within residential areas of the city and the sale, installation and interference of solid fuel heaters as well as prevention of excessive smoke.
- (d) Division 3 – Burning offences, outlines the proposal that within a council area burning in the open is generally not permitted. Exceptions to this include activities such as bushfire prevention, disposal of agricultural waste, preparation of food and beverages, for comfort, recreational purposes (such as scouting) and in exempted council areas.
- (e) Councils are given the opportunity to make a declaration to opt out of this ban, however specific conditions must be met and burning in the open of matter within 200 metres of residential premises should be avoided.
- (f) This change to banning outdoor burning will have an impact on the residents of Mount Gambier. Residents living within residential areas of the city will only be able to burn outdoors under the prescribed activities and anything beyond these activities is considered a Category B offence under the EPA Act.
- (g) Division 4- Solid fuel heaters, outlines the proposal around changing regulations in the sale, installation and interference of solid fuel heaters. Any solid fuel heater sold and installed must be marked in accordance with an approved standard and any interference with heaters meeting the standard is not permitted. In addition, owners of solid fuel heaters should not cause excessive smoke to be emitted. This division relates to new heaters and existing solid fuel heaters are not considered in this policy.
- (h) Following the public consultation in April/May 2015, and the Members informal workshop; Outdoor Burning, held on Monday 3rd of August, 2015, a final decision on outdoor burning is pending.
- (i) Council has three options with regards to the public consultation for the draft Environment Protection (Air Quality) Policy 2016.

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1. Council can support this policy, due to the impact it will have on improving the community's health and local environment, and provide supportive feedback as part of the public consultation.
2. Council can note the policy and not form an opinion on the subject or provide any feedback.
3. Council can object to parts of the policy or object to the policy as a whole and provide comments and amendments as part of the public consultation.

Cr Mezinec moved it be recommended:

- (a) **The report be received;**
- (b) **Council support this policy, due to the impact it will have on improving the community's health and local environment, and provide supportive feedback as part of the public consultation.**

Cr Richardson seconded

TIED VOTE

This Item has now been referred to the Operational Services Committee.

5. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT - Keep South Australia Beautiful KESAB Sustainable Communities Awards 2015 - AF11/396

Goal: Environment

- Strategic Objective:*
- (i) *Plan and implement infrastructure to protect and enhance the natural and built environment, including in response to climate change influences*
 - (ii) *Support initiatives that value and preserve our unique environment and contribute to environmental sustainability*

The Presiding Member reported:

- (a) At the 2015 KESAB Sustainable Communities Awards ceremony on Friday the 13th of November, Mount Gambier added more awards to its already impressive collection. The City of Mount Gambier won the Best Large Town Award.
- (b) The City of Mount Gambier won this award for the many works and projects that have happened in the past 12 months, some examples include:
 - Old Hospital demolition redevelopment
 - Blue Lake pedestrian solar lighting project
 - Ongoing works to redevelop the railway lands.
 - Continuing work of the Youth Advisory Group.
 - Waste and recycling education activities.
- (c) Other awards won by Mount Gambier:
 - Environmental Sustainability – in recognition of the Blue Lake Solar lighting project; which has enabled greater community usage of this iconic site, whilst minimising the environmental impact.
 - Litter Prevention, Waste Management and Resource Recovery – in recognition of the outstanding commitment to recycling and reuse of materials during the Old Hospital Demolition Redevelopment project.
 - Leadership & Youth – to the City of Mount Gambier Youth Advisory Group for their Youth Week activities and in particular the inclusion of a public youth forum 'Let's

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Talk About Sex(uality)', providing a safe place to talk about sexual diversity and young people.

- Judges Commendation – to the City of Mount Gambier Youth Advisory Group for their many years of outstanding commitment to engaging and empowering the youth of Mount Gambier.
- Outstanding Participation by a School – to Tenison Woods College for their continual contribution to sustainability and education.

Cr Von Stanke moved it be recommended:

- (a) **The report be received;**

Cr Mutton seconded

Carried

6. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT - Environmental Sustainability Sub-Committee - Reports for Information - Ref. AF12/377

The Presiding Member reported:

- (a) Environmental Sustainability Program 2015 - Project Progress

The current table outlining projects for 2015 is attached to the agenda for Members information.

Cr Von Stanke moved it be recommended:

- (a) **The report be received;**
- (b) **item (a) as above be received and noted for information.**

Cr Meziniec seconded

Carried

MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE - Nil

The meeting closed at 7:56 a.m.

CONFIRMED THIS

DAY OF

2015.

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PRESIDING MEMBER

01 December 2015
AF12/377
SM