

Minutes

SPORTS AND FACILITIES REFERENCE GROUP

HELD AT 5.15 PM ON TUESDAY 25 FEBRUARY 2020



PRESENT	
Cr J Rimmer (Chair)	Cr C Walters
Cr John Dorahy	Mrs Kerry Hunt (Director Community Services)
Mr Keith Wallace (Office of Sport),	Mr John Armstrong (Illawarra Academy Of Sport)
Mr Stuart Bridges (Cricket)	Mr Peter Woods (Rugby Union)
Mr Dave Allen (Tennis)	Mr Bruce Whalan (Football)
Mr Garry Bull (Hockey),	
IN ATTENDANCE	
Mr Mark Bond Recreation Services Manager, Wollongong City Council	Mr Steve Maidment Recreation & Open Space Project Officer Wollongong City Council

1. **WELCOME & ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY** – Presented by Cr Rimmer

2. **APOLOGIES** – Apologies were received and accepted on behalf of Ms Lucielle Power Manager Property and Recreation (Acting) Wollongong City Council, Ms Dianne Elvy (Netball), Mr Phil Frkovic (Athletics), Mr Matt Graham (AFL), Mr Ron Cooper (Baseball) and Mr Rob Summers (Touch);

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – Nil,

4. **ADOPTION OF Notes** – Due to insufficient attendees to form the required quorum (half the representatives plus one) the minutes of 25TH November 2019 were noted.

Recommendation: Endorsed by B Whalan, seconded D Allen.

5. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

It was noted that the Smoke Free Policy be forward to all members.

Recommendation: SM to ensure information is sent.

6. **PRESENTATION – JEREMY WILSHIRE** Destination Wollongong

Jeremy provide a detail outline of the upcoming sporting event successfully secured by the City (Attachment A). JS suggested that we need to look outside the box when reviewing what our established facilities can be used for, noting several suggestions. An informative conversation followed in relation to several facilities and sequencing of events and how important these are to the successful bidding and attracting events to the city and portraying the image of our region. The issue of gender

equitable facilities was debated with MB committing to provide a presentation at the next S&FRG meeting on this subject.

Cr Rimmer shared the notice of motion raised on the floor of Council imploring the State Government to act immediately with the failure of the Wollongong Entertainment Centres Roof, both CRs Dorahy and Walters spoke on the matter echoing the need for action by the State Government.

Recommendation: Information be received, Jeremy thanked for his informative presentation and MB to present to next S&FRG on facility development.

7. DRAINAGE

Cr Dorahy raised the importance of both drainage and irrigation to our sporting grounds given the recent challenging climatic periods we have experienced. A discussion followed on recent learnings of these particular works, how Council identify sites and what is in the current capital program as well as supported via the Sports Grant program.

It was noted that Webb Park is identified for construction in 20/21 with \$80,000 allocated and Lakelands Oval is identified for construction in 22/23 with \$100,000 allocated. In addition, Bulli Park and Unanderra Parks have allocated funding via the Sports Grants program.

Recommendation: Information be received.

8. CRINGILA HILLS MASTERPLAN – Mark Bond WCC

MB gave an overview of the project noting that consultation had closed on the 31 January 2020 with a briefing session scheduled for Monday 2 March 2020 and a report to Council on the 16 March 2020. MB indicated that there was some great feedback from residents, local school and the broader community involved in mountain biking, that all added value to the final outcome. It was also noted that this will be one of the largest parcels of land that Council has developed for recreational purposes.

Recommendation: Information be received.

9. REVIEW OF SPORTS GRANT PROGRAM AND PROPOSED CALENDAR

SM provided an overview of the historical program for running the Sports Grant program, noting the recent changes with funds now being made available once all documentation is completed. SM proposed to open the Sports grants application in late April, with submissions being received by Council on the 10 June 2020 and presented to the S&FRG on the 4 August 2020. A conversation followed in relation to the process with some members noting the arduous task of completing the application but supported it rigorously to ensure transparency. All members were supportive of the recommendation.

Recommendation: Proposed dates supported, SM to send out information packs to members.

10. General Business

- John Armstrong spoke passionately about the urgency and need to enact any strategies to ensure that we as a local government and as a broader region, capitalise on any legacies projects as a result of the 2022 Road Cycling Championships, noting the unique opportunity we had in front of us.
All Councillors and Kerry Hunt spoke about the complexities of event and what we as an organisation, and more importantly, as a Region are doing to ensure that can accommodate the expected 300,000 visitors to the region and that their experience of where we are in the world and what we have to offer is impressionable as well as building the regional as a destination for other events. Sporting groups were encouraged to consider the significant impact when developing their competition draw with the potential of having hiatus while the event is being conducted.
KH indicated that she would provide an update to the S&FRG at a future meeting.
- Gary Bull indicated that he had stood down as President of Hockey but remains the President of the both facilities and will remain as the representative on the S&FRG.
- Keith Wallace offered to provide a presentation at the next S&FRG on the recent review of the Office of Sports Strategy Plan and the Steering Group for the regional Activation plan

Recommendation: Information received, and all parties thanked for their participation.

Actions coming from the meeting.

1. SM to circulate the adopted Notes, Sports grant calendar and Smoke Free Recreation areas Policy.
2. MB to present at next S&FRG meeting on facilities development
3. KW to present at the next S&FRG on the recent review of the Office of Sport

The meeting concluded at 6.41 pm.

Next meeting set for

Tuesday 28th April 2020 5.15pm
Tuesday 30th June 2020 5.15pm
Tuesday 4th August 2020 5.15pm
Tuesday 19th October 2020 5.15pm
Tuesday 15th December 2020 5.15pm

NOTE 28 APRIL 2020 MEETING DEFERRED TO 16 JUNE 2020