

Minutes

SPORTS AND FACILITIES REFERENCE GROUP

HELD VIA SKYPE AT 5.15 PM ON TUESDAY 16 JUNE 2020

PRESENT	
Cr J Rimmer (Chair)	Cr C Walters
Cr John Dorahy	Ms Lucielle Power Manager Property & Recreation
Mr Rob Summers (Touch)	Mr Keith Wallace (Office of Sport)
Mr Stuart Bridges (Cricket)	Mr John Armstrong (Illawarra Academy Of Sport)
Mr Dave Allen (Tennis)	Mr Matt Graham (AFL),
Mr Garry Bull (Hockey),	Mr Bruce Whalan (Football)
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 Mrs Kerry Hunt (Director Community Services), Ms Dianne Elvy (Netball), Mr Phil Frkovic (Athletics), Mr Ron Cooper (Baseball) and Mr Peter Woods (Rugby Union)
- 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – Nil,
- 4. ADOPTION OF Notes** –
Recommendation: Endorsed by B Whalan, seconded D Allen.
- 5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

Nil.
- 6. PRESENTATION – CURRENT PROJECTS 2019/20 S Maidment**

Steve Maidment provide a detail power point presentation of all the operational and capital projects undertaken in the recreational area in the 2019/20 financial year (attached).

The presentation highlighted the construction of 2 new amenities buildings at Wisemans and Webb Parks (approximately \$1.8m), 4 sport lighting projects(\$1.27m), outdoor exercise equipment (\$200k), storage facilities (\$316K) all funded from the Capital works program, as well as the projects funded via the Sports grant program totalling \$700k with Council contributing approximately \$370k from the Sports reserve.

Recommendation: Information be received.

7. RETURN TO SPORTS - Training and competition – Mark Bond & Matt Graham NSW ACT AFL

Mark Bond provided an overview on the current COVID-19 restrictions, Health Orders and the challenges faced in managing expectations from a Council perspective.

Matt Graham provided a very detailed account of how AFL were managing the impacts of COVID as a business and as a sporting club. Matt highlighted the direct impacts on staffing level, the pending restructure coming out of the pandemic and the support for the clubs such as webinars and focusing on the wellbeing of players moving forward.

Matt provided information on the reduction of their affiliate's fees, insurances and a partnership with a mental health provider for the next 12 months, Matt's closing comments well reflected the sentiment of all noting "it's going to be different".

Cr J Dorahy commented on the mental health issues noting that programs "outside the locker room" being a valuable resource for clubs, the ongoing conversation focused on clubs remaining flexible, encouraging as many youth and adults to participate in a modified season with Cr Rimmer noting that there were significant challenges ahead for all and wished everyone the best of luck.

Recommendation: Information be received, and Matt be thanked for his presentation.

General Business

- Keith Wallace noted the latest press release from the OOS noting the grants and other funding available to assist clubs moving forward.
- Mark Bond requested that COVID plans be sent to Council and this be managed via the Associations.
- Gary Bull indicated that he had sent in Hockey's COVID plan and was waiting approval, noting the challenges in managing various sports at a facility.
- Rob Summers noted a revised competition of 6 weeks for Touch.

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

Actions coming from the meeting.

The meeting concluded at 6.41 pm.

Tuesday 19th October 2020 5.15pm

Tuesday 15th December 2020 5.15pm