

DRAFT

MINUTES – 2 FEBRUARY 2016



PORT STEPHENS COUNCIL

Minutes of Ordinary meeting of the Port Stephens Council held in the Council Chambers, Raymond Terrace on – 2 February 2016, commencing at 5.48pm.

PRESENT:

Mayor B MacKenzie, Councillors G. Dingle, C. Doohan, S. Dover, K. Jordan, P. Kafer, P. Le Mottee, J Nell, S. Tucker, General Manager, Corporate Services Group Manager, Facilities and Services Group Manager, Development Services Group Manager and Governance Manager.

005	Councillor Steve Tucker Councillor Chris Doohan It was resolved that the apology from Cr John Morello be received and noted.
	There was no Declaration of Interest received.

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SUBJECT

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MAYORAL MINUTES

MAYORAL MINUTE**ITEM NO. 1****FILE NO: 16/264057
RM8 REF NO: PSC2015-03912****AUSTRALIA DAY 2016**

THAT COUNCIL:

- 1) Recognise and thank those community members and groups involved with the planning and successful delivery of Australia Day events across Port Stephens in 2016.
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**EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 2 FEBRUARY 2016
MOTION**

006	Councillor Paul Le Mottee Councillor Ken Jordan It was resolved that the Mayoral Minute be dealt with at the Extra-Ordinary Council meeting.
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**EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 2 FEBRUARY 2016
MOTION**

007	Mayor Bruce MacKenzie It was resolved that Council recognise and thank those community members and groups involved with the planning and successful delivery of Australia Day events across Port Stephens in 2016.
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BACKGROUND

The purpose of this report is to recommend that Council formally thank those community members and groups involved in the planning and delivery of Council-supported Australia Day events in Raymond Terrace, Nelson Bay and Lemon Tree Passage on 26 January.

The delivery of Australia Day celebrations, citizenship ceremonies, and the announcement of community award winners is a responsibility Council shares with its community. Each year, countless hundreds of hours are contributed by volunteers, working alongside staff to deliver events that reflect the community spirit of Port Stephens. Often this work goes without due praise or thanks and it is rarely sought by those volunteers. It is nonetheless important to recognise a job well done.

The three events were planned under the auspices of the Port Stephens Australia Day 355c coordinating committee, which is chaired by Cr Sally Dover with colleagues Cr Ken Jordan and Cr Steve Tucker, as well as representatives of the various organising groups. These groups in 2016 included the Nelson Bay Australia Day sub-committee, the Rotary Club of Raymond Terrace and the Lions Club of the Tilligerry Peninsula.

In addition, Council also acknowledges the valuable input provided to these groups by a myriad of other individuals and service groups, all of which work tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure the day is as successful as possible. This includes the Rotary Club of Nelson Bay, the Freemasons of Nelson Bay, the Lions Club of Raymond Terrace and the organisers of the Raymond Terrace Community Markets. This list is by no means exhaustive however all input, no matter how small, is acknowledged with thanks.

We also recognise those organisations which support these events through the provision of sponsorship. These organisations clearly see the value of supporting community events.

NCC AND PSC MERGER PROPOSAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no implications for the proposed merger related to this recommendation.

COUNCIL REPORTS

ITEM NO. 1

**FILE NO: 16/250454
RM8 REF NO: PSC2016-00031**

BOOMERANG PARK DRAFT PLAN OF MANAGEMENT

REPORT OF: JASON LINNANE - GROUP MANAGER FACILITIES AND SERVICES
GROUP: FACILITIES & SERVICES

RECOMMENDATION IS THAT COUNCIL:

- 1) Place the Boomerang Park Draft Plan of Management (**ATTACHMENT 1**) on public exhibition for a period of 42 days and accept public submissions on the document.
 - 2) Receive a report after the public exhibition period that outlines submissions received.
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**EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 2 FEBRUARY 2016
MOTION**

Councillor Peter Kafer left the meeting at 06:02pm, during Item 1.
Councillor Peter Kafer returned to the meeting at 06:03pm, during Item 1.

008	Mayor Bruce MacKenzie Councillor Ken Jordan It was resolved that Council: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Place the Boomerang Park Draft Plan of Management (ATTACHMENT 1) on public exhibition for a period of 42 days and accept public submissions on the document.2) Receive a report after the public exhibition period that outlines submissions received.
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**EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 2 FEBRUARY 2016
AMENDMENT**

	Councillor John Nell That Item 1 be deferred to allow for further discussion with Councillors to identify an alternative location for the Mens Shed.
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The amendment lapsed due to there not being a seconded.

BACKGROUND

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's endorsement to place the draft plan of management for Boomerang Park, Raymond Terrace on public exhibition.

Boomerang Park is bounded by Kangaroo Street, Irrawang Street and Elizabeth Avenue, in close proximity to the Raymond Terrace CBD. The park is a 21.6 hectare passive recreation facility and contains a recently constructed playground. It also contains three buildings which are utilised by the Raymond Terrace Senior Citizens' Centre, Raymond Terrace Before and After School Care and the Port Stephens All Breeds and Obedience Canine Club.

A plan of management is a document that provides guidance for the future development and management of public open space. It achieves this by identifying values affecting public open space and outlines how that open space can be improved, used, managed and maintained in the future.

Boomerang Park has an existing plan of management that was adopted in November 2000. This has been reviewed to ensure that it continues to reflect, as best as possible the needs of the community and the resources required to meet these needs. It is standard industry best practice to review plans of management every five years.

Following the public exhibition period a further report will be submitted to Council detailing the submission and any changes proposed for the draft plan of management.

COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

Strategic Direction	Delivery Program 2015-2019
Provide passive and active recreation and leisure services and facilities.	Maintain and develop recreational facilities for residents and visitors.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

As part of the consultation process for the Boomerang Park draft Plan of Management (**ATTACHMENT 1**), a public hearing will be required. The requirement of completing a public hearing is triggered when the land classification is altered from its original classification.

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Source of Funds	Yes/No	Funding (\$)	Comment
Existing budget	Yes	4200	Consultation expenses including costs of independent chairperson and report on public hearing.
Reserve Funds	No		
Section 94	No		
External Grants	No		
Other	No		

LEGAL, POLICY AND RISK IMPLICATIONS

The *Local Government Act 1993* requires Council to prepare plans of management for all Council owned land that is classified as community use. Council has a number of generic plans of management as well as some site specific plans of management such as the Boomerang Park draft Plan of Management (**ATTACHMENT 1**).

The Boomerang Park draft Plan of Management is a legal document that provides a clear framework for the future management of the site. The plan contains detailed information relating to the present use of the land and intentions about future development, planned usage as well as current and proposed leases and licences over the site.

Risk	<u>Risk Ranking</u>	Proposed Treatments	Within Existing Resources?
There is a risk that without having planning and investigation studies completed, Council's ability to make informed sustainable decisions will be affected leading to re-work and unidentified costs.	Low	Adopt the Recommendations to allow for the appropriate planning and investigation studies to be undertaken, so that Council is able to make informed and sustainable decisions.	Yes
There is a risk that the local koala population may be impacted by the development leading to a reduced number of koalas in the Raymond Terrace area.	Low	Vegetation density will be increased in the natural vegetation corridor to enhance the koala habitat. Any future development will be subject to the development application process which will assess	Yes

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		the proposal against threatened species legislation.	
There is a risk that the community will not have the opportunity to comment on the draft plan of management leading reputation damage for Council.	Low	Adopt the Recommendations to allow the consultation plan to be implemented.	Yes

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Includes Social, Economic and Environmental Implications

In the development of the Boomerang Park draft Plan of Management **(ATTACHMENT 1)** a heritage and ecological assessment was completed to ensure accurate classification of the site. These assessments confirmed the location of heritage and ecologically significant features of the park. This allows these features to be retained and enhanced via the implementation of management strategies.

The Boomerang Park draft Plan of Management will enable greater public use and enjoyment of the site through the provision of new infrastructure and facilities. The proposal expands the opportunities for informal community interaction as well as organised events and gatherings at a range of scales through the embellishment of the park infrastructure and landscape.

The Boomerang Park draft Plan of Management proposes to retain the large natural areas with increased planting density to increase the natural character and also assisting in habitat connectivity. By maintaining this large section of natural area it will ensure a balance between the developed area of the park and the natural area.

NCC AND PSC MERGER PROPOSAL IMPLICATIONS

It is anticipated this report will have no effect on the NCC and PSC merger proposal or the potential merged entity.

CONSULTATION

Consultation has been undertaken by the Facilities and Services Section.

Prior to public exhibition:

Internal – Executive Leadership Team, Communications Section Manager, Strategy and Environment Section Manager, Community Development and Engagement Coordinator, Planning and Developer Relations Coordinator and Legal Services Manager.

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A Community Engagement and Communications Plan has been established for this Plan of Management.

During public exhibition:

If the draft is endorsed by Council, the Plan of Management will go on public exhibition from 3 February 2016 to 16 March 2016 for 42 days.

The following activities will be undertaken:

External

- Public Notice in the Port Stephens Examiner on Wednesday 3rd February 2016.
- Documents available on Council's website under "What's on exhibition".
- Hard copies of the Plan of Management are available for viewing at Council's Administration Building and Tomaree Library.
- Item in inform electronic newsletter.
- Direct letter to Raymond Terrace Parks and Reserves Committee, Raymond Terrace Senior Citizens, Raymond Terrace Before and After School Care, Port Stephens All Breeds and Obedience Canine Club, St Brigid's Parish School and the Boomerang Park Action Group.
- Briefing sessions include:
 - Two on two meeting with staff (by appointment) – Wednesday 24 February 2016 at Council's Administration Building.
 - Public Hearing (speakers by appointment) – Wednesday 3 March 2016 at Raymond Terrace Senior Citizens Centre.

Community feedback will be used to adjust the draft Plan of Management.

OPTIONS

- 1) Accept the recommendations.
- 2) Amend the recommendations.
- 3) Reject the recommendations.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1) Boomerang Park Draft Plan of Management. (Provided under separate cover)

COUNCILLORS ROOM

- 1) Boomerang Park draft Plan of Management.

TABLED DOCUMENTS

- 1) Boomerang Park draft Plan of Management.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 6.22pm.