

MINUTES

TITLE: Hope Reserve Hearing
DATE: Tuesday 25 August 2009
TIME: 1.00 pm
VENUE: Council Chamber, 189 Queen Street, Richmond.

PRESENT: Crs S G Bryant, M J Higgins and R G Currie

IN ATTENDANCE: Community Services Manager (L L Kennedy), Reserves Manager (B Wilkes), Executive Assistant (V M Gribble)

1 HEARING PROCESS

Mr Kennedy advised the hearing was to consider written submissions to the Richmond Ward Reserves Management Plan and to hear verbal presentation where submitters have indicated they wish to do so. The proposal was to allow an increase in the number of tennis courts at the Hope Reserve.

2 SUBMITTERS

2.1 Hope Tennis Club

B Hancock and J Dunlop representing the Hope Tennis Club were in attendance to present their submission.

Mr Hancock asked that in the management plan the words "six tennis courts" be changed to "tennis courts". He said ideally 12 courts are required to enable them to hold bigger tournaments. He said the tennis courts are used every night of the week and are used regularly during the day.

Mr Dunlop said the Hope Reserve Management Committee would prefer to have one additional court in the same line as existing six courts and three courts adjacent to the Hope Hall.

Mr Kennedy said the Reserves Officer drew up options and there are variations to where they could go.

Mr Dunlop said the astro turf has been ordered in a three court/one court layout. He said they believed it was a formality to get to this stage and believed agreement had been reached for the three court/one court layout.

Cr Higgins said if Council accepted the proposition to have "tennis courts", does that open up the whole of the reserve to be tennis courts?

Mr Hancock said everything is done in consultation with the Hope Reserve Management Committee so he didn't believe the tennis club could run rough-shod over them.

Mr Kennedy said some submitters had suggested the Druids Hall be shifted now and the tennis courts be in one long line.

Mr Dunlop said no objection had been raised by the Hope Reserve Management Committee and Mr Nicholls was involved in discussions about placement of the courts. He said there are over 100 club members and they are concerned about delays in getting the extra courts.

2.2 A & C Berkett

Mrs Berkett also spoke on behalf of B & M Carter and D & T Wilkes. They are not against more tennis courts, but they are concerned about the long term planning of the reserve and the tennis courts being permanent won't be easily removed. She said the biggest users of the domain would be the three dog clubs. They don't want to see the green area get smaller. She said Ranzau School use the grounds extensively for cross country competitions, athletics and other sporting events. It is the positioning of the courts they are concerned about. She said the hall doors open to the northwest which gives access from the hall to the green area which is used a lot.

Mr Berkett said it is very bright when all the lights are on and they do affect the neighbourhood with glare. He suggested tilting the lights downwards. He said the reserve is used by dogs every day except Friday and they use lights as well. He is concerned that the green area is getting smaller.

Mrs Berkett was also concerned about fragmentation of the area with the dog building, Druids building, tennis club and the hall.

Mr Berkett said the area behind the Druids Hall will become more secluded and they are concerned about litter left lying around.

2.3 M & R Flanagan

Mr Flanagan didn't believe more lights would affect them. Mrs Flanagan said they haven't been contacted by the Tennis Club about the proposed alterations.

Moved Crs Currie/Bryant CS09/08/18

THAT:

- (a) The Hope Reserve Section of the Richmond Ward Reserve Management Plan be amended as follows:**

Section 9.3.6 Limit tennis to a maximum of twelve courts with the first ten courts running in a line along the north-east boundary.

- (b) The building in the north-east corner of the reserve currently used by a Lodge be shifted within the reserve to allow for the four new tennis courts.**

- (c) This decision being subject to the Richmond Ward Councillors approving the allocation of funds from the Richmond Reserves Financial Contributions Account for the shifting of the Lodge building.**

CARRIED

The meeting concluded at 2.17 pm.

Date Confirmed:

Chair: