



TOWN OF VINCENT

"Enhancing and celebrating our diverse community"

**MINUTES OF THE
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
OF ELECTORS**

23 NOVEMBER 2009

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Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Electors of the Town of Vincent held at the Administration and Civic Centre, 244 Vincent Street (cnr Loftus Street), Leederville, on Monday 23 November 2009 commencing at 6.00pm.

1. DECLARATION OF OPENING

The Presiding Member, Mayor Nick Catania, declared the meeting open at 6.00pm.

2. APOLOGIES/MEMBERS ON LEAVE OF ABSENCE/ATTENDANCE

(a) Apologies:

Cr Steed Farrell – apologies – arriving late due to work commitments.

(b) Leave of Absence:

Cr Joshua Topelberg due to personal commitments.

(c) Present:

Mayor Nick Catania, JP	Presiding Member
Cr Matt Buckels	North Ward
Cr Sally Lake (<i>Deputy Mayor</i>)	South Ward
Cr Warren McGrath	South Ward
Cr Dudley Maier	North Ward
John Giorgi, JP	Chief Executive Officer
Rob Boardman	Director Development Services
Rick Lotznicker	Director Technical Services
Mike Rootsey	Director Corporate Services

10 Electors as per the attached Attendance Register

(d) Absent:

Cr Anka Burns	South Ward
Cr Taryn Harvey	North Ward

3. RECEIVING THE 2008/2009 ANNUAL REPORT

Moved Colin Scott, Seconded Cr Sally Lake

That the Annual Report 2008/2009, as “Laid on the Table”, be received.

Mayor Catania spoke and highlighted significant achievements as detailed in the Mayor’s Report, as circulated. He advised that this years Annual Report was prepared “in-house” by the Town’s Public Relations Officer with assistance from the Information Technology Section, resulting in savings of approximately \$5,000. In addition, the Annual Report is also available on compact disc. He praised the Town’s Administration for this cost saving and of the high quality of the Report.

The Chief Executive Officer, John Giorgi spoke and highlighted significant achievements as detailed in the Chief Executive Officer’s Report. In particular he briefly outlined the Town’s involvement in the State Governments Structural Reform process and also the Internal Organisational Review which was carried out in early 2009 which resulted in efficiencies and cost savings of approximately \$700,000 (without any loss to customer service to the ratepayers).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. GENERAL BUSINESS

- 4.1 The Chief Executive Officer read out the following email received from Geraldine Wooller of Broome Street, Highgate, as she was unable to attend the meeting.

“Motion to Annual General Meeting of Electors;

Background:

In view of the increasing hazard to pedestrians and wildlife from cyclists in Hyde Park who are ignoring the Dismount signs.”

Motion:

“That the Council take effective action to stop cyclists from commuting in Hyde Park, and from using Hyde Park as a venue for exercising on their bicycles; and further that the Council will liaise with the Cycling branch of the Dept of Transport so that they may take effective steps to bar commuting cyclists from Hyde Park or at the very least ensure that cyclists are required to reduce their speed to a walking pace.”

Mayor Catania asked for a Mover and Seconder, as Ms Wooller was not present:

Moved Sally Lake, 51 Chatsworth Road Highgate, Seconded Marie Slyth, 89 Carr Street West Perth

“That the Council take effective action to stop cyclists from commuting in Hyde Park, and from using Hyde Park as a venue for exercising on their bicycles; and further that the Council will liaise with the Cycling branch of the Dept of Transport so that they may take effective steps to bar commuting cyclists from Hyde Park or at the very least ensure that cyclists are required to reduce their speed to a walking pace.”

The Director of Technical Services advised that he had recently written to Ms Wooller concerning this matter. Signage had been erected at the entrances to the park and also some works carried out to minimise the hazard to pedestrians, particularly concerning the path from Vincent Street (opposite Norfolk Street).

He further advised that the Town's Rangers do not have the authority to stop/infringe any moving vehicle, including a bicycle utilising any road/park within the Town of Vincent.

Discussion ensued.

MOTION PUT AND CARRIED (6-2)

- 4.2 Brian Fleay of 59 View Street, North Perth, read the following:

- (i) The City of Perth proposed annexing the portion of the Town between Bulwer Street and the Railway Station claiming it is more appropriate for it to be part of the City of Perth. An alternative is to develop relevant joint policies for this land to balance the interests of local residents and businesses against the interests of the City. The Town is more likely to safeguard these ratepayers than the City of Perth.

This approach is in line with the alternative policy of the WA Local Government Association countering the WA Government's approach to Council amalgamations. WALGA proposes joint actions by Councils on specific issues to achieve these benefits of amalgamations where these exist without losing the advantages of smaller Councils.

MOTION

Moved Brian Fleay, 59 View Street, North Perth, Seconded Warren McGrath, 4/142 Palmerston Street, Perth

“That the Town of Vincent explore engaging with the City of Perth to develop a joint policy on development and related issues for the land between the Perth Railway Line and Bulwer Street.”

Discussion ensued.

MOTION PUT AND CARRIED (11-2)

- (ii) His main concern is small-scale infill projects where more new residences replace one or two existing residences. The result is often negligible front and back yards *that are hostile environments for young children*. There is negligible opportunity for play, social interaction and physical development *vital* to the development of mental, physical and social skills of children. The adverse consequences flow into teenage and adult years. Children need an environment where they can safely learn *from experience* the physical and social limits to behaviour and the need for mutual goodwill. This needs sufficient safe space for lively interaction.

Most of the physical development and functional characteristics of the human brain occur in these childhood years, continuing into the early 20's. Full recognition of this and its ramifications has only become recognised from the early 1990s. Advice from Dr Fiona Stanley and the Princess Margaret Hospital Foundation could elaborate on this.

Council needs to acquire a shared understanding with residents on how to interpret “amenity” in these contexts when making decisions on development proposals.

The Chief Justice, Wayne Martin, commented on some of these features of current urban development and the consequences in fuelling criminal and other bad social behaviour in your people currently featured in the media (West Australia 18 November 2009, page 9).

The issue has significance beyond the Town.

Examples: corner of View and Persimmon Streets, under construction: corner of Vine and Alma Streets, corner of View and Vine Streets.

MOTION

Moved Brian Fleay, 59 View Street, North Perth, Seconded Simon Chester, 93 Chelmsford Road, Mt Lawley

“That the Town of Vincent engage with it's residents to more explicitly define the meaning of “amenity” when it is used to justify in-fill development proposals requiring concessions to conditions under the Town Planning Scheme, often with damaging social and other impacts.”

Discussion ensued.

MOTION PUT AND CARRIED (8-3)

4.3 Colin Scott of 17 Deague Court, North Perth.

Spoke on the following matters:

- (i) A revenue stream of approximately \$1 million per year will obviously come to Council from the proposed development by the Tamala Park Regional Council and he feels that the revenue may be being spent now and repaid later on. However, he would rather see that the revenue stream have some comment by local community in how funds are spent. Believes the community would sit back and see the money coming into Council and perhaps think about things that they have been waiting for, for many years, whether it be community programmes, extra facilities etc.

Believes the community should have a say in the \$1 million a year that comes into the Council and that may be best addressed by a Working Group being setup to look at interests where there will be stakeholders in those funds and the community is one of them. Requested that it formally represented.

The Chief Executive Officer advised that the expected revenue from the Tamala Park Regional Council development is worth approximately \$20 million (on today's value) and this will be progressively received over the next 15-20 year period.

The Town's Director Corporate Services advised that the Town has prepared and adopted a Long Term Financial Plan which forms part of the Council's Plan for the Future. The long term financial plan takes into account the projected monies which will be received from Tamala Park Regional Council, however it does not allocate these monies for any specific project. As the Tamala Park Regional Council has not adopted a development plan timetable, the Town is not aware of how much money will be received each year during the development phase. He believed that a Working Group is premature, as it is not expected that any monies will be received for some 4/5 years.

MOTION

Moved Colin Scott, 17 Deague Court, North Perth, Seconded Simon Chester, 93 Chelmsford Road, Mt Lawley

“That the Town of Vincent form a Working Group to address issues of how the revenue stream of Tamala Park monies will be administered into the community.”

Discussion ensued.

Mayor Catania advised the meeting that monies from the Tamala Park redevelopment will not be received for a number of years and that the formation of a Working Group is considered premature and may raise false expectations in the community.

PROCEDURAL MOTION

Moved Colin Scott, 17 Deague Court, North Perth, Seconded Warren McGrath, 4/142 Palmerston Street, Perth

“That the above motion be DEFERRED and be further considered at the Annual General Meeting of Electors 2010.”

MOTION PUT AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- (ii) Regarding a full page advertisement in a local newspaper. Stated this was also raised approximately 2 years ago and may have previously been investigated. Believed the Town is conspicuous in its absence in local newspapers with up to date events/activities going around in the Town. Stated Bayswater and Stirling do so and he believes it builds the identity of the Town. Believed it should be trailed for a year as it gets messages out as people may not read fine print.

Moved Colin Scott, 17 Deague Court, North Perth, Seconded Simon Chester, 93 Chelmsford Road, Mt Lawley

“That the Town of Vincent investigate ways to take out a full or half page advertisement in Local Newspapers in line with other Councils where information about Council activities and events can be brought to the community’s attention.”

Discussion ensued.

The Chief Executive Officer informed the meeting as follows:

1. Newspaper booking space only:

Costs from the two local papers are:

Guardian Express – cost per full colour full page
\$2,341, plus \$300 set up cost. Total: **\$2,641 x 50 editions = \$132,050 per annum**
The Voice News – cost per full colour full page
\$1,675, plus \$300 set up cost. Total: **\$1,975 x 50 editions = \$98,750 per annum**

2. Research and preparation:

In addition, each ad would also need to be researched, written, edited etc – estimated minimum of 2 days per edition.

The Town’s current total Advertising Budget 2009/10 is approximately \$120,000.

This is made up of \$75,000 of general advertising and approximately \$30,000 for employee recruitment advertising. The remaining funding relates to specific projects.

The Chief Executive Officer is aware that the Cities of Stirling and Bayswater have full page colour advertising in local newspapers, as they have large populations and areas to cover. In addition, both Stirling and Bayswater do not issue quarterly newsletters and their newspaper advertising is their main form of communicating with their residents.

In addition, the Town receives considerable free media coverage on a wide range of matters, as the Town’s Public Relations Officer has a good rapport with journalists and is proactive in issuing numerous media statements.

As part of the recent Internal Organisation Review, the Town’s staff are currently implementing larger advertisements which incorporate various matters. It is proposed to extend this to either half or full page adverts, however, this will require better in-house co-ordination of the advertising of events.

It is proposed that either monthly or fortnightly half/full page adverts will be introduced in early 2010.

MOTION PUT AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4.4 Marie Slyth of 89 Carr Street, West Perth.

Spoke on the following matter:

Regarding changes to the Town Planning Scheme which through the Multiple Dwellings Policy now permits a lot in the Cleaver and Hyde Park precincts, which have previously been non-subdivisible of lot area. Believes it will have a serious impact as, to increase density by up to 40%. Stated she has been informed by Council that this is an unintended aspect of the amendment to the Town Planning Scheme, however it amounts to an imposition on all ratepayers in these precincts, whose lifestyles and communities will be seriously affected by the amendment because of lack of adequate consultation of ratepayers.

Believes in pursuing the amendment (i.e. R60 to R80), without adequate consultation of electors in each affected Precinct, flies in the face of Council's policy of consulting its communities on all important matters which affect their way of life, especially those living in the few precious character streetscapes left, not only leaving this situation in a state of limbo but now under massive threat due to the Multiple Dwelling Policy changes.

Stated it would be encouraging to believe that the Town was truly proud of its rich social, cultural history contained in the few character streetscapes left in Cleaver Precinct as well as heritage buildings and dwellings (which history was exposed on the recent Cleaver Precinct/Town heritage walk held on 25 October 2009 when the event was attended by 35 people). Stated in keeping with the Town's Vision Statement, specifically Statement 3, it mentions "*sense of belonging*". Stated, had this been the case then surely the Town would not have let this change be thrust upon its ratepayers without adequate consultation.

MOTION

Moved Marie Slyth, 89 Carr Street, West Perth, Seconded Colin Scott, 17 Deague Court, North Perth

"That the Town of Vincent:

- (a) not make the Multiple Dwellings Policy changes to the Town Planning Scheme until full and comprehensive consultation has been conducted by the Town; and**
- (b) further review and identify the likely impacts of the approval of the changes to the Town Planning Scheme on the "to be" newly developed type of Residential Streetscapes Policy."**

Discussion ensued.

MOTION PUT AND CARRIED (9-2)

4.5 Simon Chester of 93 Chelmsford Road, Mt Lawley.

Spoke on the following matters:

- (i) Stated under the Town's Consultation Policy No. 4.1.5 it says residents that are directly affected should be consulted. Advised that there were 2 policies – Residential Streetscape Policy, where thousands of letters were sent out to affected parties and the Multiple Dwelling Policy, where affected members were not directly sent letters. Stated these are affected by the same policy, however, the interpretation of the policy is vastly different. Advised the Multiple Dwelling Policy was advertised by virtue of letters to Precinct Groups and notices in the paper. Believed there to be a distinct difference with these and does not believe it reflects well on the Town where you can have vastly different outcomes.

MOTION

Moved Simon Chester, 93 Chelmsford Road, Mt Lawley, Seconded Colin Scott, 17 Deague Court, North Perth

“That the Town of Vincent’s Consultation Policy No. 4.1.5 be reviewed so that changes that may have significant impact on ratepayers and residents (such as the Multiple Dwelling Policy), are advertised in a manner that is consistent with the consultation which was undertaken for the Residential Streetscapes Policy.”

Discussion ensued.

MOTION PUT AND CARRIED (13-0)

- (ii) Mr Chester requested a Desktop Review of various documents – bring all the documents together and review the documents altogether to bring them in line with each other.

MOTION

Moved Simon Chester, 93 Chelmsford Road, Mt Lawley, Seconded Marie Slyth, 89 Carr Street, West Perth

“That the Town of Vincent appoint an Independent Consultant to provide a “Desktop Review” of the potential impact of the following:

- (a) the Multiple Dwelling Policy 3.4.8;
- (b) the Town Planning Scheme Amendment No. 25 (relating to multiple dwellings);
- (c) the effective density increase to R80 in areas previously coded R60 with no multiple dwellings allowed; and
- (d) Clause 40 of the Town's Town Planning Scheme No. 1 in combination with rules governing multiple dwellings;

on the characteristics of the building stock within the Town previously designated as either a Residential Streetscape or Townscapes in either:

1. the formerly proposed residential streetscapes policy; or
2. the District Survey & Municipal Heritage Inventory Review conducted by Hocking Planning & Architecture Collaboration;”

and provide a report to the Council no later than March 2010.”

Discussion ensued.

MOTION PUT AND CARRIED (12-1)

(iii) Mr Chester advised that he has read the Visioning Document at length and it seems to him that there is a misalignment with some outcomes which are coming out by way of policy, the Multiple Dwelling Policy being one of those where 5-storey development was initially proposed right throughout the Town when the policy was first floated yet development of 5-storey has 5% of the populations approval or support. Believed the Visioning document need to be looked at again.

MOTION

Moved Simon Chester, 93 Chelmsford Road, Mt Lawley, Seconded Marie Slyth, 89 Carr Street, West Perth

“That the Town of Vincent appoint an Independent Consultant to undertake a “Desktop Review” to assess the alignment and effectiveness of the Town of Vincent Local Area Planning Strategy in addressing the findings of the Community Visioning final report and 6 Vision statements identified in Vincent Vision 2024 and provide a report to the Council no later than March 2010.”

Discussion ensued.

MOTION PUT AND CARRIED (10-3)

5. CLOSURE

There being no further General Business, the Mayor Nick Catania thanked the Electors, members of the public, Council Members and Officers for their attendance and declared the meeting closed at 8.00pm with the following persons present:

Mayor Nick Catania, JP	Presiding Member
Cr Matt Buckels	North Ward
Cr Sally Lake (<i>Deputy Mayor</i>)	South Ward
Cr Warren McGrath	South Ward
Cr Dudley Maier	North Ward
John Giorgi, JP	Chief Executive Officer
Rob Boardman	Director Development Services
Rick Lotznicker	Director Technical Services
Mike Rootsey	Director Corporate Services

11 Electors

These Minutes are confirmed by the Council as a true and accurate record of the Annual General Meeting of Electors held on 23 November 2009.

Signed:Presiding Member
Mayor Nick Catania

Dated this day of 2009