

Agenda Briefing Forum – 16 March 2021 Summary

Meeting	Agenda Briefing Forum – for OCM 23 March 2021		
Location	Council Chambers		
Date Time	16 March 2021	Start Time	6:30pm
		Finish Time	7:15pm

1. ATTENDANCE

Members

West Ward

Cr Dan Bull, Mayor
Cr Giorgia Johnson

Central Ward

Cr Steven Ostaszewskyj
Cr Sally Palmer
Cr Barry McKenna

North Ward

Cr Stephanie Gray
Cr Filomena Piffaretti, Deputy Mayor
Cr Michelle Sutherland

South Ward

Cr Elli Petersen-Pik

Officers

Mr Andrew Brien	Chief Executive Officer
Mr Doug Pearson	Director Major Projects
Mr Des Abel	Director Community and Development
Ms Lorraine Driscoll	Director Corporate and Strategy
Mr Jon Vines	A/Director Works and Infrastructure
Ms Cassandra Flanigan	Executive Support/Research Officer
Ms Helen Smith	Manager Development Approvals
Ms Karen Quigley	Manager Community Development
Mr Darren Beltman	Manager Governance and Organisational Strategy
Mr Geoff Eves	Acting Manager Engineering Works

Apologies

Cr Lorna Clarke

Leave of Absence

Cr Catherine Ehrhardt

2. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST SUMMARY

A member who has an interest in any matter to be discussed at an Agenda Briefing Forum, Council or Committee meeting that will be attended by the member must disclose the nature of the interest -

- (a) in a written notice given to the CEO before the meeting; or
- (b) at the meeting immediately before the matter is discussed.

The following disclosures of interest were made at the Agenda Briefing Forum and will also apply at the Ordinary Council Meeting when the matter is considered:

Name	Item No.	Type of Interest	Nature of Interest
<i>Cr Dan Bull, Mayor</i>	<i>10.3.1</i>	<i>Impartial</i>	<i>I am a social member of the Bedford Bowling Club</i>
<i>Cr Barry McKenna</i>	<i>10.5.1</i>	<i>Financial</i>	<i>I am Chairman of Bayswater Community Financial Services (Bendigo Bank).</i>
<i>Cr Dan Bull, Mayor</i>	<i>10.5.2</i>	<i>Financial</i>	<i>This item relates to the Tonkin Gap Project, which is behind my house.</i>

3. DEPUTATIONS

1. Cr Elli Petersen-Pik - Footpath Continuity

In relation to Item 11.2 Shannon Leigh was in attendance, speaking in support of the motion (refer page 432).

2. Cr Elli Petersen-Pik - Footpath Continuity

In relation to Item 11.2, Giles Graham submitted a written deputation in support of the motion. (refer page 432).

3. Cr Elli Petersen-Pik - Footpath Continuity

In relation to Item 11.2, Ken Bird was in attendance and submitted a written deputation in support of the motion. (refer page 432).

4. Cr Elli Petersen-Pik - Footpath Continuity

In relation to Item 11.2, Anthony Santoro submitted a written deputation in support of the motion. (refer page 432).

4. QUESTIONS FROM ELECTED MEMBERS ON AGENDA ITEMS

The following questions were taken on notice at the briefing and responses are provided below to assist Councillors in their deliberations on the matter.

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS TAKEN ON NOTICE

1.	Item 10.2.1 Financial Reports for the Period Ended 28 February 2021	
Question(s)		Response / Action
Cr Georgia Johnson		Director Community and Development
Can you please provide an explanation in relation to the variance from the Buy in Baysie program and any delays?		The Buy-in-Baysie grants are small grants to help local business get online during the shutdown period. Since the State Government has rolled back the COVID-19 restrictions and businesses are able to reopen the City has received less applications for the grant resulting in the variance.
2.	Item 10.2.6 Child Safety Officer Consultation	
Question(s)		Response / Action
Cr Georgia Johnson		Director Corporate and Strategy
The concept of appointing a Child Safety Officer sounds good, why does most of the report read in a negative way?		This report does not address whether the concept of a Child Safety Officer is a good idea or not. The Royal Commission has already decided Child Safety Officers would be a good idea. The Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries is currently consulting to ask if the City currently provides any of the services and what the impacts would be on the City when the City is asked to provide these services. The concept of the Child Safety Officer responsibilities is a positive one along with other recommendations from the Royal Commission, and is likely to improve child safety. The reason why the report is critical of the approach is that the Discussion Paper fails to address the impact on Local Government and the consultation questions fail to ask this. The State could choose carry out the functions of a Child Safety Officer through the Department of Communities, mitigating any impact on Local Government, or the State could choose to provide financial support to Local Governments to assist with funding this new additional responsibility; neither opportunity appears to have been considered by the Department.
3.	Item 10.3.2 Community Sport and Recreation Facility Fund Requests	
Question(s)		Response / Action
Cr Georgia Johnson		Acting Director Works and Infrastructure
Is it better value for the City to be paying for the installation of the synthetic turf rather than continued		<u>Bedford Bowling Club – cost savings over the life of a synthetic bowling green</u>

<p>maintenance of the synthetic turf? Which is cheaper for the City?</p>	<p>The Bedford Bowling Club is an eligible club participating in the City’s Sports Turf Maintenance Policy program. The policy allows the Bedford Bowling Club to receive a maximum of \$10,000 of funding from Council in any year for maintenance of specialist turf surfaces per useable green (not fallow or used for another purpose). Taking in to account the 10 year life expectancy of a synthetic bowling green this would total an amount of \$100,000.</p> <p>If the City were to endorse \$77,459 towards the total project cost of \$232,373 for the Bedford Bowling Club CSRFF application to install a synthetic bowling green, the City would no longer require to provide Sports Turf Maintenance Policy funding to the club for this particular green. Over the 10 year life expectancy of a synthetic bowling green the City would save \$22,541. In addition there will be water savings and less chemicals applied.</p> <p><u>Morley Bowling Club – cost savings over the life of a synthetic bowling green</u></p> <p>The Morley Bowling Club is an eligible club participating in the City’s Sports Turf Maintenance Policy program. The policy allows the Morley Bowling Club to receive a maximum of \$10,000 of funding from Council in any year for maintenance of specialist turf surfaces per useable green (not fallow or used for another purpose). Taking in to account the 10 year life expectancy of a synthetic bowling green this would total an amount of \$100,000.</p> <p>If the City were to endorse \$90,909 towards the total project cost of \$272,725 for Morley Bowling Club CSRFF application to install a synthetic bowling green, the City would no longer require to provide Sports Turf Maintenance Policy funding to the club for this particular green. Over the 10 year life expectancy of a synthetic bowling green the City would save \$9,091. In addition there will be water savings and less chemicals applied.</p>
<p>Cr Barry McKenna</p>	<p>Acting Director Works and Infrastructure</p>
<p>Do any of the applicants have any outstanding self-supporting loans to the City?</p>	<p>There are no outstanding self-supporting loans from either club and both clubs have provided supporting evidence of available contributory funding.</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>Item 10.5.1 Support Baysie Business Campaign</p>
<p>Question(s)</p>	<p>Response / Action</p>
<p>Cr Georgia Johnson</p>	<p>Director Major Projects</p>

<p>Can the City provide details of other initiatives that have been undertaken to support businesses in Bayswater?</p>	<p>The following additional initiatives have been undertaken or are underway this financial year in the Bayswater Town Centre:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional custom made planter boxes; • High pressure cleaning of footpaths; • Painting of street furniture; • Revarnishing of custom made infill planter boxes; • Red Flowering Gums planted in the path adjacent to Bendigo Bank (Cnr King William and Murray Street) to over time improve shading and walkability of part of the Town Centre; • Implementation of the actions in the Bayswater Town Centre Short Term Parking Management Plan to ensure that there is sufficient parking for customers to the businesses. This has included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Introduction of time restrictions throughout the Town Centre and surrounds to free up bays that were previously used all day by commuters for visitors to the Town Centre. ○ Map showing businesses and key parking areas; ○ Linemarking 47 on-street parking bays on King William Street. • Destination Marketing Strategy; • Shade structure in Bert Wright Park; • Lights for business windows at Christmas; • Street furniture (tables, chairs and shade cover) along Whatley Crescent (in response to Traders Association requests); • Alfresco support for businesses along Whatley Crescent (i.e. support with permits and alfresco area improvements); • Laneway mural and associated activation with temporary butterfly sculptures and launch event; • Advocacy for successful approval of Laneway Art Space; • Expressions of Interest for painting of exterior of premises; • Café Residency (writer in residence) at Drip Espresso; and • Bicycle rails along King William Street and Whatley Crescent.
<p>5.</p>	<p>Item 11.2 Cr Elli Petersen-Pik - Footpath Continuity</p>
<p>Question(s)</p>	<p>Response / Action</p>
<p>Cr Steven Ostaszewskyj</p>	<p>Acting Director Works and Infrastructure</p>
<p>How many homes per year get a crossover replaced in the City?</p>	<p>The City replaces on average 215 crossovers per year.</p>

<p>How many crossovers installed per year are standard crossovers and how many are non-standard crossovers?</p>	<p>It is estimated that 98% of all (City and private) crossovers constructed within the City are compliant.</p> <p>The 2% non-standard crossovers are rejected as not being constructed in accordance with specifications.</p>
<p>How much is allocated in the footpath repair budget?</p>	<p>\$320,000 – Footpath Repairs - Capital \$335,000 – General Maintenance Footpaths – Operating \$174,000 – Footpath Maintenance - Additional Stimulus Fund</p>
<p>Cr Barry McKenna</p>	<p>Acting Director Works and Infrastructure</p>
<p>How many metres of footpath would be available if we reduced the program by 35%?</p>	<p>It is estimated that if the budget was reduced by 35% from \$600,000 to \$390,000 then the following path lengths would be constructed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2.3m paths - 600 of 920m • 1.5m paths - 1800 of 2750m