

5.5.2 Motions from the Annual General Meeting of Electors held on 31 January 2017

Ward:	Both	Date:	7 March 2017
Precinct:	All	File Ref:	SC2048
Attachments:	1 – Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Electors – 31 January 2017		
Tabled Items:	Nil		
Reporting Officer:	Emma Simmons, Governance and Council Support Officer		
Responsible Officer:	Len Kosova, Chief Executive Officer		

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council NOTES:

1. The responses provided by Administration to the questions taken on notice at the Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday 31 January 2017; and
2. That the economic impact and the views of the business community, including the retailers in the Mount Hawthorn Precinct, have been and will continue to be considered as part of the proposal to amend the parking restrictions in the Mount Hawthorn Town Centre.

PURPOSE OF REPORT:

To consider motions received at the Annual General Meeting of Electors (AGM), held on 31 January 2017.

BACKGROUND:

The Annual General Meeting of Electors of the City of Vincent was held in the City of Vincent Council Chambers on Tuesday 31 January 2017. There were four electors present together with Council Members, City employees and one member of the press. One motion was carried unanimously at the meeting as follows:

“That Council ENSURE the views of the business community, in particular the retailers in the Mount Hawthorn precinct, are considered in the current parking survey and an economic impact statement be an integrated component of the outcome.”

DETAILS:

At the annual general meeting of electors one motion was received and four questions were taken on notice. The motion moved from the floor and questions taken on notice are detailed below, along with an Administration comment. The full minutes of the AGM are included as **Attachment 1**.

4.1 Greg Johnson – Mt Hawthorn

That Council ENSURE the views of the business community, in particular the retailers in the Mount Hawthorn precinct, are considered in the current parking survey and an economic impact statement be an integrated component of the outcome.

Response by Director Development Services

The 2015/2016 budget adopted by Council included funds to undertake detailed parking surveys in and around the Mount Hawthorn Town Centre. These parking surveys were proposed in order to assess the parking issues faced by businesses and residents in the area and determine any changes that could be made to improve parking for the businesses and residents in and around the Mount Hawthorn Town Centre. The parking surveys were

undertaken by consultants and measured the number of existing bays, average and peak occupancy of bays and duration of stay.

The parking surveys identified that parking in Mount Hawthorn demonstrated high peak occupancy rates, with all streets demonstrating greater than 90% peak occupancy. Based on the results of these parking surveys the City developed a set of possible parking restriction changes for the area. The intention of the proposed parking restrictions is to rationalise the existing parking restrictions in and around the Mount Hawthorn Town Centre to provide consistency and encourage a greater turnover of vehicles to ensure that bays are available for all users of the town centre, including businesses, customers and residents. The economic impact of the parking restrictions on businesses was considered as part of the development of these changes and were proposed to improve the efficiency of parking and have a positive impact on local business and the town centre generally.

The City advertised a set of proposed parking restriction changes to both the residents and businesses of Mount Hawthorn Town Centre survey area for 14 days, with the final day of this initial consultation period being 16 December 2016. During the advertising period some businesses raised concern with the timing of the consultation and as a result the advertising period was extended until 13 January 2017. The advertising information pack sent to all businesses and residents included a letter, submission form and a proposed parking restriction map. The advertising information pack was hand delivered to all businesses along Scarborough Beach Road.

All of the submissions received as a result of this consultation process will be reviewed and addressed in a future report to Council on this matter, which will also consider the impact of any changes on businesses and residents, including the economic impact. Prior to this all businesses and residents within the Town Centre study area will be advised of the meeting date and time in order to update the community with the results of consultation; inform the community with the report and recommendations being presented to Council on the matter; and provide information on the meeting dates and opportunity to make statements at these meetings before the report is considered by Council.

4.2 Marie Slyth - West Perth

Ms Slyth submitted the following questions all of which were taken on notice and will be answered in the report to be presented to Council on 7 March 2017 regarding the Annual General Meeting of Electors

1. Will the City of Vincent be providing community bus excursions for its elderly residents?

Response by Director Community Engagement

1. The City has included two bus excursions for those aged over 65, to take place in March and May of 2017, as part of our Well & Wise Program. Unlike in previous years, a home pick-up option has been offered for bus excursions in 2017, for individuals who are housebound due to lack of transport options.

2. Has support for the heritage grants been cut back? Please can I get an explanation?

Response by Director Development Services

2. No. When Council adopted the 2016/17 budget, a total of \$86,220 was allocated to the Heritage Assistance Fund. The City has already finalised two funding rounds and the third and final round for this financial year is now open and will be closed on 31 March 2017.

3. Has the City of Vincent considered getting involved in the Silver Sport initiative?

4. Will the City be implementing more advanced computer courses for its elderly residents?

Response by Director Community Engagement

3. The Silver Sport initiative by Department of Sport and Recreation is still in its pilot phase. As a result this is currently only available to residents of the local government areas of Belmont, Coolgardie, Kalgoorlie-Boulder, Kwinana and Northam. The City of Vincent has expressed interest in participating in the next phase of the project, commencing next financial year.
4. The City has offered free or subsidised beginner computer classes and internet education as a part of its Well & Wise Program on a number of occasions. Due to ongoing demand for these classes, monthly computer classes for seniors with little computer experience, have been scheduled at the Vincent Library until June 2017. The demand for more advanced classes will be investigated and considered within future Well & Wise programming.

CONSULTATION/ADVERTISING:

Nil.

LEGAL/POLICY:

The Annual General Meeting of Electors of the City of Vincent was held in accordance with section 5.27 of the *Local Government Act 1995* (the Act). Section 5.33(1) of the Act requires that all decisions made at an Electors' Meeting are to be considered at the next Ordinary Meeting of Council, where practicable.

Council must consider the motions from the AGM but is not obliged to make a decision on all or any of those Motions. If Council chooses to make a decision in response to an AGM Motion then reasons for that decision need to be recorded in the Minutes of the Council Meeting.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS:

Failure to consider decisions made at the Annual General Meeting of Electors would mean that the City has not complied with section 5.33 of the *Local Government Act 1995*.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS:

This is in keeping with the City's Strategic Plan 2013-2023 - Key Result Area Three - Community Development and Wellbeing.

The AGM presents an opportunity for members of the public to attend and participate in the decision-making processes of the City, resulting in active democracy and promoting a community engagement strategy as reflected in the City's Corporate Business Plan.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS:

Nil.

FINANCIAL/BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:

Nil.

COMMENTS:

It is recommended that Council receive Administration's report in response to the AGM Motion as required by the *Local Government Act 1995* and notes the manner in which the motion will be addressed by the City.
