

MINUTES

Annual Electors' Meeting

15 December 2014

The Mayor and Councillors

Here within are the Minutes of the Annual Electors' Meeting of the City of South Perth Council held Monday 15 December 2014.



CLIFF FREWING
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

18 DECEMBER 2014

Our Guiding Values

Trust

Honesty and integrity

Respect

Acceptance and tolerance

Understanding

Caring and empathy

Teamwork

Leadership and commitment

Disclaimer

The City of South Perth disclaims any liability for any loss arising from any person or body relying on any statement, discussion, recommendation or decision made during this meeting.

Where an application for an approval, a licence or the like is, discussed or determined during this meeting, the City warns that neither the applicant, nor any other person or body, should rely upon that discussion or determination until written notice of either an approval and the conditions which relate to it, or the refusal of the application has been issued by the City.

Further Information

The following information is available on the City's website.

- **Council Meeting Schedule**

Ordinary Council Meetings are held at 7.00 pm in the Council Chamber at the South Perth Civic Centre on the fourth Tuesday of every month between February and November.

Members of the public are encouraged to attend open meetings.

- **Minutes and Agendas**

As part of our commitment to transparent decision making, the City makes documents relating to council and its committees' meetings available to the public.

- **Meet Your Council**

The City of South Perth covers an area of around 19.9km² divided into four wards. Each ward is represented by two councillors, presided over by a popularly elected mayor. Councillor profiles provide contact details for each elected member.

www.southperth.wa.gov.au/Our-Council/

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Annual Electors' Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the Annual Electors' Meeting of the City of South Perth Council held in the Council Chamber, Sandgate Street, South Perth, Monday 15 December 2014.

1. DECLARATION OF OPENING / ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

The Presiding Member opened the meeting at 7:01 pm and welcomed everyone in attendance. She then acknowledged we are meeting on the lands of the Noongar/Bibbulmun people and that we honour them as the traditional custodians of this land.

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE PRESIDING MEMBER

2.1 AUDIO RECORDING OF COUNCIL MEETING

The Presiding Member requested that all mobile phones be turned off. She then reported that the meeting is being audio recorded in accordance with Council Policy P673 "Audio Recording of Council Meetings" and Clause 6.16 of the Standing Orders Local Law 2007 which states: "A person is not to use any electronic, visual or vocal recording device or instrument to record the proceedings of the Council without the permission of the Presiding Member" and stated that as Presiding Member she gives permission for the Administration to record proceedings of the Council meeting.

The Presiding Member then outlined the format of the meeting.

3. ATTENDANCE

Mayor Doherty Presiding Member

Councillors

Cr C Cala	Manning Ward
Cr S Hawkins-Zeeb	Manning Ward
Cr G Cridland	Como Ward (arrived at 7.03 pm)
Cr C Irons	Mill Point Ward
Cr F Reid	Moresby Ward

Officers

Mr C Frewing	Chief Executive Officer
Ms V Lummer	Director Development and Community Services
Mr M Kent	Director Financial and Information Services
Mr P McQue	Manager Governance and Administration
Ms D Gray	Manager Financial Services
Mr L Croxford	Manager Engineering Infrastructure
Ms S Kent	Governance Officer

Gallery

There were approximately 18 members of the public and 0 members of the press present.

Mr R Simper	32 Sandgate Street, South Perth
Mr G Defrenne	24 Kennard Street, Kensington
Mrs R Jennings	19 Todd Avenue, Como
Mr M Jennings	19 Todd Avenue, Como
Mr Peter Howat	2 Boongala Crescent, Karawara (to 7.26 pm)
Mr Greg Benjamin	42 Norfolk Street, South Perth
Mrs C Brooke	8/20 Garden Street, South Perth
Mr D Brooke	8/20 Garden Street, South Perth

A Francis	9 Jackson Road, Karawara
A Cala	4 Crana Place, Karawara
Ms Clare McBeuth	5/202 Coode Street, Como
Mr Roger Atkinson	5/202 Coode Street, Como
Mr David Dale	16A Karoo Street, South Perth
Mr Warwick Boardman	20 Unwin Crescent Salter Point
Dr Clive Whitehead	2/35 Cale Street, Como
Robin Mulder	162 Lansdowne Road, Kensington
Mr Joseph Poprzeczny	2/32 Strickland Street South Perth
Mr Paddy Embry	5/45 Angelo Street, South Perth

3.1 APOLOGIES

Cr M Huston	Mill Point Ward (arrived at 7.03 pm as an observer in the Gallery)
Cr K Trent, OAM, RFD, JP	Moresby Ward (arrived at 7.46 pm as an observer in the Gallery)
Mr M Taylor	Acting Director Infrastructure Services
Mr Barrie Drake	2 Scenic Crescent, South Perth

3.2 APPROVED LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Cr V Lawrance, JP	Como Ward
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4. PRESENTATION OF THE ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

The Presiding Member spoke to slides, highlighting the year's achievements and covered the following topics:

Our City Snapshot

• Current population	46,113
• Employees (FTE)	231
• Rate revenue	\$28.58M
• Street and reserve trees planted	711
• New paths constructed	1.2km
• Path replacements	1.6km
• Residents granted citizenship	470

Strategic Directions

Strategic Plan 2013-2023

1. Community

Create opportunities for an inclusive, connected, active and safe community.

2. Environment

Enhance and develop public open spaces and manage impacts on the natural environment.

3. Housing and Land Uses

Accommodate the needs of a diverse and growing population.

4. Places

Develop, plan and facilitate vibrant and sustainable community and commercial places.

5. Infrastructure and Transport

Plan and facilitate efficient infrastructure and transport networks to meet the current and future needs of the community.

6. Governance, Advocacy and Corporate Management

Ensure that the City has the organisational capacity, advocacy and governance framework and systems to deliver the priorities identified in the Strategic Plan.

Community Highlights

- \$663,000 upgrade of the Dog Pound (now the "Animal Care Facility")
- 2014 Australia Day attracted over 60,000 people to the City's Celebration Zone
- The Public Open Space Strategy was implemented
- Aboriginal Reference Group was established
- City of South Perth Facebook page was launched
- Biennial Community Perception Survey 2014 key results:
 - The City ranked 2nd out of 21 local governments for resident satisfaction
 - City's average satisfaction score was 65%
 - 19 areas received a satisfaction score of more than 80%
 - 93% satisfaction with parks and sporting grounds
 - 97% satisfaction with the City as a place to live
 - 88% satisfaction with City staff and Council governance performance

Environment Highlights

- Began preparing Adaptation Action Plan – in response to Climate Change Risk Assessment
- Capital Works Program for Parks and Reserves saw \$540,000 in works completed
- Sir James Mitchell Park Foreshore Strategy and Management Plan progressed.

Housing and Land Use Highlights

- Amendment No.17 to Planning Scheme No. 6 was approved by the State Government (Measurement of the Height of Buildings)
- Amendment No. 40 to Planning Scheme No. 6 was approved by the State Government (Rezoning of Lot 6 - Como Hotel)
- 594 planning application approvals (\$181M in value)
- 85% of 263 planning applications not requiring consultation within 60 day target.

Places Highlights

- Acquisition of Manning Hub Reserve
- Old Mill Redevelopment progressing
- Project Management Plan completed for the Mends Street Precinct Upgrade and Redevelopment
- Preparations to sell the Civic Triangle

Transport and Infrastructure Highlights

- Under the 5 year Road Rehabilitation program, 4.3 km of road was resurfaced in 15 sections
- Additional cycling infrastructure was implemented under the Bike Plan 2011-2016
- Continued to implement the Integrated Transport Plan.

Governance, Advocacy and Corporate Management Highlights

- New Council elected – 12 elected members to 8
- Infrastructure was installed for NBN rollout
- Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system was established
- New “Report It” app
- Local Government Reform progressed
- Battle for Burswood Campaign
- Stand Up for South Perth Campaign

Financial Statements 2013/2014

The Presiding Member then called on the Director Financial and Information Services to provide an overview of the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2014. The Director Financial and Information Services gave a presentation covering the following topics:

- Financial Performance
- Financial Indicators
- Funding Sources
- Expenditure Types

The Chief Executive Officer advised that the Annual Report containing the Financial Statements is available online.

MOTION TO RECEIVE ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

The Presiding Member called for a ‘Procedural Motion’ from the Public Gallery to receive the Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2014 which were adopted at a Special Council Meeting of 11 November 2014.

A question was raised by Mr Geoff Defrenne of 24 Kennard Street, Kensington regarding expenditure in relation to local government reform within the Annual Report.

Response - Director of Financial and Information Services

The expenditure that relates to local government reform and the grant from the Department of Local Government to undertake the first phase of the due diligence reporting of local government reform are both included in the Report. There will not be a single line item identifying specific expenditure as it is not a statutory disclosure and there is no reason why it would be in the Financial Statements. However, reference is made in the Annual Report to both the grant in the narrative of the Chief Financial Officer's Report and there has been an acknowledgement around work that has been done in the area. It is not something that would be separately identifiable in the same way we identify everyday expenditure, such as mosquito treatment.

Motion to Receive the Annual Report and Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2014 AND ELECTORS' DECISION

Moved: Dr Clive Whitehead of 2/35 Cale Street, Como

Seconded: Warwick Boardman of 20 Unwin Crescent, Salter Point

That the Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2014 be received.

CARRIED (8/5)

5. PRESENTATION OF AUDITOR'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

The Presiding Member then called on the Director Financial and Information Services to provide an overview of the Auditor's Report for the Year Ended 30 June 2014. The Director Financial and Information Services gave a presentation covering the following topics:

- Auditor's Opinion
- Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

MOTION TO RECEIVE THE AUDITOR'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

The Presiding Member called for a 'Procedural Motion' from the Public Gallery to receive the Auditor's Report for the year ended 30 June 2014 which was considered at the Special Council Meeting of 11 November 2014.

Question - Mr Warwick Boardman of 20 Unwin Crescent, Salter Point

What was the cost of the audit to the City compared to last year?

Response - Director of Financial and Information Services

The audit of the Financial Report for the year was \$31,060 and there was a further amount during the year of \$4,700 which related to some requirements to acquit grant funding with the statement government. The total audit cost for the year was \$35,760.

In the previous year the total amount paid was \$27,330 which seems like a significant increase compared with the current year. The reason why the audit fee itself went up by that amount was because the fair value asset accounting note disclosures added something in the vicinity of 12 pages of additional notes to our accounts so there was additional substantial time required. In the previous year the amount of \$4000 was for grant acquittals.

Question - Mr D. Brooke of 8/20 Garden Street, South Perth
What is the length of the contract with Macri Partners?

Response - Director of Financial and Information Services

The City's Auditor is in the fourth year of a contract. It would under normal circumstances have one further year to run depending on what happens with local government amalgamations. In the event of amalgamation occurring, the new entity would necessarily have to go out for provision of audit services and typically again you would either take a 5 year term or as we have previously done, 3 years plus 2 x 1 year extensions, subject to satisfactory performance. In the selection process there would be weighted criteria – demonstrated previous expertise, availability of suitable personnel at the time, price is the least significant determinant of audit services and in the event there has been an extended associated with an audit firm it would be valid to consider whether or not to make a change. The same partner ultimately signs off the document – we changed audit managers half way through so one audit manager ran the audit for two years and then they swapped out and a different audit manager came in who hadn't previously worked with us.

Question - Mr Geoff Defrenne of 24 Kennard Street, Kensington

In regards to "lateness" in submitting the Report to the auditors, what are the consequences of doing so?

Response - Director of Financial and Information Services

We were later than the 30 September 2014 Departments deadline but had the City submitted the annual accounts on 28 September 2014 they would have sat unaudited until the end of October 2014 because that was the first available date that the auditors could have done the work - as it was the auditors who set an audit date of when would be their first available date and they were still presented with them ahead of that date. One of the reasons why we were able to get a faster turnaround than some other local governments have had was because of the work that had gone into the statements and we gave the auditors additional lead time to work on that before they physically came to site to do their checking.

In terms of the consequences, what would happen in this circumstance is that the auditor's report it to the Department of Local Government and they also will be signing some documentation which will be counter-signed by me suggesting that the difficulties that this created this year for the industry that the Department might like to reconsider the regulation and make it more practicable. There is no point in making councils submit before they can be audited.

Question - Mr Geoff Defrenne of 24 Kennard Street, Kensington

Are the auditors the accountants or auditors for any of our senior staff at the Council?

Answer - Director of Financial and Information Services

Yes there is a relationship and that relationship is declared before any involvement or discussion to work with the auditors and it is all appropriately disclosed within meeting Minutes.

Motion to receive the Auditor's Report for the Year Ended 30 June 2014 AND ELECTORS' DECISION

Moved: Dr Clive Whitehead of 2/35 Cale Street, Como

Seconded: Mr D. Brooke of 8/20 Garden Street, South Perth

That the Auditor's Report for the year ended 30 June 2014 be received.

CARRIED (9/0)

6. OTHER BUSINESS

6.1 NOTICE OF MOTION - MRS C. BROOKE OF 8/20 GARDEN STREET, SOUTH PERTH

Mrs C. Brooke read aloud a motion:

“That the CEO convenes a Special Meeting of Council within the next four weeks to consider a motion setting aside City monies to cover a commitment to fund the costs of:

- a) up to \$10,000 for any South Perth residents' community group which has more than 250 members or arranged or facilitated a petition for a poll signed by more than 250 residents of South Perth supporting a NO vote for the Amalgamation of the City of South Perth and the Town of Victoria Park; and*
- b) any South Perth residents' community group with more than 250 members supporting a YES vote.”*

The Presiding Member then called for a ‘Procedural Motion’ from the Public Gallery to move the Motion.

Reasons for the Motion

Given the position taken by the City of Kwinana to provide residents groups with up to \$100,000 to campaign and the Shire of Kalamunda providing financial assistance to residents to fight their presently unjust position of having no vote at all, it would seem reasonable that the City of South Perth provide its residents with financial assistance to present their cases to the residences of the City of South Perth - whether it be to support the amalgamation or to oppose it. The City can be assured that any information provided to residents will be as factually correct as can reasonably be expected and the reimbursement of expenses can only be provided on the provision of the receipts.

The experience of Noosa in Queensland was that of the 20% of shire rates paid by Noosa residents only 15% was spent in Noosa. Rates have generally skyrocketed with the newly amalgamated local governments. This is of great concern to the City of South Perth Residents Association and they are anxious that before the residents of South Perth cast their vote they are fully aware of the implications of their vote. The more recent example of a failure of local government amalgamation is Geraldton. The Association believes that the request is a fair and reasonable one – this is especially so given the enormous amount of money that is now being used by the City to comply with and promote the State’s agenda. The residents have no control how the City is spending their rates and believes that if Kwinana can manage the financial issues working with community groups the City of South Perth should have no difficulty in doing so.

Without this assistance the ability of our Association to raise awareness of the issues involved is limited given the short time we have to raise money. We realise that this is the worst possible time of year to be calling for a Special Meeting of Council but call upon the City to consider this request given the special circumstances.

Question - Mr Warwick Boardman of 20 Unwin Crescent, Salter Point
Is there any intention from the Council to send a “for/against” fact sheet?

Response - Presiding Member

The Local Government Advisory Board has put together a list of “pros and cons” in relation to amalgamation. Just before this meeting this evening the Councillors gathered and acted on a Council motion from our Special Council Meeting of 4 November 2014 regarding local government reform. One of the recommendations endorsed by Council was for it to put together a list of advantage and disadvantages in respect to local government reform. The Council has now finalised that document and it will be distributed to the community.

The Chief Executive Officer added that now that the document has been completed the City intends to finalise the document by Thursday 18 December 2014 to enable it to go to the printers to be printed before Christmas. It will get to Australia Post by 5 January 2015. It will take Australia Post approximately one week to compile the document in its system for it to be delivered in the second week of January, which is when we expect Australia Post to deliver the envelopes containing the ballot papers. They should arrive about the same time.

Question - Mr Geoff Defrenne of 24 Kennard Street, Kensington

Will the position of Council (advantages and disadvantages of amalgamation) be under the name of the Council or the Administration? When is the Council going to vote on the issue?

Response - Presiding Member

The Council moved the Motion that it identifies the advantages and disadvantages of amalgamation. Prior to this meeting Councillors reached agreement - it needs to come from the Councillors as representatives of the residents - this will then be disseminated to the community.

The Chief Executive Officer then clarified that the Council has resolved to make public a balanced statement of advantages and disadvantages – a workshop was held earlier this evening where agreement was reached. Unless a Special Council Meeting is called to endorse that position it will be subsequently endorsed in retrospect at the next Council Meeting.

Mr Geoff Defrenne then moved an Amendment to the Motion to add a part c) as follows: “any incorporated residents association within the City of South Perth be given the opportunity for funding.” for the reasons that other associations in the City of South Perth ought to also be given the opportunity to be funded up to \$10,000 to put out a case.

With the endorsement of the Mover and the Seconder, the Amended Motion then became the substantive. The Presiding Member put the Amended Motion.

AMENDED MOTION

Moved: Mrs C. Brooke of 8/20 Garden Street, South Perth

Seconded: Mr M Jennings of 19 Todd Avenue, Como

That the CEO convenes a Special Meeting of Council within the next four weeks to consider a motion setting aside City monies to cover a commitment to fund the costs of:

- a) up to \$10,000 for any South Perth residents' community group which has more than 250 members or arranged or facilitated a petition for a poll signed by more than 250 residents of South Perth supporting a NO vote for the Amalgamation of the City of South Perth and the Town of Victoria Park;
- b) any South Perth residents' community group with more than 250 members supporting a YES vote; and
- c) any incorporated residents association within the City of South Perth be given the opportunity for funding.

CARRIED (11/3)

Note: Mr David Dale of 16A Karoo Street, South Perth requested that his name be recorded in the Minutes as voting AGAINST the Motion.

Note: Mr Geoff Defrenne of 24 Kennard Street, Kensington requested that his name be recorded in the Minutes as voting FOR the Motion.

6.2 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC GALLERY

The Presiding Member opened the meeting to questions from the Gallery. The following is a summary of questions and responses:

Mr Joseph Poprzeczny of 2/32 Strickland Street, South Perth **Questions received at the meeting**

[Preamble] On the 25 November 2014 the Supreme Court rejected the application by the Cities of Subiaco and South Perth and the Shire of Serpentine/Jarrahdale for review of the local government process. The City of Subiaco has decided to appeal the court decision of 25 November 2014. A successful appeal would invalidate all of the Local Government Advisory Board's recommendations.

Question

In view of this will the Poll, currently set for 7 February 2015, be deferred until after the result of that appeal is known?

Response – Chief Executive Officer

Subiaco and Cambridge are linked together but they are not one of the three amalgamation proposals subject to a poll provision. The three local governments involved in amalgamation proposals are South Perth and Victoria Park, Cockburn and Kwinana and Fremantle and East Fremantle. In my view it follows that any appeal by Subiaco will not have any direct impact on the three amalgamation proposals. However, having said that if the action is successful it may have the capacity to overturn all decisions made in relation to the action – presumably poll decisions as well but that is all in future and probably speculative. The Minister has made his decision and we are obliged to follow that decision.

The Presiding Member advised she was prepared to write a letter to the Minister asking that the Poll be deferred until we know the outcome of the appeal.

Mr Greg Benjamin of 42 Norfolk Street, South Perth **Questions received 11 December 2014**

[Preamble] At the Special Council Meeting Local Government Reform on 04/11/2014, there was reference to a document giving details of the Estimated Merger Costs \$12,900,000 less Total Offsets & Savings \$3,280,000 = Net Total \$9,620,000 (refer Attachment 1 Item 7.6.4 pages 111 to 114).

Included in "Other Costs" total \$2,940,000 is "New Civic Centre Building Loan" total \$2,260,000 (= \$1,130,000 x 2 financial years) with description "Assumes new civic centre funded by loan".

Question

Regarding the Loan costs \$2,260,000

- (a) Do these loan costs relate only to interest?
- (b) What is the expected principal amount of the loan?
- (c) Is the loan expected to be fully paid out in 2017/18?

Response - Director Financial and Information Services

[Preamble] It is important to appreciate that the Cost Estimates which have been referred to in that particular Council Report are indicative figures developed in the same way as I would normally try to do in the 10 year forward plan – they represent the most informed and realistic allocations at the time. They may potentially be further refined as they are worked through. The figures quoted there represent the net costs excluding any contributions from

grants or the realisation of any duplicate or redundant sites such as administration or depot sites. Also within that cost we need to keep in context is for the combined local entity. In terms of the loan itself, does it relate to interest only, what I've done in that circumstance is provided the first two years' worth of principal repayments of what would be a longer term, loan matched with the life of a new building – the loan building could potentially be as much as 20 years if you are doing it as a single loan however given that we spoke before about the subsequent realisation of duplicate buildings – those things would potentially affect the term of the loan (shortened) so what would need to be done is you would look at whether a loan would be taken and how it would be structured in terms of repayment opportunities. The loan is but one component of a more comprehensive potential funding package.

Response - Chief Executive Officer

Emphasised that whether or not a new administration centre will be built is yet to be determined. There has been no discussion on that between the two councils and there probably will not be because that will be a decision for the new City of South Park in approximately one year when that Council is formed. It may well be that that new Council chooses not to build a new administration building – it may lease somewhere for example. It may extend current facilities or do a deal with the government with one of their buildings. Nobody knows as there have been no discussions on this and it is not appropriate for there to be discussions at this time. The people around this table (Councillors) and the people around the Town of Victoria Park table will not be making the decision. They are not in a position to make that decision. The Councillors of the City of South Park are the only properly constituted body to make that decision. What we have done is look in our crystal ball and said we have a responsibility to put at least some costs in the forward budget to recognise the cost of reform so that our Council has an idea of what it might cost. We do not know what the future is so we have estimated that a new building may be necessary and we have recorded the costs and we have made it clear in that report – it may or not happen but if it does happen, those are the indicative costs.

Question

What is the estimated total capital cost of a new civic centre?

- (a) Where will any proposed new civic centre be located?
- (b) Will land need to be acquired? If so, what is the expected cost?
- (c) What will happen to the current civic centre (will it be sold and redeveloped)?

Question

Where will funding of the capital cost of a new civic centre come from? If funded from reserves, what are the current balances of those reserves?

Response - Director Financial and Information Services

It is a valid question to ask but as the Chief Executive Officer indicated to try to speculate on what the cost of a new building may be at this time is premature because as the Chief Executive Officer indicated its neither Councils' decision – it's the new Council's decision. Realistically a new building will not be commenced until at least year three. As the Chief Executive Officer indicated there has not been a decision made – it is a reasonable thing to assume that there is a requirement for a new building. The emphasis so far has been predominately on the cost side of it – what we haven't had was people asking what things are going into the funding mix. As we indicated before there will be duplicate or redundant facilities which, when those are realised, it is highly likely that a very substantial portion of whatever the number is going to be offset. The likelihood is that all three sites sitting on freehold land can be realised. Understand that there are two sides to the equation – we can't just seize on the cost and not the inflow.

In terms of where the civic centre might be located, there are a number of potential sites that could be identified but the one observation important to note that if one considers the principals of good land management practice – where you are building a civic building you would typically choose to locate that on a piece of crown land this is already controlled by one of the local government entities rather than on freehold land. It makes good business sense. The answer is that land needs to be acquired – there are options which the City has control of in which case the land cost would be zero.

In relation to major discretionary capital projects that the City has planned within our own in the long term financial plan, we would typically look at having a funding mix – cash reserves, grants able to be accessed, loans and also what if any contribution comes from municipal funds. It would be important to ensure it is responsible and sustainable into the future – it would be a contribution from the Town of Victoria Park, City of South Perth (and Canning) not just the City of South Perth.

Response - Chief Executive Officer

If the City and Town of Victoria Park initiated this process under its own volition and in its own time we would have ample opportunity to consider these issues. However, this is not our process. It has been forced on us in the timeframe that we believe is not appropriate. In an ideal world we should be able to have all of these questions answered and we should all have access to a whole lot of relevant information. There is not a lot we can do about it – we have been on the back-foot since day one and that is why, I believe, the Council took a very responsible action by preparing a submission to the Board because if we didn't the Local Government Advisory Board would have only had the government's submission to refer to when considering its decision. Only 6 weeks ago the public heard from the government as to what the Board had decided. There has been no time to do any of this work but as I mentioned it is not a decision that the City of South Perth or Town of Victoria Park can make – it is a decision for the City of South Park.

Mr Paddy Embry 5/45 Angelo Street, South Perth
Questions received at the meeting

Question

If the Poll goes that we are forced to amalgamate why is it therefore necessary to consider a new building?

Response

It will be up to the new City of South Park to decide what they want to do.

Mr M Jennings of 19 Todd Avenue, Como
Questions received at the meeting

Question

If we are going to have a Poll can we have two separate questions: 1) "Should the City of South Perth and the Town of Victoria Park be abolished and amalgamated to form a new local government?" and 2) "If this happens should it be named the *City of South Park* or an alternative?".

Response – Chief Executive Officer

The local governments have no say at all about the form of questions the West Australian Electoral Commission put out on behalf of the state government. That wording has already been determined and it will be consistent and have the same advantages and disadvantages for each local government and each proposal.

Mr Warwick Boardman of 20 Unwin Crescent, Salter Point
Questions received at the meeting

Question 1

Are there any Key Performance Indicators to evaluate whether Council is doing well in terms of environment (ie. weed management, successful plantings, successful seed germination or success transplants)?

Response – Chief Executive Officer

Not specifically, however, the index of the Annual Report refers to a number of sections concerning the Environment, each with various success measures including the examples given in the question.

Question 2

How much control over outcomes does the Environmental Officer have?

Response – Chief Executive Officer

Environment is a very big part of our operations – a third of our municipality is either public open space, reserves or foreshores and the largest single workforce unit is related to our environment management in one way, shape or form so the Environmental section has a big say in what we do in terms of environment.

Mr Geoff Defrenne of 24 Kennard Street, Kensington
Questions received at the meeting

Question

Could Finbar be used to get the City's projects off and running as they seem to be more efficient at it?

Response by the Mayor

We go through a Tender Process as required under the Local Government Act and there are criteria for companies to tender.

Question

In relation to amalgamation will some of the errors made by either Council be revealed?

Response – Director Financial and Information Services

The first phase of the local government reform process which was very much around that due diligence process was intended to identify and document those sorts of issues. The due diligence process is intended to identify issues and these are tabled and appropriately managed and mitigated as we go forward.

Question

Will we be informed of potential sites where savings might occur? Will we be informed of the figure? What are the chances of savings potential being achieved?

Response - Director Financial and Information Services

In the absence of others having provided financial information to support this issue the City took it upon itself to undertake some work around potential costs and potential savings. Given the timelines that we have been given to work to the emphasis has necessarily been on how we can deliver the most seamless service transition to our community (ie. harmonizing our technology and work processes – those that have an immediate impact on the community from day one). Those costing are actually much more sophisticated and much more refined. With relation to a potential that may or may not be required a new building will not be required on day one so rigour has not been put on those costs - figures

have been quite specific for those activities that have immediate affect rather than those that are considered in the longer term. The services we are able to offer on day one are the most critical consideration.

Question

In relation to the R80 codes (parking), what is Council doing to make the appropriate changes as fast as possible or publically complaining to the Minister to say that what he's doing is imposing onto us something we can't adapt to?

Response - by the Director Community and Development Services

The City is currently in the process of engaging some planning consultants to do a study with us on Canning Highway and on those issues that arise where the R80 is adjacent to R15 or R20 and solve those issues - come up with guidelines and scheme provisions that can assist us with that.

Dr Clive Whitehead of 2/35 Cale Street, Como
Questions received at the meeting

Question 1

Are the Polls counted separately (Town of Victoria Park and City of South Perth)?

Response – Presiding Member

Yes.

7. CLOSURE

The Presiding Member thanked everyone for their attendance and wished everyone a good Christmas and a prosperous new year and closed the meeting at 9.03 pm.

These Minutes were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting of 24 February 2015

Signed _____

Presiding Member at the meeting at which the Minutes were confirmed.