

# Playspaces Advisory Committee Meeting Record 6 May 2020



Location:	Skype Meeting	
Date:	6 May 2020	
Time	Started at: 4.03pm	Closed at: 5.05pm
Chair	Councillor Jillian Hogan	
File Ref	F2019/00998	

## **Present:**

Councillor Rebecca Gale, Councillor Jillian Hogan, Councillor Chris Holstein, Councillor Kyle MacGregor, Jason Blackwood, Ted Edwards, Briohny Kennedy,

## **Council Staff present:**

Scott Cox – Director Environment and Planning (left 4.40pm), Brett Sherar – Unit Manager Open Space and Recreation, Katherine Simmons – Recreation Planner Open Space and Recreation, Emma Wallace – Parks and Playground Officer, Donna Payne – Advisory Group Support Officer

## **Item 1 Welcome, Acknowledgement of Country and Apologies**

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Apologies received: Mayor Lisa Matthews, Susan Donoghue, Danielle Leete, Katie Stokes, Ian Rhodes – Landscape and Recreation Planner Open Space Projects and Planning

The Chairperson, Councillor Jillian Hogan, completed an Acknowledgement of Country and Connection to Land statement.

## **Item 2 Disclosures of Interest**

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No disclosures of interest were made.

## **Item 3 Confirmation of Previous Meeting Record**

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The Advisory Group confirmed the Meeting Records from 19 December 2019 and 18 February 2020 (no quorum).

The Advisory Group reviewed the Action Log.

#### **Item 4 Update on Delivery of Parks and Playspaces Works Program**

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Brett Sherar – Unit Manager Open Space and Recreation provided an update on the delivery of parks and playspaces and displayed a copy of the Capital Works spreadsheet for the Advisory Group's reference.

It was confirmed that there are 29 parks and playspaces in the works program that currently have designs completed.

There are two multi-year projects (Susan Fey Park and Swadling Reserve) and all other playspace projects on track to be completed this financial year.

The program at Lake Munmorah is going back to consultation. Due to the size of the project, it was reliant on face to face consults using clay modelling for areas such as the skate park. This is anticipated to be up and running in the next few weeks.

An update on the playspace at Shelley Beach Rd Empire Bay was also given. It was noted that a purchase order for equipment has been raised with an anticipated finish date by the end of the financial year. Works include a pump track, picnic furniture, fitness equipment and an upgrade to the current amenities block. A bouldering unit is expected to be installed in mid-June 2020.

The Peninsula Recreation Precinct was also discussed which is dependent on a Federal Government Grant. The draft design of the skate park and pump track is finalised and is ready to proceed pending formalising of the Grant documentation.

**Action:** Staff to provide a copy of the Capital Works spreadsheet displayed in the meeting to the Advisory Group Support Officer who will distribute to the Advisory Group members.

#### **Item 5 Resource Request from Previous Meeting**

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Scott Cox – Director Environment and Planning explained that Environment and Planning has undergone a consolidation and reconstruction to enable the establishment of a Project Management Delivery Unit with the hope that this will free up maintenance staff. The request for resources will be taken forward to see what opportunities present in next year's budget.

#### **Item 6 Difference in Cost and Life Expectancy of Playspace Equipment (Action Item 8)**

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Brett Sherar – Unit Manager Open Space and Recreation explained that the costs depended on the size and scope of a project and gave the following example with approximate amounts that related to a local sized playspace.

- Connect water to site and erect fencing (\$3,500)
- Earthworks and grading etc (\$9,000+)
- Include standard equipment such a swing (\$2,000 each) and spinning equipment (\$1,500 each)

A basic playspace climbing gym can cost around \$30,000

- Further costs incurred will depend on the type of surface (e.g. rubberised soft-fall), edging, pathways used
- A commercial-grade shade sail can add another \$60,000 to a public playspace

Therefore, the approximate cost for a local playspace can equate to approximately \$211,000 if everything is included.

**Action:** Staff to provide a copy of the Local Playspace costs Spreadsheet that outlined the playspace costs displayed in the meeting to the Advisory Group Support Officer who will distribute to the Advisory Group members.

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## **Item 7                    S7:11 List Playgrounds (Action 11)**

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Brett Sherar – Unit Manager Open Space and Recreation advised the Action Log provided an update, which was as follows:

*“The new LEP and DCP will not alter the allocation of existing and proposed open space land. Council collects contributions for open space provision and embellishments. Open space land provision is categorised as local, district and regional and local open space usually contains a playspace. Council staff are undertaking a consultant led review of the s7.11 Warnervale District Contributions Plan and this will be brought to Council later this year to request public exhibition”.*

Katherine Simmons – Recreation Planner Open Space and Recreation further advised that there are 3-4 funded projects under S7:11 in the north and information regarding the south will be sourced.

Scott Cox – Director Environment and Planning advised that Environment and Planning are working in conjunction with the Connected Communities and Roads Transport Drainage and Waste on 4 year and 10 year delivery plans.

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## **Item 8                    Review of Feedback provided on Spinning Bucket Play Equipment**

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The Advisory Group reviewed the feedback on the spinning bucket, the consensus was that there is a level of risk on all play equipment. The carer or parent supervising a child in a playspace where there is play equipment should have an understanding of that child’s capacity and allow participation or use based on this capacity.

It was noted that there are no recorded injuries in relation to the spinning bucket play equipment and that it meets Australian Standards.

**Action:** Staff to prepare a response to the community member that had concerns surrounding the piece of equipment that the Advisory Group’s assessment is that the Spinning Bucket meets Australian Standards. If further complaints are received, consideration will be given into the future of the piece of equipment.

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## **Item 9                    General Business and Close**

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Briohny Kennedy discussed inclusiveness in playspaces and the ability for parents and kids of all abilities to be able to play together. Playground equipment was discussed, in particular the Inclusive Swing Set. Staff acknowledged that Council’s strategy is to look at all age groups and abilities when deciding on play equipment.

It was requested that consideration be given when design future playspaces to allow as many kids to play as possible as part of an overall strategy in regional areas.

Councillor Holstein requested to view the design for the Aqua Playspace on the Peninsula and asked if it includes an indoor play area near the café.

**Action:** Phil Cantillon – Unit Manager Leisure and Lifestyle to be forwarded an invitation to the next meeting to give an overview of the Aqua Playspace on the Peninsula.

The meeting closed at 5.05pm.

**Next Meeting:**            **Wednesday 5 August 2020**  
                                 **4pm – 6pm**  
                                 **Location TBC**