

# AMENDED ITEM

25 March 2015

To the Ordinary Council Meeting

Councillor

## 8.1 Notice of Motion - 2016 Whale Dreamer's Festival Possible Closure?

---

TRIM REFERENCE: F2010/01767 - D11879442

AUTHORS: Greg Best; Councillor

Lynne Webster; Councillor

Councillors Best and Webster have given notice that at the Ordinary Council Meeting to be held on 25 March 2015 they will move the following Motion:

- “1 That Council note with concern that 2015 will be the last year of the Whale Dreamer's Festival being managed by the current steering committee and that this may result in the highly successful Whale Dreamer's Festival being forced to close.
- 2 That Council thank and congratulate the current Steering Committee for its outstanding commitment and dedication to this highly successful event which promotes whale conservation while exposing the insidious impacts of whaling.
- 3 That Council recognise this event has now become the Coasts' premier environmental event that demonstrates Councils' and indeed the wider communities commitment to our local marine environment.
- 4 That Council request the General Manager to provide a progress report on the coordination of the 2015 event & what Council assistance is currently being provided, further what Council in partnership with the community & local environmental groups can do to ensure the continuation of this highly successful community and environmental event.”

### RESOURCES

Information will be provided within existing resources.

### COUNCILLOR NOTE

As patron of the Whale Dreamers Festival I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the current WDF Steering Committee for their outstanding commitment and dedication to whale conservation and community education. Also I would like to recognize the excellent efforts of Council Staff for their on going assistance & our community volunteers.

I recall the most modest and humble beginnings of our first event. Now today some 8 years on the WDF is the premier environmental event of the year, drawing thousands of people from across the region to enjoy the event while marveling at the spectacular backdrop of the Norah Head Lighthouse & often a flotilla of passing Whales.

I believe it is incumbent upon us as Civic Leaders to maintain this event and pass the batten of hard fought change to future generations that will be the custodians of these spectacular marine mammals.

In my view it would be an environmental disaster if this festival was forced to close.