



CITY OF HOBART

AGENDA

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING (OPEN PORTION OF THE MEETING)

THURSDAY 14 APRIL 2016

AT 5.00 PM

THE MISSION

Our mission is to ensure good governance of our capital City.

THE VALUES

The Council is:

about people

We value people – our community, our customers and colleagues.

professional

We take pride in our work.

enterprising

We look for ways to create value.

responsive

We're accessible and focused on service.

inclusive

We respect diversity in people and ideas.

making a difference

We recognise that everything we do shapes Hobart's future.

HOBART 2025 VISION

In 2025 Hobart will be a city that:

- Offers opportunities for all ages and a city for life
 - Is recognised for its natural beauty and quality of environment
 - Is well governed at a regional and community level
 - Achieves good quality development and urban management
 - Is highly accessible through efficient transport options
 - Builds strong and healthy communities through diversity, participation and empathy
 - Is dynamic, vibrant and culturally expressive
-


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BUSINESS LISTED ON THE AGENDA IS TO BE CONDUCTED IN THE ORDER IN WHICH IT IS SET OUT UNLESS THE COMMITTEE BY SIMPLE MAJORITY DETERMINES OTHERWISE

I, Nicholas David Heath, General Manager of the Hobart City Council, hereby certify that:

1. In accordance with Section 65 of the Local Government Act 1993, the reports in this agenda have been prepared by persons who have the qualifications or the experience necessary to give such advice, information or recommendations included therein.
2. No interests have been notified, pursuant to Section 55(1) of the Local Government Act 1993, other than those that have been advised to the Council.


N.D. HEATH
GENERAL MANAGER

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE AGENDA (OPEN)

Committee Members

Reynolds (Chairman)

Briscoe

Ruzicka

Sexton

Aldermen

Lord Mayor Hickey

Deputy Lord Mayor Christie

Zucco

Burnet

Cocker

Thomas

Denison

Parks and Recreation Committee (Open Portion of the Meeting) - Thursday, 14 April 2016 at 5.00 pm in the Lady Osborne Room.

PRESENT:

APOLOGIES:

LEAVE OF ABSENCE: Alderman J R Briscoe.

CO-OPTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN THE EVENT OF A VACANCY

Where a vacancy may exist from time to time on the Committee, the Local Government Act 1993 provides that the Council Committees may fill such a vacancy.

- 1. MINUTES OF THE OPEN PORTION OF THE MEETING OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY, 10 MARCH 2016 AND A SPECIAL MEETING HELD MONDAY, 7 MARCH 2016**
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**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE AGENDA
(OPEN PORTION OF THE MEETING)
14/4/2016**

2. CONSIDERATION OF SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS TO THE AGENDA

In accordance with the requirements of Part 2 Regulation 8 (6) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015, the Committee, by simple majority may approve the consideration of a matter not appearing on the agenda, where the General Manager has reported:

- (a) the reason it was not possible to include the matter on the agenda, and
- (b) that the matter is urgent, and
- (c) that advice has been provided under Section 65 of the Local Government Act 1993.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee resolve to deal with any supplementary items not appearing on the agenda, as reported by the General Manager in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015.

3. INDICATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

In accordance with Part 2 Regulation 8 (7) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015, the chairman of a meeting is to request Aldermen to indicate whether they have, or are likely to have, a pecuniary interest in any item on the agenda.

In addition, in accordance with the Council's resolution of 14 April 2008, Aldermen are requested to indicate any conflicts of interest in accordance with the Aldermanic Code of Conduct adopted by the Council on 27 August 2007.

Accordingly, Aldermen are requested to advise of pecuniary or conflicts of interest they may have in respect to any matter appearing on the agenda, or any supplementary item to the agenda, which the committee has resolved to deal with, in accordance with Part 2 Regulation 8 (6) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015.

4. TRANSFER OF AGENDA ITEMS

Are there any items which the meeting believes should be transferred from this agenda to the closed agenda or from the closed agenda to the open agenda, in accordance with the procedures allowed under Regulation 15 of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015?

**5. WILLIAM LAMBIE – REQUEST TO ERECT A MEMORIAL PLAQUE –
FILE REF: 14-50-1**

13x's

Report of the Director Parks and City Amenity and the Senior Cultural Heritage Officer of 6 April 2016 and attachment.

DELEGATION: Council

TO : Parks and Recreation Committee

FROM : Director Parks and City Amenities
Senior Cultural Heritage Officer

DATE : 6 April 2016

SUBJECT : **WILLIAM LAMBIE – REQUEST TO ERECT A MEMORIAL PLAQUE**

FILE : 14-50-1 BPL:BPL (s:\heritage\nurse orr\report for committee - lambie plaque 20160406.doc)

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. This report considers a request from the Organiser of the Boer War Commemorative Day, Mr Reg. A. Watson, for the Council to erect a memorial plaque to William Lambie.
- 1.2. The report recommends that the present request be declined, to enable other options to be considered.

2. PROPOSAL

- 2.1. The request from the Organiser of the Boer War Commemorative Day centres on the establishment of a small memorial plaque to William Lambie, a Victorian journalist who was killed whilst in the company of a group of Tasmanian soldiers in the South African wars (the Boer War) in 1899-1902.
- 2.2. Mr Watson's request is as follows:

This year I am contemplating to honour the first Australian War Correspondent to be killed in the service of his profession, William Lambie with a plaque. Lambie, though a Victorian, worked as a journalist in Hobart (1883-4) and was wounded during the 1885 Sudan campaign. During the Boer War he was ambushed while out on patrol with Tasmanians. He, along with two Tasmanians, were killed. They were buried on the spot. Soon after the war was over, their bodies were exhumed and reburied. Lambie was buried with the Tasmanians. I think it is time he was remembered and because of his close association with Tasmania why not here?

- 2.3. The proposed plaque, set on a small concrete plinth, would be of modest size, similar to the form used for the 2012 Nurse Orr plaque (based upon a standard Commonwealth War Grave plinth design).
- 2.4. The proposed plaque would be located nearby the existing Boer War Memorial, next to the 2012 Nurse Orr plaque.

- 2.5. The cost of the proposed plaque would be funded by a donation offered by the *Mercury* newspaper.
- 2.6. If approved, it is intended that the memorial would be unveiled at the Boer War Commemoration Day in June 2016.

3. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND



William John Lambie (1860-1900)

<http://mv.ancestry.com.au/viewer/314652ac-481b-4c81-87e1-6e27074fb3d1/2152814/25576422672>

- 3.1. William Lambie was the first Australian war correspondent to die in the service of his profession.
- 3.2. Lambie was born in Scotland in 1860 and arrived in Australia with his family at the age of three. He was educated in Victoria. In 1883 Lambie arrived in Tasmania and spent a brief period (less than 12 months) working as a journalist with the *Mercury* newspaper. He then moved to New South Wales, accepting a position with the *Sydney Morning Herald*.

- 3.3. Lambie covered the Sudan War in 1885 and as a journalist for the Melbourne papers, *The Age* and *The Leader*, he served as war correspondent in the South African War (Second Anglo-Boer War) commonly referred to as the “Boer War”.
- 3.4. On 9 January 1900 Lambie and another correspondent (A.G. Hales) were accompanying a patrol of Australian troopers, when they came under enemy attack. The soldiers were from Tasmania, and two were killed. Lambie was killed while attempting to escape. Lambie was initially buried with the two Tasmanian soldiers.



Lambie memorial, Colesberg Garden of Remembrance, South Africa

<http://mv.ancestry.com.au/viewer/38912ec4-4d67-4b9e-9496-8a5990f0d1f1/19490392/19777312127>

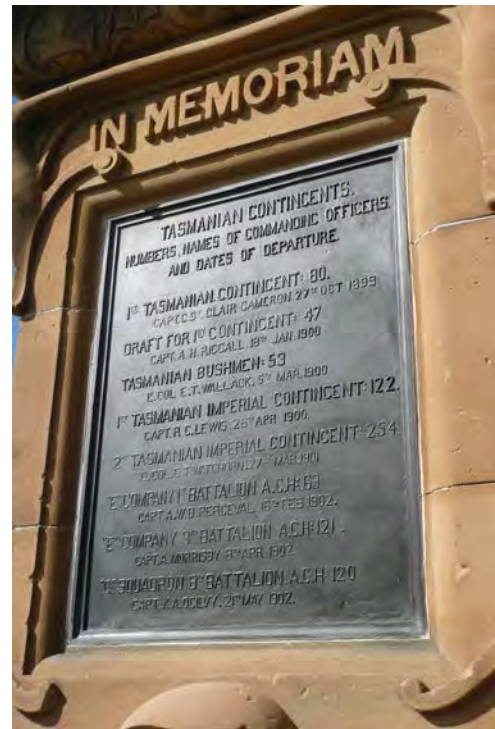
- 3.5. Lambie was honoured in a memorial to Boer War casualties unveiled in St Paul's Cathedral, London in March 1905. There was also a plaque in his memory at the offices of *The Age* in Melbourne, though this has long since disappeared.
- 3.6. At the time of his death, his widow, Clara Ada Church Lambie (1862-1946) approved the establishment of a memorial shield or cup (known as the W.J. Lambie Shield) – with an annual competition for rifle shooting

open to volunteer and military personnel throughout Australia. Journalists around Australia were invited to subscribe to the costs associated with the competition.

- 3.7. In 2012, Lambie was inducted into the Melbourne Press Club Hall of Fame.
- 3.8. An article on William Lambie by Reg. Watson (Organiser of the Boer War Commemorative Day) is **Attachment A**.

4. BOER WAR MEMORIAL

- 4.1. The Boer War Memorial, originally entitled the Tasmanian Soldiers' National Memorial, is prominently located on a rise above the junction of Liverpool Street and the Tasman Highway on the Queen's Domain, not far from the Hobart Aquatic Centre. It is a landmark which predates the formation of the Soldiers' Memorial Avenue (1918) and the Cenotaph (1926).
- 4.2. The memorial features a cast bronze statue of a soldier, set on a high sandstone pedestal. The foundation stone was laid by HRH the Duke of Cornwall and York (the future King George V) in a public ceremony on 4 July 1901. The completed monument was unveiled on 1 February 1905.
- 4.3. The substantial dado of the pedestal features bronze panels – one detailing the Tasmanian contingents that went to South Africa, the numbers of men, names of commanding officers, and dates of departure; another listing 32 individual names of Tasmanian soldiers who died in the South African War 1899-1902.
- 4.4. The monument was designed by Hobart architect Alan Walker, who served as honorary architect to the memorial committee. His design was described at the time as being in the “modern Renaissance” style. Walker is best known for his design of the Hobart GPO, the foundation stone of which was also laid by the Duke – two days later. The stonework and ornamental carving was executed by Messrs Rodgers and Young and the bronze bas relief work and the principal sculpture by Benjamin Sheppard, art instructor at the Hobart Technical College.



The existing Boer War Memorial, dedicated in 1905.



The 2012 Nurse Orr plaque in front of the Boer War Memorial.

5. DISCUSSION

- 5.1. The proposal appears simple and straightforward but as with other similar proposals, there are ‘pros and cons’. These are summarised in the table below:

Arguments in favour:	Arguments against:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lambie died with two Tasmanian soldiers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Boer War Memorial is for Tasmanian soldiers; not for individuals; the monument lists the various Tasmanian contingents and their commanding officers and, on a separate panel, those who were killed in service.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> He worked as a journalist with the local Hobart newspaper, the <i>Mercury</i> in 1883-84. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lambie was not a Tasmanian – he was born in Scotland; grew up in Victoria; worked in Victoria, and NSW and (for less than 12 months) in Tasmania.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lambie is not commemorated elsewhere in Tasmania. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lambie is commemorated at St Paul’s Cathedral and previously at the offices of <i>The Age</i> in Melbourne. There is also the recently-unveiled memorial to war correspondents in Canberra. Lambie’s widow sanctioned an annual prize for rifle-shooting, known as the W.J. Lambie Shield.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognition of Lambie’s service as a war correspondent is not adequate within community. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lambie’s links with Hobart are relatively tenuous.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The plaque could set a precedent for individual plaques and memorials in close proximity to the existing monument. • The Boer War Memorial (1905) is different to the later Soldiers Memorial Avenue (1918), where each tree represents a fallen soldier, and each has a plaque.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The plaque for Nurse Orr and other Tasmanian nurses was added in 2012 for specific valid reasons as an appropriate acknowledgement of their contribution which had been hitherto unrecognised.

6. STRATEGIC PLANNING IMPLICATIONS

6.1. FD4.1 states:

FD4.1. The city remains unique in its own right, protecting its built heritage and history.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1. The cost of the proposed commemorative plinth and plaque would be funded by a donation from the *Mercury* newspaper.

8. IMPACT ON OPERATIONAL BUDGET

8.1. The funding is from an external source as outlined above.

9. LEGAL AND RISK IMPLICATIONS

9.1. None foreseen.

10. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS INCLUDING CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABILITY

10.1. None foreseen.

11. SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1. The Boer War Memorial is an important historical monument, which is culturally significant for its historical and social associations with past generations of the Hobart community. Funds for the monument were raised by public subscription, and the impact of the war was felt deeply by all members of the Hobart community.
- 11.2. For many years after the conclusion of the war, families gathered to honour their loved ones who did not return.
- 11.3. The ceremonies continue to this day, ensuring ongoing commemoration of a significant event in history.

12. PUBLIC/CUSTOMER IMPLICATIONS

- 12.1. As noted in section 11.0 above.

13. MEDIA/PUBLIC RELATIONS IMPLICATIONS

- 13.1. The contribution of William Lambie and other correspondents who have served in times of conflict deserves public recognition. This has been marked with the national memorial in Canberra, dedicated in September 2015.
- 13.2. The *Mercury* newspaper has agreed to fund the production of the plinth and plaque.

14. DELEGATION

- 14.1. Council.

15. CONSULTATION

- 15.1. The matter was referred to the State President of the Returned and Services League Tasmania (RSL), Mr Robert Dick, who advised as follows:

I have discussed this proposal with the relevant people associated with the Boer War Memorial area and can see no reason why approval for this plaque should not be given.

I have been given assurances that the suggested plaque will in no way detract from the present memorials/plaques in the area.

Also I believe that a precedence may have already been set with the approval and installation of the plinth for Nurse Orr, despite this however I think that as long as due process is followed and any future (if any) applications be received, they should be judged on their historical merit and relevance to the area in question.

16. CONCLUSION

- 16.1. The request for a small commemorative plaque for William Lambie has some merit, though his association with Hobart is not strong. The installation of a plaque for a specific individual in the manner proposed is incongruous in relation to the commemoration of others duly commemorated on the actual monument. The Nurse Orr plaque recognises the contribution of all Tasmanian nurses who served in South Africa.
- 16.2. Lambie was not a Tasmanian; he worked here for a few months as a young journalist. He was working for the Melbourne newspapers at the time of his death in 1900. Two Tasmanian soldiers were killed in the same incident.
- 16.3. It is considered that other opportunities of marking Lambie's service (and that of other war correspondents) should be explored in preference to placing a plaque at the Boer War Memorial.

17. **RECOMMENDATION**

That

- 17.1. Report BPL:BPL(s:\heritage\hcc properties\boer war memorial\report for committe - lambie plaque 20160406.doc) be received and noted.*
- 17.2. The Council advise the organiser of the Boer War Commemorative Day, that it respectfully declines the request for the installation of a plaque in honour of William John Lambie.*
- 17.3. The Council encourage the proponent to explore other opportunities for acknowledging the service of all war correspondents.*



(Brendan Lennard)
**SENIOR CULTURAL
HERITAGE OFFICER**



(Glen Doyle)
**DIRECTOR PARKS AND
CITY AMENITY**

Attachment A: Article by Reg. A. Watson

WILLIAM LAMBIE
AUSTRALIA'S FIRST WAR CORRESPONDENT TO
DIE IN THE SERVICE OF HIS PROFESSION.

by

Reg. A. Watson.

William John Lambie has the sad distinction of being the first ever Australian war correspondent to die in the service of his profession. Killed in 1900 during The Anglo-Boer War. Yet today, hardly anyone remembers this brave and dedicated man. Once a plaque adorned the walls of The Age newspaper in Melbourne, but that has long since gone. Perhaps it is now time that we should recall the exploits of William Lambie and remember him.

His other distinction (if we can call it that) it is believed that he was the first Victorian fatality of the war.

South African researcher, Theo Maree, has achieved an exciting development. The exact spot where the Boers killed Lambie and two troopers had long been forgotten, because of its remoteness in the Transvaal. Theo has rediscovered the location and with the amazing fact that his grandfather was one who ambushed Lambie and his colleagues, we can reconstruct exactly what happened on that fateful day.

Although a Victorian, Lambie was killed with Tasmanians and because so, is buried with Tasmanians and is listed as one. He was working for The Melbourne Age newspaper when he was shot. It is believed that he was also Victoria's first casualty in the war. Some Victorians who served with irregular units were killed in earlier actions.

The Leader Souvenir (published by The Age) stated the gentleman William John Lambie has been chosen for the job as war correspondent to keep readers informed of the war in the Transvaal. It added, "*our representative will be in time to share, it is hoped, with the Australian troopers in the most interesting events of the war.*"

"*Mr Lambie has had a stirring journalistic career and an experience of actual warfare enjoyed by no other Australian pressman.*" (Oct. 28 1899).

Lambie's time in South Africa was short lived. He was attached to the 1st Australian Regiment, a pre Federation unit combining contingents from all the Australian colonies. Just three months later The Age reported: "*It is with the deepest regret that we publish the sad news cabled from England of the death of Mr W.J. Lambie special correspondent of The Age in South Africa.*" (Feb 13, 1900).

Although commonly referred to as the 'Boer War' it was not the first conflict Australian war correspondents covered. It was, however, certainly the first to be substantially serviced by local journalists. Some Australian journalist represented English papers, while other represented multiple newspapers, such as Frank Wilkinson. (Sydney Daily Telegraph, Melbourne Age, Adelaide Advertiser). It was where the famous 'Banjo' Paterson worked as a journalist for Reuters, Sydney Morning Herald and the Melbourne Argus. Paterson only writes briefly of Lambie's death, saying "*We hear that the infantry has had a bad time at Colesberg and that Lambie is killed – a very simple matter to happen among these kopjes.*"

The Boers later blindfolded two journalists, W.T. Reay and J.A. Cameron, and took them to where Lambie was killed. They expressed regret at the death of a non-combatant.

Lambie at the time of his demise (Feb 9, 1900) was accompanied by fellow Western Australian journalist, Alfred Greenwood. (Smiley) Hales (London Daily News), who wrote of the affair: *“By the light of the lantern, I saddled my horse and snatched a hasty cup of coffee and a mouthful of biscuit and as the little band of Tasmanians moved from Rensbug, I rode with them. Where they were going or what their mission I did not know, but I guessed it was to be no picnic.”*

The small patrol band of young Tasmanians was under the command of Captain Cameron. A large party of Boers closely watched their movements. A scout spied the enemy and as a consequence, Captain Cameron split his command, one to move towards the kopjes and the other to fall back to protect the rear. Lambie and Hales decided to move with the advance party.

The Tasmanians came under fire, dismounted and returned the fire. Trooper Pearce was shot through the neck, but survived. Trooper Gilham cried out that he had been shot through the shoulder and in trying to get under better cover received a mortal shot through his heart. Fellow trooper, Alfred Button was killed outright. The Boers called on Lambie and Hales to surrender, but ignoring the call they galloped on in the hope of reaching cover. The Boers opened fire and shot accurately, toppling Lambie from his saddle, to die on the spot. Hales made it, but stated of Lambie's death, *“had come to him sudden and sharp”*. *

The toll of the ambush was two Tasmanians killed, one war correspondent, one trooper wounded and four Tasmanians taken prisoner together with correspondent Hales. It is reported that 11 Boers were killed. So ended the short life of William Lambie, war correspondent. Eventually his next of kin would receive the Queens South African Medal, without clasps.

The Age reported: *“The late Mr. Lambie was barely forty years old. A native of Argyleshire. Mr. Lambie is the son of the manse, his father being the late Rev. James Lambie, a well-known Presbyterian minister on the Werribee. He was thoroughly Australian and had had varied experience of journalistic work in these colonies.”*

Previously Lambie had worked with the Sydney Morning Herald and the Hobart Mercury (1883-4). The Gippsland Times reported of Lambie's appointment, *“An opening occurring on the staff of the Hobart Mercury, Lambie (to whom it was offered) accepted the position and thirther he proceeded carrying with him the good wishes of every pressman in Melbourne. After sojourning there for a time, he received an offer from the proprietors of the Sydney Morning Herald, which he accepted.”* (13 May 1885 P.3) Lambie had left a wife back in Gippsland, Victoria. There were no children.

Lambie had previously covered the Australian involvement in the Sudan Campaign in 1885. It was there where he was first ambushed that time by Arabs on camels. Though he was to be wounded, he was able to write of the affair: *“My companion was about 80 yards behind. He says that somehow he escaped their notice and believes that he might have got clean away, but he saw how the Arabs were placing themselves and he hastened to my assistance.*

“In less that half a minute I found that my horse could leave the Arabs simply nowhere, but I was still alone. Turning in my saddle to see how things were going, I saw an Arab on a yellow camel pushing forward from

the line to intercept Mr Melvin. (his companion). This fellow had to be stopped if possible, for although our time might be pretty close it had not come to the pinch when a man drops his mate and fights for his own life. Pulling up suddenly and turning at the same time, I started towards Mr. Melvin and just at that moment I felt a sharp piercing blow on my right leg below the knee. A red hole and a stinging pain showed what was the matter, but there was no time to think about it. I tied my leg in the stirrup and found that no bones were broken and I knew I could sit it out unless the hole bled too much. Another shot or two passed between us, and I gave them a parting shot just before getting out of range.”

Fortunately he made it to safety, returned to Australia, married and furthered his journalistic career.

In South Africa Lambie was buried with those who also were killed on the spot. In December 1905 his body was exhumed and reburied in the military cemetery of Colesberg with the Tasmanians and with a trooper F. Clark, who although not a Tasmanian also rests with them. It has been difficult to find out exactly where Clark fits in, as there is no mention of him during the ambush. I suspect that he belonged with an English regiment and that during a skirmish in the region March 6, he was killed and when the bodies exhumed, it was judged that he too was a Tasmanian.

In October 2005 the author of this work was contacted by email by Theo Maree from South Africa. Not only had Theo refound where the skirmish took place in the Colesberg area after painstaking research, but his grandfather, Johannes Pertrus Marthinus Maree, serving with the Boers had actually taken part in the attack. Indeed what prompted Theo's interest was that his grandfather came across the dead body of Trooper Gilham and took possession of his weapon and bandoleer, which has been kept in the Maree's family possession ever since.

The exact location of the battle got lost in time. It was known, of course, that it occurred in the Colesberg region and that it was near the Vergelegen Farm and the Boers took control of the surrounding hills.

It was a priority for Theo to found out where they were actually killed. Progressive efforts revealed that the battle took place a few kilometres from Australian Hill, but exactly where remained a mystery. What he had discovered is a Boer soldier's letter (named Van Zyl) to his wife. The letter revealed (after translation) exactly on what farms Lambie, Gilham and Button were killed. It showed Theo that the ambush took place at Nuwerfontein and that is why Lambie was originally buried there on a farm owned by Hendrik Kotze. Theo was able to identify the spot. Fighting continued after Feb 9 for several days, with the Australians, including a large Western Australian party under Captain Hatherly George Moor fought off the Boers with the kopje since known as Australian Hill. There is a plaque commemorating the event.

Sadly, when Lambie was re-buried at Colesberg, the inscribers got everything wrong. Being listed as a Tasmanian, as he was killed with them, is understandable, but his inscription reads: “*PTE. W.I.LAMBIE*

At one time a memorial tablet was erected to his memory at the entrance to The Age newspaper in Collins Street, Melbourne. Since the move to Spencer Street it has been mislaid. Lambie remains forgotten. Surely this is unjust.

**"Campaign Pictures of the War in South Africa (1899-1900)" by A.G. HALES. (Cassell & Company, Limited. 1901)*

**6. PROPOSAL TO PURCHASE PART OF WELLESLEY PARK –
FILE REFS: 455 & 457 HUON ROAD – FILE REFS: 72-39-1;
5578944 & P/455/574; 5578952 & P/457/574**

12x's

Report of the Director Parks and City Amenity and the Group Manager Open Space of
31 March 2016 and attachments.

DELEGATION: Council

TO : Parks and Recreation Committee

FROM : Director Parks and City Amenities
Group Manager Open Space

DATE : 31 March 2016

SUBJECT : **PROPOSAL TO PURCHASE PART OF
WELLESLEY PARK – 455 & 457 HUON ROAD**

FILE : GD:JTH (p:\p&cs open space planning\strategic planning\land proposed for purchase,
licence,disposal\wellesly park - huon purchase\committee report - proposed purchase wellesley pk - 455&457
huon rd.doc)

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. This report presents and assesses a request seeking to purchase parts of Wellesley Park to provide rear access to 455 and 457 Huon Road, South Hobart.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. A request was received on 15 September 2015 from PDA Surveyors acting on behalf of their clients, outlining a proposal to purchase 649 m² of Wellesley Park to facilitate formal access to the rear of 455 and 457 Huon Road, South Hobart (see *Attachment A*).
- 2.2. The area requested for purchase forms a narrow 649m² corridor on a north facing slope predominantly covered with an open eucalypt forest. The area steeply inclines uphill from the entrance into the reserve at the end of Wellesley Street and abuts the rear of the new Wellesley Park football club rooms (see *Attachment B* for photos).
- 2.3. Wellesley Park is classified as a community park that has a mix of uses and values:
 - the sports oval and club rooms are the home ground of the South Hobart Football Club;
 - the bushland buffer surrounding the oval contains nature conservation values and provides a trail network that connects and provides links to the surrounding South Hobart suburban road network;
 - the lower reserve contains a playground; and
 - the oval and parkland adjacent to playground provide two off-lead dog exercise areas.
- 2.4. An assessment of the values and impacts of the proposal is outlined below.

2.5. Planning and statutory issues

2.5.1. *Hobart Interim Planning Scheme 2015*

The area is zoned Recreation under the *Hobart Interim Planning Scheme 2015* as it forms part of Council's Wellesley Park. Subdivision is possible under this zoning. If the Council wished to proceed with the area's disposal, it would require landlord consent in principle; and consent to lodge a planning application for subdivision. If the subdivision were approved and the land acquired, the land in question would still be zoned Recreation. As the intent is to use that land in association with the adjacent residentially zoned sites at 455 and 457 Huon Road, it is also broadly possible for the zoning of the land in question to be changed to General Residential at some future point to reflect the zoning of the adjacent sites. That process would be subject to the rezoning provisions of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* or whatever equivalent provisions were prevailing at the time. In the meantime, if the subdivision and acquisition of land were to proceed, access across the land in question to the rear of 455 and 457 Huon Road would not be precluded by the current Recreation zoning (Clause 9.6.1 of the *Hobart Interim Planning Scheme 2015*).

2.5.2. *Public Land Status*

Wellesley Park is also classified Public Land under the *Local Government Act 1993*. Section 178 of the Act requires the Council to go through a statutory Public Land disposal process requiring a 21 day period of public advertising and assessment of public objections that if appealed would also require RMPAT hearings.

2.5.3. Given that Wellesley Park is a popular park, the Public Land disposal process and subdivision application would be expected to generate considerable community scrutiny and objections.

2.6. Social and community issues

2.6.1. Wellesley Park is a popular local park for the South Hobart community providing bushland habitat, park-based community facilities with a playground, walking trails and sports facilities. The Council has recently invested considerable funds upgrading the oval and constructing new club rooms with support from Federal Government funding.

- 2.6.2. The South Hobart Bushcare Group over the past 14 years has invested many volunteer hours enhancing the biodiversity values of the bushland areas of Wellesley Park and hence has a strong appreciation of the park's values.
- 2.6.3. A previous request in 2010 to purchase part of the park near Cascade Road for a private development generated numerous objections from individuals and the South Hobart Progress Association. The application was not supported and the area is now the home of the South Hobart Community Garden.
- 2.6.4. The additional impact of increased traffic flows with two new driveways at the entrance to Wellesley Park which is often busy with football training and games could also have a detrimental impact on the local residential amenity of Wellesley Street and potential safety issues.
- 2.6.5. Given the community's association and history of investment in the park and the potential impact on Wellesley Street and local amenity, Council support for disposal of part of the reserve for this purpose is likely to generate significant community concern.

2.7. Environmental values

- 2.7.1. The area of interest has underlying sandstone geology which is prone to erosion. The overlying vegetation is black peppermint (*Eucalyptus amygdalina*) forest on sandstone of variable condition. This vegetation type is listed as a threatened vegetation community under the *Nature Conservation Act 2002*. Clearing of a threatened vegetation community is assessed under *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act* and the *City of Hobart Interim Planning Scheme*. Exemption 6.3.1. Part F of the planning scheme states that removal of threatened vegetation communities is not exempt from assessment.
- 2.7.2. The lot plan layout accompanying the application indicates that it is likely that the applicants will construct two driveways to gain access to the rear of their properties. This could in turn lead to the subdivision of each property. Construction of the driveways would require the clearance of the 650m² area that is predominantly covered with native vegetation and would have a detrimental impact on reserve values with a loss of habitat, reserve area and amenity values and consequent loss of landscape values.

2.8. Recreational values

2.8.1. The area forms a bushland buffer with no formed access tracks through the forest. It has currently limited recreational use.

2.9. Financial implications

2.9.1. No valuation has been undertaken so no analysis can be conveyed on the financial gain that the sale of this land would provide to the Council.

2.10. It is surmised that the proposal would have little benefit to the Council (aside from the proceeds from the sale of the land); will result in detrimental impacts and net loss of reserve and residential amenity and natural values, with likely significant community opposition.

2.11. Finally, the sale and subdivision of this area of Wellesley Park could in turn establish a precedent for similar applications to be approved, and in the long-term be to the detriment of Hobart's broader park system.

3. **PROPOSAL**

3.1. It is proposed that the request to purchase 657m² parts of Wellesley Park to provide rear access to 455 and 457 Huon Road, as outlined in **Attachment A**, be declined.

4. **IMPLEMENTATION**

4.1. Following the Council's consideration of this issue, the applicant will be advised of the Council's resolution.

5. **STRATEGIC PLANNING IMPLICATIONS**

5.1. This proposal is consistent with the *Capital City Strategic Plan 2015-2025*:

5.2. Strategic Objective 2.2

A people focussed city with well-designed and well managed urban and recreational spaces.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1. Funding Source(s)
 - 6.1.1. Not applicable
- 6.2. Impact on Current Year Operating Result
 - 6.2.1. No impact
- 6.3. Impact on Future Years' Financial Result
 - 6.3.1. No impact
- 6.4. Asset Related Implications
 - 6.4.1. No implications.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1. There are no risk management implications.

8. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1. There are no legal implications if the request to sell the land is not supported.
- 8.2. If however Council proceeds with the proposal to sell this area of Wellesley Park, a planning application for a subdivision would be required.
- 8.3. Council would also be required to go through the statutory processes to remove the Public Land status, in accordance with Section 178 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

9. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS INCLUDING CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABILITY

- 9.1. There are no environmental implications if the proposal to purchase the land is not supported.
- 9.2. However if it was to proceed construction of the formalised access to rear of the properties would require the clearance of the 650m² of native vegetation that would have a detrimental impact on reserve values with a loss of habitat, reserve area, landscape and amenity values.

10. CUSTOMER IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1. Sale of the land would be likely to generate considerable community concern given that it would be alienating part of the reserve, dedicated Public Land and result in loss of reserve and community values.

11. DELEGATION

- 11.1. The matter is delegated to the Council.

12. CONSULTATION

- 12.1. The following officers have been consulted in the development of this report: Senior Statutory Planner; Manager Surveying Services; Legal Services Officer; Manager Parks and Recreation.

13. CONCLUSION

- 13.1. This report assesses a request from PDA Surveyors to purchase part of Wellesley Park to provide rear access to both 455 & 457 Huon Road, South Hobart from Wellesley Street (*Attachment A*).
- 13.2. The request seeks to purchase a narrow 649m² corridor on the slope behind the Wellesley Park Oval clubrooms. The area is mostly covered with native forest and provides a bushland habitat and a buffer to the surrounding residential development (*Attachment B*).
- 13.3. Wellesley Park is zoned Recreation under the *Hobart Interim Planning Scheme 2015* that protects its parkland values. The park is also dedicated as Public Land under the *Local Government Act 1993*. A number of public statutory processes are required allow its subdivision, and remove the Public Land status.
- 13.4. The assessment concludes the sale and development of the land would have a detrimental impact and result in the loss of reserve, residential amenity, community and natural values. Approval could also establish a precedent for similar applications leading to the long term detriment of Hobart's park and public open space system.
- 13.5. It is proposed that the request to purchase parts of Wellesley Park to provide rear access to 455 and 457 Huon Road not be supported.

14. RECOMMENDATION

That:

- 14.1. The report GD:jth(p:\p&cs open space planning\strategic planning\land proposed for purchase,licence,disposal\wellesly park - huon purchase\committee report - proposed purchase wellesley pk - 455&457 huon rd.doc) be received and noted.*
- 14.2. The request to purchase 657m² of Wellesley Park to provide rear access to 455 and 457 Huon Road, South Hobart, as outlined in Attachment A, be declined.*
- 14.3. The applicant be notified of the Council's resolution on this matter.*

As signatory to this report, I certify that, pursuant to Section 55(1) of the Local Government Act 1993, I hold no interest, as referred to in Section 49 of the Local Government Act 1993, in matters contained in this report.



(Rob Mather)

GROUP MANAGER OPEN SPACE



(Glenn Doyle)

**DIRECTOR
PARKS AND CITY AMENITY**

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| Attachment A | Request from PDA to purchase part of Wellesley Park |
| Attachment B | Photos of this area proposed for purchase Wellesley Park |



PDA Surveyors

127 Bathurst Street
Hobart Tasmania, 7000
Phone (03) 6234 3217

ABN 71 217 806 325
Fax (03) 6234 5085
Email: pda.hbt@pda.com.au
www.pda.com.au



14 September 2015

Our Ref:R655U

L150914_R655U to Council request for sale of public land.docx

The Director Parks & City Amenities
Hobart City Council
GPO Box 503
Hobart TAS 7001

Dear Sir,

RE: Partial Sale of Public Land – Wellesley Park, South Hobart

We are writing to you on behalf of our clients who own No.'s 455 and 457 Huon Road, South Hobart. These two owners wish to obtain access to the rear of their properties by purchasing approximately 649m² of Council land at the entrance to the Wellesley Park sportsground. Please refer to the enclosed plan *ref. R655U-1* for a brief overview of the proposal.

A site inspection of the proposed access strip indicates that this particular part of the sportsground is comprised of light scrub and does not appear to be utilised for any particular purpose. It is predominantly outside of the perimeter fencing and is of a suitable grade for the construction of an access track into the rear of both No.'s 455 and 457 Huon Road.

It is our clients' intentions that they will pay for all reasonable costs relating to the construction of the access off Wellesley Street as well as all reasonable costs relating to re-fencing (if required) along the proposed new title boundaries. By obtaining access to the rear of these properties, the respective owners will be able to better utilise and maintain their large backyards which are presently very difficult to access. Given the steep fall away from Huon Road, the only feasible means to provide access to the rear of these blocks is via an access strip off the end of Wellesley Street.

We are seeking advice as to whether Council would give it's in principle support for the sale of this land to our clients. We would be willing to meet with you on site to further discuss the proposal in more detail.

Yours faithfully
PDA Surveyors

Per: 

Matthew Denholm
ASSOCIATE & REGISTERED LAND SURVEYOR

OFFICES ALSO AT:

- 6 Freeman Street, Kingston, 7050 (03) 6229 2131
- 6 Queen Street, Burnie, 7320 (03) 6431 4400

- 8/16 Main Road, Huonville, 7109 (03) 6264 1277
- 3/23 Brisbane Street, Launceston, 7250 (03) 6331 4099
- 16 Emu Bay Road, Deloraine, 7304 (03) 6362 2993



PDA Surveyors

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PROPOSED SUBDIVISION CONCEPT
457 HUON ROAD, SOUTH HOBART
for MIKE STEPHENS

SURVEYOR HAC DRAWN MK DATE 6 SEPTEMBER 2013

SCALE	PAPER
1 : 750	(A4)
JOB NUMBER	DRAWING

R655U - 1

- **Photos** -Area of interest forming part of Wellesley Park proposed for purchase by 455 & 457 Huon Road, South Hobart



Entrance to reserve – Red ellipse reflects area of interest



Looking north towards the entrance





Looking up the slope extending up to 455 Huon Road



Forested area behind the fence represents the area proposed for purchase

**7. DRAFT WEST HOBART OVAL MANAGEMENT PLAN – COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT – FILE REF: 72-40-1**

26x's

Report of the Director Parks and City Amenity and the Manager Parks and Recreation
of 4 April 2016 and attachment.

DELEGATION: Council

TO : Parks and Recreation Committee

FROM : Director Parks and City Amenity
Manager Parks and Recreation

DATE : 4 April 2016

SUBJECT : **DRAFT WEST HOBART OVAL MANAGEMENT PLAN -
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

FILE : 72-40-1 GD:JTH (p:\p&cs open space planning\project planning\west hobart oval\committee report - draft who
man plan 2016.doc)

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. This report presents the Draft West Hobart Oval Management Plan and seeks approval to release the Management Plan for community engagement.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. Due to the withdrawal of investigations into the development of a Family and Children's Centre by Lady Gowrie in the West Hobart Oval precinct in 2013, it was deemed timely to prepare a management plan for the reserve.

- 2.2. In February 2014 the Council therefore resolved that:

A management plan be developed for the West Hobart Oval that addresses current and future use of the park and considers the needs of the community and stakeholder groups.

- 2.3. The West Hobart Oval Management Plan (from herein referred to as "the Management Plan") has now been drafted and is presented for the Council's consideration (***Attachment A***).

West Hobart Oval

- 2.4. West Hobart Oval (WHO) is located adjacent to the Lansdowne Crescent Primary School in West Hobart with vehicular access off Hamilton Street. It has been classified as a local reserve that services the local recreational and sporting needs of the surrounding local community, primary school and sports groups. It has a small sports ground with partial lighting, change room facilities, public toilet, car park and playground(s).

- 2.5. Constructed in 1891, WHO was the first public recreation ground set aside in Hobart. The oval is very popular for formal sporting groups (soccer and cricket) and heavily booked throughout the year for games and training. The neighbouring primary school also has a formal agreement to use the oval during school hours. The local community use the oval for informal recreation and dog exercise outside of formal sports bookings.

Overview of the Management Plan

- 2.6. The Management Plan is presented in a short and simple format that is in accordance with its local reserve status. It describes the park, its management, use, identifies issues and opportunities, and presents eighteen recommended management actions divided into eight management areas.
- 2.7. Key stakeholders were consulted during the preparation of the management plan including:
- 2.7.1. Lansdowne Crescent Primary School which leases two areas of the park for dedicated school playgrounds, and the oval during school hours;
 - 2.7.2. Lansdowne Crescent Primary School Association which also provided the additional community perspective on the value of the reserve for informal recreation and dog exercise; and
 - 2.7.3. Sports clubs and sporting bodies that have seasonal bookings for use of the oval
- 2.8. Key issues and opportunities identified in the Management Plan include:
- 2.8.1. The need to refurbish the oval and cricket pitch with improved drainage, irrigation, and lighting.
 - 2.8.2. The change-room and public toilet need for refurbishment.
 - 2.8.3. The need for improved park signage, wayfinding and a trail network to formalise the currently degraded path that links Lansdowne Crescent to Hamilton Street. This path also provides an important suburban walking route to the Hill Street Grocer.
 - 2.8.4. The car park's use for drop-off and pick-up for school students and Saturday sports fixtures. The single lane entrance from Hamilton Street and poor car park design has resulted in increased congestion problems pointing to the need to upgrade the car park to allow for improved traffic flow, parking and pedestrian safety.

- 2.8.4.1. It is noted that Council officers have had ongoing communication with the Department of Education over the past five years to negotiate a financial contribution towards upgrading the car park. There has been no successful resolution.
- 2.8.5. Due to popularity of the oval and its combined use as a park and sports venue, there is a need to provide reasonable access for informal community recreational use.
- 2.8.6. Given that there are two school playgrounds that also serve the community, the small playground located below the oval near the northern end of Lansdowne Crescent has little use. It is therefore proposed for it to be removed and the area returned to parkland.

3. PROPOSAL

- 3.1. It is proposed that the Draft West Hobart Oval Management Plan be endorsed to be released for community engagement.
- 3.2. A further report will be provided detailing the outcome of community engagement.

4. IMPLEMENTATION

- 4.1. Following the Council's endorsement of the draft Management Plan, it will be released for a 4 week period during May/June 2016.

5. STRATEGIC PLANNING IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1. This proposal aligns with the *Capital City Strategic Plan 2015-2025*

Strategic Objective 2.2 – A people focussed city with well designed and well managed urban and recreational spaces;

2.2.2 Develop and, manage and maintain the city's urban spaces and infrastructure.

6. COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

- 6.1. The Management Plan identifies the opportunity to increase the use of the change room building by identifying sports and community groups who may be interested in using the building for their activities.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1. Funding Source(s)

7.1.1. The costs associated with community engagement are minor and will be funded by Open Space Planning Team 2015-2016 budget function 351.

7.1.2. The total cost estimate for implementation of the draft management plan is \$847,000.

7.1.2.1. \$685,000 will be sourced from the Asset Replacement budget with \$440,000 allocated in 2016/17 for oval irrigation, drainage and lighting; \$125,000 for car park upgrading and the track between Hamilton Street and Lansdowne Crescent; \$85,000 in 2018/19 to refurbishment of the public toilet; and \$20,000 for playground removal and drainage works.

7.1.3. \$162,000 is currently unfunded and not currently included in the City's new draft 10 year capital works program plan.

7.1.3.1. \$100,000 of this is the estimate for refurbishment of the change room building which will be subject to further consideration and identification of potential funding sources. The remainder of the unfunded allocation relates to minor landscaping works that could be funded through annual operating budgets.

7.1.4. Further refinement of these figures will be undertaken when reporting back on the final management plan following public exhibition.

7.2. Impact on Current Year Operating Result

7.2.1. There are minimal costs associated with community engagement.

7.3. Impact on Future Years' Financial Result

7.3.1. See commentary in Section 7.1.

7.4. Asset Related Implications

7.4.1. Many of the assets at West Hobart Oval are deteriorating with the oval (irrigation, drainage and lighting), car park and toilet programmed for replacement in the next three years.

7.4.2. As a consequence the majority of recommended works will be funded through Asset Replacement.

8. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS INCLUDING CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABILITY

- 8.1. All works undertaken in future implementation of the Management Plan will be undertaken in accordance with environmental management guidelines and standards.

9. SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1. The implementation of the Management Plan will socially benefit the surrounding local community, lessees, school and user groups as it will improve the recreational and amenity values of the reserve.

10. COMMUNICATION AND MEDIA IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1. A range of methods will be used to inform stakeholders, the community, park users regarding the draft management plan . These include:
- Letters to stakeholders including lessees and user groups
 - Public notice in *The Mercury*
 - Park based temporary signage
 - CoH website and social media

11. DELEGATION

- 11.1. This matter is delegated to the Council.

12. CONSULTATION

- 12.1. Preliminary consultation was undertaken with key stakeholder groups during the preparation of the draft Management Plan.

13. CONCLUSION

- 13.1. This report seeks the Council's endorsement to release the *Draft West Hobart Oval Management Plan* for a four week period of community engagement.
- 13.2. The plan was developed following preliminary consultation with key stakeholders including the neighbouring school and sporting clubs.
- 13.3. The primary recommendations include upgrading the oval with improved drainage, irrigation and lighting; refurbishment of the change room and public toilet; reconstruction of the car park to improve congestion, parking and pedestrian safety issues during school pick-up and drop-off and sports events; and improved park and wayfinding signage and trail network.

- 13.4. The total cost estimate for implementation of the Management Plan is \$847,000 with \$685,000 of that to be sourced from the Asset Replacement budget. \$162,000 is currently unfunded.
- 13.5. Further refinement of these figures will be undertaken when reporting back on the final Management Plan following public exhibition.

14. RECOMMENDATION

That:

- 14.1. *The report GD:JTH (p:\p&cs open space planning\project planning\west hobart oval\committee report - draft who man plan 2016.doc) be received and noted.*
- 14.2. *The Draft West Hobart Oval Management Plan, marked as Attachment A, be endorsed for release for community engagement for a 4 week period during May-June 2016.*
- 14.3. *A further report be provided detailing the outcome of community engagement.*

As signatory to this report, I certify that, pursuant to Section 55(1) of the Local Government Act 1993, I hold no interest, as referred to in Section 49 of the Local Government Act 1993, in matters contained in this report.



(Debbie Wood)
**MANAGER
PARKS AND RECREATION**



(Glenn Doyle)
**DIRECTOR
PARKS AND CITY AMENITY**

Attachment A

Draft West Hobart Oval Management Plan - March 2016

WEST HOBART OVAL MANAGEMENT PLAN DRAFT



Acknowledgements

The support and assistance of Daniel Willsmore is acknowledged in contributing to the development of this document.

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1.0 Management Precis

The West Hobart Oval Management Plan has been prepared to guide the future management, use and development of the reserve. This Management Plan will guide the future management of the West Hobart Oval for a period of 10 years. The plan will be reviewed in 5 years.

Management Statement

West Hobart Oval is a local level reserve that services the local recreational and sporting needs of the local community, Lansdowne Crescent Primary School and sports groups.

1.1 Park Detail

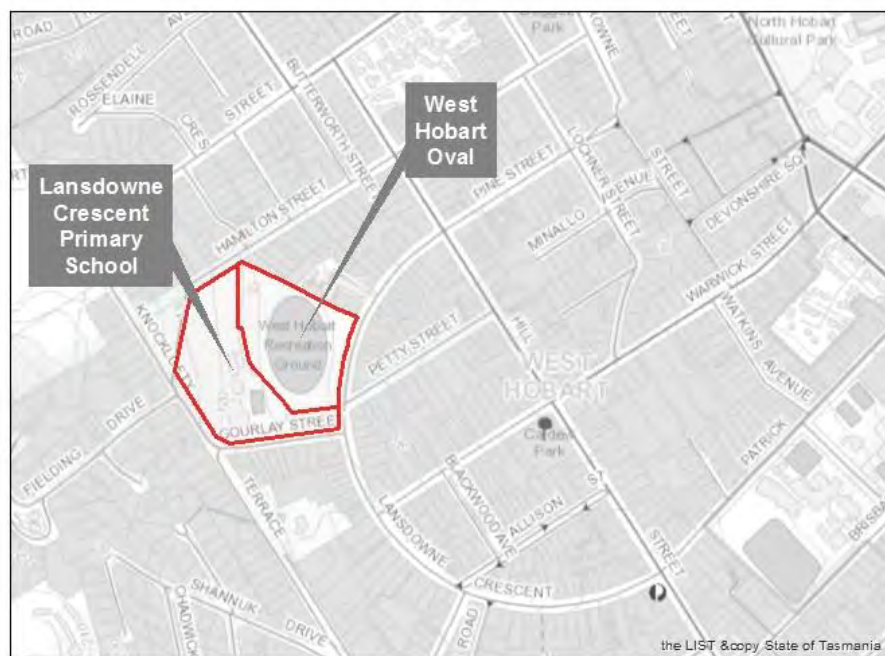
West Hobart Oval

Review Due Date	Reviewed 5 yearly- 2021
File Reference	572-040-01
Certificate of title	CT137671/1 CT211493/1
PID	550423
Responsible Unit	Parks and Recreation
Park area	2.09ha
Classification	Local
Level of Service	Medium
City of Hobart Interim Planning Scheme Zone 2015	Recreation

1.2 Park Location

West Hobart Oval is located adjacent to the Lansdowne Crescent Primary School in West Hobart and can be accessed via Hamilton St by vehicle or pedestrian access off Lansdowne Crescent. (see Figure 1).

Figure 1 Location of West Hobart Oval



2.0 Park Description

The West Hobart Oval provides sporting and recreational opportunities to the West Hobart community, the Lansdowne Crescent Primary School and numerous sporting clubs and user groups from around the broader community.

2.1 Natural Values

The West Hobart Oval does not contain any remnant native vegetation or threatened flora or fauna.

2.2 Horticultural/Landscape Values

The following vegetation holds horticultural or landscape values:

- The Sheoak forest below the school basketball court used as a students play area.
- Large English Oak- (*Quercus robur*) in the playground at the bottom (Lansdowne Crescent end of the school).
- Large Blackwood (*Acacia melanoxylon*) adjacent Lansdowne Crescent.
- Various planted *Eucalyptus spp.* surrounding the change-room building.
- Various *Melaleuca spp.* along the bank on the eastern side of the oval.

2.3 Social Values

The following social values have been identified as being associated with West Hobart Oval:

- West Hobart Oval has significant social, aesthetic and lifestyle value to the West Hobart community.
- The oval and reserve provides informal recreational opportunities
- The oval is the only 'level' green space within West Hobart area
- The oval and reserve provides an environment that helps foster social connectedness

2.4 Cultural Heritage Values

The West Hobart Oval was identified as a heritage place in the West Hobart Heritage Review and is now included in the register of heritage places and is subject to the provisions of the Historic Heritage Code within the planning scheme. Below are some key heritage findings related to the West Hobart Oval:

- The West Hobart Recreation Ground was constructed in 1891 on land formerly known as Freeney's Paddock (originally granted to Thomas Fisher).
- It was apparently the first such ground under the *Public Recreations Grounds Act*.
- The West Hobart Association advertised for a suitable piece of ground in October 1887
- Tenders for excavating and leveling the recreation ground were advertised in April 1891 and of the twelve tenders received, and that of Mr D Freeman was accepted.
- There are records of band concerts being held at the ground in January and February 1892, and football matches in April 1892.
- This means that the oval is subject to the provisions of the Historic Heritage Code of the CoH Interim Planning Scheme 2015.

2.5 Facilities and Assets

The West Hobart Oval comprises the following facilities and assets:

- Small sports ground with concrete cricket pitch (with a synthetic cover)
- Change-room facility
- Gravel carpark
- Public Toilet
- Two small floodlighting towers
- Playground

3.0 Management of West Hobart Oval

3.1 Management and maintenance operations

Table 1 shows the roles and responsibilities related to the management of the West Hobart Oval:

Council Unit/Team	Area of responsibility	Tasks
Parks and Recreation	Oval maintenance	Turf Maintenance and seasonal renovations,
Parks and Recreation	Reserve maintenance and upgrades	Vegetation management, car park, driveway and track management and maintenance
Building Maintenance	Building (change-room) and public toilet	Building maintenance and upgrades
Parks and Recreation	Lighting (sports lights)	Upkeep and upgrades
Parks and Recreation	Ground allocations/bookings	Seasonal Sports grounds, casual and annual bookings
Parks and Recreation	Lease development and management	Playground leases
Parks and Recreation	Playground- risks and maintenance	Risk assessments, playground maintenance and upgrades.
Cleansing and Solid Waste unit	Change-room and toilet cleansing	Cleaning

Table 1- Roles and Responsibilities- Oval Management

3.2 Levels of Service and Maintenance

The Parks and Recreation Unit are the primary custodian and manager of the West Hobart Oval. Levels of service relating to the management and maintenance of elements at West Hobart Oval are defined by the Hobart City Council Draft Operating Standards 2014. Elements include litter, grass, sports, garden and plant displays, trees, playgrounds, tracks, paths, roads, car parks and facility cleaning. Tasks include:

- Coring of the oval
- Heavy renovation top-dressing
- Verti-drain
- Oval mowing and mowing of oval surrounds
- Drainage and irrigation of the oval including repair and upkeep of the system
- Tree and garden bed maintenance as required.
- Playground inspection and maintenance
- Building and flood light maintenance
- Inspection/repairs to park furniture and fixtures
- Maintenance and cleaning of the building and public toilet
- Litter remove

4.0 Use of the West Hobart Oval

4.1 Allocation and Use of West Hobart Oval

The West Hobart Oval is available for seasonal and casual bookings by sports clubs, sporting bodies, community groups and the general community.

The booking and allocation of the West Hobart Oval is conducted as part of the sport ground booking procedure. Seasonal sporting and regular users will generally receive priority allocation over casual and one off hirers. All user groups are required to adhere to the Conditions of Use outlined in the sports-grounds seasonal bookings form.

The application form, booking procedure and Seasonal Tenancy Manual are all located on the City Of Hobart website. Any changes to this procedure and manual will be reflected in future updates of this management plan.

4.2 Fees and Charges

All fees and charges related to the booking and allocation of West Hobart Oval and change-room are based on the CoH Fees and Charges booklet 2015/2016, which is reviewed annually.

4.3 Current User Groups and Leases

The West Hobart Oval has a number of seasonally allocated user groups, casual hirers and leaseholders. In addition to the seasonal, casual hirers and leaseholders, the West Hobart Oval is used by local residents for informal sport and active/passive recreational activities.

Table 2 outlines the formal user groups at West Hobart Oval, the type of agreement, group, purpose of use and allocated time. Other user groups include local residents, dog walkers and informal recreational users.

Type of agreement	User group/Club	Area of use in agreement	Purpose of usage	Time of use within agreement
Lease	Lansdowne Crescent Primary School	Playgrounds x 2	School play and activity	School hours/School Days
Sports ground agreement-seasonal	Lansdowne Crescent Primary School	Oval area	School play, sport and activity	School hours/School Days
Winter	West Hobart Soccer Club (Central Region Soccer Association)	Oval area	Club sport-training and matches	Mon-Frid- 3.30pm-5.30pm Sat 9am-2pm
Summer	Marquis Tigers Cricket Club	Oval area Change-room building	Club Sport-matches only	Sat and Sun as per roster- 10.30am-6pm
Winter	Taroona Football Club	Oval area	Club sport-training only	Tues and Thurs- 6pm-8.15pm
Sports ground agreement-Casual	Cricket Tasmania	Oval area	Sporting activities-training, matches and development	Mon-Wed 5.30pm-7.30pm Sun- 9am-12pm
Lease	Hydro Electric Commission	Park next to school	Substation	All Year

Table 2- West Hobart Oval- Current user groups and agreements

5.0 Issues

5.1 Oval and Cricket Pitch

- Drainage on the oval is poor. Some of the drainage issues are related to groundwater seepage but the ground itself does not drain well and this leads to a poor playing and training surface and regular closures during the winter.
- The irrigation system does not cope with the demands of the oval.
- Planted vegetation at the northern end of the oval results in winter shading, poor ventilation and reduced wind exposure.
- Cricket pitch synthetic cover is worn and concrete is exposed at each end.

5.2 Light Towers

- There are only two small light towers located at the northern end of the oval. These do not sufficiently light the oval
- The towers are located at the 'wet' end of the ground increasing wear and tear.

5.3 Change-room Building

- Superficial cracking is evident in the building but currently does not impact on the maintenance or structural integrity of the building.
- The general condition of the internal fixtures of the building is poor
- It has limited use as a sports support building.
- The public toilet requires refurbishment.
- Wayfinding signage to the public toilet is deficient.

5.4 Car park- Vehicle Entry from Hamilton St

- Congestion at school drop-off and pick-up times and during Saturday morning sporting fixtures.
- Poor parking options due to no formal parking delineation in the main car park and other areas.
- Little delineation between roadway and footpath resulting in shared use of the roadway and pedestrians.
- Only single vehicle entry causing significant delays for traffic on the road sometimes resulting in dangerous traffic and pedestrian conditions.

5.5 Playgrounds

- The playground below the oval (northern entrance off Lansdowne Crescent) does not appear to get used regularly and is isolated from other parts of the reserve.
- Ability to promote school playground as publically available.

5.6 Pathway/Trail Network

- The main trail linking Hamilton Street to Lansdowne Crescent is not formed resulting in degradation and lack of delineation.
- A lack of way-finding signage directing walkers to the oval and other areas of West Hobart.
- The main access (steps and ramp from Lansdowne Crescent) requires refurbishment and improvement. The steps and ramp are built to an insufficient standard.
- Lack of formalised access onto the ground from southern Lansdowne Crescent. Desire path shows that this is a popular access into the ground.
- Damaged exposed drains at the entrance to the oval surface below change-room.

5.7 Landscape/ Garden Beds

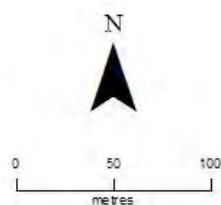
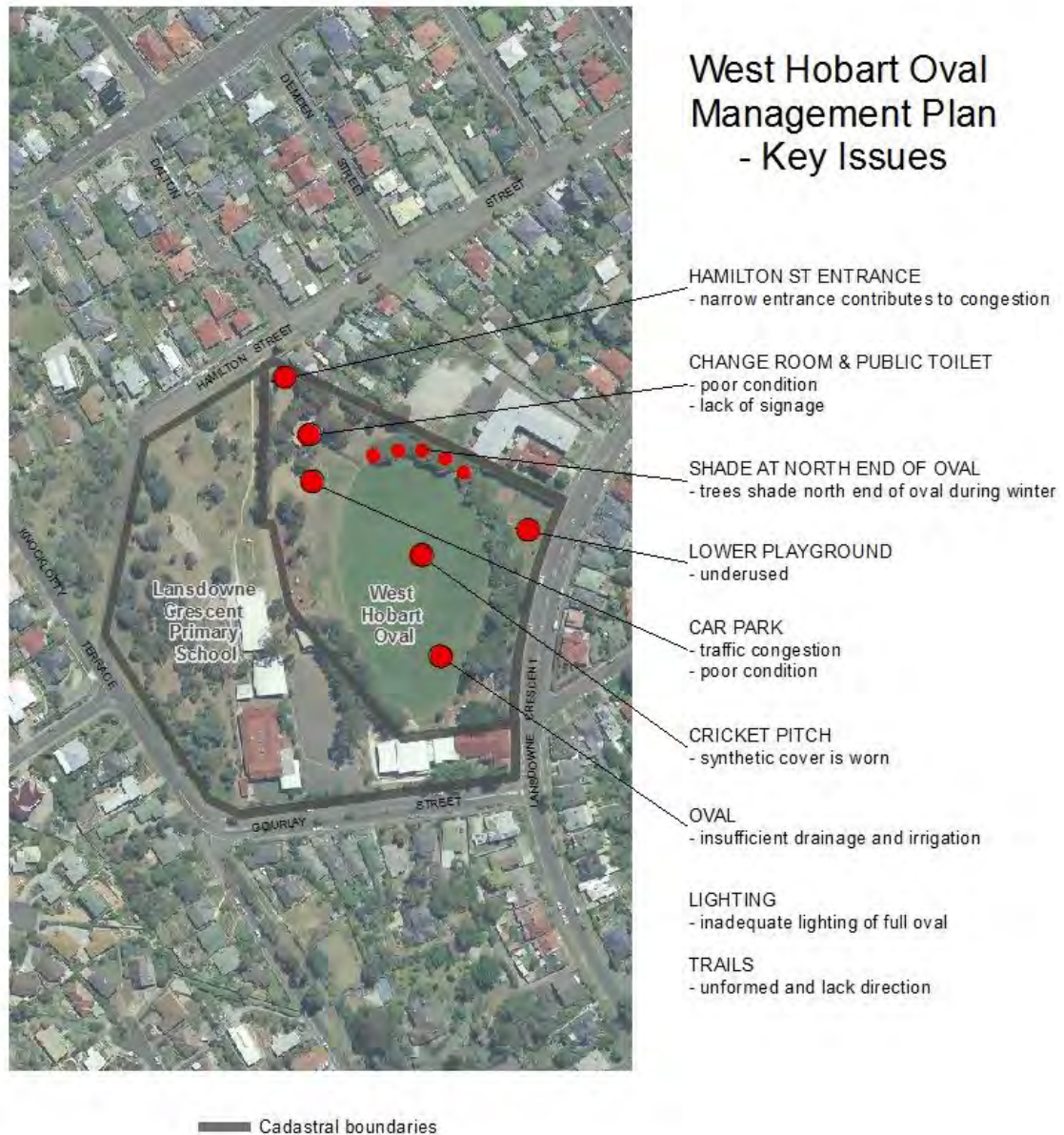
- In some areas, grass cutting/slashing is difficult or dangerous. These areas provide little benefit to the reserve as grass/lawn and if planted out with native grasses/ground-covers or small shrubs/trees, would improve the park aesthetic. The following areas have been identified as maintenance issues:
 - The steep grassy slope along the top of the wall above Lansdowne Crescent
 - The surrounds of the car park.
 - The large area of grass above the oval between the car park and the school
 - The area behind and surrounding the rear of the change-room building

5.8 Open Space Infrastructure

- There is little or no provision of park furniture within the West Hobart Oval.

5.9 Dog Walking

- Dog walking is a popular informal activity within the West Hobart Oval. As the oval is used by a number of different user groups, there is the potential for conflict between dog walkers/dogs and the user groups who book the oval. The issue is more significant during school hours due to the fact that small children as part of their school day activities use the West Hobart Oval

Figure 2

Date: January 2016
 Created by: smithmb@hobartcityoom.au
 Data Source: The List
 City of Hobart
 Purpose: Location of features referred to in
 West Hobart Oval Management Plan

6.0 Opportunities

6.1 Oval and Cricket Pitch

- Improve the drainage of oval by installing a new subsoil drainage system.
- Improve the ovals irrigation system by designing and installing a new irrigation system.
- Remove planted tall shrubs (tea-tree) at the northern end of the ground and replace with low growing shrubs/grasses to increase winter solar access to the ground, wind and ventilation.
- Replace the synthetic cricket cover

6.2 Change-room Building

- Refurbishment of the change-room, kitchenette and public toilet is required.
- Revegetate the area above the retaining wall at the rear of the building. This could include native grasses or ground covers.
- Investigate measures to reduce the leaf litter accumulating behind the change-room.
- Wayfinding signage to the toilet at the rear of the building is required at key locations including the Hamilton St entrance and the Lansdowne Crescent entrance in addition to the front and rear of the change-room.
- Increase the use of the change-room building by identifying other sport, club and community groups who may be interested in the building for their activities.

6.3 Light Towers

- Install at least two new towers to increase light cover to the full ground. This would help spread the wear and tear and provide a better training experience for winter users at the ground.
- Connect light towers to the existing automated lighting system

6.4 Car Park and Vehicle Entry from Hamilton St

- Upgrade the car park to include a larger delineated parking area with drainage and hardwearing surface
- Widen the entry at Hamilton St to allow two-way vehicle access through to the car park.
- Promote pedestrian use of the new path above the car park to improve user safety and access.

6.5 Playground below Oval (Lansdowne Crescent)

- Given the large number of playgrounds in the West Hobart Oval and nearby Caldew Park and the low usage of this playground, its removal is recommended with the area to be integrated into the park.

6.6 Pathway/Trail Network

- Connect the two Lansdowne Crescent entry points at the southern/school end to the steps and ramp at the northern end.
- Rebuild the entrance at the northern end of the Lansdowne Crescent.
- Connect the northern Lansdowne Crescent entrance to Hamilton St by constructing a gravel track that follows the current informal path.
- Provide a pedestrian track that connects the southern steps at the Lansdowne Crescent entry to a newly located pedestrian gate into the oval.
- Develop a way finding and park based signage system that directs pedestrians into the oval.
- Repair drainage pipes at the entrance to the oval surface below change-room.

6.7 Landscape/ Garden Beds

- Landscape and plant the following areas with suitable native low growing species:
 - The steep grass slope along the top of the wall along Lansdowne Crescent- plantings here would reduce difficult grass maintenance.
 - The surrounds of the car park
 - The large area of grass above the oval between the car park and the school
 - The area behind and surrounding the rear of the change-room building
 - Provision of seating above the oval

6.8 Open Space Infrastructure

- Provide seating on the slope above the oval

6.9 Dog Walking

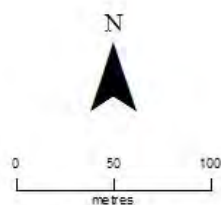
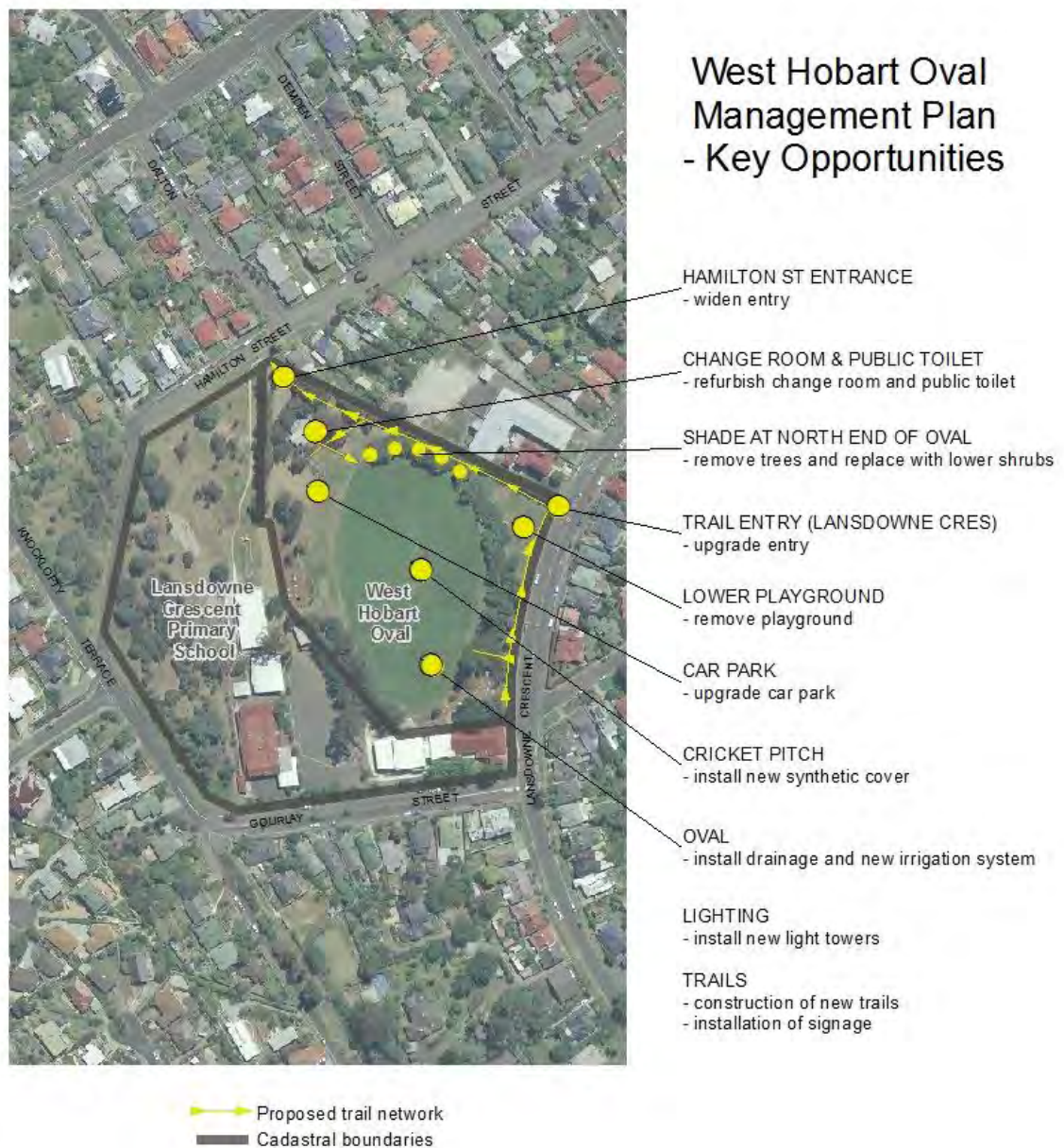
- Dog walking will be in accordance with the COH Dog Management Policy.
- The oval is an off-lead dog exercise area when sport or leisure activities are not being undertaken (*see figure 1*) and during school hours on school days.
- Install signage that clearly states that dog walking on the oval is not allowed during school hours on school days.

Figure 3

**West Hobart Oval- Declared Area Map-
City of Hobart Dog Management Policy**



Figure 4



Date: January 2016
 Created by: smithmb@hobartcity.com.au
 Data Source: The List
 City of Hobart
 Purpose: Location of features referred to in
 West Hobart Oval Management Plan

7.0 Management Actions

Priority Key: High-2-3 years; Medium-3-5 years; Low-beyond timeframe of current Management Plan

Management Area	Management Issue	Management Actions/Guidance	Priority
1. Oval			
1.1	To improve the usability and management of the oval surface	Investigate suitable oval subsoil drainage and root zone replacement.	H
1.2		Upgrade the oval irrigation system as part of other drainage related upgrades	H
1.3		Remove the planted tall shrubs (tea-tree) at the northern end of the oval and replace with low shrubs/grasses to improve airflow and light levels on the oval in winter	H
1.4		Replace the synthetic cover on the cricket pitch ensuring all concrete is covered.	H
1.5	Light tower upgrade	Install at least two new light towers to improve lighting of the oval. Connect lights to the Council's automated system.	M
2. Change-room/public toilet			
2.1	Building refurbishment	Refurbish internal elements of change-room building	H
2.2	Refurbish Public Toilet	Refurbish public toilet as identified in the Public Toilet Strategy	M
2.3	Identify further use of the change-room building	Consider options for activating the change-room building.	M
2.4	Signage to Public toilet	Provide signage on the front and rear of the change room to ensure the toilet is clearly identified.	H
2.5	Landscaping and leaf litter accumulation behind change-room building	Re-vegetate the area above the retaining wall at the rear of the building. Investigate measures to reduce the leaf litter accumulating behind the change-room.	M
3. Car Park and entry driveway			
3.1	Design and construct new car park and entry roadway	Redesign the gravel car park with delineated car spaces and dual carriage access from Hamilton St.	H
4. Playground			
4.1	Remove small playground	Remove the small playground below the oval and integrate the area in the park landscape	M

Management Area	Management Issue	Management Actions/Guidance	Priority
5.Pathway/trail projects			
5.1	Construction of a new trail network	Construct new trail between the Lansdowne Crescent entry and the change-room building, car park steps, oval entry and Hamilton St entry.	H
		Construct a new trail between the steps at the southern Lansdowne Crescent entrance and northern Lansdowne Crescent entrance	M
		Construct a new trail between the southern Lansdowne Crescent entrance to provide a new entrance to the oval with a new gate.	M
		Upgrade/rebuild the entrance at the northern Lansdowne Crescent entrance.	H
		Develop and install new way finding signage for recreational users.	H
5.2	Repairs within trail network	Repair exposed drains at the oval surface entrance below change-room.	H
6. Allocations and Bookings			
6.1	Provide informal recreational opportunities for residents through the booking process.	Provide a reasonable amount of days (especially weekend days) per season on the oval booking calendar that are free of formal bookings to allow community use of the oval.	H
6.2	Dog walking on Oval	Develop improved signage regarding dog exercise and use of the oval.	H
7. Landscape-Garden beds			
7.1	Re-vegetation of landscape areas	Re-vegetate the steep grass slope along the top of the wall along Lansdowne Crescent	M
		Re-vegetate the surrounds of the car park (as part of car park design and construction)	H
		Re-vegetate the large area of grass above the oval between the car park and the school	M
		Re-vegetate the area behind and surrounding the rear of the change-room building	M
8. Open Space Infrastructure			
8.1	Provision of park seating	Provide park seating on the slope above the oval	H

**8. WELLINGTON PARK MANAGEMENT TRUST – NOMINEES SOUGHT –
FILE REF: 13-15-53**

8x's

Report of the Director Parks and City Amenity and the Group Manager Open Space of
30 March 2016 and attachments.

DELEGATION: Council

TO : Parks and Recreation Committee

FROM : Director Parks and City Amenity
Group Manager Open Space

DATE : 30 March, 2016

SUBJECT : **WELLINGTON PARK MANAGEMENT TRUST –
NOMINEES SOUGHT**

FILE : 13-15-53 ar:AR (document4)

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. The purpose of this report is to:

1.1.1. Seek an Aldermanic representative as a deputy member of the Wellington Park Management Trust (WPMT) to the substantive position held by Alderman Cocker.

This Deputy Member role became vacant upon the resignation of former Alderman Suzy Cooper.

1.1.2. Grant the General Manager authority to appoint an Officer representative to the Wellington Park Management Trust Management Advisory Committee (MAC).

2. BACKGROUND

Aldermanic Representation to the Wellington Park Management Trust

2.1. Alderman Cocker and Alderman Thomas are the City's representatives on the Trust.

2.2. Alderman Ruzicka is a deputy member to Alderman Thomas' substantive role with former Alderman Suzy Cooper previously the deputy member to Alderman Cocker's substantive role.

2.3. With the resignation of Ms Cooper from the Council on 18 March 2016, an Aldermanic nomination is now sought for the Deputy position (refer **Attachment A**).

2.4. Members and deputies are appointed for a period of up to 3 years or for as long they remain Aldermen. Members are appointed by the Minister, however the Minister must appoint the Council's nomination for the position.

2.5. Trust members are paid a sitting fee of \$100 per meeting.

Wellington Park Management Trust Management Advisory Committee (MAC)

- 2.6. The Trust is re-establishing its Management Advisory Committee with the purpose to provide management and other advice to the Trust Manager to assist the Manager in advising the Trust, having regard to the Trust's vision of the Park. (refer **Attachment B**).
- 2.7. The Committee is not a decision making body but exists to support the Manager of the Trust.
- 2.8. The scope and purpose of the committee warrants the appointment of a Council Officer and it is accordingly proposed that the General Manager be authorised to appoint a Council Officer to the Committee.

3. PROPOSAL

- 3.1. An Aldermanic nominee be sought to fill the deputy member position to the Trust, made vacant by the resignation of former Alderman Suzy Cooper.
- 3.2. The General Manager, or his nominee, be nominated as a Council Officer to the Committee.

4. IMPLEMENTATION

- 4.1. The Council's nominees will be forwarded to the Trust.
- 4.2. The Deputy Member nominee is appointed to the Trust by the Minister.

5. STRATEGIC PLANNING IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1. Capital City Strategic Plan 2015-2025, Goal 3 Environment and Natural Resources, Strategic Objective 3.2

'Strong environmental stewardship'

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1. Funding Source(s)
 - 6.1.1. Nil.
- 6.2. Impact on Current Year Operating Result
 - 6.2.1. Nil.
- 6.3. Impact on Future Years' Financial Result
 - 6.3.1. Nil.

6.4. Asset Related Implications

6.4.1. Nil.

7. DELEGATION

7.1. Council

8. CONCLUSION

- 8.1. With recent resignation of former Alderman Suzy Cooper, an Aldermanic nominee is sought for the position of deputy member to the Wellington Park Management Trust.
- 8.2. The Council's nominee is appointed to the Trust by the Minister.
- 8.3. The Trust is re-establishing its Management Advisory Committee with the purpose to provide management and other advice to the Trust Manager to assist the Manager in advising the Trust, having regard to the Trust's vision of the Park. (refer **Attachment B**).
- 8.4. The Committee is not a decision making body but exists to support the Manager of the Trust.
- 8.5. The scope and purpose of the committee warrants the appointment of a Council Officer and it is accordingly proposed that the General Manager, or his nominee, be nominated as a Council Officer to the Committee.

9. **RECOMMENDATION**

That:

- 9.1. *The report be received and noted.***
- 9.2. *An Aldermanic nominee be sought to fill the role of Deputy Member of the Wellington Park Management Trust to the substantive position held by Alderman Cocker.***
- 9.3. *The Council's nominee be forwarded to the Trust for appointment by the Minister.***
- 9.4. *The General Manager, or his nominee, be nominated as a Council Officer to the Wellington Park Management Trust Management Advisory Committee.***

As signatory to this report, I certify that, pursuant to Section 55(1) of the Local Government Act 1993, I hold no interest, as referred to in Section 49 of the Local Government Act 1993, in matters contained in this report.



(Rob Mather)

GROUP MANAGER OPEN SPACE



(Glenn Doyle)

**DIRECTOR
PARKS AND CITY AMENITY**

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| Attachment A | Letter of 23 March 2016 from the Wellington Park Management Trust seeking an Aldermanic nomination to the vacant role of Deputy Member. |
| Attachment B | Wellington Park Management Trust Management Advisory Committee – Terms of Reference |

Inquiries: Axel Von Krusenstierna
Phone: 03 6238 2176
Our ref: 05-05-77

ABN: 31 088 002 620



23 March 2016

Mr. Nick Heath
General Manager
Hobart City Council

Dear Nick,

NOMINATION OF A DEPUTY MEMBER FOR THE TRUST

I understand from media reports that Alderman Suzy Cooper has resigned from Council. As you may recall Ms Cooper was appointed to the Trust as deputy to Alderman Cocker. However, her Instrument of Appointment notes that her appointment ceases when she is no longer an Alderman of Hobart City Council.

Could you please advise me who Council wishes to nominate as deputy for Alderman Cocker? Please include a short CV of the person nominated with the nomination.

Please note that members and deputies are appointed for a period of up to 3 years or for as long as they remain an Alderman of Hobart City Council. Trust members are paid a sitting fee of \$100 per meeting, with the Trust meeting on at least a quarterly basis. Members are appointed by the Minister; however the Minister must appoint Council's nomination for the position.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. Please do not hesitate to give me a call if you wish to discuss any issues.

Yours sincerely

(Axel von Krusenstierna)

MANAGER

**Wellington Park Management Trust
Management Advisory Committee
Terms of Reference**

Committee Status

The Management Advisory Committee (MAC) is a committee created by the Wellington Park Management Trust pursuant to section 12 of the *Wellington Park Act 1993*.

Purpose

To provide management and other specialist and technical advice to the Trust Manager to assist the Manager in advising the Trust, having regard to the Trust's vision for the Park:

"For Wellington Park to be a special place, accessible and enjoyed by all for its prominent landscape, natural and cultural diversity, and community value".

In addition to its advisory role the Trust may use the MAC to oversee the implementation of specific projects.

Objectives

The MAC assists the Trust Manager in achieving the management objectives for the Park as set out in section 2.5.2 of the Management Plan:

1. *"Promote and provide high quality tourism and recreational opportunities and facilities consistent with the appreciation and enjoyment of the environmental, water catchment, and cultural values of the Park;*
2. *Conserve and maintain the biophysical processes and biodiversity of the Park, including indigenous species, communities, ecosystems, and genetic diversity;*
3. *Conserve the geological, geomorphological, pedological, hydrological, scenic and landscape features of the Park;*
4. *Protect the supply and quality of water available from Park catchments;*
5. *Protect and retain culturally representative and significant areas, features or artefacts of use and enjoyment of the Park;*
6. *Protect and retain the special tourism and recreational character and community sense of place which the Park provides; and*
7. *Develop the organisational and procedural capacity required to achieve the above objectives."*

Specific Functions

The MAC may carry out the following functions, as well as any others requested by the Trust from time to time:

1. Assist the Manager determine the appropriate level of Park Activity Assessments (PAA) required for proposed uses and development where the initial risk assessment in Appendix 3c of the Management Plan indicates a Level 2 or 3 PAA is required.
2. Advise the Manager on the specific issues that need to be addressed in Level 2 and 3 PAAs, the appropriate level of the assessment, and the relevant information required as part of the applications.
3. Review Level 2 and 3 PAAs prior to their consideration by the Trust.
4. Advise the Manager on proposed changes to the Wellington Park Management Plan.

5. Advise the Manager on strategies for implementing the Management Plan and implementation priorities.
6. Review new or revised Park management policies, strategies, master plans and management guidelines prior to their consideration by the Trust.
7. Review briefs for projects in the Park prior to their consideration by the Trust.
8. Act as a selection panel for tenders received and advise the Manager on the award of tenders.
9. Act as a Steering Committee for Park projects where a specific project steering committee has not been approved by the Trust.
10. Identify risks and hazards in the Park and advise the Manager on mitigation measures.
11. Seek external advice where necessary to achieve the Committee's purpose
12. Discuss, and bring to the attention of the Manager, any management issues within the Park that the Committee considers require action by the Trust.

Management Principles

The MAC is guided by the management principles in section 2.5.1 of the Management Plan:

- *"Provide for community, tourism and recreational use and enjoyment of the Park consistent with the remaining management principles;*
- *Protect the Park's environment for the long term;*
- *Retain the essential cultural characteristics of the Park; and*
- *Manage water catchments in the Park as sources of clean water."*

Committee Governance and Structure

The MAC is not a decision making body and exists to support the Manager of the Wellington Park Management Trust.

The Committee is chaired by the Trust Manager and includes representatives of the 4 Park Management Agencies (Hobart City Council, Glenorchy City Council, Park and Wildlife Service and Taswater) as well as Tourism Tasmania. Members are nominated by their respective agencies on the basis of their skills and knowledge of the management issues in the Park.

If required, the MAC may ask the Management Agencies and Tourism Tasmania to make staff members with expertise in specific areas available to assist the MAC, or seek advice from external experts.

The MAC may establish working groups to deal with specific matters.

The Manager will provide the Trust with regular reports on the operations of the MAC. It is also expected that the Committee will self-review its performance annually.

Meetings and Reporting

Meetings are held at least quarterly and minuted. Additional meetings may be requested by the Manager, or agreed to by MAC members, as required to deal with specific issues.

A quorum for any meeting will be the Chairperson and 2 members of the committee.

Meetings are not open to the public and issues dealt with are to be considered confidential by members and the organisations they represent.

The Chairman will authorise the minutes as an accurate record after circulation to members who attended. Minutes of meetings of the MAC and reports will be provided to the Trust by the Manager of the Trust.

Wellington Park Management Advisory Committee
Terms of Reference

The Committee Chairman will report the views and advice of the MAC to the Trust. Advice given to the Trust by the MAC will be the consensus of the views of the members. If a member or members wish to record a dissenting view, it will be included in the minutes and reports provided to the Trust.

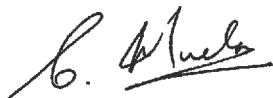
The MAC will prepare a report on its activities for the Trust's Annual Report.

Review

These Terms of Reference will be reviewed by the Trust within 12 months.

Approved by Wellington Park Management Trust Chairperson on: 22/02/2016

Policy to be reviewed by: 30/02/2017



Dr Christine Mucha
Chairperson

**9. FITZROY GARDENS – PROPOSED PERGOLA INSTALLATION – FILE
REF: 70-20-1**

6x's

Report of the Director Parks and City Amenity of 1 April 2016 and attachment.

DELEGATION: Council

TO : Parks & Recreation Committee

FROM : Director Parks & City Amenity

DATE : 1 April 2016

SUBJECT : **FITZROY GARDENS – PROPOSED PERGOLA
INSTALLATION**

FILE : 70-20-1 DW: SM(o:\pr\reports\parks\2016\11 april\pergola relocation - fitzroy gardens.doc)

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to inform the Council of the results of the community engagement with regard to the relocation of the former Franklin Square pergola to Fitzroy Gardens and to request landlord approval to progress the installation.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. At its meeting on 23 February 2015 the Council, in considering a report on the Franklin Square Master Plan - Macquarie Street Entry Pergola, resolved that:

The existing Macquarie Street entry pergola be removed from Franklin Square as part of the Stage 1 works in implementing the Franklin Square Master Plan.

All reasonable attempts be made to ensure that the deconstruction, transport and storage of the pergola allows for future relocation.

When resources are available, further strategic work, including community engagement be undertaken, to investigate relocation of the pergola to a suitable location.

If the relevant strategic work supports the relocation of the pergola, this occur as part of any future asset renewal works.

- 2.2. Following this resolution a number of options for the relocation of the pergola were considered.
- 2.3. Given the design and size of the pergola it was considered it would be best suited to a major classic park.
- 2.4. The preferred location for relocating the structure has been identified as Fitzroy Gardens as it is a large park and currently has very little shelter.
- 2.5. The preferred location and an artist's impression of the pergola in the proposed location is noted in **Attachment A**.

- 2.6. In December 2015 Officers undertook engagement with the community. Signage was located within the park and letters were sent to 110 nearby residents showing the proposed location of the pergola.
- 2.7. During the engagement period fourteen responses were received in relation to the proposal with overwhelming support with no negative comments received.
- 2.8. As part of the redevelopment works at Franklin Square the pergola was dismantled. Overall the elements of the structure were able to be salvaged with the exception of a number of cross beams. Should the Council approve the relocation of the pergola to Fitzroy Gardens a number of new elements will need to be fabricated.
- 2.9. The proposal will require planning and building approval.

3. PROPOSAL

- 3.1. It is proposed that Council provide landlord approval for the relocation of the pergola formerly located at the Macquarie Street entrance to Franklin Square to be erected in Fitzroy Gardens, at an estimated cost of \$25,000.
- 3.2. It is further proposed that the General Manager be authorised to lodge a development application for the works.

4. IMPLEMENTATION

- 4.1. A development application will be required to be lodged for this proposed.
- 4.2. Should approval be granted the works will be programmed to be undertaken during the 2016/17 financial year.

5. STRATEGIC PLANNING IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1. This proposal aligns with Goal 3 – Environment and Natural Resources, Strategic Objective 3.3 A highly valued natural and cultural open space network.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1. Funding Source(s)
 - 6.1.1. Parks Infrastructure Asset Replacement budget.
- 6.2. Impact on Current Year Operating Result
 - 6.2.1. Not Applicable

6.3. Impact on Future Years' Financial Result

- 6.3.1. The estimated cost to re-erect the pergola is \$25,000.
- 6.3.2. The cost incorporates repair of damage to the pergola that was unavoidable during its dismantling.

6.4. Asset Related Implications

- 6.4.1. The asset has a standard life of 100 years.
- 6.4.2. Before the asset was removed it had an expiry date of 30 June 2036.
- 6.4.3. By renewing the asset at a cost of \$25,000 it will renew the standard life.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1. Consultation with nearby residents has been completed.
- 7.2. The pergola will be put up by a registered builder in compliance with building standards.

8. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS INCLUDING CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABILITY

- 8.1. The renewal of the pergola demonstrates that the City is thinking of sustainability by re-using and upgrading the asset.

9. SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1. There is currently no shelter in Fitzroy Gardens so the pergola would provide an area that can be used in all weather.
- 9.2. As indicated in the overwhelming support for the proposal, the area would be utilised more for activities such as weddings and other social activities.

10. COMMUNICATION AND MEDIA IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1. A media release will be issued should the proposal be approved.
- 10.2. There is also the opportunity to promote the project via the City's facebook page.
- 10.3. The lodgement of a development application will necessitate statutory advertisement.

11. DELEGATION

- 11.1. Council

12. CONSULTATION

- 12.1. Consultation has been undertaken with local residents and regular users of Fitzroy Gardens.
- 12.2. Consultation has also been undertaken with Council's Senior Cultural Heritage Officer.

13. CONCLUSION

- 13.1. When considering a report on the Franklin Square masterplan, the Council determined that opportunities to relocate the pergola at the Macquarie Street entry to the park should be considered.
- 13.2. It was considered that Fitzroy Gardens would be present an opportunity to accommodate the infrastructure due to its status as a classic park and the lack of shelter in the park.
- 13.3. Community engagement was undertaken in December 2015.
- 13.4. There was overwhelming support for the proposal with no negative comments received.
 - 13.4.1. Council's Senior Cultural Heritage Officer also supports the proposal.
 - 13.4.2. The estimated cost to re-erect the pergola is \$25,000.
 - 13.4.3. It is considered that the pergola will revitalise the rear area of Fitzroy Gardens.
 - 13.4.4. A planning permit will be required.

14. RECOMMENDATION

That:

- 14.1. The report DW: dw(document2) be received and noted.*
- 14.2. Landlord approval be granted for the relocation of the pergola formerly located at the Macquarie Street entrance to Franklin Square to be erected in Fitzroy Gardens.*
- 14.3. The General Manager be authorised to lodge a Development Application for the works.*
- 14.4. An allocation of \$25,000 be provided from the Parks Infrastructure Asset Replacement Budget during the 2016/17 financial year to allow the project to proceed.*

As signatory to this report, I certify that, pursuant to Section 55(1) of the Local Government Act 1993, I hold no interest, as referred to in Section 49 of the Local Government Act 1993, in matters contained in this report.



(Debbie Wood)
MANAGER
PARKS AND RECREATION



(Glenn Doyle)
DIRECTOR
PARKS AND CITY AMENITY

Attachment A Pergola relocation plan.

Artist's Impression of Pergola



Proposed Location of Pergola



10. KNOCKLOFTY OPEN DAY – FILE REF: 70-30-1

42x's

Report of the Director Parks and City Amenity and the Group Manager Open Space of 5 April 2016 and attachment.

DELEGATION: Committee

TO : Parks and Recreation Committee

FROM : Director Parks & City Amenity
Group Manager Open Space

DATE : 5 April 2016

SUBJECT : **KNOCKLOFTY OPEN DAY**

FILE : 70-30-1

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to detail the outcomes of the Knocklofty Open Day, the subsequent cultural heritage report and how the report's findings can support future management of the Reserve.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. The City organised a Knocklofty Reserve Open Day celebratory event on Sunday 15th November 2015 to gather information on the cultural values of Knocklofty Reserve via stories and community interviews and provide a range of activities to engage people with the Knocklofty Reserve.
- 2.2. The open day was organised by City of Hobart Bushcare - Bush Adventures with support from the Friends of Knocklofty Reserve, Orienteering Tasmania and Lansdowne Crescent Primary School.
- 2.3. Good numbers attended on the day to share their stories, enjoy the picnic lunch and take part in the activities on offer.
- 2.4. In addition to the community survey there was an orienteering challenge organised by Orienteering Tasmania, a 'Flora Foray' led by Friends of Knocklofty Reserve, a dig for the Knocklofty Dinosaur by Bush Adventures and the opportunity to explore the 'Land to Sea' interpretation trail with Lansdowne Crescent Primary School students.



Photos: (top to bottom): a tour of the 'Land to Sea' interpretation trail being led Lansdowne Crescent Primary School students; the picnic lunch; community members filling out survey forms.

- 2.5. Consultants, Dr Kathryn Evans and Caroline Evans were engaged to survey the community on the day and report on the findings.
 - 2.5.1. The survey included open-ended questions about people's associations with the reserve, particularly memories and stories, and a line of inquiry regarding significant features and values.
 - 2.5.2. 83 surveys were completed - 45 of which were completed by people over the age of 50 (60% were local from West Hobart – Mount Stuart – North Hobart).
- 2.6. The report, '*Understanding the contemporary cultural values of Knocklofty Reserve*' (**Attachment A**) - provided evidence of a very high level of community acceptance for the Knocklofty Reserve's current management regime and concluded that:
 - 2.6.1. The landscapes and features of Knocklofty Reserve have significant contemporary cultural values that include personal and community connections through childhood and family memories and stories, recreational value for walkers, cyclists and dog owners, an interest in flora, fauna, history and geology, the 'bush' experience close to suburbia, and involvement in conservation and school activities.
 - 2.6.2. The involvement of community groups in the care and management of Knocklofty Reserve has provided an important community service and focal point over the years.
 - 2.6.3. A significant contemporary cultural value across all demographics was that Knocklofty Reserve was viewed as a place for children to play, learn new skills, explore and gain independence (i.e. the popularity of the frog ponds as a favourite place). The current City of Hobart Green Army program will undertake conservation works at this site (fencing replacement).
 - 2.6.4. Conservation works undertaken in recent years were generally applauded for making the reserve a more attractive place to visit, although some views were expressed that the extent of tree planting at the Pigeon House and frog ponds area had obscured places of personal and community significance.

3. PROPOSAL

- 3.1. It is proposed that the consultant's report be noted and officers use the findings of the report to inform the development of a site management plan for the pigeon house area as part of improving the interpretation and promotion of the Knocklofty Reserve's values.
- 3.2. The Reserve open day event model be used more widely when required as a means of engaging people in other reserves.

4. IMPLEMENTATION

- 4.1. Subject to Committee approval, officers will develop a site management plan for the pigeon house area by including the project within the 2016-2017 Bushland and Reserves Unit Plan.
- 4.2. This project is estimated to cost \$5,000, and could be prepared by consultants using the information within the report and through further consultation with relevant stakeholders.

5. STRATEGIC PLANNING IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1. Strategic objectives from the Capital City Strategic Plan 2015-2025 with relevance to the report's findings include:

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

- 5.1.1. Increase public awareness and participation in the care of bushland areas (3.3.1)
- 5.1.2. Implement park-based management and master plans (3.3.2)
- 5.1.3. Develop policies, strategies and standards to guide future management and development of the open space network (3.3.3)
- 5.1.4. Consider opportunities to activate the city's open spaces and to host events and activities (3.3.4).

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1. Funding Source(s)
 - 6.1.1. N.A
- 6.2. Impact on Current Year Operating Result
 - 6.2.1. N.A
- 6.3. Impact on Future Years' Financial Result
 - 6.3.1. A site management plan for the pigeon house area is estimated to cost \$5,000.
- 6.4. Asset Related Implications
 - 6.4.1. N.A

7. SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1. Increased awareness and understanding of the cultural values of Knocklofty Reserve will improve the management of the reserve and its values for the community. As noted above, the report found a very high level of community acceptance for the Knocklofty Reserve's current management regime.

8. COMMUNICATION AND MEDIA IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1. A copy of the report will be provided to interested stakeholders. Those who completed surveys and the community will be informed of the report's availability on the web.

9. DELEGATION

- 9.1. Committee.

10. CONCLUSION

- 10.1. The Knocklofty Reserve Open Day in November 2015 was well attended and gathered information on the cultural values of Knocklofty Reserve via stories and community interviews (80 surveys were completed).
- 10.2. The report, '*Understanding the contemporary cultural values of Knocklofty Reserve*' found a very high level of community acceptance for the Knocklofty Reserve's current management regime and concluded that:
 - 10.2.1. The landscapes and features of Knocklofty Reserve have significant contemporary cultural values.
 - 10.2.2. The involvement of community groups in the care and management of Knocklofty Reserve has provided an important community service and focal point over the years.
 - 10.2.3. Conservation works undertaken in recent years were generally applauded for making the reserve a more attractive place to visit.
 - 10.2.4. Recommendations for the future included more studies, surveys, programs and plans which could support the Reserve's management, improve interpretation and further engage the community.

11. RECOMMENDATION

That:

- 11.1. The report 'Understanding the contemporary cultural values of Knocklofty Reserve.' (Attachment A) be received and noted.*
- 11.2. The report be used as a resource to guide the ongoing management of Knocklofty Reserve including guiding future improvements to interpretation.*
- 11.3. The report be used to guide the development of a site plan for the Pigeon House area at an estimated cost of \$5,000 in 2016-2017 in order to conserve and promote the precinct's cultural heritage values.*
- 11.4. Survey participants be thanked for their contribution and advised that the report is available on Council's web site.*

As signatory to this report, I certify that, pursuant to Section 55(1) of the Local Government Act 1993, I hold no interest, as referred to in Section 49 of the Local Government Act 1993, in matters contained in this report.



(Rob Mather)

GROUP MANAGER OPEN SPACE



(Glenn Doyle)

**DIRECTOR
PARKS AND CITY AMENITY**

Attachment A

'Understanding the contemporary cultural values of Knocklofty Reserve - A report to the City of Hobart by Dr Caroline Evans and Dr Kathryn Evans.'

**UNDERSTANDING THE CONTEMPORARY CULTURAL VALUES
OF
KNOCKLOFTY RESERVE**



A report to the City of Hobart by
Dr Caroline Evans and Dr Kathryn Evans
December 2015

Front cover photographs

Cubby, Knocklofty (K. Evans 2015)

Seat, Knocklofty (K. Evans 2015)

Fiona Allan memorial (K Evans 2015)

Shell, Knocklofty (Stuart Young 2015)

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Executive Summary

The 'Understanding the Contemporary Cultural Values' of Knocklofty Reserve project was instigated by the City of Hobart to improve understanding of the stories and community connections to the reserve (within living memory). The main method used for gathering stories and community values was the Knocklofty Open Day organised by the City of Hobart Bushcare, held on Sunday the 15th November 2015. A written survey and map was prepared which included a series of open-ended questions about associations with the reserve, particularly any memories and stories, as well as significant features and values.

In all, 83 completed surveys were completed, as well as some additional information gained through telephone calls, media interviews, and email. Of the surveys, 45 were completed by people who are aged 50 or more, 30 by people aged between 20 and 49, and five by young persons aged 19 or under. Three participants did not provide an age group.

For many of those in the 50 and over age group Knocklofty was their childhood playground – a place where they could play in the frog and quarry ponds, catch tadpoles, light fires, boil a billy, have picnics and make cubbies. Others have memories of Knocklofty as a work site – of the brickworks and quarries when they were in operation. A number of the participants remember the Pigeon House as a ruin, sometimes used by itinerants, and the extensive grassy lawns surrounding it that were used for playing cricket, family picnics and as a neighbourhood meeting place. Many of those in the 20 to 49 years age group also visited Knocklofty as children and remember the bush, quarries, frog ponds and importantly the freedom from adults that it gave them. Many brought their own children to Knocklofty in turn. The participants in the under 19 age groups mentioned activities such as learning to ride a bike, learning about the wildlife, history and geology and being involved in the Land to Sea team. Conservation works undertaken in recent years were generally applauded for making the reserve a more attractive place to visit, although some thought that tree planting at the Pigeon House and frog ponds, in particular, had obscured places of personal and community significance.

The landscapes and features of Knocklofty Reserve were found to have significant contemporary cultural values that include personal and community connections through childhood and family memories and stories, recreational value for walkers, cyclists and dog owners, an interest in flora, fauna, history and geology, the 'bush' experience close to suburbia, and involvement in conservation and school activities. Knocklofty Reserve as a place for children to play, learn new skills, explore, and gain some independence was found to be a significant contemporary cultural value across all age groups. The popularity of the frog ponds as a favourite place demonstrates this.

Recommendations from the project include: a children and teens' contemporary cultural value study; an historic site research and archaeological survey; an oral history programme; management plan; and an interpretation/education plan.

Knocklofty Reserve:

“Understanding Contemporary Cultural Values”

1. INTRODUCTION

Knocklofty Reserve is a bush reserve covering 144 hectares on the hills adjacent to West Hobart and Mount Stuart, within three kilometres of the CBD of Hobart. It is linked to the Wellington Park and provides a refuge for native animals and plants, some of which are threatened or endangered. It is also a popular recreation area attracting bush walkers, mountain bikers, dog walkers, school, Guide and Scout groups. The ‘Understanding the Contemporary Cultural Values’ of Knocklofty Reserve project was instigated after community interest in the interpretation of specific sites within the reserve led the City of Hobart to identify a need to improve understanding of the stories and community connections to the reserve (within living memory). The findings of the project will inform the Council in developing a strategy that interprets those values. The City of Hobart is to be congratulated on taking such a community values driven approach.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The assistance and support of the City Of Hobart Bushcare team has been greatly appreciated throughout the course of this study, especially with regard to the supply of a suitable map, providing important feedback on the survey proposals and in organising such a great day for the Knocklofty Open Day on Sunday 15th November. Particular thanks go to Lisa Cawthen, Bushcare Coordinator, Jess Fuller-Smith, Bushland Interpretation Officer and Martina Smith, Asset Information Coordinator, for all their help and advice. Thanks also to the Friends of Knocklofty Bushcare group, particularly their President, Astrid Wright, for providing some background information and assistance with disseminating information about the Open Day and surveys.

We would also like to acknowledge the input of Alderman Anna Reynolds and her father Professor Henry Reynolds in providing fascinating family insights into the history of the reserve as well as contacts for other people with Knocklofty connections. The West Hobart Neighbourhood Watch group assisted with an article in their newsletter, the *Mercury* in featuring an article in the *Sunday Tasmanian* on 8th November and ABC radio’s Ryk Goddard on 12th November with an interview (with Alderman Reynolds). The Lansdowne Crescent Primary School Land to Sea program co-ordinator, Mandy Evans, provided us with information about that program and facilitated our stand at the Lansdowne Primary School Fair on 13th November. Importantly thanks are extended to all those who helped promote the Open Day and survey, who participated in the survey and/or provided information through means such as telephone, email or radio.

3. METHODOLOGY

The main method identified for gathering stories and community knowledge of the reserve was the Knocklofty Open Day organised by the City of Hobart Bushcare and held on Sunday the 15th November 2015 (10am – 2pm). In advance of the Open Day key stakeholders were interviewed such as the President of the Friends of Knocklofty, the Land to Sea program co-ordinator at Lansdowne Primary School and Alderman Anna Reynolds and her father Professor Henry Reynolds (who has a long connection with the reserve). This helped identify some key issues and stories and assist in framing the questions for a written survey.

In order to best capture people's memories and stories about Knocklofty a written survey was prepared and approved by the City of Hobart Bushcare project manager. A copy of this survey can be found in the Appendices. A map was also prepared by the City of Hobart staff for inclusion in the survey which identified key places in and around the reserve (past and present) including adjoining roads, car parks, lookouts, seats, picnic tables, tracks, the Knocklofty summit, the frog ponds, water reservoirs, the location of the old Pigeon House, the Sugarloaf, and the main quarries that are adjacent to the reserve. The questions were deliberately kept as open-ended questions to enable participants to write freely and qualitatively about their connections with the Knocklofty Reserve. An optional section at the end asked the participants their age range, post code, their name and address and if they would be interested in participating in a follow-up interview.

The questions were:

- How long have you been visiting Knocklofty?
- How has Knocklofty Reserve changed in the time that you have been visiting it?
- What is important to you about Knocklofty Reserve?
- What memories or stories do you have about Knocklofty?
- Do you have any favourite places on Knocklofty? Why are these special to you? Please mark them on the map overleaf.
- What changes, if any, would you like to see at Knocklofty Reserve?

Prior to the Open Day event the Bushcare team organised media communications through their facebook page, media releases, communications with their stakeholder groups, an advertisement in the *Mercury*, as well as in community papers such as the West Hobart Neighbourhood Watch. Posters and fliers were distributed to local schools, LINC Tasmania and local cafes. Alderman Reynolds also organised a feature article in the *Mercury* and radio interview on ABC Radio (Ryk Goddard) and identified a number of potential people to survey who had connections with the reserve. As consultants to the project Caroline Evans and Kathryn Evans also attended the Lansdowne Primary School Fair on Friday 13th November (5pm-6pm) to hand out fliers for the Open Day and surveys to those who were interested but couldn't attend on the day.

In all 83 completed surveys were collected as well as some additional information gained through telephone calls, media interviews, and email. Most (72) were gathered at the Open Day. The offering of free native plants was an extra incentive for people to complete the survey on the day. It was found that while the Lansdowne School Fair gave an excellent opportunity to

promote the event through distributing fliers it was not ideal for completing surveys as it was very noisy and busy and people were otherwise engaged at the time. A small number of surveys (11) were received in the mail, by email or in person (other than on the Open Day).

4. LIMITATIONS

The study undertaken focussed primarily on the stories and memories of Knocklofty Reserve as experienced in living memory. Memories and stories provide very personal and subjective views of history which can add much to our understanding of individual, family and community connections, experiences and interactions with a place. It was beyond the scope of this project, however, to undertake a more thorough and objective historical research study of Knocklofty Reserve through archival documents and other sources. The historical background provided in this report draws heavily upon work already undertaken by others on the earlier history of the reserve.

The strong reliance on the Open Day to collect surveys, whilst, having a good response, may not have captured some of the older generation with stories or memories as mobility or transport problems may have prevented them from attending on the day. A number of such people were identified through talking to others and it is recommended that the City of Hobart provide resources for some follow up interviews with these people. There were also a very small number of surveys completed by children and teenagers. The survey did not ask for participants to state their gender. These limitations may need to be addressed in any future surveys. Respondents to the survey were also self selected, that is, it was not a random selection of users. Those who attended the Open Day and completed the surveys would presumably already have a high level of engagement with Knocklofty Reserve.

The survey was formatted in a WORD document with map attached and was more difficult to fill out via email. An online survey may have assisted with those completing the survey remotely. Council staff experimented with producing an app for the day but had difficulties making it workable.

The open-ended nature of the questions on the survey was aimed at eliciting qualitative responses. Whilst this gives a good deal of personal information about connections with the reserve, including stories and memories, it is more difficult to analyse the results in statistical terms. Most people gave multiple answers to any one question, making comparisons or quantification difficult. When answering the question 'Do you have any favourite places on Knocklofty? Why are these special to you? Please mark them on the map overleaf' - some people gave answers which were unclear or difficult to identify their exact location (such as unspecified lookouts/views), or referred to a large area, making it difficult to compare answers and put into a statistical format. This needs to be borne in mind when using the graphs in section 10. Despite these difficulties in quantification, a qualitative approach is still regarded as the most appropriate way to discover the community contemporary values of Knocklofty Reserve.

For future surveys, it is also suggested that the question asking respondents for their memories and stories might be a good opening question and assist them in identifying more fully what is

important to them about the reserve. For example, although a number of respondents to the survey recalled very vivid childhood stories and memories, in response to the question ‘What is important to you about Knocklofty?’ they did not necessarily put childhood memories as an important value.

5. KNOCKLOFTY: HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The area around Knocklofty formed part of the territory of the Mouheneenner band of Aborigines from the South East tribes. The South East Aborigines operated in large groups harvesting shellfish from the coast and hunting birds, kangaroos and wallabies in the hinterland during all seasons of the year (Ryan 1996, p. 39-40). Aborigines used fire for warmth and cooking but also for clearing and renewing feeding grounds for native animals and to flush out game for hunting. A long history of Aboriginal burning created a country that many early explorers to Tasmania described as ‘open woodland’ with widely spaced trees, little undergrowth and a grass covering. Around present day Hobart the rivulet was more thickly vegetated, but was flanked by grassy forest which rose to Mt Wellington which had a covering of some very large trees (Gammage 2012, p. 246-250).

It is most likely that Knocklofty’s use by Aboriginal hunting groups would have maintained a predominantly light forest kept clear of undergrowth by a long history of firing. It had a large area of flat land well suited for hunting, as well as permanent waterholes or springs (Reynolds 2005, p. 20). Rock caves in the vicinity of Knocklofty provided shelter.

These Aboriginal hunting grounds also attracted early European interest from hunting parties in search of native game, and those in search of easily accessible resources such as timber and stone. The first European settlement at Sullivan’s Cove was in 1804. By 1829 the Knocklofty hill had earned the name of Woodman’s Hill and had largely been stripped of timber for firewood and building timber. Forest Road was constructed to haul wood out by bullock teams. By 1839 the area is referred to on Frankland’s map of Hobart as Knocklofty. It was most likely named by a Scottish settler – ‘cnoc’ being Gaelic for hill (Champion and Ault n.d.).

James Ross, a Scottish teacher, publisher and newspaper editor, was the first European to own what is now Knocklofty Reserve. He was granted twelve acres in 1827 and built ‘Paraclete’ in what is now Summerhill Road. Four years later he was granted a further 300 acres of land on the lower slopes of Knocklofty. The grant was later broken up and a succession of owners used the land for timber, grazing and quarrying (Champion and Ault n.d.). An early landmark at Knocklofty was the Pigeon House which had a gabled roof with loft. It was referred to in 1829 by Mrs Prinsep who wrote in her journal:

‘The owner of a pretty pigeon-house, commanding a splendid panorama from the top of a high hill behind the town ... offered to board and lodge us all for six months. The house was (literally) against the light – pervis [sic] to every wind’. The offer was declined (Goodrick 1986, p. 74).

In 1837 the property was offered for sale and described as comprising over ninety eight acres including the original Knocklofty allotment.

‘It is well-watered, by a creek running into the Hobart town rivulet in Liverpool Street and by a pond never dry. There are two gardens well furnished with fruit trees in full bearing, two substantially built stone cottages, to one of which is attached a most excellent fowl and pigeon house, and other outbuildings. There is a good flagstone quarry in Salvator Rosa’s glen, leading from glen Sable (Mr Mannings) let to an improving tenant’ (*Hobart Town Courier* 3 February 1837, p. 3).

Many of Hobart’s fine buildings, such as banks, churches and schools, as well as residences, were constructed from stone quarried from the slopes of Knocklofty, with Rippon Shields being one of the main companies to operate in the area. The remains of quarrying can be seen today in the form of quarry faces and borrow pits. As the sandstone suitable for building became more difficult to obtain, attention turned to brick making (Champion and Ault n.d.)

Knocklofty was one of the major brick making sites in Hobart. In 1882 a brick works was established by Rippon Shields. It was later owned by Cheverton. It was an extensive plant that covered over twenty acres and produced 40 000 to 50 000 bricks per week. By 1915 it was owned by Crisp and Gunn who continued operations until 1965 when it was closed and later demolished (Champion and Ault n.d.).

As well as its use for resources such as hunting, timber getting, grazing, quarrying and brick manufacture Knocklofty Reserve also has a long history of recreational use. It has featured significantly in early artworks. The Salvator Rosa Glen (off Salvator Road) was painted by John Glover and others in the 1800s. Knocklofty has also featured in literature such as Jessie Couvreur’s 1895 novel *Not Counting the Cost* (Champion and Ault n.d.)

Over the period 1942-1943 much of the Knocklofty Reserve was acquired by the Hobart City Council (now City of Hobart) to protect it from further wood cutting and with the aim of creating large areas of mountain park close to the city that could be extended and linked. Small additions have since been made to the area of the reserve. In 1979 the Forest Road Reserve was incorporated in the Knocklofty Reserve (Goodrick 1986, p. 20).

As the population of West Hobart grew improvements in water supply became necessary and two reservoirs in Forest Road and Hill Street were constructed, augmented by a further reservoir on Knocklofty between 1958 and 1960 (Champion and Ault, n.d.).

Knocklofty became a popular place for local children to explore. Henry Reynolds recalls growing up on the edge of the Knocklofty bush in the late 1940s and 1950s where he and others would roam the bush, dodging young men with air rifles and snakes. A focal point was the area known as the Pigeon House – a flat ledge with access from points in West Hobart, Mount Stuart and South Hobart. There was a central pond and old brick farmhouse which became ruinous. Picnics and cricket games were held in the locality and tadpoles were collected from the ponds. Others used the area for hunting rabbits with traps, guns or ferrets or greyhound training (Reynolds 2005, pp. 18-19). Henry’s older sister Mary recalls:

‘Children of Knocklofty were the original Bushwalkers, Rockclimbers, cave explorers and Bush Botanists. There were deserted sites of past activity to explore – quarries and

ponds, the Pigeon House and the red brick Cheverton/Kemp and Denning Brick Kiln – in the 1940s no one would have vandalised it ... At the base of most of the quarries were deep ponds with lots of frogs and tadpoles. They made quite a chorus or “Blonk Blonk” until we got close. All around the ponds and paths there was a sticky yellow clay. In the big quarry up Poet’s Road we found fossils of ferns and coral.

My Dad remembered the Chinese market gardeners removing much of the topsoil from Knocklofty. They carried it in baskets to enrich their gardens in Providence Valley, which is now Mellifont Street. After heavy rain, torrents of water washed yellow clay and soil from Knocklofty down the deep gutters each side of Warwick Street ...

...Visiting the caves at the end of Poet’s Road was a big adventure, exciting and risky – a narrow, slippery track with a big drop straight down. One day Jimmy Butterworth slipped and fell down in the big deep frog pond ...’

She also remembers having picnics neat the Sugarloaf, making fires to cook sausages and filling the billy from the pond to make tea (Reynolds 2012-2013).

According to Goodrick who wrote a history of West Hobart:

‘My own personal recollections of West Hobart go back to the 1930s. They are only fragments of memories about the Brickworks up in Arthur Street and the frogponds above them, where the gorse and broom grew profusely over lower Knocklofty... The landmark best remembered by the people I spoke to concerning the early days in West Hobart, was the old Pigeon House on Knocklofty above Lansdowne Crescent’ (Goodrick 1986, p. 74).

Local community groups, such as the Girl Guides, Scouts, schools, Landcare and progress associations, and more recently a Bush Care group (Friends of Knocklofty) have all had involvement with the reserve in various ways over the years. A track on the Mount Stuart side of Knocklofty was formed by the work of the Mount Stuart Guides in 1978 and named in honour of a local Guide leader, Fiona Allan, who perished in Nepal in that year (*Mount Stuart News* December 2006).

6. KNOCKLOFTY: CONSERVATION HISTORY

Prior to, but increasingly following the formation of the Knocklofty Reserve in 1942-43, the reserve was used by local residents for a range of recreational purposes such as hunting rabbits, training greyhounds, picnics, childhood explorations and bush walking. Gorse and other weeds became predominant in some areas, and the area generally lacked an active management regime and amenities.

In 1983 a development and management plan was adopted by the Hobart City Council identifying management issues such as land use, vegetation, weeds, fire hazards and recreational use. Recommendations included fire hazard reduction and rehabilitation of ‘degraded’ bushland.

Some of the water filled quarries were drained, a car park established at Forest Road and some tracks upgraded to assist fire access (Ault 2002).

In 1992 a group of local residents formed the Friends of Knocklofty Bushcare Group [FOKL] who carried out weed removal and tree planting, predominantly in the Fielding Drive subdivision and the lower Forest Road entrance. In 1995 Council appointed a Bushland Officer which was later expanded to a Bushcare team, which encourage and support Bushcare groups in all City of Hobart reserves. The FOKL, in conjunction with the Council, expanded their removal of woody weeds and planting to the eastern side of Knocklofty Reserve and began monthly afternoon work activities (Ault 2002).

The Council produced a fire management plan in 1998 which included a flora and fauna survey. The following year FOKL received funding from the Natural Heritage Trust for a three year project to 'restore the threatened flora communities and habitats for threatened fauna on Knocklofty'. With this funding a Vegetation Management Plan was financed (North 2001). Over the subsequent period a huge amount of effort has been expended by this, and other community groups, in weed removal and bush regeneration. The implementation of the Vegetation Management Plan led to the clearance of woody weeds from 98.7 hectares, involving voluntary work by a number of community groups. Also under the NHT grant over 13 000 seedlings were planted, again involving a number of local community, school and environmental groups. Seed collection has also been a focus of the FOKL. A photographic record was made of selected sites to demonstrate the effect of rehabilitation activities (J and A Ault 1999 and 2002).

Another major focus of the FOKL has been the restoration of eight frog ponds, including some hard landscaping to improve run-off to the ponds and plantings and soft landscaping around five of the ponds. An old industrial dam was restored as the Frog Dam. This work began in 1998. A viewing area was constructed and tracks leading to and from the dam were provided and a booklet 'Bringing the Frogs back to Knocklofty' produced. In 2002 rehabilitation of the largest pond on the reserve was begun by the Hobart City Council Bushcare crew.

Following the restoration of eight ponds a water watch program was instigated to monitor water quality and frog habitat. A wildlife consultant, Stephen Mallick, also conducted a study, including trappings, of small mammals on the reserve (Mallick 2001). In response the habitat of the eastern barred bandicoot was tackled with the planting of prickly shrubs to provide a bandicoot shelter corridor. *Eucalyptus globulus* has also been planted in two areas to provide habitat for the endangered swift parrot which is known to visit the area.

In terms of cultural heritage management, an Aboriginal Heritage Assessment was carried out by a consultant in 1999. While no sites were found on the reserve itself sites were identified on private land adjoining. The absence of sites in the reserve was considered most likely to be due to the high degree of historic landscape disturbance, through activities such as road making, excavating and quarrying, etc (Stanton 1999). Two members of the FOKL also researched and wrote a history of the reserve from European settlement in 1803 for use as an educational pamphlet (Champion and Ault n.d). Some of this basic historical information has been included on interpretative signage installed c2002 and is also available on the FOKL website. Other

interpretative and directional signs were also installed at the reserve including a map showing tracks, and signage at the Frog Dam (Ault 2002). The John Glover trail with interpretative signage was installed in 2004.

In 2003 the Council and a Green Corps team constructed new tracks, carried out weed management, revegetation, landscaping and a swift parrot habitat (*Mercury* Feb 1 2003).

In recent years, Lansdowne Primary School staff and children have been involved in researching and preparing an interpretive trail with QR codes and website for the Land to Sea program. This has recently won a National Landcare Award. The trail and website outlines a range of values on Knocklofty including the geological features of the area, the European history of timber getting and quarrying, John Glover connections, as well as the importance of the area for wildlife habitat, including birds and frogs. The website has an Indonesian translation for each entry.

7. KNOCKLOFTY: CURRENT MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

The City of Hobart has responsibility for managing 4589 hectares (ha) of bushland; 2966 ha within the municipal boundaries of Hobart, and 1623 ha outside of the Hobart council area. Knocklofty Reserve is one of a number of bushland reserves managed by the council, including the Queens Domain, Bicentennial Park, Wellington Park and Trugannini reserve. Knocklofty Reserve covers 144 hectares of bushland adjacent to the suburbs of West Hobart, Mount Stuart and South Hobart.

In 2008 the City of Hobart produced a Bushland Management strategy with the vision statement:

The Council in partnership with the local community will retain, promote and enhance the unique character and values of Hobart's bushland for the long term environmental, social and economic benefit of the community.

The key objectives are:

1. Protection, enhancement and maintenance of biodiversity, geodiversity, landscape and cultural heritage values.
2. Maintenance and protection of watercourses and associated water quality measures contained within bushland areas.
3. Reduction of threatening processes, which are degrading, or which could degrade bushland values.
4. Restoration and rehabilitation of degraded bushland.
5. Improving community awareness of bushland values.
6. Encouraging community participation in managing bushland.
7. Facilitating public use for recreation and enjoyment of bushland compatible with conserving its natural and cultural values.
8. Working co-operatively with other agencies, community groups and individual landholders to manage bushland areas.
9. Recognising the strong link between Tasmania's Aboriginal people and Hobart's bushland values with inclusive management practices.

Cultural heritage is identified in the strategy as taking three main forms – historic cultural heritage, Aboriginal heritage and cultural landscapes. Cultural landscape is defined as ‘a landscape that results from the intersection of plants, animals and people over time’. Hobart’s bush areas provide cultural landscapes both as a backdrop to the city, but also as unique cultural landscapes in their own right, such as at Knocklofty Reserve.

The City of Hobart manages much of its bush land in conjunction with community groups, predominantly through its Bushcare program. The Bushcare officers provide training and support to volunteers who ‘help to regenerate and preserve Hobart’s bushland, working to protect local biodiversity, maintain ecosystems and enhance wildlife habitat’ (Bushcare leaflet).

The Knocklofty Reserve is managed in conjunction with the Friends of Knocklofty Bushcare group, first established in 1992. In the past the group has been active in weed removal, tree planting, wildlife monitoring and habitat restoration, including the restoration of frog ponds. An Aboriginal heritage site assessment has been carried out by a consultant, and interested persons in the group have done a limited amount of historical research about Knocklofty’s European history.

The current main focus of the FOKL group is to maintain ‘natural’ values primarily through weed removal. Tree planting is now in abeyance due to higher levels of planning permissions required and the perception that some areas may have been inappropriately re-planted in the past, such as in native grasslands and around the frog ponds. The current group prefer keeping infrastructure to a minimum to emphasise the ‘naturalness’ of the Knocklofty Reserve (Astrid Wright pers. comm.).

8. KNOCKLOFTY AS ‘CULTURAL LANDSCAPE’

Knocklofty Reserve may be considered a ‘cultural’ landscape, containing both ‘historic’ values and ‘contemporary’ cultural values. The Bushland Management Strategy (2008) defines historic cultural values as those dating prior to 1945.

Simon Schama, in *Landscape and Memory*, points out that all landscapes are essentially human constructs. ‘It is difficult to think of a single such natural system that has not, for better or worse, been substantially modified by human culture’ ... Even so-called wilderness is ‘as much the product of culture’s craving and culture’s framing as any other imagined garden ... The wilderness, after all, doesn’t locate itself, does not name itself’ (Schama 1995, p. 6-7).

In the Australian context, Lennon (1988) and Fahey (1991) have both highlighted how national parks and reserves, although originally reserved for their ‘natural’ qualities, may have, in fact had, a long history of human occupation from Aboriginal times to the present. These may include a European history of resource extraction through timber getting, quarrying, mining, forestry and grazing, and recreational use, all of which have left marks on the landscape. Both argue that, at times, the focus on natural values in parks management has led to evidence of

human history being inappropriately removed or covered up (Fahey 1991, pp. 174-175; Lennon 1986, p. 2).

As an historic cultural landscape Knocklofty Reserve retains many remnants of past use, such as sandstone quarries dating back to the early years of European settlement, remnants of once large clearings that were used for grazing (and possibly Aboriginal hunting prior to European settlement), and also later for recreational use, such as picnics and cricket matches. There are also old tracks, old fences, water supply infrastructure, and hut and home site ruins. There are ruins of the old Pigeon House, which was a landmark dating back to the 1820s, but, which by the 1950s and 1960s was in a ruinous state and provided shelter for itinerants and a play area for local children. Other more natural features, such as the Sugarloaf and frog ponds, loom large in the community's memories of the area and hold social value. There are also views and vistas, such as the Salvator Rosa Glen at the end of Salvator Road, that hold significance for their scenic and aesthetic qualities, and associations with notable colonial artists, such as John Glover. Other sites, such as the quarry and site of the old brickworks at the end of Arthur Street are adjacent but not part of the reserve.

Some of the historic sites, such as old quarry faces and borrow pits, have through past conservation works, been 'covered up' with tree planting regimes. Views such as that experienced by John Glover through the Salvator Rosa Glen are now no longer visible due to vegetation growth in the intervening period. What were once extensive clearings near the frog ponds have largely been re-vegetated. Reynolds laments this practice;

'I have been increasingly disturbed by the industry of the Hobart City Council and the local land care group, which are planting trees all over our common. They are not taking it away from us by enclosing it but by vegetating it. I appreciate that the work is thoroughly professional and carried out with the best of intentions. But each time I return now I have a sense of loss. Don't they understand, I wonder? Don't they know the history of the Pigeon House and its place in the lives of generations? Why do they continue to overplant my heritage?' (Reynolds 2005, p. 20).

Reynolds also questions the appropriateness of planting large numbers of trees in an area that, in Aboriginal times, may have been more 'open' country kept clear by Aboriginal firing (Reynolds 2005, p.20).



Fig. 1 Photograph showing tree plantings in front of old quarry face (K. Evans 2015)



Fig. 2 Remnant clearing and rubble at the site of the old Pigeon House. This clearing was once much more extensive but has been reduced through tree planting and natural regeneration (K. Evans 2015)

As well as these historic values, the landscapes of Knocklofty Reserve also hold contemporary cultural values for the local community. Taylor points out the importance of landscapes to our individual and community sense of place and belonging: ‘landscape is the nerve centre of our personal and collective memories ... They tell the story of people, events and places through time, offering a sense of continuity, a sense of the stream of time.’ (Taylor 2008).

In a study of English hedgerows, Oreszczyn and Lane (2000) argue that hedgerows hold a range of significant values for the contemporary community, including representing the English national identity, as important links to the past, for their aesthetic qualities in providing diversity in the landscape, for their ephemeral qualities, as special places in people’s childhood memories, and as contributing to a sense of place. Some values were personal and emotional, others were more rational. While these cultural values were common amongst a range of groups in the local population, differing views were held as regards to their management. While experts emphasised the native wildlife and flora and made reference to ‘habitats’ and ‘wildlife corridors’, many in the community saw wildlife as just one of a range of features or values that attracted them. The study found that individual people form complex relationships with the landscape around them and that the images people hold of the countryside are based on their experiencing of it and their relationship with it, rather than any notions of what would be ‘perfect’. They were also aware that the countryside may change over time. Oreszczyn and Lane recommend a participatory/consultative rather than expert driven approach to the management of such assets (Oreszczyn and Lane 2000).

In instigating this study of contemporary cultural values of Knocklofty Reserve the City of Hobart is acknowledging the importance of community connections with the reserve through identifying key stories and memories (in living memory), as well as community values and visions for the future. Such stories and memories may assist in interpreting those significant values to the wider community. The Open Day provided an important opportunity to record the contemporary cultural values of the Knocklofty Reserve. It can be seen from the survey findings

below that the landscapes and features of Knocklofty Reserve have significant contemporary cultural values that include personal and community connections through childhood and family memories and stories, recreational value, an interest in flora, fauna and geology, the 'bush' experience close to suburbia, and involvement in conservation activities.

9. SURVEY RESULTS

Of the 83 completed surveys received, 45 were completed by people who are aged 50 or more, 30 by people aged between 20 and 49, one by a young person aged between 13 and 19, and four by children under 12. Three participants in the survey did not provide an age range. The length of time that participants have been visiting Knocklofty varied between those who were there for the first time and 75 years. In the 50 or more age group 30 participants (about 68%) had connections with the reserve of more than 20 years. Two of the three respondents who did not provide their age had connections of a similar length of time. Among the participants aged 20 to 49 years, 8 of the 30 had connections of 20 years or more (26%). Of the 71 participants who provided a postcode for where they live, 43 (about 60%) were from the 7000 area (West Hobart, Mount Stuart, North Hobart), 7 (about 10%) were from the 7004 area (South Hobart) and 6 (over 8%) were from the 7008 area (Lenah Valley and New Town).

The following is a summary of the answers to the questions on the survey.

How has Knocklofty Reserve changed in the time that you have been visiting it?

Fifty and over age group

The number of years that people had visited Knocklofty affected their perception of change. Those who had known it for sixty years or more noticed that suburbia had made inroads so that the acreage of bush had diminished. On the other hand, the vegetation was thicker, with more trees, especially in the area around the Pigeon House which had once been open, like 'big lawns', according to one survey. For another the re-growth around the Pigeon House meant that it had lost its 'magical quality'. Some participants also mentioned the agricultural and industrial uses of Knocklofty. One commented that the bulls belonging to the Fieldings were gone. There was also no more brick works. A participant who has known Knocklofty for forty-one years remembered it being quarried for road building in the 1970s and the sound of stone crushers.

Those who have visited Knocklofty for between five and forty-one years were more likely to notice that the gorse, blackberries, and other exotic weeds had been removed and that there was more planting. One participant who has known Knocklofty for thirty-five years used to go black berry picking around the frog ponds. Now it was 'hard to find a weed, gorse virtually eliminated. Many areas, once only weed infested, now flourishing with local provenance nature'. Participants also commented that there are better and more tracks, that there is now seating, and improved information and interpretation. Knocklofty had, according to one, become a much more 'inviting place'. Participants also noticed that there are more people using the reserve, including those on mountain bikes and walking dogs. Only one participant commented on the further encroachment of houses, noting that Knocklofty looks less bushy from the suburbs than it did twenty-five years ago.

One participant, although commenting positively that Knocklofty was now a 'well loved walking area' compared to the 1970s, is concerned that many of the native birds have gone. In addition, the participant expressed disappointment that, in 2000, the Hobart City Council had widened and gravelled the Fiona Allan Track, originally developed by the Mt Stuart Girl Guides. The Council also cleared plants put in by the Guides. This participant felt that the track was now 'something completely different' and 'no longer a peaceful walking track'.

Participants visiting Knocklofty for under five years were less likely to see changes. Even so, some of them had noticed the growth of vegetation and that the reserve was 'healthier'. One noted the upgraded walking tracks on the Summit Loop.

Twenty to forty-nine age group

The length of time that participants in the twenty to forty-nine age group have visited Knocklofty ranged from forty-three years to seven months. None of them mentioned the grassy area around the old Pigeon House, although a couple noted that there was more vegetation around the frog ponds now. More generally, they noticed that there is more growth, with one saying that Knocklofty seems 'more bushy' and another that the trees are 'taller'. Yet another noticed that there is more vegetation around the views. Other changes are the removal of weeds, especially gorse and blackberries, better paths, and more signage. One noted that the viewing platform on the tank at the top of the Corby Avenue path had gone. Another mentioned the Fielding Drive housing development, writing 'a huge tree was taken out in order for the road to go through'. A few said that Knocklofty has become more popular, with one expressing concern that off-lead dog walking had diminished wildlife.

Young People and Children

Young people and children did not notice much change although one said that there are now more tracks, plants, and trees. Another mentioned the Land to Sea QR codes.

What is important to you about Knocklofty Reserve?

Fifty and over age group

Most of the participants in the fifty and over age group like Knocklofty because of its natural qualities. They enjoy seeing the flora, birds, and animals and appreciate its value as a reserve for wildlife. One mentioned that it is interesting to observe the way the bush regenerates after a fire. These natural qualities were seen as even more valuable because Knocklofty is close to Hobart and easy to access. One participant described it as 'the lungs of the city'. Another wrote that it is a place 'to relax, to refresh, to reconnect to the outdoors that is accessible without a car. It is a little bit of the wild (albeit subdued) but at my backdoor'. Yet another said: 'Being able to reach bushland so close to town (on foot) being able to walk extensively – hearing birds, seeing wallabies & quolls, being around them'.

Many of these participants found that Knocklofty is peaceful and safe with well marked paths, that it is a good place to walk with or without dogs. It provides opportunities for orienteering and

mountain bike riding. Knocklofty is also a good place for school excursions and for children to explore. A couple of participants mentioned the fine views of the city.

For people who have visited Knocklofty for sixty years or more, it is valued for childhood memories. As one participant said, it was 'our summer playground'. Another described it as a 'cherished childhood place'. A third wrote: 'It was a big part of my childhood and learning independence, bush skills and amazing imaginative games ... sometimes mildly violent (cowboys and Indians, war games)'.

Twenty to forty-nine age group

Like the fifty and older age group, participants aged between twenty and forty-nine value Knocklofty for its natural values and closeness to town. They appreciate its flora, birds, and fauna, citing especially the frog ponds and spotted quolls. One was interested that the vegetation is different to Mt Wellington's. These participants also enjoyed the views of the city.

They differ from the older age group in that although one mentioned childhood memories, as a group they emphasised the importance of Knocklofty as a place to bring their children now. One appreciated Knocklofty's 'natural ambience, undeveloped feel. Peaceful bushland setting. Even though we have young children it is nice there is no play equipment so children appreciate its natural bushland setting'. Another wrote: 'We love access to the bush for the entire family. We value the flora & fauna, the views, exercise, dog access'. A third values Knocklofty because: 'Its beautiful, peaceful, safe, easy access, close to our house, natural (not too developed) and lots of hidden, off the path, areas for play & exploration'.

Young People and Children

The young people and children enjoy the closeness of Knocklofty to home and being able to walk and ride there. They like its animals, geography, history, and flora. Those involved in Lansdowne Crescent School's Land to Sea project enjoy teaching people about these aspects of Knocklofty.

What memories or stories do you have about Knocklofty?

Fifty and over age group

Participants who had known Knocklofty for between seventy-five and twenty-eight years were most likely to emphasise their childhood memories of it. Knocklofty was their playground, a place where they could play in the frog and quarry ponds, catch tadpoles, light fires, boil a billy, have picnics at the Pigeon House, play cowboys and Indians or Tarzan swinging on a vine, and make cubbies. The following is one participant's description of her activities in the 1950s:

'We would go on expeditions up to the Pidgeon [sic] House and beyond. No parents! We had tomahawks and would cut saplings and make cubby houses. Build fires and boil the billy & cook potatoes in the coals. We loved to explore several water ponds surrounded by rocky outcrops. The girls name these with mystical names etc. There was swan lake (the one that is now fenced off). We would collect tadpoles ... There were large rectangular sandstones lying about over a very large grassy field ... One of the stones had "rude" words carved in it. I think it was F... An

adult turned this face down when we weren't there but we would roll it over to expose the inscription'.

Others have memories, or can retell family memories, of Knocklofty as a work site. The grandparents of one of the participants owned thirteen acres on Knocklofty, including a quarry and house at the end of Salvator Road. There was a flying fox to the house used to transport wood. The grandfather died in a quarry accident. Another participant went with her father to visit the brickworks. It was raining so her father made them hessian raincoats. She wrote: 'Tram tracks with trollies moved the bricks around. I think the kiln was in the centre of radiating semicircular canals which were bricked up and mortared with clay slurry – it always amazed me that they began creamy coloured'.

A number of the participants remember the Pigeon House as a ruin. According to one, it had thirteen rooms and a cellar. By the time that participant used to visit it, the windows and doors were gone. Another participant remembers going up to the area with a man known as Pop Mansfield, to collect 'hot' sand (used to make mortar) for builders. He saw gypsies in the Pigeon House: 'While he was shovelling I wandered over to the old cottage ... Getting near I was confronted by a young man who raised his arm in a threatening manner. Pop shouted to me to stay away, they are Gypsies. I did'.

One of the participants used to lead the Mount Stuart Guide Company in the 1970s. She took the Guides to Knocklofty to clear gorse and boxwood. They planted native flowering shrubs to replace it. The Guides carried garbage bins of water up to the plants. They built a camp fire area out of the box thorn. When Fiona Allan, a former leader of the Ranger Guides, died in Nepal at the age of twenty-two, they built a single file walking track so that walkers could enjoy the birds, in her memory. The Guides put in about thirty railway sleepers to prevent erosion and planted the native trees and shrubs donated to the project. Another Guide project was to put ninety-seven railway sleepers into the western face to improve access for firemen and children.

The rest of the participants in this age group have been visiting Knocklofty for between one and twenty-five years. They remembered walks with family, friends, and the dog. One wrote:

'lots of walks ... visits to the Frog Ponds with our children, local children using it as their backyard to play imaginatively, school excursions, losing our dog on Knocklofty only to find her at our back door ... Struggling up the Summit Loop, it's the "Jewel in the Crown" for us and a major reason for staying put'.

The favourite memory of another was 'the look of pure joy on the faces of dogs when they run about off leash'.

This group tended to remember the natural environment. One had been a member of Friends of Knocklofty since 1992. Others have happy memories of sighting particular birds and animals, for instance the dusty wood swallow, large snakes, whip snakes, a barred bandicoot, and echidna. Another wrote:

'Taking a school group to look at rocks and fossils in their neighbourhood was a highlight. I enjoyed exploring the tracks and taking my young children there to learn about plants and

animals in their local patch of bushland. Seeing snakes is always a great drama – memorable in a positive way’.

One participant mentioned uncovering cultural heritage as a particular memory.

Hot and cold weather events were also memorable. A participant mentioned ‘days of mist and snow on the top’. Another was concerned that during the bush fires of the 1980s, ‘West Hobart would go up in smoke!’.

Personal Communications

There were also a few phone calls, e-mails or meetings with people who, apart from one, did not fill in a survey. Even so, they had memories of Knocklofty that they wished to communicate. These memories came from their childhoods and were similar to those of the fifty and over age group that had been visiting Knocklofty for between seventy-five and twenty-eight years.

These participants remember picnics on the grassy area at the top of the Sugarloaf, cutting willows to make bows and arrows in Salvator Rosa Glen, having a smoke or playing in the caves there, ‘cliff climbing’ and lighting camp fires. However, even if the children started playing nearer to home, the high points of their activities were at the Pigeon House. One woman remembers exploring the area close to her, including the quarries and brickworks. According to her, making the longer trek to the Pigeon House with her companions was a ‘very special adventure’ because there was no track and they had to be careful not to get lost. She wrote that the: ‘clearing and ruins were held in awe and ... seemed to hold a mysterious atmosphere’. Another woman also remembers playing in a quarry and then going on up to the Pigeon House:

‘We loved exploring the disused quarry on Poets Road because the sedimentary shale and sandstone hid all sorts of fern-like “fenestella” fossils and we imagined dinosaurs, so our game was to hide from them amongst the boulders. Then it was up the slippery, rocky slope, through the gorse bushes until we reached our oasis – the green, grassy patch with its pond circled by rushes, sometimes a couple of cows and the little stone croft that we knew as the Pigeon House. After lots of running and hiding, we would find a grassy spot or flat rock, unwrap our sandwich and apple from its greaseproof paper and enjoy a break’.

She recalls that they were ‘possessive’ of the area and ‘wary’ of other children arriving although they sometimes joined in the games.

For the boys, the Pigeon House was a good place to play cricket or pretend golf because there were no windows to break. One man conducted a science experiment there that involved lighting a fire to create a high temperature. He thinks that they did it at the Pigeon House because of ‘something to do with lighting fires and nervous parents’.

A variety of economic activities, some of them minor in scale, took place on Knocklofty. One man, responding to Anna Reynolds’ interview with the ABC’s Ryk Goddard, recalled that as a child in the 1930s he went up there to collect gum leaf tips which he sold for a penny a bunch to go in vases. He and his friends spent the proceeds on cigarettes. Knocklofty was a hunting ground, with gunshots a familiar sound. One participant who visited in the 1950s and 1960s,

recalls the remains of an old farm on Knocklofty. In the 1950s, it was still used for grazing cows. Another participant who grew up in South Hobart, saw Italian prisoners of war working on the land there. Yet another participant used to run greyhounds belonging to Mick Muir that won a lot of races. According to a newsletter from Lawrenny Court Home, one of the greyhounds won a lot of money, making the bookies 'very unhappy'.

Twenty to forty-nine age group

Like the older age group, some of the participants aged between twenty and forty-nine, have visited Knocklofty since they were children and remember the freedom from adults that it gave them. One remembers playing all day, 'building huts, catching frogs, looking for snakes, enjoying independent imaginative time away from adults'. Another who has visited Knocklofty from the age of six wrote: 'I used to love being able to come up & play after school. Sit on the resorveur [sic] (forest rd entrance) without grownups & play until dark then walk home'. Yet another used to play in the Mt Stuart Quarry, pretending it was a planet in a Dr Who episode. This participant used to catch tadpoles and walk the 'blackberry trails'. One track was marked with old 'car rego number plates'. In an e-mail, dated 22 November 2015, Astrid Wright explained that these were old car number plates, made of aluminium so that they were light and tough. They were recalled in the 1950s. People from the Hobart Walking Club obtained quite a few and used them to mark the trail from the Bandicoot Corridor to the Mt Stuart lookout.

Other participants remember bringing their own children to Knocklofty to catch tadpoles, listen to the frogs, climb on the rocks, and have picnics. One participant, who has been visiting for seven months, already has memories of walking the children to school through the reserve and spotting wallabies, pademelons, kookaburras, and ravens. As the following comment suggests, Knocklofty is contributing to the independence of a new generation:

'Our children use the area as their extended backyard and it is lovely to watch their interactions with and use of the area as they grow older. They can now explore further and use the area independently. It is the site of many family walks, rides and picnics'.

Some participants mentioned their first associations with Knocklofty. One could not believe that 'such a park' was so close to the city. Another remembers being 'warmly welcomed' to the Friends of Knocklofty and later watching the Aurora Australis from Knocklofty the day before going overseas.

Others have been to Knocklofty to celebrate annual events, one for the 'great' view of the city on New Year's Eve. Another likes to spend the winter solstice there: 'we have walked here at night – winter solstice – and told spooky stories with friends. It is our winter solstice tradition. We bring lanterns, and we have the place all to ourselves!'

Young People and Children

The participant in the thirteen to nineteen age group did not record any memories. However, the children mentioned learning to ride a bike, 'going for a walk with Bushcare and learning about bats', and being involved in the Land to Sea team.

Do you have any favourite places on Knocklofty? Why are they special to you?*Fifty and over age group*

Favourite tracks of the fifty and over age group included the Mt Stuart to Summit Loop, the Glover Track, the Zig Zag Track, the walk from Kirby Court to Forest Road, the track down to Poet's Road, and the Fiona Allan Track. One participant specified that she meant the Fiona Allan Track as it was when the Guides created it. She included as part of the track the Guides' old campfire site near the top of it and the memorial that they made to Fiona Allan. Other much loved spots were the various lookouts, especially the Glover one, the Reflecting Pond, the frog ponds, the cave area near the Sugarloaf, a number of seats, the Pigeon House, and some of the quarries, including the one below the Sugarloaf. A handful of favourite places were more idiosyncratic. They were 'a tree cave formed by a blown over tree pulling the earth up', 'in the middle, where you see no roads or people' and the 'faraway secret spots'.

Most people did not give their reasons. However, one participant liked the seat near the main frog pond where his wife used to sit while walking the dog, as well as the little seat above the Glover sign, and another on the track from Lenah Valley to the summit, 'all special because they bring vistas of now and memories of past Hobart'. Childhood memories led another participant to mention the frog ponds and quarry at the end of Knocklofty Terrace. Another liked the Zig Zag Track because it was calming, and yet another, the Glover Track because 'it has waterfalls after heavy rain and lovely sandstone cliffs'. One participant liked the Reflecting Pond because it 'always has water in it. On a hot day it's a cool place to stop for a while, a very peaceful place'.

Twenty to forty-nine age group

Views were important to the twenty to forty-nine age group. One participant wrote 'I love to go and look at the views. I used to love hanging out on the water tank [at the top of the track to Corby Avenue] that had the wooden platform'. Another liked the Pacific Vista Motel because of its views of Hobart. A number of people mentioned the lookout near the Forest Road car park, with one preferring it 'early in the morning and watching the sun come up over the city'.

Views were the main reason given for citing particular tracks. For instance, one participant preferred the Summit Loop because of 'the beautiful views and nice walk'. Another liked the back of the Mt Stuart Circuit where Mt Wellington and the gully below is visible. This participant also liked the Mt Stuart top level, again because of views of Mt Wellington. Another said: 'I enjoy running on all the trails but love the view over the city. I enjoy the smaller trails'. The Glover Track received a mention because 'I love landscape art'.

Other special sites were the frog ponds, the seat half way up the hill track near Mt Stuart, the Reflecting Pond, a 'side trail' to Poets Road where a rivulet flows, and 'the tall old gum trees with big open spaces in between'. One participant could not choose: 'The whole place is special. As Hobart grows the bush spaces close to the city will become more and more special & valuable'.

Young People and Children

The participant aged between thirteen and nineteen wrote: 'I often come to the lower half of Knocklofty but it's hard to pick a favourite spot'. One of the children under twelve liked 'the rocks at the lookout'. The other two, like the twenty to forty-nine age group, were keen on the views. One favoured the John Glover lookout because it is possible to see how Knocklofty has changed since Glover painted the picture of it. The other nominated a lookout (unspecified) and water tower because: 'It's a really short walk to it from where I live and the view is amazing'.

What changes, if any, would you like to see at Knocklofty Reserve?*Fifty and over age group*

Many of the participants in the fifty and over age group did not want any changes, commenting 'Hmm can't think of any', 'Keep it natural bushland', and 'fine as it is!' The most requested change concerned access, with one asking for better maintenance at the Kirby Court entrance and another for a way into the road between the gates to the Fielding's property and where it joins Weeroona Avenue. Another request was for a level path from the Forest Road car park to the main lookout for frail walkers and wheelchairs. Some participants thought that tracks need clearer directions, especially at cross paths. A water tap or toilet was another popular request, with a suggestion that the toilet be composting. Others asked for more seating, specifically over the Bandicoot Corridor, near the Reflecting Pond, and 'a couple more special benches slightly off the track'. Although dog walking is a popular activity on Knocklofty, a few participants asked for more control because of the danger to wildlife, the bush, and children. Three participants asked for better bike paths and another three asked for more controls on cyclists. One suggested that they be limited to 'made' tracks because their tyres make ruts in the other tracks when it rains. Another thinks that the track to the summit is too narrow for bicycles and pedestrians. Yet another asked for speed limits.

A smaller number of people asked for improved or more walking tracks and that some old tracks be reopened. A couple would like the frog ponds to be 'uncluttered' and the grassy area around the Pigeon House enlarged, with one asking that it be 'cleared & restored to its status as an open "commons"'. Some called for more signage to provide information about plants, wildlife and history. One suggested a flora board identifying native plants and weeds so that walkers can pull the weeds out. Another participant suggested that the signage be unobtrusive, perhaps near the car park.

Finally, a number of suggestions only came up once. They included more weed removal, creating a wildlife sanctuary where visitors could watch the animals, a steel lookout tower at the top of Knocklofty, making the quarry near Fielding Drive into a botanic garden, putting white gravel on the stone edged path from behind the water tank to the frog ponds, no burn offs, more varied vegetation to attract a wider range of bird life, that the re-growth along the Salvator Rosa Glen Creek be linked to Knocklofty, and that a mural be painted on the water tank at the top of the track from Corby Avenue. One suggested a Knocklofty book that included its 'natural and historical background'.

Twenty to forty-nine age group

Like the fifty and over age group, these participants made more requests for no change than anything else. One participant wrote: ‘Please do not make it more “developed” – no more formed paths, definitely no play equipment, no BBQ etc., no lighting’. Some coupled this request with one to continue removing weeds. For instance, one wrote: ‘Nothing!! Maybe more removal of gorse – but it’s better than it used to be’. Another wrote: ‘Keep weeds out and maintain a beautiful natural bushland as it already is!’

Five people asked for more access, particularly to South Hobart and the Cascades Rivulet, to Giblin Street, Lenah Valley, to Wellington Park, and into the city. There were also five requests for more interpretation of the flora, fauna, and history. One wanted ‘more Knocklofty stories along paths’ while another pointed out that: ‘the area had extensive sandstone quarries and brick making and these are unknown to a lot of users’.

Two participants requested better signage about where dogs can be on and off-lead. One said ‘I’m a bit nervous about dogs with kids, so clear guidelines about where/when dogs can be off-lead’. Another suggested: ‘Clear, simple dog walk signs so everyone knows where dogs can & can’t go’. Another two participants asked for a toilet, with one suggesting it should be in the car park.

The once only requests were for continuing community activities, to rebuild the wooden platform on the water tank at the top of the path from Corby Avenue, more advertising of Knocklofty, a map of the tracks, ‘something wonderful done with the Mt Stuart Quarry’, and more planting.

Young People and Children

The participant in the thirteen to nineteen age group wrote: ‘It’s great! Just work to keep it as it is’. One of the children under twelve also suggested that no changes be made, ‘this place is perfect as it is’. The other two children requested protection of the vegetation and better tracks.

Age Range Not Given

One of the participants who did not provide an age range said that he hopes Knocklofty never changes. He expressed concern that land belonging to the Fielding family might be developed and suggested that, instead, the City of Hobart should acquire it.

Conclusion

There are some consistent themes in the answers to this survey. Most important is the appreciation of Knocklofty’s bush with its plants and wildlife and the activities associated with it such as walking, including with dogs, and cycling. The views were also frequently mentioned. Knocklofty’s accessibility and closeness to the city is another important attraction. Yet another was the sociability created by organised activities such as the Guides, Friends of Knocklofty, and Lansdowne Crescent School’s Land to Sea project.

Childhood memories also played a significant part, especially, but not only for, the older participants in the survey. The activities of children were a persistent thread throughout the survey, with some of the participants in the twenty to forty-nine age group commenting that they enjoy taking their children up to Knocklofty now or that it provides them with a place to play and explore independently. The popularity of the frog ponds as a favourite place across all age groups is further evidence of the significance of Knocklofty to children, especially since so many memories or current activities include collecting tadpoles. The enjoyment of Knocklofty that is evident in the comments by the young person and children suggests that, in the future, the reserve will still be an important place for children to play, learn new skills, explore, and gain some independence.

The affection for Knocklofty and the variety of reasons for it that comes through in these surveys supports Oreszczyn and Lane's argument that the significance of a cultural landscape lies as much in emotional attachments, including childhood memory, as it does in expert assessments of it. This endorses the City of Hobart's commitment to community consultation about Knocklofty.

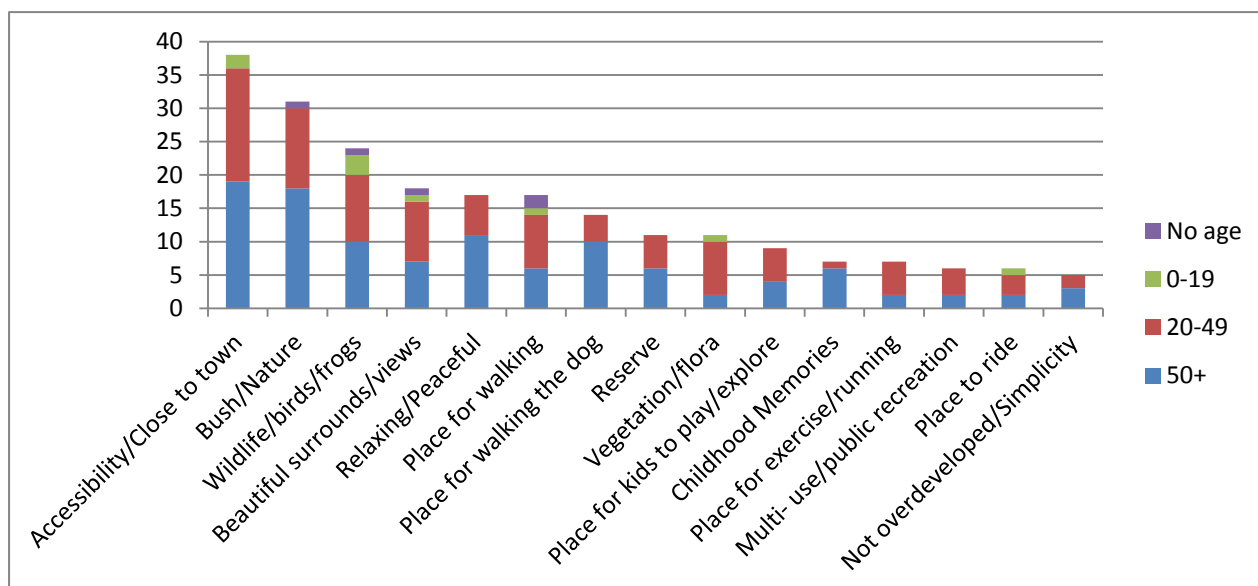
Contemporary Knocklofty is a cultural landscape created by the activities and memories of the community that uses it or has done so in the past. This perhaps explains why when participants in the survey were asked what changes they would like the most common response was none. There were a smaller number of requests for a variety of improvements to amenities or the restoration of places now gone or diminished, such as the Pigeon House clearing and some of the old tracks. In some instances, these reflect the different ways that the participants enjoy Knocklofty. This means that there are some potentially conflicting views about the form those changes should take.



Fig. 3 Toy gun belonging to Mr Hickson, used in his childhood for games on Knocklofty (photo: K. Evans 2015)

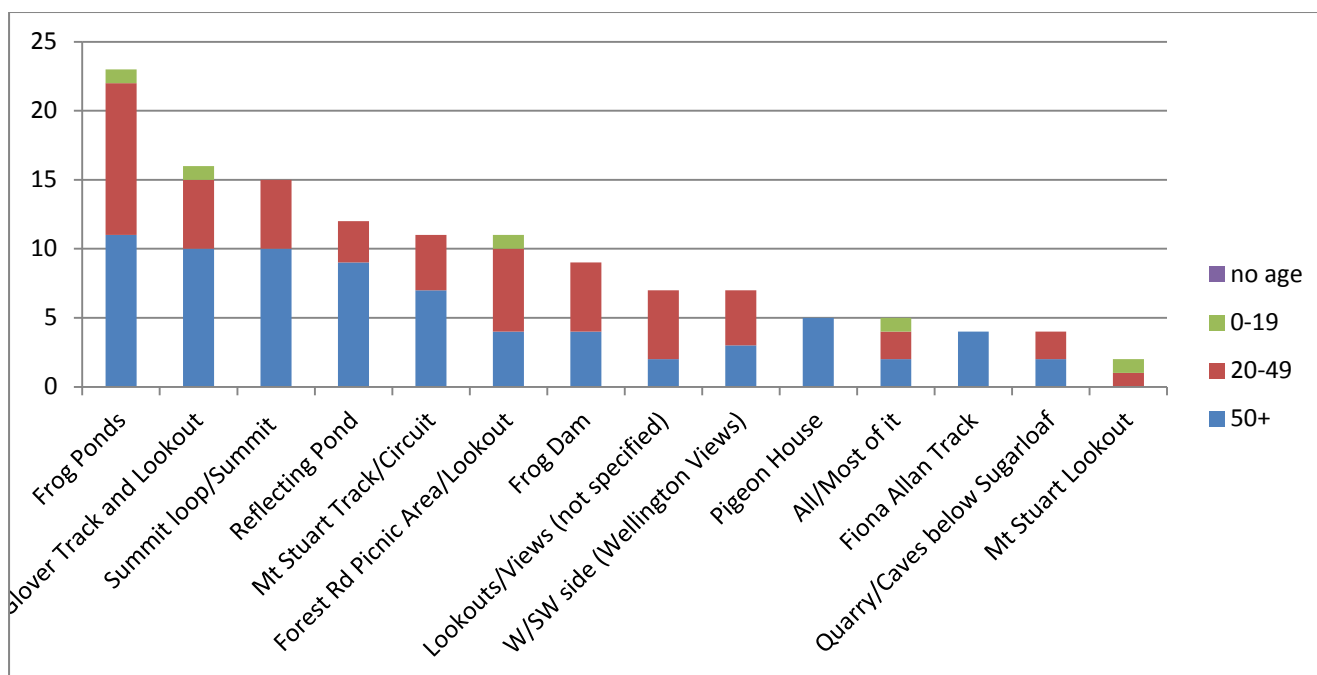
10. GRAPHS

Connections to Knocklofty were found to be personal and complex and often encompassed a range of different values. When asked the question ‘What is important to you about Knocklofty Reserve?’ most who responded listed a number of different values that were important to them. The most popular responses have been summarised in the following graph.



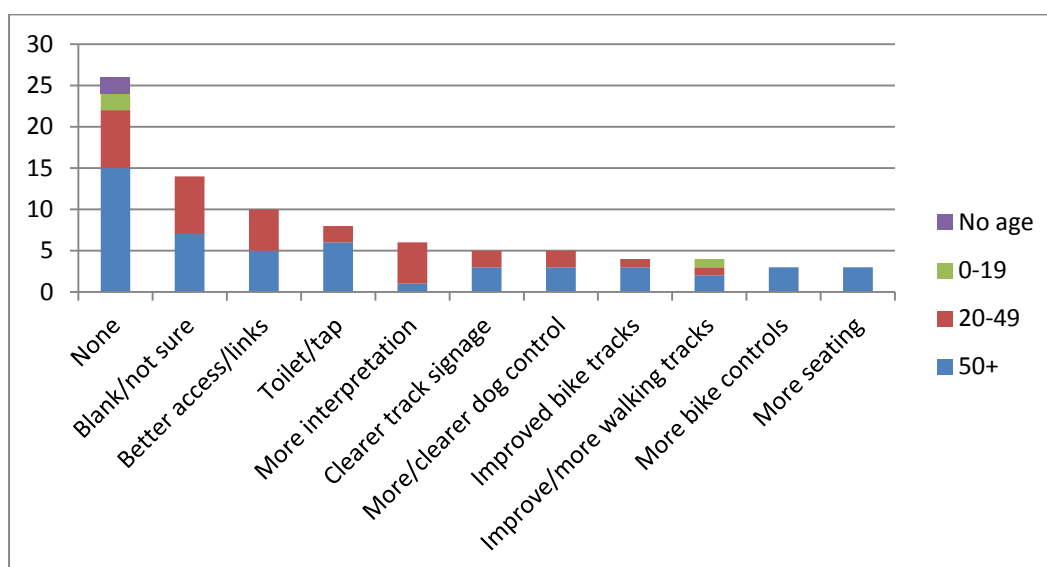
Graph 1: Most popular responses to the question ‘What is important to you about Knocklofty Reserve?’

In response to the question: ‘Do you have any favourite places on Knocklofty? Why are these special to you? Please mark them on the map overleaf’ some listed their favourite places, others marked them on the map or a combination. The following are the most popular responses taken from both the written answers and the maps.



Graph 2: Most popular responses to the question ‘Do you have a favourite place on Knocklofty Reserve?’ (taken from written answers and map)

When asked ‘What changes, if any, would you like to see at Knocklofty Reserve?’ some responded none, or were not sure or left the answer blank. Others gave a list of responses. The most popular responses are given in the graph below:



Graph 3: The most popular responses to the question ‘What, if any, changes would you like to see at Knocklofty Reserve?’

11. RECOMMENDATIONS

Management Implications

The fact that a relatively high number of respondents did not want to see any changes at Knocklofty, or were unsure in answer to that question, is comforting that management to date has been highly successful. The involvement of community groups, such as Bushcare FOKL, Guides, Scouts and school groups, in the care and management of Knocklofty Reserve has provided an important community service and focal point over the years and many of the memories and stories across the age ranges in the survey results attest to this. Many of the survey participants thought that Knocklofty was a much more inviting place now due to those efforts.

A small number of the responses to the survey, however, demonstrate that the management of an area also has the potential to erode community values. Changes to the original Fiona Allan Track, for example, have upset some of those who were involved in its original construction, care, and maintenance. While the majority of respondents appreciated the changes made with weed removal, bush regeneration, track formation and maintenance, in a number of instances it was thought that tree planting in some places had had an adverse impact, such as impeding access to, and ambience of, the frog ponds, reducing the clearing near the old Pigeon House site which had special nostalgic and cultural value to some, and obscuring historic view lines, such as those that colonial artist John Glover painted.

The survey results also identified that the current bush setting at Knocklofty Reserve is highly valued. However, there were a number who, in answer to the question, ‘What, if any, changes

would you like to see at Knocklofty Reserve?’ answered: better access and links (10); the provision of a toilet and/or tap (8); more interpretation of the area’s flora, fauna, geology and history (6); and clearer track signage (5). Some respondents pointed out perceived threats to Knocklofty’s values from development/activity on neighbouring private property. It is envisaged that achieving a balance between retaining significant bush qualities and providing appropriate infrastructure for the level of usage and controls on development will be ongoing management issues.

Knocklofty Reserve is valued by many users as a dog exercise and bike riding area, however, the multi-use nature of the reserve caused some users to call for more controls or clearer directions regarding dogs and bikes in the reserve. Others showed concern about the potential effect of dogs on the wildlife.

A number of respondents to the survey requested more interpretation of the reserve’s significant values. The popularity of the existing John Glover trail highlights the fact that once these values are interpreted they are more likely to be valued by the community. The children surveyed, most of whom had been involved in the Lansdowne Primary School’s Land to Sea program, highlighted that the reserve’s history was important to them, again demonstrating that once that knowledge is gained, it is more likely to be valued. Interpretation and education can help protect significant values and assets for the future.

Recommendations

The ‘Understanding the Contemporary Cultural Values of Knocklofty Reserve’ project has highlighted the need for further research into, and management of, the reserve’s assets to best understand, conserve and interpret significant cultural values (historic and contemporary). These are:

Children and Teens’ Contemporary Cultural Value Study

Given the limitation of this study in only receiving a small number of survey responses from children and teenagers (aged 0-19) further research might focus specifically on this age group to determine their contemporary cultural values of Knocklofty. This might be done through targeting schools (primary, high and colleges) in the area or through Bushcare’s holiday program, or by considering ways that this response could be improved at future Knocklofty Open Days.

Historic Site Research and Archaeological Survey

To date there has been no comprehensive historical research study and archaeological survey of the historic cultural heritage values of the reserve. Such a study would identify those sites, features, landscapes and views of historic cultural significance, identify any risks/threats and prescribe management priorities and procedures, and also guide an interpretation strategy. In this

way Knocklofty's significant cultural heritage values could be protected, maintained and conserved for future generations, and interpreted to the public.

Oral history Programme

An oral history programme of recorded interviews with a number of people identified through the survey and other means, as having significant historical connections with Knocklofty would capture many of the Knocklofty stories and memories for future generations. These could be deposited at the Tasmanian Archives and Heritage Office. The recordings could form the basis of further interpretation of the reserve by the City of Hobart, FOKL or by the Lansdowne Primary School's Land to Sea program. Podcasts might be an interesting use of the recorded material.

Management Plan

An overall management plan for Knocklofty Reserve will assist to balance the cultural and natural values of the reserve and give clear direction to the extent that future development may or may not be appropriate, as well as identify management strategies to deal with the issues relating to multiple user groups. A consultative approach that takes into consideration the values of all community users is suggested.

Interpretation/Education Plan

'Interpretation is a means of communicating ideas and feelings which help people enrich their understanding and appreciation of their world, and their role in it.' (Interpretation Australia Association)

Interpretation can strengthen and sustain the relationships between the community and its heritage and may provide social and economic benefits for the community (NSW Heritage Office 2005). While the significance of some heritage items is easy to understand, others may be more difficult and require interpretation.

It is recommended that an interpretation plan that encompasses key features and stories relating to Knocklofty's Aboriginal, historic, contemporary cultural, geological and natural values be developed. Such a plan would also identify educational opportunities for significant values to be promoted to local schools and the general community through Bushcare activities and tours. Given the risk of 'overdeveloping' the reserve and detracting from the bushland setting that is highly valued by the community, options for reducing the visual impact of signage, but delivering high quality interpretation would need to be considered. These may, for example, include developing a small number of interpretation 'nodes' at the main car park entry sites and/or other key sites in the reserve; the development of self-guided trails requiring minimal on-site signage (for example apps, QR codes, brochures); events, tours and activities and/or designing interpretative signage that is unobtrusive (such as plaques that are situated low to the ground, possibly utilising some of the stone available in the reserve). Key themes/ features/sites identified during this study as having historic and/or contemporary cultural value that may be interpreted include:

Knocklofty as a place of early settlement

- Old house and hut sites, including the Pigeon House
- Remnant clearings/exotic plantings
- Old access roads

Knocklofty as a place for resources –timber, stone, bricks, sand, hunting, grazing, water supply

- historic quarries
- old brick works site
- remnant pasture/clearings
- old access tracks
- old water infrastructure/reservoir sites

Knocklofty as a childhood playground/ family recreation area for neighbouring suburbs– exploring, playing, collecting fossils, tadpoles, observing wildlife, sports, picnics, lighting fires and cooking, making cubbies, bushfires

- The Pigeon House and clearing
- Frog ponds
- Cubbies
- Caves, quarries, old brickworks site
- Sugarloaf

Knocklofty as place for recreation – grey hound training, dog walking, bushwalking, orienteering, nature study, exploring, bike riding, painting/art etc

- Tracks
- Summit
- Seats/Lookouts
- Glover views

Knocklofty as a place for conservation by community groups– schools, FOKL, Guides, Scouts etc

- Tracks
- Fiona Allan Track and memorial
- Sites of restoration of habitat eg, frog ponds

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Pamphlets/Newspapers

'Bushcare: Hobart's Bushland Reserves' by Hobart City Council

'Bringing the Frogs back to Knocklofty' by the Friends of Knocklofty Bushcare Group

Mercury, 1 February 2003

Mount Stuart News, December 2006

Websites

Friends of Knocklofty Bushcare group: <http://www.friendsofknocklofty.org/>

Land to Sea (Lansdowne Primary School): <http://www.landtosea.net.au/>

Appendix A :Sample survey

Knocklofty Reserve

‘understanding contemporary cultural values’

The City of Hobart would like to find out more about community connections with Knocklofty Reserve, including its special features or places and any stories or memories that are associated with it. This short survey will help to identify these values and connections and be used to assist in the reserve's future management. It would be appreciated if you could take a few minutes to complete the survey.

Please return the completed survey at the Knocklofty Reserve Open Day on 15 November or to Caroline Evans, 10 Lansdowne Crescent, West Hobart by 16 November 2015.

How long have you been visiting Knocklofty?

How has Knocklofty Reserve changed in the time that you have been visiting it?

What is important to you about Knocklofty Reserve?

What memories or stories do you have about Knocklofty?

Please Turn Over

Do you have any favourite places on Knocklofty? Why are these special to you? Please mark them on the map overleaf.

What changes, if any, would you like to see at Knocklofty Reserve?

Optional information

What is your age range? Please tick.

0-12 ☐

13-19 ☐

20-49 ☐

50+ ☐

Postcode:

Name and Contact details:

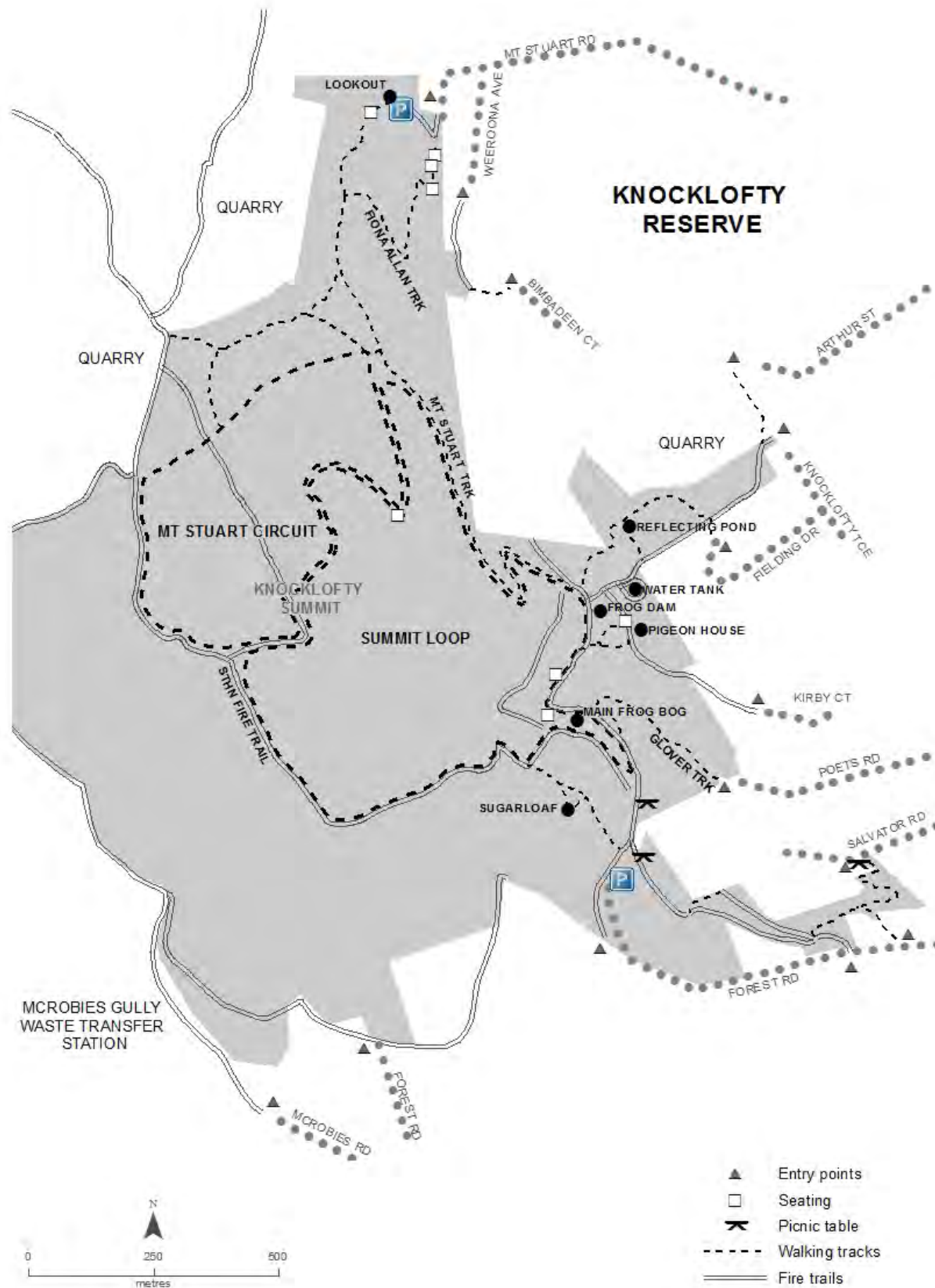
Are you willing to take part in a follow up interview?

Yes ☐

No ☐

If so, please provide your name and contact details above.

Please Turn Over



11. MOUNTAIN BIKE EVENT PROPOSAL – FILE REF: 72-13-1

8x's

Report of the Director Parks and City Amenity and the Group Manager Open Space of 1 April 2016 and attachment.

DELEGATION: Committee

TO : Parks and Recreation Committee

FROM : Director Parks & City Amenity
Group Manager Open Space

DATE : 1 April, 2016

SUBJECT : **MOUNTAIN BIKE EVENT PROPOSAL**

FILE : 72-13-1 gm:GM (document2)

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. This report proposes approval of an application by King Miller Events to conduct a mountain bike event on authorised Council tracks / trails on kunanyi / Mt Wellington and its foothills in October 2016.
- 1.2. The report has been prepared in accordance with Council Policy *Hired Use of Parks and Reserves - Charging of Entry Fees by Hirer* as the proposal is a commercial event where entry fees will be charged to race competitors and the event will restrict public access to some tracks for short periods of time.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. King Miller Events has proposed a Gravity Enduro mountain bike event on kunanyi / Mt Wellington as part of an annual series of four races. **Attachment A** is their two page overview and includes a course map.

General event description

- 2.2. The Gravity enduro format consists of a large adventure loop with a sequence of cruise and race stages. The climbs are cruised, and the race stage descents are fast and technical. Events are ridden at riders own pace with race stages completed individually within an overall time limit (generally around 4 hours). Total race time of the cumulative race sections is generally around 15-25 minutes.
- 2.3. King Miller Events provides the following information:
 - General event description
 - Risk and safety management plan
 - Proof of insurance held (current & appropriate)
 - Preliminary information on managing impacts on other recreational users (signage, restricted access, communications)
 - Preliminary information on managing site impacts arising from the event – post event (on the trail network)

- 2.4. The information has been reviewed and approval is recommended subject to appropriate fees, bond and conditioning.
- 2.5. Council Policy *Hired Use of Parks and Reserves - Charging of Entry Fees by Hirer* stipulates the following:

Where a person or organisation is granted the use of a Council park, recreation area, bushland or reserve for an activity or function, the person or organisation is to be informed that the charging of a fee to members of the public to gain access to the area is not permitted without the prior consent of the Council.

The approval of the charging of a fee may be exercised by the Parks and Recreation Committee in accordance with its general delegated power to affix conditions on the use of reserves for special functions.

Given the nature of the event, and the limited time individual sections of the tracks will be used by the event, the charging of an entry fee by the event organiser to offset the cost of delivering the event is supported.

3. PROPOSAL

- 3.1. The mountain bike event as proposed by King Miller Events be approved subject to the application of appropriate fees, bond and conditioning.

4. IMPLEMENTATION

- 4.1. Following approval, a booking confirmation will be made with conditions covering:

Fees and charges - the standard parks booking fee and applicable bond.

Managing race impacts on track

- there be a contingency in the bond charged for any trail maintenance required post event - to be used by the City following the event to address any wear / tear on the sections of Council managed trail used in the competition.
- measures be put in place to ensure riders stay on formed tracks – to the satisfaction of Council.

Managing impacts on other recreational users - more detail be provided in advance of the event, to the satisfaction of the City, covering all the on-site and stakeholder communications measures to be put in place to manage the event impacts on other recreational users arising from the rolling closures for each racing section (i.e. particularly walking tracks crossing North South track).

5. STRATEGIC PLANNING IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1. Strategic objectives from the Capital City Strategic Plan 2015-2025 with potential relevance include:

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 3.3: *A highly valued natural and cultural open space network*

3.3.4: *Consider opportunities to activate the city's open spaces and to host events and activities.*

6. COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

- 6.1. The event will attract riders / competitors from across the state, generate some economic benefits for the City and may see mainland riders targeted in future years.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1. Funding Source(s)

n/a

- 7.2. Impact on Current Year Operating Result

n/a

- 7.3. Impact on Future Years' Financial Result

The applicable fee and bond will be charged to offset any costs incurred as a result of the event proposed.

- 7.4. Asset Related Implications Do Not Delete Heading

Maintenance requirements to the track will be monitored pre and post event and a bond will be set to allow a contingency for any required repairs.

8. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1. The proponent has run similar events successfully, has a risk management plan and dedicated specialist medical personnel.
- 8.2. With regard to ensuring public safety the rolling sections of track closures will be cordoned off from public access whilst racing is underway.

9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1. The proponent has adequate event insurance.

10. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1. Conditions will be imposed to ensure riders stay on the track surface and do not detrimentally impact on the natural values of the Council managed land.

11. SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1. The event will make use of sections of three recently purpose built dual use mountain bike tracks (North South Track, Tip Top and Slides) and is expected to be well received by the majority of the community – especially mountain bikers.

12. CUSTOMER IMPLICATIONS

- 12.1. The event as proposed will restrict public access to some sections of track for short periods of time (less than 2 hours for each section). A communications plan will be implemented by the proponent to provide advanced notice of this.

13. MARKETING AND BRANDING IMPLICATIONS

- 13.1. The event will provide some economic benefit and capitalises on and promotes Council's investment in track / trail infrastructure.

14. COMMUNICATION AND MEDIA IMPLICATIONS

- 14.1. As above.

15. DELEGATION

- 15.1. Committee.

16. CONSULTATION

- 16.1. Wellington Park Management Trust and Cascade Brewery have both been consulted by the proponent and are supportive. Cascade Visitor Centre will be the event base.

17. CONCLUSION

- 17.1. A proposal from King Miller Events to run a mountain bike event on authorised Council tracks / trails on kunanyi / Mt Wellington and its foothills in October 2016 has been received and officers recommend approval with appropriate fees, bond and conditioning.
- 17.2. The event uses the City's and Cascade's land and provides a good opportunity to capitalise on and promote the City's investment in track / trail infrastructure.

- 17.3. The event will make use of sections of three recently purpose built dual use mountain bike tracks (North South Track, Tip Top and Slides) with the event as proposed to restrict public access to some sections of track for short periods of time (less than 2 hours for each section).
- 17.4. Council Policy 'Charging of Entry Fees' stipulates that the Committee's approval is required where hirer's propose to charge an entry fee for access to the hired area. Accordingly, the booking application is referred for the Committee's determination.

18. RECOMMENDATION

That:

- 18.1. The report be received and noted.*
- 18.2. The Gravity Enduro mountain bike event, as proposed by King Miller Events to be held 22 October 2016, be approved.*
- 18.3. In accordance with Council Policy 'Hired Use of Parks and Reserves - Charging of Entry Fees by Hirer' the Committee grant approval for the hirer to charge an entry fee.*
- 18.4. The General Manager be authorised to finalise event approvals including fees, bond, conditioning and a communication plan.*
- 18.5. That City's support for the event be recognised.*

As signatory to this report, I certify that, pursuant to Section 55(1) of the Local Government Act 1993, I hold no interest, as referred to in Section 49 of the Local Government Act 1993, in matters contained in this report.



(Greg Milne)

VISITOR SERVICES MANAGER



(Rob Mather)

GROUP MANAGER OPEN SPACE



(Glenn Doyle)

**DIRECTOR
PARKS AND CITY AMENITY**

GRAVITY ENDURO MTB EVENT INFORMATION – MT WELLINGTON 2016**Attachment A****Gravity Enduro Mountain Bike Event – Why Mt Wellington**

Mt Wellington and the area is an iconic location renowned around the world. The north south track is a magnificent centerpiece for mountain biking in the region and, accompanied by other trails in the area, is perfectly suited to a gravity enduro style event.

Gravity enduro have become very popular around the world and also on mainland Australia. With its relaxed “Ride with your mates” attitude, it would be the perfect event to showcase the mountains majestic charm. Combine the iconic trails with another iconic destination in Cascade Brewery, and we have every mountain bikers 2 favorite hobbies covered.

This event has the potential to not only further entrench Mt Wellington as a must ride location, but it will capture the imagination of the local riders and give them an event to strive for on their home ground. Already since we have started meeting with stakeholders and getting the ball rolling word has spread amongst the Hobart mtb community and I have received numerous messages of encouragement and support regarding.

In 2016 we anticipate that we would attract around 150 riders to the event. In 2017 and beyond we would like to build the status of the event and encourage mainland riders to participate and further build the brand of Mt Wellington as a must ride destination.

Below are some dot points regarding the event we propose. Please contact me if any further information is required.

Gravity Enduro – How the format works

- Concept of this format is to emulate a MTB ride with mates with a technical edge
- Courses consists of a large adventure loop with a sequence of cruise and race stages
- Cruise the climbs and race the descents
- Race stages are completed individually
- Events are ridden at your own pace with an overall time limit. Generally around 4 hours
- Total race time is generally around 15-25min

How is the event timed

- Orienteering system (Sportident)
- Riders attach a timing stick to their finger
- Riders tag checkpoints at the start and finish of each stage
- Times are downloaded to a laptop at the end of the race & results calculated

Trail Impact

- The sections that we have chosen as potential race stages are well built and designed to handle significant traffic
- Wear from this event should not be any different to a normal weekend of riding
- Transition stages will be ridden at a relaxed pace so trail wear will be minimal if any

Managing impacts on existing recreational users

(signage plan, comms plan etc)

- Signage placed at trails heads 2 weeks prior to event
- Advertising on related websites / Facebook pages
- Bunting & signage not only beside race trails, but at significant junctions that lead to race trails

Event Schedule (TBC)

8-10am - Registration

10am - 2pm - Race

2.30 - 3pm - Presentations

Insurance & Safety

- Medical Edge – First Response Provider
- Insurance through MTBA - Public & processional liability - \$20m per occurrence

GRAVITY ENDURO MTB EVENT INFORMATION – MT WELLINGTON 2016**Impacts on Recreational Users**

- The event will be advertised locally via posters at the major trail heads. Information on these posters will include date, time, explanation of the rolling closures among other basic info regarding the event. These will be put up 2 weeks prior to the event.
- During the event a marshal will sweep each race to ensure it is clear of traffic before manning the finish control.
- There will be marshals also at the start of the race stage and at all major trail intersections as requested. This is highlighted on the attached marshal map.

Post Event Trail Impacts

- Each stage will be cleared of bunting and trail signage after the last rider has been through.
- Monday morning a thorough sweep of the course will be done to ensure all bunting, signage and any remnants of the event will be cleared.

King Miller Events

- Partnership - Doug Miller & Danny King
- Each organising MTB events for over 10 years
- Organised events for up to 250 competitors
- 2015 we organised a 3 race Gravity Enduro series using Hollybank, Trevalyn & Derby
- In 2016 we endeavor to expand the series and include Mt Wellington & Dial Range



TAS GRAVITY ENDURO SERIES

ROUND 3

MT WELLINGTON



**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE AGENDA
(OPEN PORTION OF THE MEETING)
14/4/2016**

**12. RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS RAISED AT THE 2015 ANNUAL GENERAL
MEETING – FILE REF: 13-1-14**

3x's

Memorandum of the Director Parks and City Amenity of 30 March 2016.

DELEGATION: Committee

Recommendation:

That the information be received and noted.

13-1-10
(document2)

30 March 2016

MEMORANDUM: PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

**RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS TABLED AT THE ANNUAL
GENERAL MEETING**

At the Annual General Meeting conducted on 23 November 2015 the following questions were asked by the Council of Hobart Progress Association (CHPA) through a formal submission lodged in relation to the Annual Report.

At the meeting the questions were taken on notice. A response is subsequently provided below and has been conveyed to the Council of Hobart Progress Association.

Question 1: Future Direction 2

“There appears to be a conflict between the preservation of views and preservation of the vegetation, with trees obscuring views from lookouts.

It is difficult to reconcile the comments on page 27 with those on pages 32 and 33, particularly with the reduction in visitation to bushland reserves, trees planted in the City, bushland volunteer participation in the standard of water quality in tributaries.

Although waste management in the City has increased, we believe it would be increased further by reinstatement of annual or biannual general waste collections, which we understand cost less than \$10 per household?”

Response:

The City is progressively undertaking the management of vegetation around its lookouts. In recent years several trees were dropped to preserve and improve the lookout approaching the Springs, after a review found the loss of the trees would not impact on the environmental values of that site.

The review of vegetation surrounding other ‘formal’ lookout sites remains an ongoing role of the City. Accordingly, the City always remains interested in hearing from the public where it is felt the natural vegetation is encroaching on lookouts, both formal and what are regularly ‘informal’ sites.

In respect to the indication of reduced visitation numbers to bushland reserves, the surveyed data asserts increased community satisfaction with the City's bushland reserves however in this period indicates a reduction in visitations.

The level of visitation will be closely monitored at the next survey period to further identify the visitation trends over this longer period. Certainly community feedback seems to praise the City's bushland reserve network.

In respect to the planting of trees within the City, the replacement planting program was undertaken as per previous years.

However, new plantings were mostly deferred pending the review of the City's Street Tree Strategy, which will identify new locations for planting throughout the City. The draft Strategy is currently under development with community engagement sessions to be scheduled in December.

In respect to the level of Bushland Volunteer participation, the programs continue to be successful.

Minor changes in the recording method of volunteer hours as been reflected in these 2014/2015 figures however the program remains strong and is expanding, with the recent establishment of a volunteer 'Trackcare' group to assist in the development and maintenance of the City's extensive bushland track network, particularly mountain bike tracks.

Finally, in respect to the standard of water quality within the City's tributaries the cumulative results across the 18 sites across the City revealed only a minor decrease on the previous year. With local environmental conditions such as recent rainfall and local fauna activity able to skew short term and annual results, the longer term average sees testing results as consistent.

The City actively promotes healthy waterways with the installation of waste traps and similar and active encouragement of water sensitive urban design in new developments.

Ongoing liaison with TasWater further fosters improvement and remediation to the City's stormwater and waterway network.

Modern workplace health and safety requirements and standards now present an environment where service providers and contractors are reluctant to undertake such roadside hard rubbish collections. In recent years, the volume of hard rubbish collected has also diminished further.

However, it remains available for Hobart residents to contact the Resource Co-operative, who operate the Tip Shop at McRobies Gully Waste Management Centre, who provide a service to collect goods or items of value.

Question 2: Future Direction 4

“The criteria for developing and implementing a model to increase public use of Dorney House, Porter Hill and adjoining precinct have been satisfied. Can you please tell us what the model is and what success has been achieved to date? Is the property to be administered by the Council or by a community organisation?”

Response:

The Council endorsed ‘guiding principles’ in the management of Dorney House in August 2014 however following the election of a new Council in late 2014, a review of the City’s management and custodianship of the site and immediate area was initiated in May 2015.

In September 2015 the Council agreed to continue to investigate the costs associated with improvements to the site and the ongoing recurrent requirements.

Further, it is progressing further with a feasibility study of the bunker areas to provide ancillary services to the Dorney House such as a kitchen, toilets, design workshop and artist studio space, as well as to consider structural, heritage, access and service requirements.

Governance and operational models are similarly being explored.

As you would appreciate, this site continues to remain a priority for the City as it continues to explore the best use, function, management and ownership of this site.

The site clearly holds importance to the City and the Hobart community as evidenced by the attendance of nearly 500 people to the house during the recent Open House Hobart weekend.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Glenn Doyle', written over a faint circular outline.

(Glenn Doyle)

DIRECTOR PARKS AND CITY AMENITY

13. PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE – STATUS REPORT

11x's

A report indicating the status of current decisions is attached for the information of Aldermen.

DELEGATION: Committee

Recommendation:

That the information be received and noted.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE - STATUS REPORT

OPEN PORTION OF THE MEETING

November 2014 to March 2016

Ref.	Detail	Report / Action	Comments
1	<p>ELIZABETH/WARWICK STREET PARK – PROPOSED GARDENS OF MEMORIES – REQUEST FROM GUIDE DOGS TASMANIA – FILE REF: 70-70-1</p> <p>Open Council, 24/11/2014, Item 12</p>	<p>The Council provide in-principle landlord approval for the development of a Garden of Memories, as proposed by Guide Dogs Tasmania, in the park located on the corner of Elizabeth and Warwick Streets, Hobart.</p> <p>Council officers explore the possibility of developing a community partnership between Guide Dogs Tasmania and Elizabeth College to foster stewardship of the project by Elizabeth College.</p>	<p>Work is nearing completion with an opening ceremony being organised by Guide Dogs Tasmania for mid-April.</p> <p>Approaches have been made to Elizabeth College to explore the possibility of developing a community partnership between Guide Dogs Tasmania and the College.</p>
2	<p>QUEENBOROUGH OVAL PRECINCT – DRAFT MASTER PLAN – FILE REF: 72-35-1</p> <p>Open Council, 24/11/2014, Item 13</p> <p>Open Council, 24/8/2015, Item 14</p>	<p>The Queenborough Oval Precinct Master Plan Report dated July 2015 be endorsed.</p> <p>An implementation plan be developed which prioritises the improvements detailed in the Master Plan.</p>	<p>Implementation of the Master Plan is underway.</p> <p>Drainage and resurfacing works on the playing surface are complete.</p> <p>The installation of improved lighting is scheduled to be undertaken by 30 June.</p>

Ref.	Detail	Report / Action	Comments
3	HOBART RIVULET PARK SHARED PATH DEVELOPMENT - COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT RESULTS – file ref: 70-76-1 Open Council 15/12/2014, Item 16 Open Council 25/5/2015, Item 14	Approval be granted to construct the Molle Street – McKellar Street section of the Hobart Rivulet Park Shared Path as a single, three metre wide concrete shared use track that follows the current track alignment as depicted in the design montage – ‘Hobart Rivulet Park Shared Path project, Molle St-McKellar Street’. Upon completion, evaluation of the use of the new path be undertaken to inform the design of the track throughout the remainder of the Park.	A Development Application was approved by Council on 22 February 2016. Works are programmed to be completed by June with a preferred contractor soon to be appointed.
4	FUTURE OF DORNEY HOUSE – FOR NELSON AT PORTER HILL – FILE REF: 32-1-55; 2900846 & P/24/963 Open Council 15/12/2014, Item 20 Open Parks and Recreation Committee, 13/8/2015, Supp Item 13 Open Council 21/9/2015, Item 16 Open PRC 10/3/2016, item 5	That the matter be deferred for the following further information: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Confirmation of the title of the property and any covenants/restrictions contained; 2. Legal advice on the likely ability to subdivide the house from the substantive lot; 3. A current valuation from a registered valuer for the entire, and potentially subdivided, property; and 4. Market appraisals of the entire, and potentially subdivided, property from three realtors. 	A further report is scheduled to be provided to the May meeting.

Ref.	Detail	Report / Action	Comments
5	HARRINGTON STREET PUBLIC TOILETS – PROPOSED DECOMMISSIONING AND REMOVAL – FILE REF: 17-20-4 Open Council 25/5/2015, Item 15	<p>The Harrington Street public toilets be immediately decommissioned and a communication strategy, including signage, be developed to direct users to facilities located in the nearby Centrepont Shopping Centre.</p> <p>The General Manager be authorised to proceed with the demolition of the Harrington Street public toilets and replacement with an appropriately designed wall, subject to:-</p> <p>(i) a further report being provided detailing the proposed replacement wall, including opportunities for the creation of a public space, opportunities for public art, interpretation of the historical bridge and increased visual access to the Hobart Rivulet.</p>	<p>With the refurbishment of the Centrepont Shopping Centre facilities completed, the Harrington Street Toilets are now closed.</p> <p>Investigations are progressing in respect to the further report and concept designs are under development.</p>
6	LIGHTING TREATMENT FOR PARLIAMENT LAWNS – FILE REFS: 13-1-9; 70-87-1 Open Council 22/6/2015, Item 12 Open PRC 10/3/2016, item 9	<p>The Lord Mayor write to the Speaker of the Tasmanian House of Assembly to encourage the lighting upgrade to Parliament Gardens be progressed, attaching the ECOS Consulting Engineers & Designers' report.</p>	<p>Letter dispatched.</p> <p>Complete.</p>
7	PROPOSED TASMAN HIGHWAY SHARED USE BRIDGE – CENOTAPH TO DOMAIN – GRANT FUNDING AND NAMING REQUEST – FILE REFS: 873; 70-53-4 Open Council 22/6/2015, Item 18	<p>Detailed planning and design for the development of a new bridge linking the Hobart Cenotaph with the balance of the Queens Domain proceed.</p> <p>The issue of naming be further considered through formal stakeholder consultation and a further report be provided on the matter.</p>	<p>Development of the project plan is progressing with a 'request for interest' from suitable consultants being received.</p>

Ref.	Detail	Report / Action	Comments
8	FRANKLIN SQUARE MASTER PLAN – IMPLEMENTATION – FILE REF: 70-22-1 Open Council 27/7/2015, Item 15	The Council endorse the revised scope for the implementation of the Franklin Square Master Plan.	Works are progressing on schedule.
9	PRINCES PARK – PUBLIC TOILET REPLACEMENT Open Council 27/7/2015, Item 14	The concept design for the provision of a new public toilet in Princes Park, Battery Point, be approved and landlord approval for the development of the facility be granted.	A development application for the works will be considered by the Council on 11 April 2016.
10	ACTIVATION AND RECREATION PROGRAMS WITHIN CITY OF HOBART PARKS – FILE REF: 72-1-1 Open Council 24/8/2015, Item 16	<p>Scoping for review of the City's Hobart Recreation Management Plan 2009, be undertaken and costs presented as part of 2016/2017 budget considerations.</p> <p>(i) The proposal of a Healthy Hobart program, or other similar methods of encouraging health and fitness pursuits, as resolved by the Council on 27 October 2014, be undertaken as part of the review of the City's Recreation Management Plan.</p> <p>The Council undertake a similar Active Parks Program in 2015/2016 to that trialled in early 2015, subject to activities addressing identified community needs that seeks to broaden recreation participation by Hobart residents.</p>	<p>The 'Simple Sweat' program was run in St Davids Park and concluded in March..</p> <p>A kids program is being undertaken in various Parks around the City and has been very well attended to date.</p> <p>Complete.</p>

Ref.	Detail	Report / Action	Comments
11	PUBLIC TOILET STRATEGY 2015-2025 – FILE REF: 17-20-1 Open Council 21/9/2015, Item 17 Open Council 22/2/2016, item 14	That the City of Hobart Public Toilet Strategy 2015-2025, be approved. An amount of \$735,000 be allocated from the City's General Reserves to the Parks and Recreation Projects budget to fund the budget shortfall identified in the 2015/2016 schedule of works listed in the Public Toilet Strategy.	Strategy approved. Implementation underway. Complete.
12	HOBART RIVULET PARK — FRUEHAUF 'CLIMBING CLIFF' SITE PLAN – FILE REF: 70-76-1 Open Council 21/9/2015, Item 18	The Fruehauf Site Plan dated 24 June 2015, be approved, subject to the incorporation of the minor amendments identified through the community consultation process with local climbers to be involved in the on-ground set out and implementation of works.	Works are scheduled to be completed by June.
13	COMMERCIAL APPLICATIONS FOR HELICOPTER LANDING – REGATTA GROUNDS/CENOTAPH, QUEENS DOMAIN – FILE REF: 72-25-11 Open Council 26/10/2015, item 15	Officers undertake discussions with Rotor-Lift and Airlines Tasmania (Par Avion) in relation to alternative sites to accommodate commercial helicopter landing, including the possibility of introducing a 'fly neighbourly' agreement with affected stakeholders.	Discussions with operators of the helicopters are taking place.

Ref.	Detail	Report / Action	Comments
14	<p>ANCANTHE PARK MASTER PLAN – IMPLEMENTATION – FILE REF: 70-31-1</p> <p>Open Council 26/10/2015, item 16</p>	<p>The staged implementation plan for the Ancanthe Park Master Plan, including the preliminary cost estimate, be approved.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Stage 1 works, estimated at a cost of \$15,000 be funded from the Bushland Strategy & Projects Function within the 2015/2016 Annual Plan. (ii) The proposed replacement of the public toilets, estimated at a cost of \$250,000, be funded as part of the Public Toilet Strategy program in 2016/2017. (iii) The balance of the works, estimated at a cost of \$385,000 be considered for funding in the 2016/2017 financial year. <p>Further negotiations be undertaken with members of the Art Society of Tasmania before proceeding with the master plan recommendation to remove and reinterpret the 1970's forecourt and remains of the 1930's memorial gates.</p>	<p>Stage 1 planning works are progressing.</p> <p>Funding for replacement of the toilets was approved by the Council upon its endorsement of the Public Toilet Strategy on 22 February 2016.</p>
15	<p>ROAD RESERVATION AT 11 PILLINGER DRIVE , FERN TREE – PROPOSED TREE REMOVAL – FILE REF: 5588093 & P/11/751</p> <p>Open Council 26/10/2015, item 17</p>	<p>The Council approve the removal of the large Stringybark tree located in the road reservation at 11 Pillinger Drive, Fern Tree due to the high ongoing costs in maintaining the tree into the future.</p>	<p>The removal of the tree will require the closure of Pillinger Drive, and subsequent access to Mount Wellington.</p> <p>Consultation was undertaken with local residents and stakeholders to determine a date of least inconvenience for the works to be undertaken, as a result the works to be undertaken in April, to minimise disruption to Tourist operators.</p>

Ref.	Detail	Report / Action	Comments
16	<p>LEASE RENEWAL REQUESTS – SOUTHERN TASMANIAN NETBALL ASSOCIATION – HOBART FOOTBALL CLUB – PAKANA SERVICES – FILE REFS: 72-44-1; 72-25-19; 41-61-1</p> <p>Open PRC 12/11/2015, item 12</p> <p>Open FC 17/11/2015, item 7</p>	<p>The following lease renewals be approved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) A new ten (10) year lease with the Southern Tasmanian Netball Association for the Hobart Netball and Sports Centre located in Creek Road, New Town at a nominal rental of \$50 per annum. (ii) A new five (5) year lease with the Hobart Football Club for the clubroom and changeroom facilities at the TCA Ground at a nominal rental of \$50 per annum. (iii) A new one (1) year lease agreement, with two (2) further one (1) year extensions, with Pakana Services for the shed located at Waterworks Reserves, South Hobart at a nominal rental of \$50 per annum. 	Lease arrangements are being finalised.
17	<p>SOUTHERN TASMANIAN NETBALL ASSOCIATION – GRANT ASSISTANCE – FILE REF: 72-44-1</p> <p>Open Council 23/11/2015, item 19</p>	An annual grant of \$30,000 be provided to the Southern Tasmanian Netball Association to assist with the maintenance of the Hobart Netball and Sports Centre for the 2016/2017 and 2017/2018 financial years, to be funded from the respective Recreation and Projects Management operating budgets.	<p>The grant funding forms part of the proposed 2016/2017 budget.</p> <p>Complete.</p>
18	<p>WILLIAM KEITH ELTHAM PAVILION, SOLDIERS MEMORIAL OVAL – HOBART CANINE OBEDIENCE CLUB – NEW LEASE – FILE REF: 72-25-17</p> <p>Open Council 23/11/2015, item 20</p>	That the General Manager be authorised to negotiate a new lease with the Hobart Canine Obedience Club for a section of the William Keith Eltham Pavilion located at Soldiers Memorial Oval.	Lease arrangements are being finalised.

Ref.	Detail	Report / Action	Comments
19	SANDY BAY REGATTA PAVILION - LEASE RENEWAL REQUEST – SANDY BAY REGATTA ASSOCIATION – FILE REF: 72-37-5 Open PRC 14/1/2016, item 8 Open FC 19/1/2015, item 7	A new five (5) year lease agreement be granted to the Sandy Bay Regatta Association.	Lease arrangements are being finalised.
20	APPLICATION FOR LICENCE - ROARING 40'S KAYAKING, ERROL FLYNN RESERVE/SHORT BEACH, MARIEVILLE ESPLANADE SANDY BAY – FILE REF: 70-38-1 Open Council 25/1/2016, item 10	Landlord consent be granted under the Parks, Recreation and Natural Areas By-Law for a kayak launching operation conducted by Roaring 40's Kayaking at the Errol Flynn Reserve/Short Beach on Marieville Esplanade, Sandy Bay.	Licence arrangements are being finalised.
21	QUEENS DOMAIN JOGGERS LOOP CONCEPT PLAN – FILE REF: 15/107-003 Open Council 25/1/2016, item 13	The draft Queens Domain Joggers Loop Concept Plan, involving the development of the shared-use “Joggers Loop”, be endorsed to enable community engagement to be undertaken during February/March 2016. A further report be provided detailing the outcomes of the engagement process. A report be prepared on the possible review of the Soldiers Memorial Avenue Management Plan.	A report is scheduled for the May meeting.

Ref.	Detail	Report / Action	Comments
22	BATTERY POINT SHARED ACCESSWAY – FILE REF: 37-2-2 Open Council 25/1/2016, item 17	That a report be prepared that details options available as a means of facilitating movement in and around Battery Point and its foreshore.	An inhouse team is being assembled to respond to the Council resolution.
23	REQUEST FOR A MEMORIAL PLAQUE FOR ROAD CRASH VICTIMS – LONG BEACH RESERVE, LOWER SANDY BAY – FILE REF: 72-37-2 Open PRC 11/2/2016, item 9	That the request to install a memorial plaque commemorating road crash victims on an existing seat within the Long Beach Reserve area, be approved.	The plaque has been installed on a seat located on the promenade at Long Beach. Complete.
24	THE DOONE KENNEDY HOBART AQUATIC CENTRE – DRAFT REDEVELOPMENT MASTER PLAN – FILE REF: 33-21-13 Open Council 22/2/2016, item 13	The draft Doone Kennedy Hobart Aquatic Centre Redevelopment Master Plan, be approved. The General Manager be authorised to lodge a grant funding application under the Australian Government's National Stronger Regions Fund, for funding to enable implementation of the Redevelopment Master Plan to proceed. Funding to meet the City's contribution towards the Doone Kennedy Hobart Aquatic Centre's redevelopment be included in the City's Five Year Capital Works Program commencing 2015/2016.	The grant application was lodged mid-March. Further reports will be provided as plans are progressed. Complete.
25	KNOCKLOFTY, MCROBIES GULLY, RIDGEWAY PARK AND WATERWORKS RESERVES – BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN – FILE REF: 70-30-1 Open Council 22/2/2016, item 15	That the preliminary draft Knocklofty Reserve, McRobies Gully, Ridgeway Park and Waterworks Reserve Bushfire Management Plan, be received by the Council. Specialist advice be sought to review and substantiate the most appropriate firebreak/Asset Protection Zone standard for adoption by the City in its bushland reserves.	Specialist advice is being sought including from the Tasmania Fire Service.

Ref.	Detail	Report / Action	Comments
26	<p>MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE WELLINGTON PARK MANAGEMENT TRUST - FILE REF 70-42-15</p> <p>Open Council 15/12/2014, Item 21</p> <p>Open Council 24/8/2015, item 13</p> <p>Open Council 7/3/2016, item 12</p>	<p>The Wellington Park Management Trust, City of Hobart Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) 2015/2016 to 2019/2020, be endorsed.</p> <p>The General Manager be authorised to make minor amendments as required and sign the MOU on behalf of the City.</p>	<p>The MOU is with the Trust for finalisation.</p>
27	<p>HOCKEY TASMANIA – REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF GRANT – TASMANIAN HOCKEY CENTRE – FILE REF: 72-24-1</p> <p>Open Council 21/3/2016, item 18</p>	<p>An annual grant of \$63,860 be provided to Hockey Tasmania to assist with the maintenance of the Tasmanian Hockey Centre for the 2016/2017 and 2017/2018 financial years, to be funded from the respective Recreation and Projects Management Function.</p> <p>(i) The value of the grant be indexed annually by CPI.</p> <p>Hockey Tasmania be required to provide an annual acquittal of the grant to confirm its use in meeting maintenance needs of the Tasmanian Hockey Centre.</p> <p>In recognition of the financial assistance provided, the General Manager negotiate with Hockey Tasmania appropriate acknowledgement of the City's support on the Association's website and in other relevant collateral.</p> <p>A review of the grant be undertaken in 2017/2018, along with similar grants provided to the lessees of the Hobart Netball and Sports Centre and the Domain Tennis Centre, to assess the value of the assistance provided.</p> <p>The total of the grant be recorded in the 'Grants, Assistance and Benefits Provided' section of the City of Hobart's Annual Report.</p>	<p>The grant funding forms part of the proposed 2016/2017 budget.</p> <p>Complete.</p>

Ref.	Detail	Report / Action	Comments
28	<p>DOG PARK EXERCISE FACILITIES – FILE REF: 16-50-12</p> <p>Open Council 21/3/2016, item 17</p>	<p>A fenced dog exercise area be provided in the lower section of John Turnbull Park in Lenah Valley.</p> <p>Detailed design work and community/stakeholder consultation be undertaken on the provision of the dog exercise area, with works to be scheduled for 2017/2018.</p> <p>The cost of developing the dog park, estimated at \$150,000, be included for consideration in the Five Year Works Program.</p> <p>Establishment of the fenced area at Wentworth Street (below Wellesley Park Oval) be further considered upon establishment and operation of the John Turnbull Park facility.</p> <p>Landlord approval be granted, should a development application be required.</p>	<p>Funding is included in the draft 10 Year Capital Works Program pending Council approval.</p> <p>Design works are to be programmed.</p> <p>Further reports will be provided as appropriate.</p> <p>Complete.</p>
29	<p>REVIEW OF THE THREE RIVULET MASTER PLANS – FILE REFS: 70-76-1; 70-46-2; 41-10-2</p> <p>Open Council 21/3/2016, item 16</p>	<p>The report titled Three Rivulet Plans - Prioritisation of Key Projects for Implementation, be endorsed as the basis for implementation, subject to funds being available in the City's Capital Works Program.</p> <p>Consideration be given to the allocation of funding in the City's Capital Works Program to enable the delivery of key projects identified.</p> <p>The outstanding actions identified in the report titled Review of the Three Rivulet Plans, be considered upon completion of key projects contained in the Implementation Plan.</p>	<p>Funding is included in the draft 10 Year Capital Works Program pending Council approval.</p> <p>Complete.</p>

**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE AGENDA
(OPEN PORTION OF THE MEETING)
14/4/2016**

14. QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE – FILE REF: 13-1-10

Pursuant to Section 29 of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015, an Alderman may ask a question without notice of the Chairman, another Alderman or the General Manager or the General Manager's representative in accordance with the following procedures endorsed by the Council on 10 December 2012:

1. The chairman will refuse to accept a question without notice if it does not relate to the Terms of Reference of the Council committee at which it is asked.
2. In putting a question without notice, an Alderman must not:
 - (i) offer an argument or opinion; or
 - (ii) draw any inferences or make any imputations – except so far as may be necessary to explain the question.
3. The chairman must not permit any debate of a question without notice or its answer.
4. The chairman, Aldermen, General Manager or General Manager's representative who is asked a question without notice may decline to answer the question, if in the opinion of the intended respondent it is considered inappropriate due to its being unclear, insulting or improper.
5. The chairman may require an Alderman to put a question without notice, to be put in writing.
6. Where a question without notice is asked at a meeting, both the question and the response will be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.
7. Where a response is not able to be provided at the meeting in relation to a question without notice, the question will be taken on notice and
 - (i) the minutes of the meeting at which the question is put will record the question and the fact that it has been taken on notice.
 - (ii) a written response will be provided to all Aldermen, at the appropriate time.
 - (iii) upon the answer to the question being circulated to Aldermen, both the Question and the Answer will be listed on the agenda for the next available ordinary meeting of the committee at which it was asked, whereat it be listed for noting purposes only, with no debate or further questions permitted, as prescribed in Section 29(3) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015.

**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE AGENDA
(OPEN PORTION OF THE MEETING)
14/4/2016**

15. CLOSED PORTION OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING

The following items were discussed:-

- Item No. 1. Minutes of the Closed Portion of the Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting held on Thursday, 10 March 2016 and a Special Meeting held Monday, 7 March 2016.
- Item No. 2. Consideration of Supplementary Items to the Agenda
- Item No. 3. Indications of Pecuniary and Conflicts of Interest
- Item No. 4. Disposal of Traction Engines - File Ref: 80-2-4
LG(MP)R 15(2)(d)
- Item No. 5. Request to Extend Lease –Ham Common - File Ref: 44-11-1
LG(MP)R 15(2)(f)
- Item No. 6. Parks and Recreation Committee – Status Report
- Item No. 7. Questions Without Notice – File Ref: 13-1-10