

Council Agenda

SPECIAL ELECTORS' MEETING

6.00pm, 17 March, 2010

**Gumblossom Community Centre,
Tapping Way, Quinns Rocks**

PROCEDURE FOR SPECIAL MEETING OF ELECTORS

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 1995 Section 5.30* and the *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996*, the Mayor is to preside at a general or special meeting of electors and is to determine the procedure to be followed.

1. All present are required to sign the attendance register at the entry to the meeting room, including name and address.
2. The proceedings will be recorded for the purpose of production of the minutes and speakers are requested to use the microphones each time they speak.
3. No other audio or visual recording is to be undertaken without the permission of the Presiding Member.
4. During the meeting, no member of the public may interrupt the meeting's proceedings or enter into conversation.
5. A register of Electors wishing to address the meeting will be located at the entry of the meeting room on the night. The Presiding Member will request speakers to approach the podium in the order that they appear on the register and thereafter will open to the floor for further speakers.
6. Should an Elector wish to address the meeting, they may do so for a maximum of 3 minutes each. An extension of time may be given at the discretion of the Presiding Person who will ensure that speakers are given a fair and equal opportunity to do so.
7. Speakers must be Electors of the City of Wanneroo.
8. When addressing the meeting, a person is to:-
 - a) rise and move to the front podium unless unable to do so by reason of sickness or disability;
 - b) state his or her name for recording in the minutes;
 - c) address the meeting through the person presiding.
 - d) limit questions/statements to fact, not opinion or supposition.

Putting a Motion to the Meeting

9. "Motions from the Floor" Forms are available at the entrance to Council Chambers for completion by electors. Proposed motions must be provided in writing to Administration prior to the opening of the meeting.
10. Motions received from the floor (i.e. from Electors) are to be read aloud by the Presiding Member to ensure that everyone is clear about what they are voting on.
11. The Mayor will call for a mover and a seconder for a motion.

12. No motion or amendment is open to debate until it has been seconded. Only one amendment on any one motion shall be received at a time and such amendment shall be disposed of before any further amendment can be received; but any number of amendments may be proposed.
13. Upon a motion being proposed, the Mayor will call for speakers to address the Chair.
14. The mover of a motion (but not the mover of an amendment) has the right of reply, and this closes the debate.
15. An elector may rise and move without discussion, “that the question be now put”, which, on being duly seconded and carried by a majority, will result in submission of the motion at once to the meeting, after the mover has replied.
16. The Mayor will then ask for a vote on the motion from the floor.
17. Each elector has one vote. An elector does not have to vote.
18. Voting is determined by a show of hands.
19. A simple majority carries the vote.
20. The person presiding is to determine questions of order and procedure not stated above but an elector may move a motion of dissent from a ruling of the person presiding, which if seconded, shall be put without discussion.
21. Motions from the Electors’ Meeting will be considered by the Council at its next Ordinary Meeting.

The decisions of this meeting are not binding on the Council, but as required by the *Local Government Act 1995*, the reasons for any Council decision on a decision of this meeting are to be recorded in the minutes of the council meeting.



City of Wanneroo

Notice is given that a **SPECIAL ELECTORS MEETING** will be held at the
Gumblossom Community Centre
Tapping Road, Quinns Rocks on **Wednesday 17 March, 2010** commencing at **6.00pm**.

J Kelly
Mayor
12 March 2010

A G E N D A

Item 1 Open Meeting

Item 2 Attendance and Apologies

Item 3 Purpose of the Meeting

Proposed Coastal Camel Rides – Claytons Beach, Mindarie to Tamala Park

File Ref: P22/2371V01
Responsible Officer: Director Planning and Sustainability
Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Issue

To present supporting information in response to a request for a Special Meeting of Electors to discuss a proposal to conduct coastal camel rides from Claytons Beach, Mindarie to Tamala Park.

Background

Under Section 5.28 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, electors of the City of Wanneroo have requested that a Special Meeting of Electors be held to consider their concerns regarding an application for planning approval under the Metropolitan Region Scheme to conduct camel rides within the coastal foreshore reserve, from Claytons Beach, Mindarie to Tamala Park near the southern municipal boundary of the City of Wanneroo.

Detail

Application

On 16 November 2009, the City received an application for planning approval under the Metropolitan Region Scheme (MRS) to conduct a tourism activity (West Coast Camel Rides) within the foreshore reserve along the Mindarie coast. The City of Wanneroo is required to make a recommendation on the application to the Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC), which is the decision-making agency in this instance.

The proposed camel rides are to be conducted within Crown Reserves 20561 and 35890 Long Beach Promenade, Mindarie. This land is reserved for Parks and Recreation under the MRS, but is managed by the City of Wanneroo. As a result, the City's Chief Executive Officer was required to sign the application form (as the effective 'owner' of the land) to allow the application to be made. This administrative formality in no way constitutes support or approval (implied or otherwise) for the proposal, and simply allowed the application to be submitted for determination.

Details of the proposed operation are set out below (refer also **Attachments 1 and 2**):

- Each day, the camels would be transported via truck to the 'departure station' shown as Image 2 on **Attachment 2** (being the original Long Beach Promenade car park). The transport vehicle comprises a customised truck and trailer designed to carry eight camels, with an adjacent deck being erected for patrons to mount and dismount standing camels safely. The 'departure station' would also comprise a chemical toilet and rubbish bins. All structures would be removed at the end of each ride day and re-erected on the next ride day, so that no structures or equipment would be left on site overnight or on days when rides are not being conducted.
- Between six and eight camels would be based on site during ride days, depending on the number of patrons that are booked for camel rides.
- Patrons would be required to park within roadside parking bays along Long Beach Promenade, and would then proceed down the path to the 'departure station'. Patrons would then mount the camels via the deck provided on the transport vehicle and the camels would be led in a train down the existing path to the beach, as shown in **Attachment 2**.
- Once on the beach, the camels would be led south along Claytons Beach, to the City of Wanneroo boundary at Tamala Park. The camels would then be turned around and ridden back to the departure point where patrons dismount.
- The operation would be based on a booking system that would require a minimum booking of 10 patrons per day, to a maximum of 64 patrons per day. The camel rides are planned to operate up to four times during the day (early morning, mid morning, mid afternoon and early evening) up to five days a week in summer, and four days a week in winter, depending on weather conditions. It is proposed that the early morning and early evening rides would have a round-trip duration of 2 hours, while the mid-morning and mid-afternoon rides would last for around 1 hour.

- The following hours of operation are proposed:

Day	Arrival / Departure Time of Camels on Site	First Ride / Last Ride
Monday – Friday	7.00am / 7.00pm	8.30am / 6.00pm
Saturday	7.00am / 7.00pm	8.30am / 6.00pm
Sunday	9.00am / 6.00pm	10.00am / 5.00pm

- The applicant has proposed a 12-month trial period for running the proposed camel rides, to allow any issues associated with the conduct of the operation to be identified and addressed, prior to any further approval being granted.
- The camels associated with the proposal are stabled, fed and watered on a property in Nowergup (zoned Rural Resource under District Planning Scheme No. 2), where the transport vehicle is also kept and the applicant resides. The applicant has advised that the camels do not need food or water during the ride days, so none needs to be brought to site for them.

Consultation

The application was advertised for public comment, commencing on 7 December 2009 and initially closing on 8 January 2010. This advertising was conducted by way of a sign on site at the Long Beach Promenade entrance, an advertisement placed in the Wanneroo Times (on 8 December 2009) and letters sent to all landowners along Long Beach Promenade.

During the advertising period, Administration received some community feedback that the sign on site would not inform the majority of beach users about the proposal, and that over the Christmas period residents would be busy and not have a chance to respond. In response, a second sign was erected at the Alexandria View car park entrance to the beach and the advertising period was extended by an additional week, to 15 January 2010.

At the conclusion of the advertising period, 94 submissions were received, with a further five submissions received after the closing date, resulting in 99 submissions being received overall. Of the submissions received, the majority (85) were opposed to the proposal, while 14 were in support. Of those who objected, the main issues raised were:

- Use of the former car park as the ‘departure station’ would attract anti-social behaviour;
- Camel excrement and impact on beach users;
- The proposal would have a negative impact on traffic in the area;
- The proposal would have an adverse impact on the residential amenity of the area; and
- The proposal would have an adverse impact on the natural environment in the area.

In addition to the 99 submissions received, a petition was submitted during the advertising period, containing 157 signatures in opposition to the proposed camel rides. The petition was presented to the 9 February 2010 Council meeting.

Administration is currently reviewing and preparing a response to all submissions received, which will be included in the report that will be submitted to Council to formally consider this application. It is intended to refer this matter to Council at its meeting on 6 April 2010.

A preliminary discussion of the five main issues raised in the submissions is provided in the 'Comment' section below.

Comment

Anti-social behaviour

It is proposed that the car park would remain locked outside business hours/camel ride operating hours; therefore pedestrian access will remain unchanged. As such, the potential for, or perception of, anti-social behaviour in the location of the car park is also expected to remain unchanged.

The presence of the camel ride operator on site will offer passive surveillance of the area and the beach environment during ride days and may therefore have the potential to deter anti-social behaviour at the start and end of each ride day and in between rides.

Camel Excrement

The information sheet that accompanied the advertisement for the application indicated that the camels would wear 'bags' to collect waste and that the operator's staff would collect and dispose of any/all camel excrement that reached the ground. The applicant has advised that these 'bags' would be emptied after every ride, and placed in bags inside plastic buckets with sealed lids to prevent flies and odours. These buckets would then be carted off site to the applicant's property, where it would be placed in 205ltr plastic drums, water added and kept sealed until the liquid can be drained off for use as organic fertilizer.

Impact on beach users

Use of the path down to the beach by the camels is considered to present the most potential for impact on users of the foreshore reserve, as this space is relatively limited and may be used by camels and the general public to access the beach, at the same time. This path ranges in width from 6m near the 'departure station' to approximately 2.5m at the beach entrance. A staff member will guide the first camel along the path (on foot), with the remaining camels connected to form a 'train'. Once the camels reach the beach it is considered that there is sufficient space for both the camels and other beach users.

Traffic Impact

Long Beach Promenade contains 26 car parking bays, with a further 26 bays being provided in a nearby car park located on Alexandria Drive. The staff members for the camel rides would arrive and depart from site on the main transport vehicle, and therefore will not generate any additional car parking demand.

The applicant is aiming to provide camel rides for a maximum of 16 people at a time (two per camel). If the visitors did park on residential verges without consent from the owners, then the owners would be entitled to contact the City for appropriate remedial action to then be taken.

Impact on Residential Amenity

The site for the proposed 'departure station' (and transport vehicle parking) is accessible from Long Beach Promenade and screened from nearby dwellings.

The transport vehicle would only be used twice in the day, to enter and depart from the site and would not otherwise be operational during the day.

The odour of camels, as with other similar livestock, is usually associated with the living conditions of the animal. If they are kept in small quarters or yards, then the animals may produce pungent odours. The camels that are to be used in the proposal are stabled on large paddocks that are rotated, therefore reducing contact with faeces. In addition, the camels are to be washed and groomed on a regular basis.

The proposal is unlikely to have any effect on the outlook of the residents along Long Beach Promenade, based on the topography of the dunes. The area, which the camels will spend most of the time is not visible from the street and would only be seen when departing and returning from trips.

Impact on Natural Environment

The City's environmental staff have assessed the proposal and advised that if the camels remain on the designated path until they reach the beach, there would be minimal impact on the natural environment.

The Department of Planning (DoP), which serves the WAPC, has referred the application to the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) for comment. At the time of writing this report, staff of the DoP advised that comments had not yet been received from the DEC. The WAPC will have regard to any comments from the DEC when making its decision on this application.

Statutory Compliance

The request for a Special Meeting of Electors has been undertaken in accordance with Section 5.28 of the *Local Government Act 1995*.

Strategic Implications

The discussion at the Special Meeting of Electors is expected to relate to the following City of Wanneroo's Strategic Plan 2006-2021 outcome objectives:

“Environmental:

- 1.4 Minimise impact of development on natural landform*

Social:

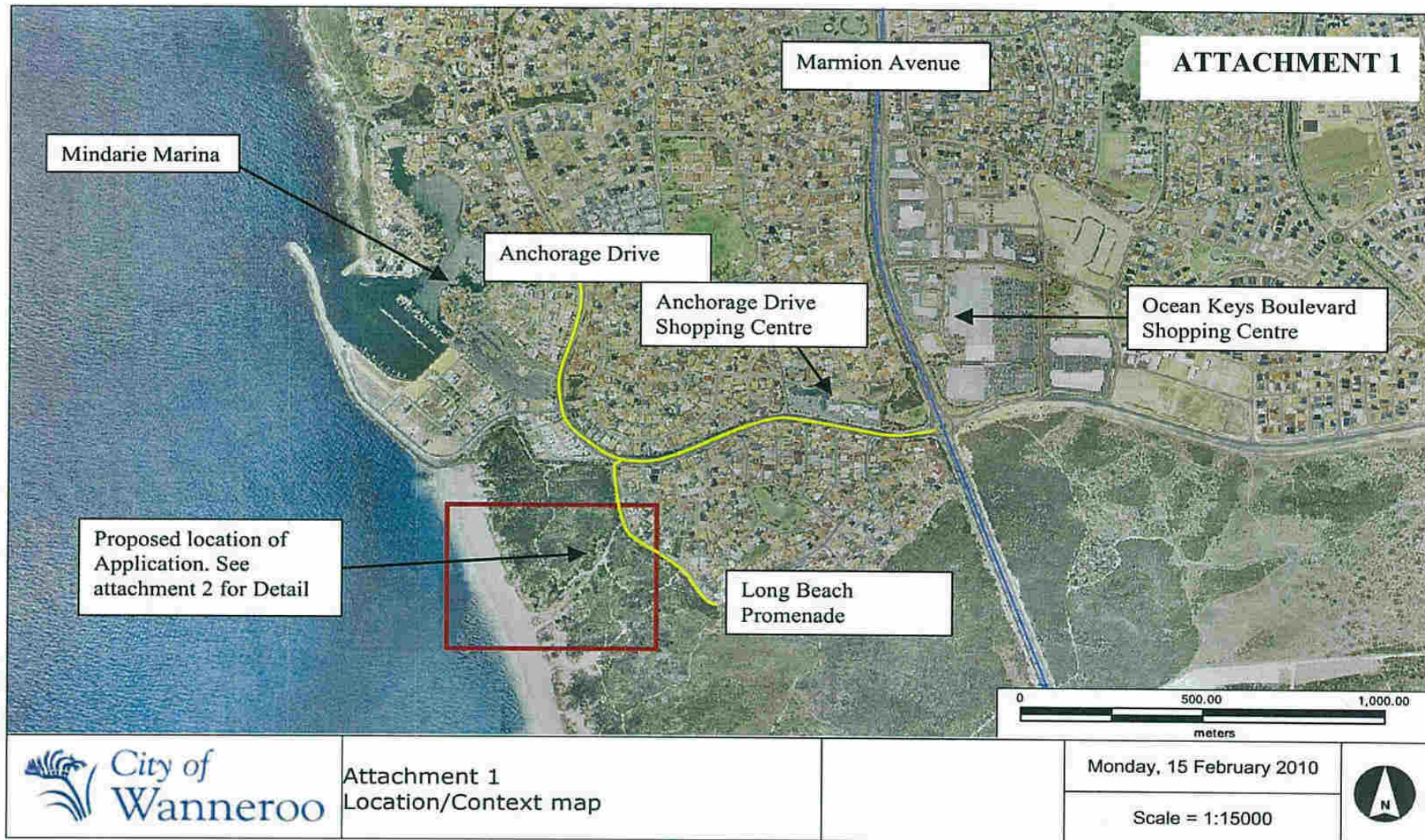
- 2.4 Improve community safety*

Economic:

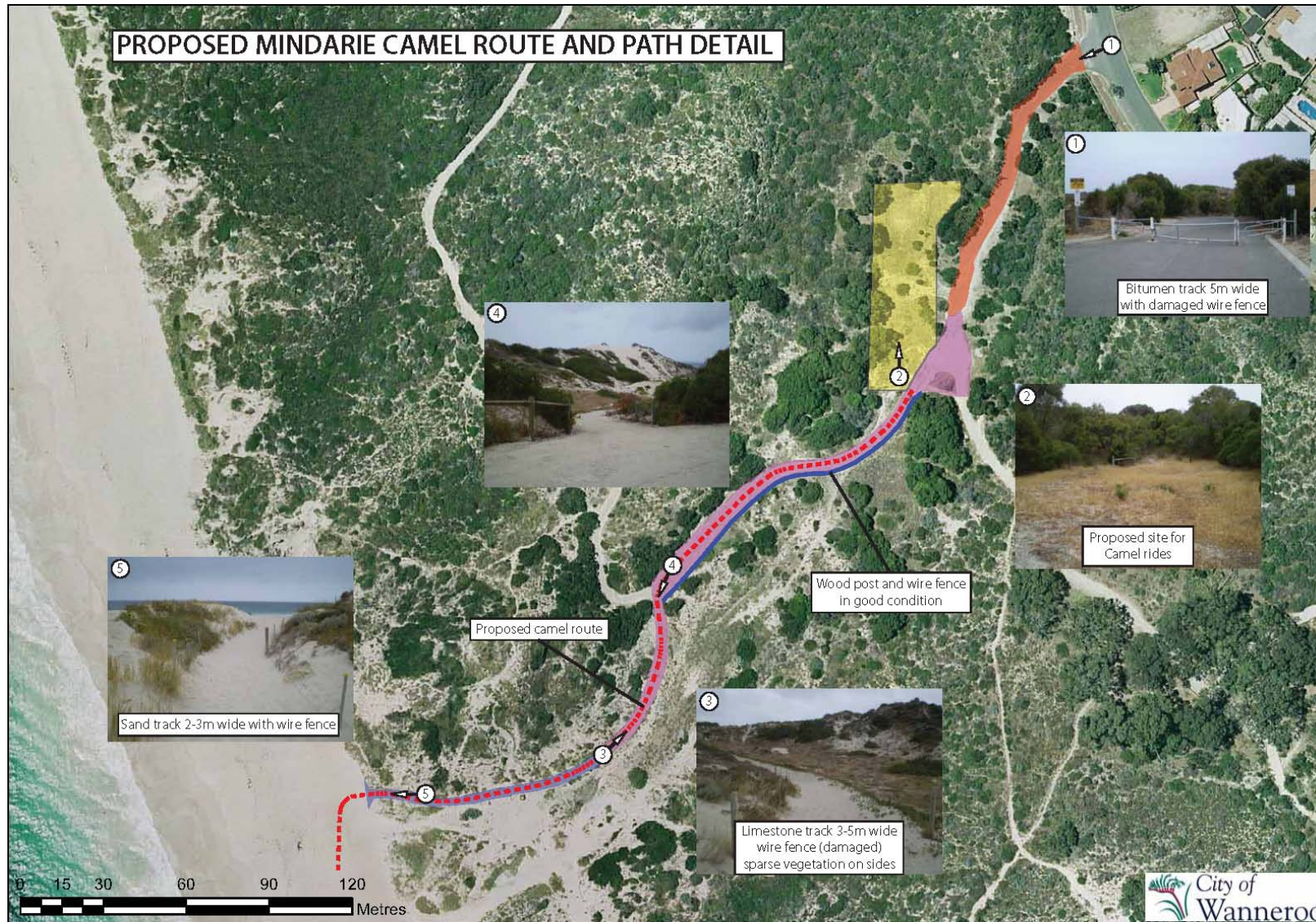
- 3.3 Increase tourism within the region*
- 3.6 Increase support for new and existing business*

Governance:

- 4.2 Improve community engagement”*



ATTACHMENT 2



**Item 4 Meeting Open to the Floor – Public Question
Time/Motions**

Item 5 Close of Business