

TOWN OF COTTESLOE



BEACH ACCESS PATH COMMITTEE

MINUTES

**MAYOR'S PARLOUR, COTTESLOE CIVIC CENTRE
109 BROOME STREET, COTTESLOE
2.00PM, Monday, 12 March 2018**

MAT HUMFREY
Chief Executive Officer

12 March 2018

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1 DECLARATION OF MEETING OPENING / ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

Cr Pyvis declared the meeting open at 2.00PM.

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS OF THE LANDS

Cr Pyvis acknowledged the Whadjuk Noongar people as the traditional custodians of the land and also acknowledged the land of Cottesloe and on which the Committee meets today.

3 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES

Committee Members Present

Cr Sally Pyvis	Chairperson (Voting)
Cr Sandra Boulter	Deputy Chairperson (Voting)
Cr Michael Tucak	Elected Member (Voting)
Mr Frank Kotai	Ecoscape (Non-voting)
Ms Vicki Woods	Landscape Architect (Voting)
Mr Mike Ewing	Cottesloe Coastcare (Voting)
Ms Kerry Briody	Community Representative (Voting)

Officers Present

Mr Mat Humfrey	Chief Executive Officer (Non-voting)
Mr Nick Woodhouse	Manager Engineering Services (Non-voting)
Ms Denise Tyler-Hare	Project Manager (Non-voting)
Ms Amie Hill	Administration Officer (Non-voting)

Apologies

Mayor Philip Angers	Elected Member (Voting)
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4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Cr Boulter requested the confirmation of the minutes from the 12 September 2017 be deferred until the next meeting as a resolution was not recorded.

Moved Cr Boulter, seconded Cr Pyvis.

The Minutes of Beach Access Path Committee meeting, held on 15 January 2018, be confirmed.

Unanimous

5 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Mr Humfrey will be organising training for Staff, Elected Members and Committee Members on Declaration of Interests. If a matter in which a Committee Member has interest goes before the Committee, the Committee Member must disclose their interest at that meeting.

6 OFFICER REPORTS

BEACH ACCESS PATHS – COMMUNITY CONSULTATION FEEDBACK

File Ref: SUB/2414
Attachments: Concept Designs
Community Consultation Feedback
Community Consultation Feedback - Late
Proposed Project Program
Opinion of Probable Cost
Responsible Officer: Mat Humfrey
Chief Executive Officer
Author: Denise Tyler-Hare
Project Manager, Engineering Services
Proposed Meeting Date: 12 March 2018
Author Disclosure of Interest: Nil

SUMMARY

The Town has undertaken community consultation on the beach access path upgrades concept plans and is requesting the Committee to endorse this feedback, and recommend proceeding to detailed design and documentation to Council.

BACKGROUND

At the January 2018 Committee meeting, the Committee reviewed the concept designs prepared by Ecoscape, and following some amendments, endorsed undertaking community consultation of the concept design plans, for the upgrade of four beach access paths; S10, S12, N6 and N7. The concept plans were put to Council via email, and subsequently accepted for consultation.

The community consultation was subsequently undertaken from the 13 January 2018 until the 6 March 2018, via newspaper adverts in The Post and The Western Suburbs Weekly, on the Council website, and via letters to affected residents and ratepayers, as well as the Cottesloe Facebook page and email database.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Strategic Community Plan (2013 to 2023)

Priority Area Three: Enhancing beach access and the foreshore.

Corporate Business Plan (2014 – 2018)

Priority Area Three: Enhancing beach access and the foreshore.

3.1: Implement the 'Foreshore Redevelopment Plan' in consultation with the community.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Beach Policy – the Beach Access Path Concept Plans complies with the Policy as adopted by Council.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Local Government Act 1995

Local Government Regulations 1996

All works in the Cottesloe Foreshore Precinct will require planning approval from the Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC) as the land sits under the Metropolitan Region Scheme. As the changes are minimal and do not significantly alter the purpose for which the land is to be used, there are no significant challenges that are expected when approvals are sought.

Much of the land contained within the Cottesloe Foreshore Precinct is also listed on the State Heritage Register. The Town will work with the State Heritage Office during the detailed design phase of every element to ensure heritage considerations are met.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The 2017/2018 Budget has \$130,000 set aside for beach access path upgrades. Ecoscape have provided an Opinion of Probable Cost for each of the paths based on the concept plan, including a 10% contingency. The amounts, excluding GST, are:

- S10 - \$94,167.00
- S12 - \$86,763.00
- N6 - \$51,993.00
- N7 - \$77,699.00

Consultant fees are \$29,955, and so a Budget amendment of \$210,577 is required to complete the works in the 2018/2019 financial year.

STAFFING IMPLICATIONS

There are no perceived staffing implications arising from the Officer Recommendation.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

The design approach for the Beach Access Paths has covered issues such as sustainability and the long term maintenance and management of the precinct. The design will need to include selected materials that have been chosen to ensure sustainability, longevity and ease of maintenance.

CONSULTATION

Beach Access Path Committee

Town of Cottesloe Staff

Elected Members

Community Consultation

STAFF COMMENT

Community consultation results are presented as follows, with the following definitions:

- Objection – objection to the specifics of the upgrade.

- Support with comments – support with comments on the specifics.

In total, 57 submissions were received, with 56 before the closing date, and 1 after the closing date. The late submission has been provided as a separate attachment.

It is noted that out of the 56 submissions received, 39 were from Cottesloe residents.

Of the submissions received before the closing date, the following is a breakdown of the numbers and percentages of support and objections:

- N7 received 38 submissions, with 26 objections (68% of submissions), the majority of which concern not installing timber stairs and making superficial changes.
- N6 received 19 submissions, with 7 objections (37% of submissions), the majority of which concern not installing timber stairs.
- S10 received 19 submissions with only 2 objections (10% of submissions).
- S12 received 17 submissions and 5 objections (29% of submissions).

The following is a summary of key issues raised during the consultation:

S10

1. Install a sign post to notify people which grassed area is for wind and kite surfers, and include painted warnings on the foreshore footpath to note “kilters crossing.”
2. Widen the path to support people carrying their kites (3 - 4m).
3. Handrails to be low enough to prevent equipment getting caught on the railings when walking up and down the stairs, particularly on the prevailing leeward side (north-east). Handrails to be free of things that can catch on the kite e.g. nails and bolts.
4. Risers to have shallow gradient as possible for safety and ease.
5. Ensure no obstacles at either end of the pathway e.g. signs, trees, posts, spikes.
6. Consider how to protect ends of steps from erosion with piles.
7. WAKSA insurance signage is required.
8. Support trees for shade around grassed area.
9. Seat in the paved area to be relocated so it is not in the direct access line from the grassed area to the top of the steps.
10. Could reduce the area of paving and extent of retaining wall if need to cut costs.
11. Request for name plaque in seating at the top of the stairs.
12. Include bench seating south of the new design.
13. Retain 90 degree parking bays.

S12

1. Install a sign post to notify people which grassed area is for wind and kite surfers.
2. Widen the path to support people carrying their kites (3 - 4m).
3. Handrails to be low enough to prevent equipment getting caught on the railings when walking up and down the stairs.
4. Risers to have shallow gradient as possible for safety and ease.
5. Ensure no obstacles at either end of the pathway e.g. signs, trees, posts, spikes.
6. Consider how to protect ends of steps from erosion with piles.

7. Consider how proposed trees will be positioned with respect to existing residential views, once the trees mature.
8. Ensure signage does not interfere with existing residential views.
9. Existing concrete steps are in good order so there is no need to replace them.
10. The car parking diagram is incorrect – it shows 7 parking spots when there should be 9.
11. Keep the parking bays.
12. Already existing shower, stainless steel bin.
13. Walls around dunes are unnecessary.

N6

1. Would be better if it was upgraded to stairs, in lieu of a log ladder. Perhaps steps that went half way down, with a shallow grade log ladder after that.
2. Don't use limestone base under the log ladders, and remove any that is there already.
3. Include a rubbish bin.
4. Make sure drainage from the dual use path and paved area at the top does not run down the log ladders. This causes safety and maintenance issues.
5. Excellent proposal for upgrades and especially happy that the sand ladders will be retained.
6. Increasing usage in the past couple of years, continue to be important access points for popular swimming beach in North Cottesloe Beach. This path is in desperate need of upgrading, but will require ongoing maintenance. Prone to winter storms and surge damage over the lower sections, which means permanent infrastructure in the lower sections of the paths is not viable. In the lower sections, a new section of log steps may suffice if it is continually maintained. If this section is damaged during winter storms, it is reasonably easy and cost effective to replace.
7. Changing the alignment, as proposed, so that it is not as steep, and installing a wider and a new log ladder should help mitigate erosion problems of the existing path. Together with new side rails and an enlarged access node and revegetation of the surrounding areas should help to stabilize the dunes and provide a reasonable low-grade access path. Ongoing maintenance will be essential.
8. Existing sand ladder is old, dangerous and unsafe, should be replaced with stairs. Should have a shower included in the plan.
9. Install steps set in limestone, with no wooden balustrades that split and splinter, not too thick so that you can get your hand around it, no wire balustrades that move and push you off balance. Lower level balustrade for children.
10. All steps must reach the bottom.
11. Should also provide wheelchair access, including a large wheelchair and a roll of matting to spread over the sand.

N7

1. Needs to be upgraded to stairs, in lieu of a log ladder. Currently very badly maintained and a safety concern. Existing sand ladder is old, dangerous and unsafe, should be replaced with stairs. Steep log steps are difficult for elderly people and children to negotiate, particularly if they are broken and the sand has hollowed out between steps. Would prefer to see the shower remain as is and spend the money

on a wooden stairway. Could have steps partially down, say 75%, with log ladder the rest of the way.

2. Bike racks should be installed where the proposed shower is.
3. Don't use limestone base under the log ladders, and remove any that is there already.
4. Install a zebra crossing immediately south of the roundabout intersection on Marine Parade, with Grant Street.
5. Grant Street beach is one of the busiest beaches in Cottesloe, and the shower area is really busy with a long wait time. 3 showers should be incorporated, with separate full height and foot showers.
6. Object to spending money on largely unwanted superficial changes such as relocation of amenities, etc.
7. Moving these amenities further north directs pedestrian traffic away from the Grant Street car park and street parking.
8. Bench seating should be on the same side as the shower.
9. Bike racks are a good facility; however position should be swapped with the showers for visibility and theft prevention.
10. Shower and bike rack position swapped, with perhaps a double shower.
11. Move bin nearer to the access pathway and seating.
12. Reconsider location of the shower so it is out of the line of site from residents – the current location provides quite good protection from the southwest between 2 mounds.
13. The current grassed area is a frequent stopping point for people walking dogs to give them water. The proximity to the road could become an issue for parents with young children.
14. Bench seating by the showers is requested, and perhaps should be facing the view.
15. Worried about trees blocking existing views for residents.
16. Make sure drainage from the dual use path and paved area at the top does not run down the log ladders. This causes safety and maintenance issues.
17. Excellent proposal for upgrades and especially happy that the sand ladders will be retained.
18. Increasing usage in the past couple of years, continue to be important access points for popular swimming beach in North Cottesloe Beach. This path is in desperate need of upgrading, but will require ongoing maintenance. Prone to winter storms and surge damage over the lower sections, which means permanent infrastructure in the lower sections of the paths is not viable. In the lower sections, a new section of log steps may suffice if it is continually maintained. If this section is damaged during winter storms, it is reasonably easy and cost effective to replace.
19. This is a key access point, which currently does not cope, and in the future, will not cope with usage, unless upgraded. It is not maintained now, and it will require, at least in the upper section, stairs or a ramp, the path to be widened, new side rails installed and new log ladders in the lower section.
20. Decommissioning the existing soakwell and relocating the shower should also help with previous erosion problems.
21. Retain, but relocate, the existing memorial seats near N7, rather than new benches. Suggest working with families to do this, as it can be a very sensitive issue.
22. Frank Slee's memorial bench to be facing the shower as he requested.

23. Log staircase is acceptable if kept in good repair, but when it isn't it is not acceptable.
24. Bike rack should be placed where the hillock is and the drinking fountain could stay or come nearer the shower.
25. Safety sign warning about snakes that come to drink at the shower/drink fountain location would be helpful.
26. Existing bench seats should remain.
27. Showers should face north and shouldn't be too tall, similar to that at Vera View. Benches should be placed up wind of the shower.

Other

1. S11 needs to be repaired.
2. Include/retain low log rail along western side of the dual use path.
3. When will the children's playground be upgraded near S10?
4. Napier Street beach access path – request for maintenance.
5. Concern that no other beach access paths are being made universally accessible.
6. I believe that the proposed designs are workable solutions to some often-complex issues. The solutions on the whole are visually non intrusive and sensitive to the natural context of the sites. They do not impact negatively on the high visual landscape values and the proposed signage and infrastructure is sensitive to the natural landscape. The conservation values have been considered and incorporated and cultural values have been respected.
7. Keep access pathways wooden, and don't use metal ones.
8. Install proper bike lock up posts at each access points.
9. Consider dune stabilisation, climate change and the stability of access paths at the bottom of dunes. Should separate cyclists from pedestrians between Indianas and Barchetta, and a masterplan is needed. Ensure beach access path designs consider climate change and erosion.
10. Coordinate design with the FPIC committee – currently inconsistencies in the signage, some materials, walls and seating, in particular the totem and plinth signage is poor quality aesthetically.
11. Makeshift structures with pigeon holes and towel racks should be the same in each location with the design improved so they are more structurally sound.
12. Include lighting on the paths, and wider access.
13. Need an overall design style guide to ensure consistency.
14. Consider using recycled plastic decking.
15. Consider using modular products, similar to that as used in Rottnest.
16. Construct toilets for users of south beach.
17. Install more seating and shade in the grassed/landscaped areas nearby beach access paths for people to enjoy the view.
18. Plant Norfolk Island Pines rather than Rottnest scrub trees.
19. Beach access stairs should be more robust than the proposed wooden stairs, for example Ricey Beach and Little Armstrong Bay at Rottnest, or the Gap in Albany.
20. Assuming that the access from Hawkstone Street that has recently been closed will be repaired and reopened.

The Committee is asked to review the above feedback and attachments, and determine how they would like to proceed, in light of the community comments.

A proposed project program is also attached, should the Committee endorse moving forward with the detailed design and documentation.

VOTING

Simple Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Committee:

- 1. Thank the community for their submissions.**
- 2. Note the community consultation feedback submitted.**
- 3. Endorse the progression of the project to detailed design and documentation for all four paths, subject to the following considerations:**

a. At S10 (Salvado):

- i. Install stencil signage to notify people of kites crossing and that the grassed area is a set up area;**
- ii. Ensure there is a kite friendly corridor, including designing the handrails to prevent equipment getting caught on railings, both in terms of height and sharp, protruding objects, and ensure no obstacles at either end of pathway;**
- iii. Consider how to protect ends of steps from erosion; and,**
- iv. The design outcomes should reflect the importance of local amenity in public spaces.**

Moved Cr Boulter, seconded Cr Pyvis

Unanimous

b. At S12 (Deane)

- i. Consider how to protect ends of steps from erosion; and,**
- ii. The design outcomes should reflect the importance of local amenity in public spaces.**

Moved Cr Tucak, seconded Cr Pyvis

Unanimous

c. N6 (Hawkstone):

- i. Consider inclusion of a rubbish bin;**
- ii. Manage drainage to minimise erosion on the log ladder; and,**
- iii. The design outcomes should reflect the importance of local amenity in public spaces.**

Moved Mr Ewing, seconded Ms Briody

Unanimous

d. N7 (Grant):

- i. Upgrade N7 to include steps;**
- ii. The Town of Cottesloe administration report back to the Committee on the viability of a pedestrian crossing south of the roundabout at the intersection of Grant Street and Marine Parade;**
- iii. Install two showers;**
- iv. The design outcomes should reflect the importance of local amenity in public spaces.**
- v. Retain, but relocate, the existing memorial seats near N7, rather than new benches, in close consultation with affected families; and,**
- vi. Readvertise N7 for 14 days.**

As a note for N7:

The original point iv - Consider swapping the location of the bike rack and showers, was deleted for safety reasons.

Moved Cr Boulter, seconded Cr Tucak

Unanimous

7 OTHER BUSINESS

7.1 Email from Christopher Spaven and email from Cr Boulter to Christopher Spaven

Covered content of email in the Officer Recommendation discussion.

7.2 Email from Peter Jones – Bin Placement

Cr Boulter advised the Committee of the solar compactor bins used in Esperance.

7.3 Comment from Mayor Angers

Refer to the Bike Committee.

7.4 Email from Luke Matthews – Beach Access Path 4

This is a maintenance issue. Ms Tyler-Hare will prepare an officer report for the next Committee meeting on the next beach access paths for upgrading.

7.5 Presentation slides/email – Matching Design with Community Needs

Refer to the Bike Committee.

7.6 Email from Frank Kotai – Beach Access Path N7

Please refer to the attached email.

7.7 Email from Hilary Rumley

At the February 2018 Committee meeting, the Disability Services Advisory Committee (DSAC) made a recommendation to:

Clarify current Beach Access Path plans for universal access and support universal access at Wearne, Cottesloe Surf Club, North Cottesloe Surf Club and Napier Street.

Cr Boulter emailed a draft motion regarding amending the beach access path maps to celebrate the good work of the Cottesloe Council in working towards universal access to the beach and show all the universal access paths to the beach. The draft motions will be tabled at the next Committee meeting as there was not enough time for discussion.

7.8 Email from Steve Carre

Project Manager to respond regarding installing a shower at S5.

7.9 Beach Access Path Disabled Parking

Please refer to the attached email and a section of the Town of Cottesloe Disability Audit July 2016.

7.10 Signage at bottom of Beach Access Path

To be considered at a later date. The Committee discussed the issue of safety and types of signage.

8 NEW BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE INTRODUCED BY ELECTED MEMBERS / OFFICERS BY DECISION OF MEETING

Cr Boulter tabled her email with draft motions. The Committee discussed whether signage will include surf break names as well as street names. Cr Boulter suggested a discussion of universal access be had the next Committee meeting. Cr Boulter asked the Committee if there is a report on the best practice for the installation, management and maintenance of sand ladder access paths. Mr Humfrey advised the Committee that there must be a report/information available on the internet. Cr Boulter advised the Committee that a number of dogs are not being put on the lead before going up the sand ladder and are then running onto the road. Cr Boulter asked the Committee whether there is a requirement under the *Dog Act* for owners to place their dog on the lead as they enter the path. Mr Humfrey advised the Committee that Council can designate/set out dog exercise areas.

9 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be after the advertising period and public consultation for N7 (Grant) has finished.

10 MEETING CLOSURE

The Chairperson declared the meeting closed at 3:56PM.