

TOWN OF COTTESLOE



Works and Corporate Services
Committee

ATTACHMENT 10.2.2

Meeting Date: 16 April 2013



COTTESLOE COASTCARE

Vlamingh Lookout

The Cottesloe Coastcare Association is very keen that any new plan for the dilapidated Vlamingh memorial site would include a viewing point surrounded by managed native species using plant species local to the site. This would be consistent with recent Town of Cottesloe activity to convert watered lawn in the area to native vegetation and Cottesloe Coastcare activities which have focussed on rehabilitation of the degraded foredune between the memorial and the sea. Species should be mainly very low coastal species that will allow unimpeded views. If new plants are sited carefully it will allow for mature growth but avoid unattractive pruning and high on-going maintenance.

In planning the initiative it is important to recognise that there will be three phases. They are:

- Site works involving the re-development of the mound, platform, boardwalk and memorial plinths (see further details below)
- Plant establishment phase (intensive weeding and watering during the year of establishment and this requires explicit resourcing)
- Long term maintenance of the site (designed to involve low level weeding and light pruning)

CCA's environmentally friendly, low key vision for the site will enhance the aesthetics and natural aspects of the area, highlight its historic importance and provide an improved view point for locals and visitors. With this in mind we suggest:

- All paving, cement and inappropriate plants on the mound removed but as much of the existing vegetation as possible to be maintained
- Top of site levelled and sloping sides of memorial mound prepared as deemed necessary for construction and for planting
- Construction of a square timber platform, approximately 30cms above ground (as at the West end of Rottnest Island) with low bench style seating along the north/south axis (on the beach side) and along east/west axis (on north side)
- A timber boardwalk/entrance ramp from one side only – possibly from the south-east
- Memorial plinths on timber platform
- Mass, dense planting of all bare areas using local species only: main species - local pig face (*Carpobrotus virescens*) and cushion bush (*Leucophyta brownii*). Pig face to be planted underneath the top timber platform. (Cushion bush grows approximately 100m from the memorial on the beach edge. The local form is very low and compact with silver grey foliage. Local pig face (a ground hugging, green succulent with large pink flowers) also grows

nearby. All the required plants could be grown from cuttings and seed collected from the site.

An issue to consider is linkages to the site from the south. At the moment the site is mainly accessed from the dual use path running to the east of the memorial. It is also possible to access it from a path running from the carpark to the south that runs on the ocean side of the sand dune immediately south of the memorial. This path is currently degraded in parts. Some commercial development has been foreshadowed for the car park area south of the memorial and this may mean increased foot traffic from that direction. If this is anticipated then upgrading the existing path, perhaps in the form of a boardwalk, would reduce the risk of further degradation and increase use of the lookout. This is likely to require coordination in the planning phase between the towns of Cottesloe and Mosman Park.

Cottesloe Coastcare Association March 10th 2013

Mr Kevin Morgan, Mayor
Town of Cottesloe
109 Broome St
Cottesloe WA 6911



102 Thomas St
Nedlands WA 6009
10 March 2013

Dear Mr Morgan

I noticed the entry in the recent edition of The Post inviting comments and suggestions on restoration of Cottesloe's Vlamingh Memorial. You may also have seen my letter to the editor of the Post on 9 March 2013, a copy of which is enclosed.

Willem de Vlamingh was the commodore of three ships of the Dutch East India company, the *Geelvink*, *Nyptang*, and *Weseltje*, on a voyage of exploration along the coast of WA (then known as 'Terra Australis', or the 'Land of the Eendracht', or the 'South Land'. A party of 86 officers and men from these ships went ashore, probably at Swanbourne beach, on 5 January 1697, returning on 7 January. Vlamingh himself was not a member of that party, staying behind on the *Geelvink*. However, he was the leader of the party of 40 men who explored the Swan River, as far as the present Causeway, on 10-12 January 1697.

The Vlamingh Memorial at Cottesloe is itself now part of our history, and in my opinion it is desirable that it be restored as closely as feasible to its original form, but without the flaws that caused the original structure to deteriorate. The memorial plaque should factually acknowledge Vlamingh's role as the leader of the first exploration party to examine the Swan River area and Rottnest Island. His discovery of the Swan River caused subsequent French and British explorers to visit the area, leading eventually to colonization by the British in 1829.

There are now memorials to Vlamingh at Rottnest Island, Cottesloe, Perth, and Rottnest Island (Cape Inscription). None of these have included a representation of the map, or part of the map, that resulted from his expedition. I think it would be spectacular if the restored memorial at Cottesloe could include representations of that map, in colour. These days it is possible to reproduce colour illustrations in weather-proof forms. For your information I enclose small copies reproduced from Vlamingh's map, drafted by the cartographer of the expedition, Victor Victoszoon.

You may wish to consult my book 'Voyage of discovery to Terra Australis by Willem de Vlamingh in 1696-97', published by the WA Museum in 1998. I would be pleased to assist in your project, if that would be of use.

Yours sincerely

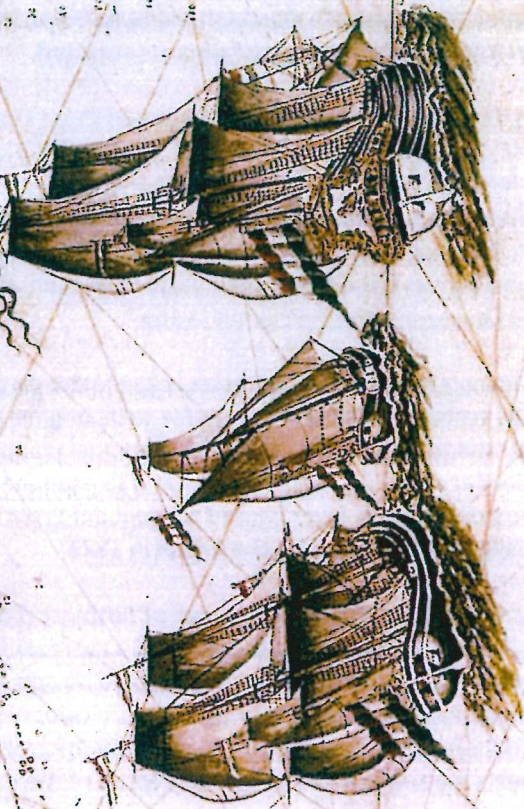
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Phillip Playford".

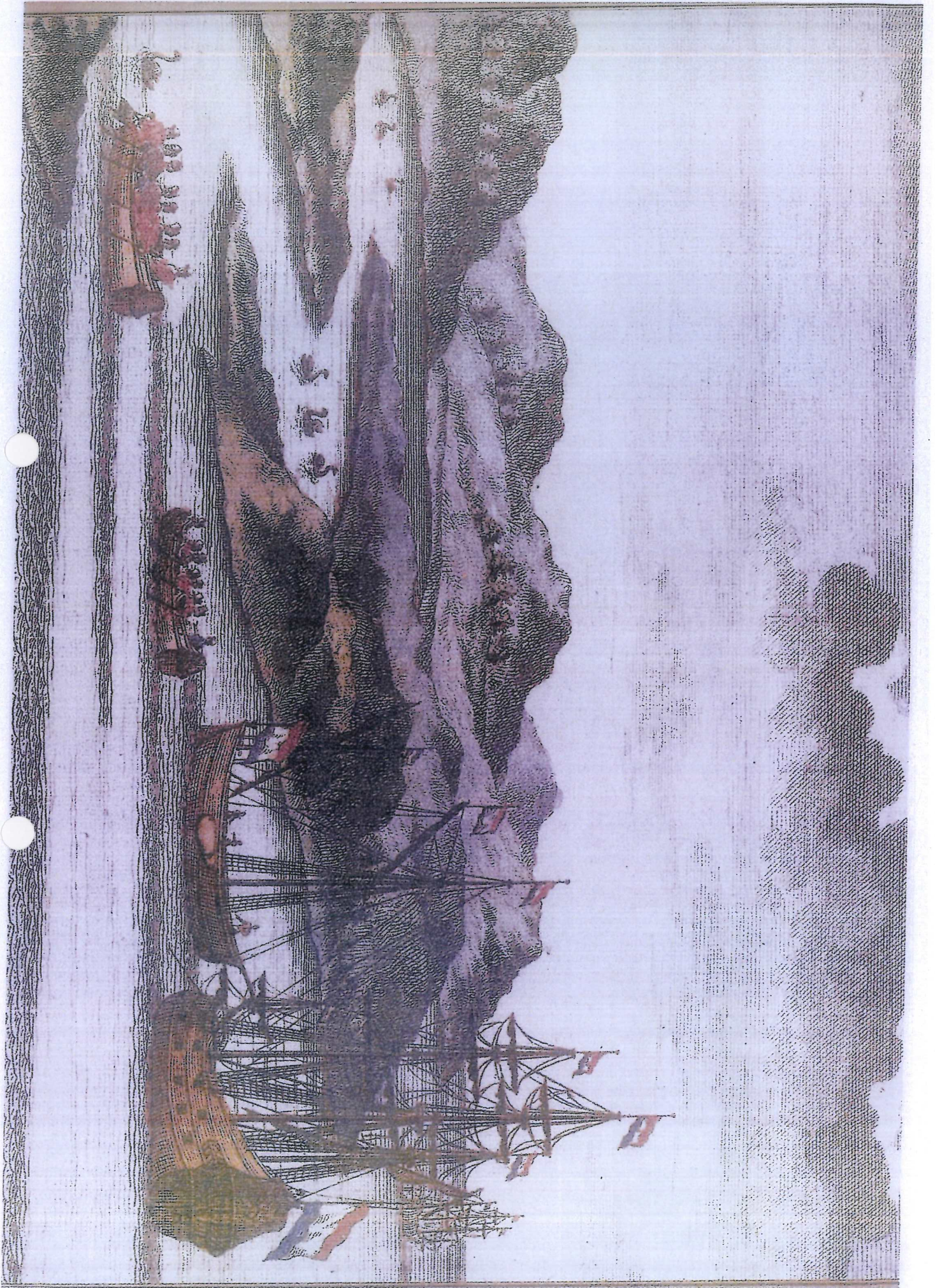
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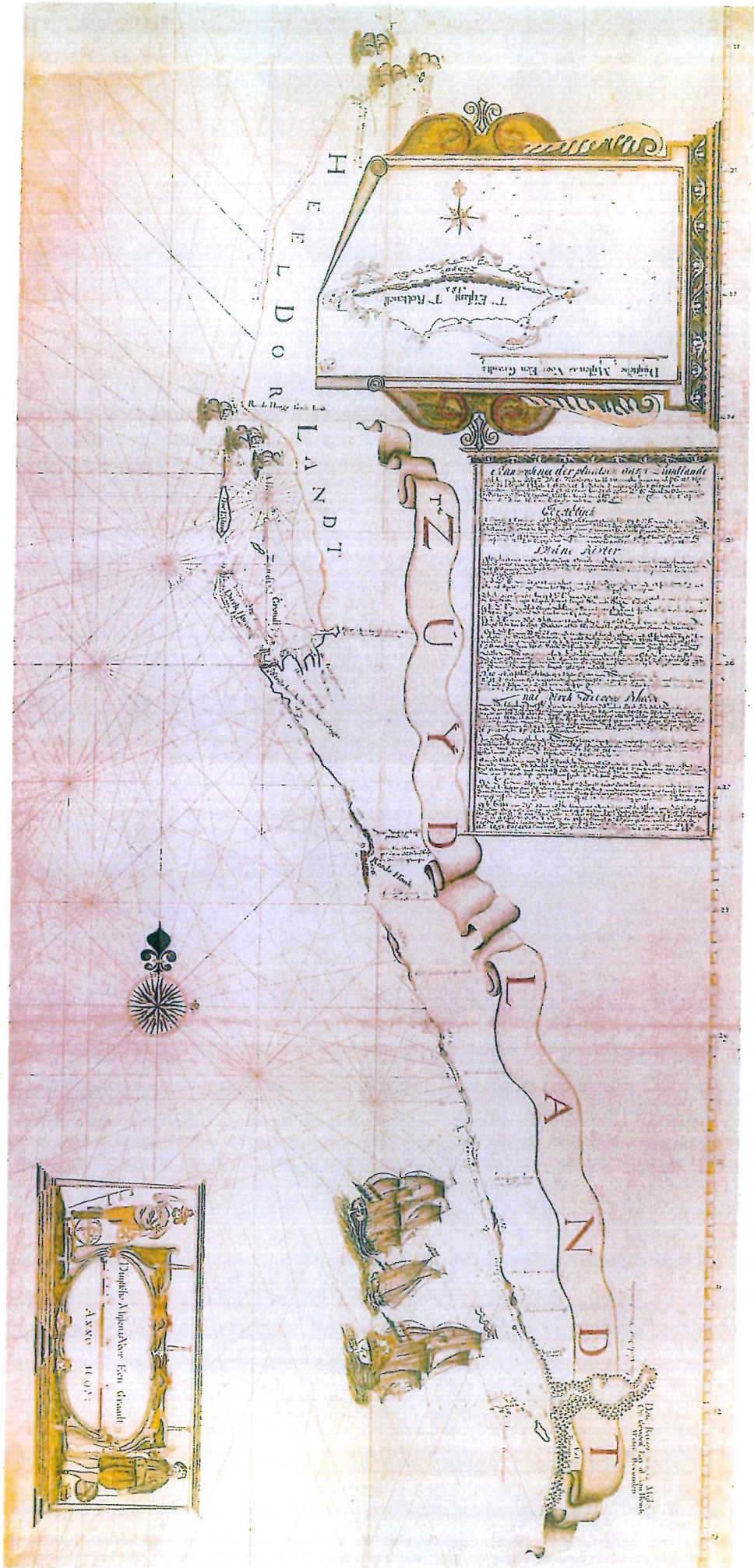
Dr Phillip Playford AM, PhD, DSc
pcplayford@bigpond.com, phil.playford@dmp.wa.gov.au
9386 4169, 9222 3157

Dede Rivier 10 2. 12 Millen
Op Geweelt En al Aan Brack
Water Bevonden:

INDIA







Het veld der plaaten over 't landt
 van de Zuydlandt
 Geclassen
 D'Orville
 Aghenxer
 Ken
 Orault
 ANNO 1603



POST Letters to the **POST**

Please send letters to The Editor, 276 Onslow Road, Shenton Park 6008; email to letters@postnewspaper. should be a daytime phone number for verification. Boring letters, or those longer than 300 words, will be

Vlamingh's party landed at Swanbourne

The report, "Is Vlamingh marker in the wrong spot?" (POST, February 23), contains some historical errors that should be corrected.

It began by stating: "Cottesloe may replace the memorial marking the spot where the first Europeans landed in WA."

In fact, the first Europeans known to have landed here were Dirk Hartog and his crew of the Dutch East India Company's ship, the *Eendracht*, on October 25, 1616.

They went ashore at what is now known as Cape Inscription on Dirk Hartog Island, marking the occasion by leaving a pewter plate inscribed with a record of their visit.

That inscribed plate was found 81 years later, on February 2, 1697, by members of Willem de Vlamingh's expedition.

Willem de Vlamingh himself was not a member of the party of 86 officers and men who landed on the mainland shore on January 5, 1697.

The probable reason he remained behind on the *Geelvinck* was that he was then 56 (very old at that time), and would be described during the following year as "old and feeble".

The party is likely to have landed near Swanbourne beach, about 4km north of the Vlamingh Memorial, because that is the locality which best fits the accounts in the *Geelvinck* and *Nyptang* logs (see my book, *Voyage of Discovery to Terra Australis* by Willem de Vlamingh in 1696-97).

After landing there, they walked east around an "inland lake" (Lake Claremont) and met the Swan River, probably at Matilda Bay, before ascending to the "high ground" of King's Park.

They camped for the night near East Perth, and during the next day walked along the north side of the Swan River, returning to their ships from near the river mouth on the morning of January 7, 1697.

Phillip Playford
Thomas Street, Nedlands



From the POST, February 23. Phillip Playford says the Vlamingh Memorial at Cottesloe could be 4km south of the landing it commemorates.

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Town of Cottesloe

PUBLIC NOTICE

Community Comment - Restoration of the Vlamingh Memorial

Notice is hereby given that the Town of Cottesloe is seeking submissions regarding the restoration of Vlamingh Memorial.

At its most recent meeting, it was resolved, in part:

THAT Council:

- 1. Advertise its intention to consider the redesign of the Vlamingh Memorial and request community comment on the proposal;*
- 3. If works are to be undertaken at this site, as a result of community comments received, that funding be considered for inclusion in the 2013/2014 budget.*

Written submissions closing at **4.00pm** on **Friday, 29 March, 2013** should be addressed to the undersigned by mail to PO Box 606, Cottesloe WA 6911 or by email to council@cottesloe.wa.gov.au.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carl Askew'.

Carl Askew

Chief Executive Officer

