



**Annual General Meeting of Electors**  
**Wednesday 11 May 2022**

# **MINUTES**

**OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF ELECTORS HELD IN THE FUNCTION ROOM, ADMINISTRATION CENTRE, ORCHARD AVENUE, ARMADALE ON WEDNESDAY 11 MAY 2022 COMMENCING AT 7PM**

**PRESENT:**

The Mayor, Cr R Butterfield	River Ward
Presided:	
Deputy Mayor, Cr K Busby	Minnawarra Ward
Cr G J Smith	Minnawarra Ward
Cr P A Hetherington	Palomino Ward
Cr M S Northcott	Palomino Ward
Cr M J Hancock	Heron Ward
Cr E Flynn	Heron Ward
Cr K Kamdar	Ranford Ward
Cr S Peter JP	Ranford Ward
Cr S S Virk	Lake Ward
Cr S J Mosey	Hills Ward
Cr J Keogh	River Ward

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Ms J Abbiss	Chief Executive Officer
Mr J Lyon	Executive Director Corporate Services
Mrs S Van Aswegen	Executive Director Community Services
Mr M Andrews	Executive Director Technical Services
Mrs S D'Souza	Executive Assistant to the CEO

Public: 16

**APOLOGIES:**

Cr G Nixon	Hills Ward (Leave of absence)
Cr M Silver	Lake Ward

Her Worship the Mayor, Cr Ruth Butterfield, welcomed those in attendance to the 2020/21 Annual General Meeting of Electors and addressed the meeting as follows:

*Good evening, ladies and gentlemen, Councillors and Staff.*

*Welcome to the City of Armadale's Annual General Meeting of Electors, which I now declare open.*

*Firstly, I would like to introduce you to your Councillors (members please stand as I introduce you). Deputy Mayor, Cr Kerry Busby, Cr John Keogh, Cr Gary Smith, Cr Keyur Kamdar, Cr Shanavas Peter, Cr Sam Virk, Cr Scott Mosey, Cr Paul Hetherington, Cr Melissa Northcott, Cr Michael Hancock and Cr Emma Flynn.*

*Apologies have been received from Cr Nixon who is on leave of absence and Cr Michelle Silver who is unwell with COVID.*

*Also present are our Chief Executive Officer and Executive Leadership Team: Ms Joanne Abbiss, CEO, Ms Suzette Van Aswegen, Executive Director - Community Services, Jason Lyon, Executive Director - Corporate Services, and Mr Mike Andrews, Executive Director – Technical Services.*

*Usually we would conduct this meeting early on in the year, however because of delays in receiving the City's audit report from the Office of the Auditor General, we were unable to do so until now<sup>1</sup>.*

*I will conduct this meeting generally in accordance with the Council's Standing Orders. There are copies of the meeting rules and procedures available on the seats around you. Please take time to familiarise yourself with these rules and procedures.*

*If there is a vote on anything, each elector is entitled to one vote.*

*Only electors of the City are entitled to vote at this meeting, however residents of the district who are not on the electoral roll, but are eligible to become an elector, are permitted to vote.*

*Any motion passed by this meeting will be submitted to Council for consideration at the next Ordinary Council meeting or, if that is not practicable at the first Ordinary Council meeting after that meeting; or at a special meeting called for that purpose, whichever happens first.*

*Could all speakers please state their name and address before they speak.*

*I also wish to advise that tonight's proceedings are being recorded for administrative purposes.*

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<sup>1</sup> The financial statements were delivered to the City's external Auditors, KPMG on behalf of the OAG (Office of the Auditor General) on the **30 September 2021**. The audit field work was conducted from **18 October to 5 November 2021** and the audit reviewed and confirmed by the OAG on the **7 February 2022**. This was as a result of the initial delays by the OAG in starting the interim Audit much later than usual in June 2021 and KPMG auditing the City for the first time.

<b>1 BUSINESS OF MEETING</b>
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**Presenting the 2020/2021 Annual Financial Report**

The Presiding Member, Mayor Ruth Butterfield, read aloud the Mayor's Foreword (Page 1 of the Annual Report).

**1.1 2020/2021 Annual Financial Report**

The Mayor called for questions to be raised that specifically related to the Annual Financial Report.

No questions were raised.

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**1.2 Auditor's Report**

The Mayor called for questions to be raised that specifically related to the Auditor's Report (Page 46 of the Annual Report).

No questions were raised.

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**1.3 2020/2021 Annual Report (Remaining Parts)**

The Mayor called for questions to be raised specifically related to the remaining parts of the 2020/21 Annual Report.

No questions were raised.

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## **2 GENERAL BUSINESS**

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### **2.1 Questions of which prior notice has been given**

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**Mr D Grimwood – 7 Sapphire Court, Mt.Richon**

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#### **CITY OF ARMADALE BODY CORPORATE**

##### **Q1a:**

The City of Armadale Local Government is both a body corporate and a natural person in law. It follows another natural person cannot stand in the shoes of that natural person unless they have legal Power of Attorney. That power is mysterious because Council is not the Local Government and the CEO is an employee of the body corporate. Who then has the authority to delegate the powers and/or act as agent of the natural person body corporate to employees and how is that power controlled, supervised and managed?

##### **Response:**

**Section 2.5 of the *Local Government Act 1995* (the Act) establishes the legal status of a local government, and s.2.6 of the Act establishes the Council as its governing body. The Act also provides the authority for the delegation of powers and functions of the local government. Other Acts which the local government administers also provide the authority for the delegation of powers and functions of the local government.**

##### **Q1b:**

Council, noting your Committees have no powers or duties, given the City's Organisation Chart provided on your website bears no resemblance to reality, pursuant to S5.2 of the LGA, will you prepare a valid accurate chart and display it so Council and Ratepayers may understand how your administrative organisation is functionally structured and managed ?

##### **Response:**

**The organisational chart does represent how the City is structured in respect to functional roles and responsibilities. However, it is acknowledged that the chart does need to be updated to reflect the renaming of the City Strategy Committee to the Corporate Services Committee and that City Projects now falls within the Technical Services Directorate.**

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**Mr L Jakso – U9 / 42 Commerce Avenue, Armadale**

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##### **Q1**

Could someone please clarify the rates for vacant lots and what is the money spent on by the council in return?

When do we complain to the council about the weed and vegetation overgrowing we get the useless reply to find the owners and complain to them? Any map to show the various areas and verges, lots when full of weeds and overgrown vegetation, collapsed pavement, public art and graffiti structures who these belong like the local council, western power, water corp etc.?

Please see the following website for reference photos of the city centre area <https://armadalematters.tidyhq.com/public/pages/armadale-city> that needs urgent improvement. I do not think a T-shirt with Armadale and Love It will be sufficient to bring back tourists and locals who vote with their feet and go elsewhere.

**Response:**

Over the past few years, the Council has allocated funds to improve the amenity within the City Centre, including Minnawarra and Memorial Parks, and has increased service levels for litter, tree debris and the 'bird poo' excreted from the huge numbers of Corellas that have inhabited the trees in the City Centre. Despite this, the Corellas in particular continue to create more tree debris and excrement, and this is an issue that the City has been collaborating with other Local Governments to advocate for the State Government to take a strategic approach to the control of Corellas in the Metropolitan area.

A further challenge for the City is that the presentation of the vast majority of buildings, infrastructure and open space in your photographs occurs on land that is privately owned or managed by entities of the State Government, such as the Education Department, Public Transport Authority and Water Corp. In these cases, it is difficult for the City to address the amenity or presentation directly as it has limited powers in this regard.

That said, I might add that there are transformational projects to be delivered by the State Government that the City is actively partnering with. These projects will ultimately change, improve and activate the City Centre, including the new Armadale TAFE and the Metronet Viaduct Project, which is associated with the extension of the Armadale line to Byford. You may be interested to learn that the City is currently developing a concept plan for the public realm and activation for the area underneath, in and around the Metronet Viaduct.

With respect to your question relating to rates, rate revenue constitutes 64%, or \$75m of the City's total \$120m operating budget. Of this amount:

- \$56m (75%) is allocated to services;
- \$6m (8%) to loan and lease repayments;
- \$7m (9%) to capital works and projects; and
- a net \$6m (8%) to reserve transfers.

Revenue from vacant land rates is around \$5m, so notionally using the same general distribution of rates, it can be viewed that

- \$3.75m (75%) is allocated to services;
- \$0.4m (8%) to loan and lease repayments;
- \$0.45m (9%) to capital works and projects; and
- a net \$0.4m (8%) to reserve transfers.

The biggest operational spend by the City is on parks, reserves, street trees and verges at \$11.6m per annum. This follows the Council increasing the budget last year by \$750,000 to improve verges and street scapes.

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**Mr D Grimwood – 7 Sapphire Court, Mt.Richon**

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**POLICY**

**Q2a:**

Council the LGA prescribes it is you alone who is responsible for “determining” policy for application to yourself, to your body corporate and to public governance, so how then can you or your officers function efficiently and effectively when many of your Policies have been withdrawn or embedded in Delegations?

**Response:**

**Delegations are for the exercise of a power or function, a policy is for setting parameters around the exercise of that function. The City is systematically reviewing its policies and delegations through the Standing Orders & House Advisory Group (SOHAG) established by the Council. This Group provides guidance to Officers in drafting policy and reports to the respective Committees and consequently, the Council.**

**If a policy or delegation is considered unnecessary or redundant, then it is Council who make the decision to revoke it.**

**Q2b:**

Council, your recently endorsed Policy “*Policy Development*” of 14 December 2020 – CS63/12/20 explicitly places Council at the end of the development process instead of at the beginning. Why are Councillors excluded from initiating policies when that is their primary statutory function and why does your web page “Delegations and Policies” class this policy as an “Administration” function and not Council’s ?

**Response:**

**The role of a Councillor, set out in section 2.10 of the Act, does not include initiating policies. However, the Council as a body does have that role, in accordance with section 2.7 of the Act.**

**Councillors, through Councillor referrals<sup>2</sup> can request a report, which if supported by the Council, would result in a new draft policy being developed for further consideration.**

**The “Policy Development” policy makes it clear that when City Officers have prepared a new draft policy that it must be referred to SOHAG, the relevant Committee and Council.**

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<sup>2</sup> Councillor Referrals are set out in the City of Armadale Standing Orders Local Law 2016 cl 3.2(1)(m)

**Q2c:**

Council, given your role is to govern the community, why does your “Policy Development” Policy not address community governance and administration of law by Council within the function of ‘government’?

**Response:**

**The objective of the “Policy Development” policy is to provide guidance to officers when developing policies for Council so that the process is consistent for the development, review and adoption of policies.**

**It is not the objective of this policy to address “community governance” or the “administration of law”. However, that is not to say that a policy developed in accordance with the Policy Development process may not have that objective.**

**ENTRY STATEMENT**

**Q3:**

Council, noting the Shire of Beverley has had a welcome sign in place for more than twenty years, when are we likely to see a corresponding City of Armadale welcome statement for tourists on Brookton Highway and when are we likely to see a City of Armadale boundary marker on Brookton Highway to support Covid Lockdown Directions Notices?

**Response:**

**The Council has set a Corporate Business Plan objective to develop and implement a Signage Strategy to construct entry statements, locality signage, road signs and tourism signage throughout the City. This is subject to funding allocation in the Council’s Four-Year and Annual Budget deliberations. The Council has initially prioritised locality signs for the following locality’s / locations;**

- **Armadale: To be located near ‘the Gateway’ – Armadale Road East**
- **Armadale: To be located adjacent railway in Minnawarra Park West**
- **Kelmscott: To be located on Albany Highway at the future Kelmscott Station Plaza**
- **Forrestdale: To be located on corner of Armadale Road and Weld Street**
- **Roleystone: To be located on Corner Jarrah Rd and Wygonda Rd, Roleystone**

**Elected Member feedback is currently being sought on the designs, following which the specifications for the manufacture and installation of the signs will be finalised and submitted for final quotations. The signs proposed for the Armadale, Roleystone and Forrestdale signage will be installed as soon as completed, with Kelmscott to be installed following the works within the Kelmscott Plaza.**

**At this point in time, there is no specific provision within the budget for a boundary marker and entry/welcome statement on Brookton Highway. This may be considered when the Tourism Strategy is next reviewed and/or be further considered in the budget with other competing priorities.**

**With respect to Variable Messaging Signs, the City has placed signage in prominent locations during the pandemic to support the Government's Health messaging. The number of Variable Message Boards the City has access to, is limited, and locations must be prioritised.**

**It is noted that the primary responsibility for advertising public health directions issued by the Chief Health Officer is that of the State Government, however the City has considered that it has a role to support the 'stay safe' messaging.**

#### **CHILD CARE CENTRE LOT 3033 ALBANY HIGHWAY KELMSCOTT**

##### **Q4:**

Planning Approval granted in 2018 for a Childcare Centre on Lot 11, No.3033 Albany Highway, Kelmscott by the City and DAP No. 173 included the condition;

*"In the event that development is proposed on the neighbouring Lot 3, No.3043 Albany Highway a right of access easement is to be provided over Lot 3 to ensure the one way use of internal driveways and access to Flinn Avenue from Lot 11 to Lot 3. The rights of access shall be prepared at the developers cost and shall be included on the Certificate of Titles, with a benefit to the City of Armadale and a benefit and a burden for both the subject land and Lot 3."*

Given No.3043 is currently being developed for an aged care facility and rear access to Flinn Avenue has not yet been provided, are there processes in place to ensure that safe access/egress to the Childcare Centre development is constructed as approved and what are the options and consequences if the owner fails to comply?

##### **Response:**

**The State Government's JDAP did not apply the condition as worded in your question. Access from/to Albany Hwy requires the approval of Main Roads WA.<sup>3</sup>**

#### **LOT 200 CARAWATHA AVE MOUNT NASURA**

##### **Q5:**

Council, given the urgency associated with the sale of Lot 200 (No. 121) Carawatha Avenue, Mount Nasura by you in 2016 and your approval for development of a Medical Centre in 2017, why has the Medical Centre not been developed as planned and is the DAP approved development approval still current?

##### **Response:**

**There was no urgency associated with this land sale. The original application was approved by the State Government JDAP on 4 December 2017 for a period of two (2) years. An**

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<sup>3</sup> The condition was deleted by an amending motion by the JDAP members and replaced with an advice note as it was recognised that the condition applies to property that is not part of the application and was likely to be invalid. The amending motion can be found on page 10 of the JDAP decision,



**application for a time extension was approved for a further two (2) year period (expiring November 2021).**

**A second time extension was granted automatically by the Minister for Planning's 'Clause 78H Notice of Exemption from Planning Requirements During State of Emergency'. All planning approvals that were valid at 8 April 2020 were given a new approval time period, being the original date plus a further period of two years. The Minister's decision was intended to assist the industry with delays etc caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. As such, the planning approval for the medical centre on Lot 200 is valid until November 2023 and the owner/developer can choose to act on that approval or not.**

## **PARKING CREDITS**

### **Q6a:**

Council, in response to my question to the 2020 AME requesting definition of the term "Parking Credit" your responded:-

*"There are historical legal agreements affecting some properties abutting Jull Street Mall, which allows for future parking shortfalls as compensation for the loss of direct vehicle access to the Mall."*

Given you have deliberately created parking shortfalls into the future by closing the Mall, how do you propose to keep the CBD alive if there is inadequate general parking and access to support a thriving CBD?

### **Response:**

**A Parking Supply and Management Strategy (PSMS) was prepared for the Armadale City Centre to support the Draft Armadale City Centre Structure Plan (ACCSP). The ACCSP and the PSMS were adopted by Council in December 2019 and final approval of the ACCSP are currently being assessed by the Western Australian Planning Commission. The PSMS did not identify any parking shortfall in the City Centre.**

### **Q6b:**

Council, is it the case that if you reopen the Jull St. Mall the Childcare Centre will be directly exposed to a busy road?

### **Response:**

**No, the predicted vehicle volumes are appropriate for this type of land use.**

## **TREDALE COMMON PLAYGROUND SAFETY**

### **Q7:**

Council, on 11 December 2020 you advised no action would be taken to prevent death or injury to children using the Tredale Reserve playground on grounds of assessed low risk from out of control vehicles, however the protective steel safety barriers at the similar roundabout intersection of Wungong Road and Seventh Avenue have been destroyed several times to date, suggesting high risk is present in such circumstances. Given a large vacant cow paddock at the roundabout intersection of Rowley Road and Eleventh Road Hilbert is protected by a steel barrier safety fence, would you agree that there is inconsistency when you preference livestock over people?

**Response:**

**The previous assessment against the Austroads Guide to Road Design (AGRD Part 6 - Roadside Design, Safety and Barriers) confirms that the risk scores would not warrant the installation of a safety barrier.**

*It was agreed at the meeting that this preamble and questions 8a to 8m would not be read but recorded in the Minutes as these questions would be taken on notice and a response provided to Mr Grimwood in writing.*

**FIRE BREAKS**

Council, you were asked at the 2020 AME:

*“to clarify the apparent conflict between your S33 Bushfires Act 1954 Notice for Firebreaks, the requirements of the Planning and Development Act 2005 and your Town Planning Scheme No.4 – all of which require the landowner to make discretionary choices, to avoid confusion and encourage compliance, will you commit to making a clear declaration of the interaction or otherwise of these prosecutable laws and publish all or any applicable requirements and procedures on your website, as well as include them with the S33 Firebreak Notice each year?”*

You responded saying:

*“The City sees no conflict between the Town Planning Scheme provisions mentioned, and believes that the firebreak notice is clear in providing direction to landowners.”*

However concurrent with that response you were vigorously prosecuting a resident in the Magistrates Court (Matter No.12689 and 12690 of 2018) for allegedly maintaining a firebreak under an Approved Fire Plan without Development Approval. The charge was that *“the Accused did commence or carry out (or cause to commence or carry out) development on the Property (namely minor filling, excavation or re-contouring of land, with more than 0.5 metre change to the natural ground level) without obtaining prior approval of the City of Armadale (“City”) as is required by Clause 60 of the Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015. This is an offence under Section 218 of the Planning and Development Act 2005.....”*

Despite Court Proceedings commencing in 2018, the City’s ensuing 2019, 2020 and 2021 Firebreak Notices failed to mention a generic requirement for prior Development Approval to Sch.2 Cl.60 or a generally applicable 0.5m limit upon excavation or earthworks that may be required when constructing a safe trafficable way to attain compliance with the Firebreak Notice. In evidence to the Court, your Planning Compliance Officer declared that not only compliance with the Firebreak Notice was required but also planning, health, environmental and “other” approvals (such as drainage and effluent disposal) from the City – none of which are mentioned in the Firebreak Notice or explanatory documents. Furthermore, your Planning Compliance Officer declared to the Court that even if complete compliance with the Firebreak Notice was wholly effected, non-compliance with those “other” undefined elements may be required and could result in prosecution.

**Q8a:**

Council, given S218 of the *Planning and Development Act 2005* refers to breaches of a Town Planning Scheme, why does your Planning Scheme not permit the construction of mandatory firebreaks directed by you to be lawfully effected under your annual Firebreak Notice ?

**Response:**

**Questions 8a to 8m (except 8b) to be taken on notice and a written response will be provided.**

**Q8b:**

Council, given Cl. 61 (3) (b) of the *Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015* prescribes “*Despite subclause (1) development approval MAY be required for certain works carried out on land designated by an order made under the Fire and Emergency Services Act 1998 section 18P as a bush fire prone area*” has the effect that much of the City is now subject to a mandatory requirement to apply for development approval to construct a firebreak.

**Response:**

**This is not a question. Your view on the matter is noted.**

**Q8c:**

Council, given the above prosecution charge specified that TPS4 defines the lawful limit for performing ANY excavation or earthworks on land without your approval as being + or - 0.5m, but TPS4 imposes that standard only to designated lots and areas, how can you reasonably expect the more than 40,000 landowners in the City’s District to know if it applies or does not apply to their situation?

**Response:**

**On notice**

**Q8d:**

Council, given TPS4 is both subsidiary legislation and an administrative document subject to continuous revision for specific sites and locations, if the basis for the prosecution is so important to you why is it not shown as a generic requirement in the general text of TPS4 ?

**Response:**

**On notice**

**Q8e:**

Council, can you explain why construction of a firebreak conforming to your official Firebreak Notice given under S33 (1)(a) and (b) of the Bushfires Act 1954 does not qualify for exemption under S162 (2) of the *Planning and Development Act 2005* and/or Sch.2 Reg. 61 (1)(f) and Sch. 2 Reg. 17 and 18 of the *Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015* and why have you not issued documents pursuant to Reg. 76A as prescribed?

**Response:**

**On notice**

**Q8f:**

Council, given your attempted prosecution failed, have you since issued an Approved Development Application pursuant to S164 (4) and (5) of the *Planning and Development Act 2005* to enable future firebreak maintenance to be lawfully effected by the acquitted landowner?

**Response:**

**On notice**

**Q8g:**

Council, if the Defendant had applied for a retrospective Development Application as your Officers allege was an option, would it have been granted and would the result to alleged “particular concerns” have been different?

**Response:**

**On notice**

**Q8h:**

Council, despite the zealous efforts of your Officers the aforementioned criminal court proceedings cost Ratepayers around \$200,000, the Defendant a further \$100,000 plus irreparable harm to his community and business reputation and risk of a criminal record similar to your own, the Court determined a full acquittal with no case to answer. Why do you not have control over your Officers when unlimited liabilities and harm may be incurred from prosecutions and why do you allow them to write a blank cheque for legal representation and court costs?

**Response:**

**On notice**

**Q8i:**

Council, responding to a third-party enquiring Ratepayer re this matter, your CEO advised in her letter of 17 December 2021:

*“I am satisfied that the City and its officers have acted appropriately and the decision to instigate legal action was warranted in this instance.”*

If you believe this to be true why did the City not appeal to the Supreme Court as it has done in other unsuccessful prosecutions, such as the similarly extravagant series of Merrick prosecutions that also produced no constructive result?

**Response:**

**On notice**

**Q8j:**

Council, in that same letter your CEO said: *“Of particular concern was the extent of clearing, level of dust and earth working that may affect the stability of adjoining properties.”* If so why is that particular concern not expressed in the Firebreak Notice and attachments as a generic requirement for all firebreaks?

**Response:**

**On notice**

**Q8k:**

Council, given you require owners of large rural blocks and new subdivision developments to instal firebreaks immediately adjacent to existing residential buildings, and the trigger for the above prosecution was related to concern by a resident in that circumstance, why have you not prescribed general preventive actions in your Firebreak Notice to prevent damage to buildings and resident amenity?

**Response:**

**On notice**

**Q8l:**

Council, will you direct your CEO to prepare a Firebreak Notice that clearly and explicitly states the full requirements for compliance with your array of subjective discretionary conditions to enable landholders and occupiers to lawfully proceed with confidence and without fear of prosecution?

**Response:**

**On notice**

**Q8m:**

Council, why are your wholly owned fire stations at Bedfordale and Roleystone situated in heavy bushland and with no cleared buffer zone?

**Response:**

**On notice**

**Q8n:**

Council, given the huge open-ended expenditure on legal costs each year by your administration, creating a cash cow for your legal advisors at Ratepayer expense, do you agree it would be prudent and more cost effective to establish your own internal legal department to minimise targeted prosecutions and litigation?

**Response:**

**For prosecutions that involve complex legal matters which require specialist legal advice, it would not be a cost effective solution to build an internal legal services team.**

**NEW ADMINISTRATION FACILITY**

**Q9:**

Council, on 16 November 2021 your Corporate Services Committee *unanimously* recommended to Council you proceed with the “City Views and Civic Precinct Master Plan” that has been evolving since 2008, whose object is to create a showpiece civic area around Minnawarra Park and Lake that includes an expanded City Administration housed in a multi-story building with a “Treetop Walk” to enable visitors to enjoy your architectural creativity.

Given you resolved to keep the forecast costs a secret to be sure that those who will pay for it all will not know what it costs until it has been completed, why are you afraid Ratepayers may object to the cost, reasonably likely to exceed \$50Million?

**Response:**

The concept now needs to progress from pre-feasibility to feasibility. The feasibility studies will determine more detail with respect to design, costings, staging, partnership models and possible funding sources that may be available for the City to pursue to realise the vision for the precinct.

**PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE**

**Q10:**

Council, given your commitment to making the CBD the central focus of the community what are your reasons for not including the proposed Performing Arts Centre in the Civic Precinct instead of its planned distant location?

**Response:**

In April 2018 Council considered a comprehensive needs assessment for a Multi Arts Centre in the Armadale CBD (C12/4/18 refers).

Following Committee discussion, the amended recommendation was:

“That Council:

1. Note the receipt of the Armadale Multi Arts Centre Needs Assessment.”

The needs assessment study included:

- The functionality and capacity of a centre
- The potential demand for a centre from the Community, Professional Arts Organisations and community based organisations including schools
- Financial modelling
- Potential links between a centre and the Armadale City Centre Structure Plan.

With respect to location, the report identified that within reason, the location of a centre does not impact its patronage. A Multi Arts Centre would however be a destination and a driver of economic activity.

Council recently considered a referral item for a regional multi-purpose facility that could potentially accommodate a multi-arts centre. The Council resolution did not preclude the facility from being located in the City Centre.

**Recommendation CS11/3/22**

That Council consider the allocation of funds within the Four Year Budget to conduct a Needs Analysis into the concept of a regional multi-purpose facility within the City which would inform a review of the Community Infrastructure Plan.

Moved Cr S Peter, MOTION CARRIED

## **FIRE AND SERVICE LEVY**

### **Q11a:**

Council, your annual Rates Notice includes a State Government levy for fire and emergency services. Given the City of Armadale is wholly within the Metropolitan Area of Perth serviced by FESA, why do you need to spend millions of Ratepayer funds on Bush Fire Brigades and their support infrastructure?

### **Response:**

**Fire and Rescue brigades are managed by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services ('DFES') under the Fire Brigades Act 1942 and Bush Fire Brigades are managed by local government under the Bush Fires Act 1954.**

**DFES is responsible for all fires within a Fire District gazetted under Part II of the Fire Brigades Act 1942. The City of Armadale has two clearly defined gazetted Fire Districts, being the Metropolitan and Roleystone Fire Districts.**

**The City of Armadale is responsible for bushfire responses to the portion of land outside the gazetted fire districts, in accordance with the provisions of the Bush Fires Act 1954.**

**Section 41 of the Emergency Management Act 2005 requires the local government to ensure that arrangements are made for local emergency management. Unless DFES agrees to assume responsibility for the provision of bush fire brigades in the district, it remains a responsibility of the City.**

**The City of Armadale has access to grant funding to administer and manage their Bush Fire Brigades via the Local Government Grants Scheme ('LGGS'). The funding for the LGGS comes from the Emergency Services Levy ('ESL') which is collected by local government, on behalf of the State government, through the rates process.**

**The LGGS funds are distributed to local governments by DFES on behalf of the State.**

### **Q11b:**

"The Examiner" newspaper of 5 May 2022 reports both Liberal and Labour parties will provide at least \$2 million of Commonwealth funds towards a new fire station for the Roleystone Bushfire Brigade if elected on May 22. Given you wholly own the Bush Fire Brigades why do we have to pay parallel federal, state and local taxes for the same service?

### **Response:**

**An explanation and perspective of the roles of the three tiers of government, including financial arrangements is provided below. The information is accredited to Adjunct Professor Graham Sansom<sup>4</sup> in his publication *Local Government in a Global World – What's Fair Intergovernmental Relations in Australia*. It describes how the tiers of government have a functional overlap (in this case emergency services) and how States and Local Governments rely on federal funding due to a 'vertical fiscal imbalance'.**

***The Australian Federation was established in 1901 and comprises a federal government six states and two federal territories. Local government is established under the laws of the states***

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<sup>4</sup> Adjunct Professor Graham Sansom, Institute for Public Policy and Governance, University of Technology Sydney. Professor Sansom was a member of the expert Panel into the Western Australia Local Government Act review (2019).

*and territories. Local government is not mentioned in the Federal Constitution but is granted varying degrees of recognition and protection under State Constitutions. The literal interpretation of Australia's Constitution places the Federal and State governments on roughly equal terms, with little overlap in functions. Local government is wholly subservient to the States, with no direct relationship to the Federal government. By contrast, the practical reality is one of federal dominance, extensive functional overlap between Federal and State governments, and direct links between Local and Federal governments.*

*This reflects the federal government's financial strength, derived from control of both income and indirect taxes as well as a series of High Court decisions that have interpreted the Constitution in such a way as to extend federal powers. Intergovernmental relations in Australia are dominated by vertical fiscal imbalance. The federal government has a taxation base far in excellent excess of its own expenditure needs, whilst the States and to a lesser extent local government lack the capacity to raise the revenue required to meet their responsibilities. The States are particularly dependent on Federal funding to bridge the gap between revenue capacity and expenditure needs.*

As already stated in the answer to Q11a, funding for local governments to administer and manage Bush Fire Brigades comes via the Local Government Grants Scheme ('LGGS').

In this instance, in addition to LGGS funding, Council sought appropriate Federal Government grant funding to offset construction costs of the new Roleystone Karragullen Bush Fire Brigade station, and support has now been pledged by both major parties as part of their election campaigns.

## **CINEMA**

### **Q12:**

Council, given you ran the opposition out of town to facilitate construction and operation of your sponsored cinemas in the CBD, and given the disastrous effect mandatory Covid lockdowns have had on that business, why are you providing free "Movies in the Park" when it would be more ethical to hire the cinemas and offer free public admission to your promotions?

### **Response:**

"Movies in the Park" are not a commercial undertaking but are community events that provide opportunities for community members and local groups to connect and participate in activities while enjoying a free outdoor cinema experience in their local suburb. It is about community development and these events are not in competition with any commercial entity.

For example, the three Movies in March 2022 events comprised:

- The 'Flight of the Navigator' movie event held Rushton Park Oval, Kelmscott, comprised a fundraising sausage sizzle from the Kelmscott Agricultural Society, and the students from Cecil Andrews College Robotics Club gave robot demonstrations. Rotocross, a local drone association, provided simulator experiences.
- The 'ET' movie event held at Novelli Reserve, Piara Waters, included a best dressed bike competition for the chance to win brand new bike equipment, the Bike Mechanic was onsite for bike repairs, the City's Blender Bike was available for kids to whip up



a healthy smoothie, Riva Primary school offered a range of free activities for kids and Volleyball WA held free lessons and gave away freebies.

- The 'Back to the Future' movie event held at the Champion Centre Community Garden, Seville Grove, featured a special video on the big screen, courtesy of Grovelands Primary School students, who entered the Movies in March competition to share their dreams of what they would like to see if they could go *Back to the Future*. The student who won the competition was presented with their prize, an interactive workshop for the kids from a local Aboriginal Dance Troupe was held and the City's 'Getting to know your Neighbour' stall was available for tips on how to connect with your neighbours along with the Blender Bike to make fresh smoothies.
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## 2.2 Motions of which prior notice has been given

Nil

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## 2.3 Questions received from the floor

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### Mr Laurie Sargeson – 8 Imperial Court, Seville Grove

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Q1. There has been a huge exodus of staff over recent years. The figure is very high - senior, middle management but mostly staff in the lower level. Why is the City of Armadale suddenly unable to retain staff? I realise it comes under the CEO's annual review. There is a huge turnover, is there an exit meeting to identify cause? What are the reasons? What has the City done to stem the flow?

CEO: *The City is experiencing a turnover rate which is consistent with the entire local government sector. Our figures for 2021 saw the City sitting at just less than the 50th percentile in regards to staff turnover. For the sector the P50 was 22.9% and the City sat at 20.1% - these were figures that have been collated and provided by the WA Local Government Association. In addition to that we now have a situation in WA where the job vacancies are overtaking the number of unemployed people for the first time on record. What the industry experts are saying is that we are moving from a skills shortage to a people shortage. What that means is that if every single person that was unemployed took one of those jobs, we would still have more jobs than people in WA. Unemployment nationally is at its lowest rate in 50 years. So for WA there is no Eastern States pool to draw upon and the country has had no migration for 2 years. There is simply not enough people to do the job and that is being felt in every sector. In terms of your question in relation to staff exits. Staff are interviewed, it is not mandated that they provide an exit interview, but those providing a response in terms of leaving have identified 37% is for a better career opportunity, another 37% identified improved work life balance. This also links to the research showing that it is a pandemic driven change for people's employment and their choices about work and where it sits in their life. The remaining percentage also identified family and/or personal reasons.*

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**Mr Ken Pike – 6 May Close, Armadale**

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Q1: My question relates to the proliferation of political signage around the City of Armadale with our State and Federal elections. Does the Council have any policies or rulings with regards to those signs in public areas?

Mayor: *Council does have a policy and action is taken when these are reported – for those on Council property these are removed by us but for those on other infrastructure we are not able to deal with those.*

CEO: *That is correct Mayor. Where these are on City controlled public land, the City can take action but where these are on private land that is considered freedom of speech and not something that the City has the powers to remove.*

That part is fine, there are some in public areas that I have seen that I am not happy with, one of them is on the Armadale Road median strip - Is that through the Council or Main Roads?

CEO: *Happy to meet after the meeting to get exact location.*

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**Mrs Veronica Hansen – 8 Protector Grove, Roleystone**

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Q1: My question refers to The Jull St Mall - the last information I had seen was that there was a reopening on the cards and some studies being done in 2019. Do we have an up to date plan on when that will reopen?

Mayor: *There have been recent developments regarding the viaduct option for the railway line and the extension of the railway line to Byford and the funding guaranteed for that to happen. The Jull St Mall will be impacted by that development so we have on our books an item that says that we are going to public consultation.*

CEO: *I don't have the exact wording of the Council resolution but the intention was to understand what the impacts of the viaduct proposal were, particularly in relation to where the station itself might finally sit within the reservation, so that those impacts could be considered in relation to what form and function the mall should have into the future. At this stage the contract hasn't been formally signed for the successful contractors for the viaduct proposal. So in terms of any public detail that is able to be released at this stage, there is none. The intention, we understand from Metronet, is for there to be a community reference group that they will be seeking expressions of interest for so that members of the public can be part of that and to understand, what is an incredibly significant piece of infrastructure, that is going to come into the City and what that will mean. We understand again that this is all imminent but will not be rolled out until the contract is signed.*

Q2: Do you have any indication of the timing for that contract to be signed?

CEO: *The indication we were given was about a month ago.*

Q3: One of the reasons this question is important to me is that I was at Council meetings last year when there were some very unhappy and distressed business owners from that end of the mall and at that point as I recall there were plans to perhaps even open that roadway again or to do some work through there. And the response from yourselves at that point was that there was going to be a feasibility study and that was quite some months back. Has that occurred or is that now going to be in relation to the viaduct?

CEO: *The City did engage consultants and there was a very detailed 60 page report that went to Council on that and outlined the expert opinion in relation to the mall. I am happy to get you a copy of that report and Council's consideration of the report which addressed various options in regard of road openings and costings associated with them. It went back to the very start of the whole Jull St Mall so it does give you a good understanding of all the issues. Hence, that work was completed and included in that report.*

Q4: Is there outcomes from that or decisions going to be made or is that now all on hold because of viaduct?

CEO: *The decision in relation to that was to progress to community consultation however community consultation will not occur until it is understood what the impact of the viaduct is on the optimal form and function of the mall going forward.*

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**Mr Phil Davey – 12 Lenore Street, Roleystone**

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Q1: In regards to Staffing levels in the CoA. I have noticed through some of the recent payments a lot of temporary staffing costs being incurred. Fully appreciate that it is possibly covering the fact we don't have the staff. What is our cost variation with what we have saved on not having employees to what we are spending on temporary staff?

CEO: *What you will find on the City's agendas every month within the Corporate Services Committee is the monthly financial statement where any notable variance from budget is reported. What you will see when you view that report, particularly this month's, is that there is an under expenditure in relation to salaries across the board, so even with the temporary staff the total salaries budgets across the board are running under budget at this stage.*

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**Mr Ian Dunstan – U-19, 24 Aragon Court, Armadale**

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Q1: I touched on this at the previous AGM - I live right on the railway reserve on the other side of the railway and my question last year was the noise impact from the shopping center there. We get horrific noise coming into the units directly across the road there.

There is \$250,000 that has been agreed to by Council for landscaping consultancy regarding the viaduct. Is that not Metronet - what is the \$250,000 that the City has written off or signed off on as far as the landscaping consultancy goes? What is it going to cover?

Mayor: *The land underneath the viaduct is owned by the State Government (PTA) –it will be opened up and we need to decide as a City, Council and as a Community what actually goes underneath it. We have been given the heads up that we will need to take on management of the space under there and it is very important that we get the mix of uses,*

*landscaping, path ways or whatever goes under there has to be right otherwise it could be a disaster for the community of Armadale.*

*Council is pushing very hard to get the right outcome for whatever is put under the viaduct. The \$250,000 is to go towards a consultant to help us to determine what the right uses are, and what is going to activate the space without drawing the wrong kinds of people there or even just the lack of activity. Noise obviously would be a concern for you. We will be going to public consultation at some point and we will be very happy to have lots of community input into this. However, we do need a little bit of a plan to start with so we have something to look at when we go to community consultation and we also need something to go to the Metronet people and let them know our community is behind us on this and we would like them to fund some of it. We are getting in as early as we can now that we know the viaduct project is going forward. However, we need to see the plans and then we can get on with making some fantastic outcomes underneath that viaduct and linking it in with what is happening with the Jull St Mall, with the parkland opposite, with the lake and the Neerigen Brook stream which goes underground and is piped and comes out on the other side. So there are a number of things to think about along with pedestrian access and we are allocating that money to a consultant that can help us with this process.*

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**Mr Laurie Sargeson – 8 Imperial Court, Seville Grove**

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Q2: Can you advise how much the Councillors are paid annually? I can give you that figure it is \$35,500. Are Councillors required to attend all Council and Committee meetings?

Mayor: *No they are not.*

Q3: Does the City continue to pay Councilors when not attending our ratepayers meeting? And if so how many meetings can they not attend before payment is withheld?

Mayor: *Yes they can still be paid if they don't attend a ratepayers meeting. Do you mean this meeting or any meeting? Councillors are allowed to take leave for up to 3 months' with Council approval and for anything above that they need permission from the Minister.*

Q4: Are you aware that a Councillor on your watch did not attend meetings between 1/9/20 and 30/11/20 plus apologies? The register of fees, expenses and allowances for 2020/21 paid to elected members identified full payment for all absences where there was zero attendance and yet the register refers to it as meeting attendance fees.

Mayor: *Yes that information is public so I am aware.*

Q5: This is ratepayers money paying Councillors and in your opinion is this a fair use of our money as it is not ratepayers expectations? - that is to say we don't expect a payment if they do not perform. If they have 3 months off we expect the Councillors or somebody to say 3 months and you've been paid for no returns.

Mayor: *It is not illegal as under the Act you only need ministerial approval to take more than 3 months leave. It is a common occurrence across local government in WA. Non-attendance at Council meetings does not necessarily mean that the person has not been acting as a Councillor and still representing the community. They can still be working on behalf of Council and responding to emails. I personally receive emails from Councillors who are on leave and they even join meetings/workshops via electronic means.*

Interjection: Leave of absence is leave of absence so you're not a Councillor for that time if you are off for 3 months.

*Mayor: You are still a Councillor and not unelected. Leave of Absence means that you do not need to put in an apology for a meeting and have been granted approval to be away.*

Q6: Section 5.98 of the *Local Government Act* relating to Fees etc. states that this is determined by the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal under the *Salaries and Allowances Act 1975* Section 7B i.e. *A council member who attends a Council committee meeting is entitled to be paid...*, I agree on that point absolutely. The Act is clear it states that payment is for attendance (5.98). The logical sequence is leave of absence for months on end without any Councillor performance duty is because the leave of absence is just that - you're not a Councillor for that period. The ratepayers do not expect to subsidise a lifestyle. The Act wording is active on attendance - there was no attendance. The ratepayers would expect the payment to be recovered. Will the city recover the expenses?

When the Councillor comes on council the very first thing they do before anything else is to give a fidelity and swear allegiance and judicially Council granting long leave of absence is really not right perhaps 2 is fine but 3 months plus I would say no.

*Mayor: Thank you for your opinion.*

*CEO: No laws have been broken by any of the elected members. I think it is important that the other members and electors of the district that are assembled here understand the two methods of payment that are open to a Council with respect to meeting attendance. A council can determine that they will pay Councillors for each meeting that they attend or they can determine a fee for the entire financial year that Councilors will then get paid for meeting attendance. Particularly, I would have to say that these elected members are generally out 3 nights a week because there is not just Council or Committee meetings they are attending but a significant amount of Councillor workshops as the City has worked very hard in terms of its strategic and long term financial planning. Councillors have even said to me that enough is enough as they haven't seen their families. They attend these workshops and meetings to make strategic decisions and address what are very important matters for growth councils to ensure financial sustainability for the electors of the district. So because of the nature of that role being not just a Council or Committee meeting but all of the work that we are demanding of them in their roles it has been determined that a fee is paid for all of the work that they do across all of the year and that is entirely right and proper and permitted under Section 5.99 of the Act.*

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**Mr Phil Davey – 12 Lenore Street, Roleystone**

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Q2: In regards to staff turnover, thank you CEO you have indicated 22.9% average throughout the Local Government sector and Armadale is sitting at 20.1%. I know we have said previously through other meetings surely we could be doing better and why are we not a workplace of choice. Understanding some of the comments you made earlier on and I appreciate the current situation but I just wonder is there something more we could be doing to attract people, we all understand the finances of the moment everyone is asking for more money. What can City of Armadale do to attract people as a workplace of choice and not just a distance location or otherwise?

*Mayor: We can continue being wonderful and that is why we are a little bit lower in turnover than a lot of Local Governments are at the moment.*

*CEO: The ABS statistics show that the public sector in general in terms of full time workers has decreased by 8% and the sector is running with a significant number of vacant positions. Compare that to the mining sector they have had a 12% increase. The City has an enterprise agreement that I have had to negotiate with the entire workforce but that enterprise agreement is limited in terms of the salary cap that we have. That salary cap is also governed by the expectations of the electors with respect to what rates are charged and what the expenses of the City are. We are in the situation where a mechanic is being offered \$250,000 and a car in the mining sector and I am competing for that same mechanic and my salary budget does not allow me to pay all my mechanics \$250,000 and give them cars as I would have an Annual Electors meeting here full of people questioning me if I did.*

*So what do we do? You have come into the Council meeting and asked questions in relation to the culture of the organization, that is absolutely one of the things that we are working on and as I explained to you on Monday night we have a plan in place to look at how we can improve. One of the other things that we do have is the ability to offer that hybrid working environment. A lot of people see Armadale as being out in the boondocks of the metro area so being able to offer staff to have a hybrid working arrangement as part of that is something we are doing. We also have some really incredible and dedicated staff who have aspirations in terms of study, so being able to assist them is important. As an example, there was a staff member from an unrelated City team who expressed an interest in building surveying. The City invested in that person and encouraged his study. He has now graduated as a building surveyor and is part of the City's Building Services team and I am particularly proud of being able to do that and to offer such opportunities to staff. I do not have a lot to work with in terms of dollars and it really is about what do I have and how can I structure that to assist people.*

*Don't underestimate how important you as a community member are. I had a staff member who left for another local government but literally within three working days they requested to return and one of the key things they missed was the community of Armadale, so the Armadale community are really part of the asset.*

*Being able to work with this community is really important and we have a huge job ahead as we need this City centre to be absolutely vibrant and full of jobs. In comparison to Midland, Joondalup and Fremantle who have 18,000 jobs in their centres we have 3000, so being able to bring in business and get that investment and get the shop owners proud and not having the photographs that Mr Jakso sent through which are from businesses that are really struggling. We've got a great opportunity at the moment - we are going to have the \$80million courthouse and justice precinct and all of the staff and people that will go there. We've got the TAFE - the latest information we have is that probably Stage-1 will be full within the first 2 years. We are already looking and planning how can we move onto Stage-2. We are making connections with the Armadale hospital who are doing their master planning and their biggest issue is being able to have a workforce so we have an opportunity to align the TAFE in terms of the curriculum with the needs of the employers of the area. Together we can get that beating heart of Armadale as strong as it can possibly be.*

Q3: Given the number of staff that have left and delays in planning applications and buildings what does the 4% rate increase give us?

CEO: *I wasn't able to answer that specifically at the Council meeting but after speaking to the Executive Director of Corporate Services I can confirm that equates to \$2.9 million dollars in rate revenue. A lot of the debate at the many budget workshops the Councillors attended night after night was really trying to understand what has been an astronomical increase, particularly in construction costs. CPI is not a great indicator of what our cost increases are going to be because you would understand the CPI is like a basket of goods. The WA Local Government Association and all of the economists that they employ have worked on a LG cost index that identifies our "basket of goods" is different to CPI in that we do a lot of construction of roads and buildings, and obviously we have salaries as we are a service organization so this is a reasonably large component of our costs.*

*Council has looked deeply at the LG cost index and what the projections are and have considered, particularly in this year going forward, a lot of our planned capital works that have not gone out to tender as yet are likely to increase.*

*With respect to building and planning, that team, led by Paul Sanders, are absolutely working hard in terms of pumping out their approvals. We have had a big increase in revenue that has come from those two areas. It would be easy to be almost seduced by that but it is not likely to continue so the Councillors have had the conversation that those surpluses are actually a one-off and it is probably the most prudent thing to do to keep them in reserve for when we go out to tender for these jobs that we anticipate will come in higher than we expect. They will then be able to draw on that reserve as well as the rate revenue of \$2.9m and then depending on supply chain issues we should be able to deliver the program.*

Q4: Is City of Armadale aware of the ongoing power stability issues in Roleystone? If so have they or are they willing to make representation to Western Power about this?

Mayor: *Yes and we have. We actually had our own page on the report that came out from the Independent Review Panel and the State Government have noted our knowledge and experience with these power outages and we were really able to hammer home the importance of electricity in a heat wave. We all lived through it, Kelmscott, Bedfordale, Armadale, Camillo but of course at Roleystone it was worse. As far as advocating I have also raised it through the Emergency Management Committee system and it has been escalated.*

CEO: *It has now gone up to the District Emergency Management Committee to raise that there is a fundamental flaw in the triggering, particularly of emergency evacuation facilities, where there is a combination of events, in this case the sustained heat wave and the lengthy power outage. The State system did not trigger the declaration of an emergency for which emergency evacuation centres should be established.*

Q5: Is the city considering extending any of the arts festival events to Roleystone in the future years?

*Mayor: We currently have the Hills open studio trail which is a popular and successful event with a number of artists in the area who are very active and open their studios for people to come through. As far as further events I will have to get some more information.*

Q6: Are there plans for the City to deliver more services to Roleystone Karragullen such as a Library and a community hall (current one has been taken over) since there are new families moving to the Roleystone Karragullen area.

*Mayor: I wasn't aware of a great deal of increase in population in Roleystone. The Roleystone hall became available to community groups because of its lack of use so we would not be looking at building another community hall just to have it unused. The City already has a number of libraries and don't think can afford to have any more.*

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**Mr Laurie Sargeson – 8 Imperial Court, Seville Grove**

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Q7: Re. Councillor Training, I note training has been undertaken by many of the Councillors, a few haven't completed and others are yet to start. Considering the last election was October 2021 the window for new elected Councillors is narrowing, the older established Councillors should have completed it the within the allotted 12 months from the date of election. Records are maintained on the city website. Has the City a plan to monitor Councillors mandatory training to conclusion within the regulated 12 month timeframe?

*Mayor: This is monitored and as you say newly elected Councillors have until October 2022 to complete this training.*

Q8: I think and firmly believe that every Councillor should evidence their highest qualification and provide police clearance evidence - this should be mandatory for all Councilors and will this be enacted?

*Mayor: You could ask one of your ward Councillors to raise that as an issue and bring it up through the committee system but there is no plan for that at this stage.*

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**Mr Ian Dunstan – U-19, 24 Aragon Court, Armadale**

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Q2: The tree top walk or skywalk - you have already touched on it this evening. I did ask what was happening at the last meeting that we had and the response was that in February or March of this year we were going to see some figures or something come up about it or pertaining to it. You have indicated a feasibility study and I see in the next 4 year plan for the fiscal budget that you are looking at \$16 million for this walk? Perhaps I am wrong in what I saw. Has anything further has come to light at this stage?



*CEO: There is no inclusion of the items within the City Views concept into the Council's 4 year budget at this stage. The further work that we spoke about still needs to be done.*

Just for the record I am not in favour of it at this stage as we have been talking about a lot of prudent spending tonight and if you can't find funding elsewhere I don't think it is a good idea. That is my personal opinion.

*CEO: I think the area under the viaduct adjacent to your residence would trump it in priority.*

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## **2.4 Motions received from the floor**

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### **MOTION-1**

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#### **Re. Community Communication and Engagement**

MOVED Ms Veronica Hansen, SECONDED Mr Dennis Grimwood

**That the City of Armadale engage a more proactive approach and system of communication with the community and community groups through both direct contact and social media, where applicable, with links to web announcements in regard to meetings and public notices.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

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### **MOTION-2**

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MOVED Mr Phil Davey, SECONDED Mr Laurie Sargeson

**That the City of Armadale provide better transparency through Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) with Councillors and CEO so that residents can better measure performance from any current perceptions.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

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### **MOTION-3**

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MOVED Ms Veronica Hansen, SECONDED Mr Laurie Sargeson

**That the City of Armadale provide better transparency with reports so that a full document is not classified as confidential by just one paragraph or notation that is considered confidential but the need for confidentiality/privacy is still addressed by an appropriate process by redacting or removing.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

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**MOTION-4**

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MOVED Mr Dennis Grimwood, SECONDED Mr Phil Davey

**That the City of Armadale publish the Key Performance Objectives and Key Performance Indicators that support that for both the Local Government and for the CEO.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

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**MOTION-5**

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MOVED Mr Phil Davey, SECONDED Ms Veronica Hansen  
OPPOSED Mr Laurie Sargeson

**That the City of Armadale confirm a timeline for all meetings to be streamed online giving all residents better access.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

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**MOTION-6**

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MOVED Ms Veronica Hansen, SECONDED Mr Phil Davey

**That the City of Armadale show policy and procedure for supporting our Not For Profit (NFP) community groups who are providing services to our community and this is in regard to Council property and leasing costs.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Acknowledgements**

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**Ms Patricia Watson, 37 Hollybush Way, Armadale**

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Ms Patricia Watson thanked Mayor, Councillors and Executive for giving up their evening and allowing the ratepayers to have this face to face discussion.

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**Mr Henry Zelones, 1 Bunney Road, Kelmscott**

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Mr Henry Zelones read out a message on behalf of Mrs Pat Hart who was unable to attend the AGM today due to having to isolate.

*Message from Pat Hart (former Councillor and current Chair of Armadale Gosnells Landcare Group)*

*The Armadale Gosnells Landcare Group would like to thank the City of Armadale for your great support over the past year....it is a wonderful partnership with great outcomes and we look forward to working closely together over the coming 12 months.*

Mr Zelones also expressed his thanks to Councillors and the Executive as he is aware of the hard work put in by everyone attending numerous Council and Committee meetings as well as workshops and some Councillors also working weekends which is time away from their family.

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**Mr Ken Pike – 6 May Close, Armadale**

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Mr Pike noted that during the last two years during the pandemic the City worked its way through the difficult time with ease and in particular expressed his thanks to the staff at AFAC. Being foundation members his family visit the centre at least 5/6 days a week and have found the staff and the centre to be fantastic.

*The Mayor thanked her fellow Councillors and the electors for their attendance.*

MEETING DECLARED CLOSED AT 9.25 PM