

CITY OF ARMADALE

MINUTES

OF COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM,
ADMINISTRATION CENTRE, 7 ORCHARD AVENUE, ARMADALE ON TUESDAY, 7
MAY 2024 AT 7:00PM.

PRESENT:

Cr M Silver (Chair)
Cr L Sargeson (Deputy to Cr P A Hetherington)
Cr K Kamdar
Cr J Keogh
Cr G J Smith (Deputy to Cr K Busby)
Cr S Stoneham
Cr C M Wielinga

APOLOGIES:

Cr P A Hetherington (Deputy Chair) (Leave of Absence)
Cr K Busby

OBSERVERS:

Mayor R Butterfield
Cr S Peter JP

IN ATTENDANCE:

Ms J Abbiss	Chief Executive Officer
Mrs S van Aswegen	Executive Director Community Services
Mr P Sanders	Executive Director Development Services <i>(via Teams)</i>
Mr M Andrews	Executive Director Technical Services <i>(via Teams)</i>
Mr G Dixon	Manager Libraries & Heritage <i>(via Teams)</i>
Mrs R Milnes	Manager Development Services
Mr M Harkin	Acting Manager Recreation Services
Ms D Koelen	Community Facilities Planning Coordinator
Mrs W Stanley	Community Facilities Planning Advisor <i>(via Teams)</i>
Ms J Cranston	Executive Assistant Community Services

PUBLIC:

Nil

“For details of Councillor Membership on this Committee, please refer to the City’s website – www.armadale.wa.gov.au/your_council/councillors.”

DISCLAIMER

The Disclaimer for protecting Councillors and staff from liability of information and advice given at Committee meetings was not read as there were no members of the public present.

DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Nil

QUESTION TIME

Nil

DEPUTATION

Nil

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RECOMMEND

Minutes of the Community Services Committee Meeting held on 9 April 2024 be confirmed.

**Moved Cr S Stoneham
MOTION CARRIED**

(7/0)

ITEMS REFERRED FROM INFORMATION BULLETIN

Report on Outstanding Matters – Community Services Committee

Items referred from the Information Bulletin – Issue 5 – April 2024

None of the items from the Community Services Information Bulletin required clarification or a report for a decision of Council.

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COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

7 MAY 2024

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1.1 - TEMPORARY LOCATION FOR THE HIGHLAND GATHERING 2024

WARD : ALL
FILE No. : M/246/24
DATE : 24 April 2024
REF : RM
RESPONSIBLE : Executive Director
MANAGER : Community Services

In Brief:

- This report presents venues for the temporary relocation of the Highland Gathering/Perth Kilt Run for 2024 due to the Byford Rail Extension works.
- Recommend that Council:
 - Endorse the temporary relocation of the Armadale Highland Gathering and Perth Kilt Run to Champion Lakes Regatta Centre.
 - Endorse the additional expenditure of \$40,000 in the 2024/25 financial year incurred for the temporary relocation of the Armadale Highland Gathering and Perth Kilt Run to Champion Lakes Regatta Centre.

Tabled Items

Nil

Decision Type

- Legislative** The decision relates to general local government legislative functions such as adopting/changing local laws, town planning schemes, rates exemptions, City policies and delegations etc.
- Executive** The decision relates to the direction setting and oversight role of Council.
- Quasi-judicial** The decision directly affects a person's rights or interests and requires Councillors at the time of making the decision to adhere to the principles of natural justice.

Officer Interest Declaration

Nil

Strategic Implications

Community

- 1.1 Foster and strengthen community spirit
- 1.1.1 Facilitate a dynamic calendar of events, festivals and cultural activities that activate suburbs, foster community connections, celebrate the diversity of the community and encourage a sense of place for residents.

Legal Implications

Nil

Council Policy/Local Law Implications

Nil

Budget/Financial Implications

The total cost of the Highland Gathering/Perth Kilt Run event is \$230,000 as reflected in the 2023/24 budget. It is anticipated a further \$40,000 will be required if the event is held at Champion Lakes Regatta Centre in 2024.

Additional information not related to this report but related to potential financial implications for the 2024/25 financial year may wish to be noted. If the Champion Lakes Regatta Centre is selected for the temporary location for Australia Day 2025 as it is the only location approved for fireworks (to be presented in a report in June 2024), the incurred expense will most likely be the same, \$40,000, at a minimum. Therefore, for two events to be held at Champion Lakes the minimum additional expense will be \$80,000 for the 2024/25 financial year.

Consultation

1. Highland Gathering Committee – supportive of Champion Lakes only
2. Health Services – supportive of John Dunn and Champion Lakes
3. Parks and Reserves – supportive of Champion Lakes only
4. Environment - supportive of John Dunn and Champion Lakes
5. Recreation & Bookings - supportive of Champion Lakes only
6. VenuesWest

BACKGROUND

The Highland Gathering Event

The City has delivered the Highland Gathering event in the Armadale city centre since 1994, with the Perth Kilt Run component introduced in 2013. This event is one of the City's most iconic and popular annual events and is Western Australia's largest celebration of Scottish culture.

The various components of the event are overseen by the Highland Gathering Committee to ensure that Scottish traditions remain the cornerstone of the event. The core Scottish elements comprise Pipe Bands, Highland Dancing, Heavy Events, Medieval Fair, Clan Village, Tavern, and Scottish Dogs. Alongside the components overseen by the Committee, the event also presents children's activities, food vendors and live music, and activities that vary year-to-year such as mini golf, Highland cows and Scottish manufactured vintage cars.

The Perth Kilt Run

The City of Perth was originally approached regarding hosting the Perth Kilt Run by international organisers of another Perth Kilt Run, however it was offered to the City of Armadale due to the success of the Highland Gathering and the event's synergies with the Kilt Run. The City's registrations are currently at approximately 600 participants. Two run options are available – two-and-a-half-kilometre and a five-kilometre length.

Temporary Alternative Location Required

The 2024 Highland Gathering/Perth Kilt Run event will not be held in the Armadale city centre due to the Byford Rail Extension works carried out by Metconnx.

An alternative temporary location is therefore required for the 2024 event. Relocation options were discussed at the Highland Gathering Committee meeting on 4 April 2024. The following priorities important for considering a temporary event location were presented by officers and agreed upon by the Committee:

- Venue needed be safe and accessible
- Needed to accommodate all the existing event elements
- Have sufficient parking
- Able to accommodate the Perth Kilt Run with similar distance options
- Minimise impact to other users/surrounding areas
- Ease of use for easy set up and pack down
- Cost

The preferred options of Champion Lakes Regatta Centre and John Dunn Reserve were presented to the Committee, with the following considerations discussed and addressed.

Locations Considered

Several reserves and locations in the area were considered as alternative event sites, with constraints, risks and/or concerns for each captured below.

Reserve/Location Name	Constraints and Identified Issues
Champion Lakes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large open space with little shade will need temporary shade installation • Water offers a risk that needs mitigation • Venue hire costs apply • Event site is further away from parking. Parking issues to be identified with VenuesWest. • Does not have the same access to public transport as the current site. More people will drive to the event
John Dunn Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Significant impact to nearby residents • Active reserve impacting park use • Large amounts of road closures would be required increasing costs – however a route through the commercial/industrial area will limit resident impact • Limited parking
Bob Blackburn Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Significant impact to nearby residents • Difficulty in suitable kilt run route options • Large amounts of road closures would be required interrupting residents and increasing costs • Limited parking (AFAC and shopping centre car parks used for their patrons) • Large open space with little shade will need temporary shade installation

Gwynne Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Significant impact to nearby residents • Large amounts of road closures would be required interrupting residents and increasing costs • Active reserve impacting park use • Limited parking • Large open space with little shade will need temporary shade installation
Rushton Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The timing with the Kelmscott Show – it is considered that impacts of the two large events so close together will be detrimental to the reserve and surrounding residents
Novelli Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Too small
Harrisdale Pavilion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Significant impact to nearby residents • Active reserve impacting park use • Very difficult space to make safe with traffic management and hostile vehicle mitigation for both the event and the run
Skeet Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Significant impact to nearby residents • Very difficult space to make safe with traffic management and hostile vehicle mitigation for both the event and the run

DETAILS OF PROPOSAL

It is proposed that the 2024 Highland Gathering event is held at the Champion Lakes Regatta Centre.

- **This venue is subject to costs and restrictions from VenuesWest, and increased costs for other items**

It will cost an additional \$20,000 to hold this event. This cost covers the week leading up to the event, the event day, and the bump out time of the event. Whilst the costs will be offset by a saving of \$15,000 to \$20,000 on traffic management costs, other expenses including lifeguards, increased shade structures, increased parking management, increased drinking stations and shuttle buses will equate to an increased cost of approximately \$40,000.

- **Water – opportunities and risks**

Approximately 7,000m of water's edge surrounds the location (allowing for both around the outside of the lake, and around the island area where the event would be held).

Response:

- Lifeguards in the area solely focused on monitoring for people entering the water
- Signage around the area stating swimming is not permitted
- Ensuring children's activities are not immediately alongside the water's edge
- Place the existing small, well-managed licensed area at the event – could house this within a building
- First aid services on site
- Offer Royal Lifesaving WA or similar an opportunity to be involved in the event to further promote safety messages

▪ **Vehicle Access and Distance Between Parking and the Event Site**

The distance between the parking and the event site is longer than some previous drop-off and parking spots, which may be prohibitive to some event patrons in attending.

Response:

- Regular shuttle bus/es (including wheelchair accessible bus) operating from the parking area to either within or close to the event footprint
- Signage indicating how long a walk it is to the event
- Vehicle access – Officers are confident some vehicle access will be available before and after the event for supplier and stallholder set-up/pack-down.

▪ **Environmental Impact**

Response:

- With appropriate visitation controls to limit access to any environmentally sensitive areas, the Environment team have not identified any significant risk to local flora and fauna.

▪ **Increased Heat**

Due to the limited number of trees, their reduced size/coverage, and less green grass coverage, it is likely that the event area will have increased heat, impacting both staff and event patrons. The temperature on the day will impact whether this is a significant risk or not.

Response:

- Allow for extra shade structures.
- Increased water station points.
- First aid on site.
- Have staff take extra breaks as needed and encourage community groups to allow for extra staff members.
- Explore having access to an air-conditioned space for first aid if heat is of concern.

▪ **Perth Kilt Run Routes**

- The venue allows for accessible and paved two kilometre and five kilometre run options, as depicted in the map below:



Alternative Location

If Champion Lakes Regatta Centre is considered unsuitable, John Dunn Reserve was the second preferred location. Some additional costs for this will still apply depending on the Kilt Run route chosen.

ANALYSIS

The Highland Gathering/Perth Kilt Run event cannot be held in the Armadale city centre in 2024 due to the Byford Rail Extension works carried out by Metconnx.

An assessment has been undertaken of a range of event locations to present a complete representation of the various options. Champion Lakes Regatta Centre is recommended as the first preference, with this location supported by the Highland Gathering Committee and all the internal City departments. The advantages comprise the fully accessible Kilt Run routes, the minimal impact on groups using the facility, less impact on local residential housing than other options and less complex traffic management and hostile vehicle management arrangements. The most significant disadvantage comprises the additional cost incurred for this option equating to approximately \$40,000.

John Dunn Reserve is the second preferred option, however, this location is not supported by the Highland Gathering Committee and two internal City departments. The additional cost estimated for this option equates to approximately \$20,000 for additional arrangements such as traffic management, additional shade, shuttle bus due to limited parking etc.

OPTIONS

Council has the following options:

1. Endorse the temporary relocation of the Armadale Highland Gathering and Perth Kilt Run to Champion Lakes Regatta Centre, noting the additional budget requirements to do so.
2. Endorse the additional expenditure of \$40,000 in the 2024/25 financial year incurred for the temporary relocation of the Armadale Highland Gathering and Perth Kilt Run to Champion Lakes Regatta Centre.
3. Endorse the temporary relocation of the Armadale Highland Gathering and Perth Kilt Run to John Dunn Reserve, noting the additional budget requirements to do so.
4. Endorse the additional expenditure of \$20,000 in the 2024/25 financial year incurred for the temporary relocation of the Armadale Highland Gathering and Perth Kilt Run to John Dunn Reserve.
5. Endorse the cancellation of the event for 2024.

Options 1 and 2 are recommended.

CONCLUSION

After a comprehensive assessment of the options for event locations necessary due to the Byford Rail Extension works, the Champion Lakes Regatta Centre is recommended as the preferred temporary location for the 2024 Highland Gathering and Perth Kilt Run.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

Committee Discussion

The Committee requested further information be provided to Councillors prior to the Ordinary Council meeting to be held on 13 May 2024.

RECOMMEND

C10/5/24

That Council:

1. **Endorse the temporary relocation of the Armadale Highland Gathering and Perth Kilt Run to Champion Lakes Regatta Centre.**
2. **Endorse the additional expenditure of \$40,000 in the 2024/25 financial year incurred for the temporary relocation of the Armadale Highland Gathering and Perth Kilt Run to Champion Lakes Regatta Centre.**

Moved Cr S Stoneham, Seconded Cr G J Smith

Opposed Cr C M Wielinga

MOTION CARRIED

(4/3)

COUNCILLORS' ITEMS

Nil

This refers to any brief updates from Councillors from their attendance at Working Group or Advisory Group meetings on which they represent Council.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT

Nil

MEETING DECLARED CLOSED AT 7:41PM