

VC: GR

25 March 2011

Dear Councillor/Sir/Madam

You are invited to attend an **PRATTEN PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE** of Ashfield Council, to be held at the Haberfield Library, 78 Dalhousie Street, Haberfield on **THURSDAY 31 MARCH 2011 at 4:30 PM.**

Yours faithfully

VANESSA CHAN
General Manager

SEE ATTACHED AGENDA

PRATTEN PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE - 31 MARCH 2011

AGENDA

- 1. OPENING**
- 2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LOCAL INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY**
- 3. APOLOGIES/REQUEST FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE**
- 4. CONDOLENCE AND SYMPATHY MOTIONS**
- 5. MOMENT OF PRIVATE CONTEMPLATION**
- 6. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

Disclosures to be made by any Councillors who have a pecuniary / non-pecuniary interest in respect of matters that are before Council at this meeting.
(31/03/2011)

- 7. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF COUNCIL/COMMITTEES**

PRATTEN PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE - 08/12/2010

- 8. STAFF REPORTS**

8.1 EXTENDING THE HARVESTED WATERING SYSTEM FOR THE TENNIS CLUB

8.2 PRATTEN PARK STAGE 2 - PROJECTS

8.3 ASHFIELD ARTIST IN RESIDENCE PROGRAM APRIL 2011 TO MARCH 2012

8.4 OPTIONS FOR FURTHER INCREASING THE LEVEL OF COMMUNITY AND USER GROUP INVOLVEMENT IN PARK MANAGEMENT

- 9. GENERAL BUSINESS**

- 10. CLOSE**

ASHFIELD COUNCIL

PRATTEN PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE - 31 MARCH 2011

8 SUMMARY OF STAFF REPORTS

- 8.1 Extending the Harvested Watering System for the Tennis Club. Tony Giunta - Senior Engineer - Infrastructure Management. Report submitted.
(08/03/11) Stormwater>Projects
H:\REPORTS.BP\COMMITTEES\REPORTS\PP310311SR_1.doc
PP 8.1 Attached

RECOMMENDATION

That this information be received and noted

- 8.2 Pratten Park Stage 2 - Projects. Barry McDaid - Facility Services Assistant. Report submitted with attachment 1.
(08/03/11) Properties & Buildings>Projects>Design
H:\REPORTS.BP\COMMITTEES\REPORTS\PP310311SR_2.doc
PP 8.2 Attached

RECOMMENDATION

That this information be received and noted

- 8.3 Ashfield Artist in Residence Program April 2011 to March 2012. Anthia Hart - Community Development Worker - Arts, Culture & Recreation. Report submitted.
(21/03/11) Pratten park Advisory Committee
H:\REPORTS.BP\COMMITTEES\REPORTS\PP310311SR_3.doc
PP 8.3 Attached

RECOMMENDATION

That the information in this report be received and noted

- 8.4 OPTIONS FOR FURTHER INCREASING THE LEVEL OF COMMUNITY AND USER GROUP INVOLVEMENT IN PARK MANAGEMENT. Nелette Kettle - Director Corporate & Community Services. Report submitted with attachment 1.
(24/03/11) Pratten Park Advisory Committee
H:\REPORTS.BP\COMMITTEES\REPORTS\PP310311SR_4.doc
PP 8.4 Attached

RECOMMENDATION

1/2 That the report be received and noted.

2/2 That Council officers provide a further report to the next meeting.

9. CLOSED (PUBLIC EXCLUDED) COMMITTEE

That the Committee resolve into Closed (public excluded) meeting to consider the following items and the Press and Public be excluded during the committee's consideration in accordance with Section 10A Subclause (2)(a) of the Local Government Act, 1993.

Subject	EXTENDING THE HARVESTED WATERING SYSTEM FOR THE TENNIS CLUB
File Ref	Stormwater>Projects
Prepared by	Tony Giunta - Senior Engineer - Infrastructure Management
Reasons	To provide the Committee with the background and an update on the progress on this project
Objective	To implement these works

Overview of Report

Western Suburbs Lawn Tennis Association have received a grant for \$40,000 to install water storage tanks to collect water from an existing stormwater harvesting system and associated equipment to provide irrigation to the tennis playing surfaces. Council is currently preparing a plan to identify the scope of works in order to implement the project.

Background

In July 2010 the Western Suburbs Lawn Tennis Association submitted an application under the Community Building Partnership Program for a grant to obtain funds to implement this project. The project includes the installing of harvested water storage tanks to collect water from an existing stormwater harvesting system and associated equipment to provide irrigation to the tennis playing surfaces. Their application was successful and the Tennis club have already received the funding for an amount of \$40,000. A condition of the grant is that the project must be completed by December 2011.

Progress

Since receiving advice that the grant application was successful a number of meetings have been held to progress the planning of these works. The meetings which have been held to date and the corresponding participants are as follows:

- 14/2/11 – Lee Adolfson Lawn Tennis
 Stephen Joannidis Ashfield Council
 Tony Giunta Ashfield Council

- 22/2/11 – Lee Adolfson Lawn Tennis
 Barry McDaid Ashfield Council
 Tony Giunta Ashfield Council

- 24/2/11 – Lee Adolfson Lawn Tennis
 Graham Jones Lawn Tennis
 Lee Cooper Ausflow Irrigation
 Barry McDaid Ashfield Council
 Tony Giunta Ashfield Council

Extending the Harvested Watering System for the Tennis Club

At the meeting of 24/2/11 the layout of the project was discussed including the locations of the components for the system and these were agreed to so that Council could prepare a plan which will be used for quoting purposes.

Council is currently preparing this plan and once complete a copy will be sent to Lee Adolfson. Also a copy will be sent to Ausflow Irrigation so that they can provide a quote to Lawn Tennis directly.

Council's role in this project is to assist Lawn Tennis to implement the works through concept design, and supervision to ensure a satisfactory output is achieved. It will be Lawn Tennis who will be engaging the contractor to do the works.

Financial Implications

N.A.

Other Staff Comments

N.A.

Public Consultation

N.A.

Conclusion

The planning of this project is progressing satisfactorily and once the concept design is complete Ausflow Irrigation will be able to provide the Tennis Club with a quote for their consideration in order to undertake the works required.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no supporting documents for this report.

RECOMMENDATION

That this information be received and noted

STEPHEN JOANNIDIS
Director Works and Infrastructure

Subject **PRATTEN PARK STAGE 2 - PROJECTS**

File Ref Properties & Buildings>Projects>Design

Prepared by Barry McDaid - Facility Services Assistant, Peter Kapocius - Coordinator Parks and Trees

Reasons To provide the Committee with the background and an update on the progress of works at Pratten Park

Objective To implement these works

Overview of Report

To provide the Pratten Park Steering Committee with further details and an update with progress to date on the new practise wickets & proposed installation of a new scoreboard at Pratten Park.

Background

Practice Wicket

The construction of a new practice wicket located south east section of Pratten Park is part of the second stage of the revitalisation program.

Practice Wicket Construction Costs	Projected Cost	Grant Estimate	Difference Shortfall	Expenses to date
Practice Wickets (6 turf & 2 synthetic)	\$225,600			
NSW Cricket Grant Submission		\$225,600		
Certified Engineers Services (Steve Whelan)				\$3,520
Clarke Fencing (Completion of structure/gates etc.)				\$63,163
Planned Landscapes (cut/fill etc.)				\$22,000
Evergreen Turf (Supply & install synthetic turf)				\$8,600
Totals	\$225,600	\$225,600	NIL	\$97,283

Construction of the practice wickets commenced in late January. Council engaged a certified engineer, Steve Whelan, who designed the complex netting enclosure and was asked to ensure all specifications were to the Australian Standards during the construction of these nets. The structure/netting/painting/gates were completed by Clarke Fencing on the 4th March 2011.

Phase Two requires levelling of the run up areas for the bowlers. Work commenced once construction of the practice netting was completed, the work required cutting/filling and turfing, one additional sprinkler was installed and one sprinkler needed to be relocated. Completion of these works by Planned Landscapes is anticipated by 25th March 2011. The turf will require a six week establishment period.

Pratten Park Stage 2 - Projects

Phase Three requires covering the two synthetic turf wickets. Council has engaged Evergreen Turf to supply and install the synthetic turf and this is planned for the end of the month of March 2011. Cost for these works is now estimated to be \$8,600.00 (prices have slightly increased since first quoted, extra \$600.00).

Once all major works have been completed, soft netting within the turf practice area will have been sourced and installed within budget.

Score Board

Council purchased a new scoreboard through a company named Computronics in March 2009, with the final cost for implementation of the scoreboard expected to be \$162,363, and the original estimated provided for the purposes of the NSW Cricket Grant Submission was \$75,000.

Score Board	Acquisition Cost	Grant Estimate	Difference Shortfall	Expenses to date
Purchased from Computronics	\$103,858			
NSW Cricket Grant Submission		\$75,000		
New framework required for Score Board				\$13,229
Other	\$58,505			\$13,382
Totals	\$162,363	\$75,000	\$87,363	\$26,611

It was brought to Councils attention in May 2010 soon after the new framework had been constructed that Computronics had gone into administration.

Council then had to provide documentation to the administrators Ernst & Young, to prove that the scoreboard had been paid for, and thus negotiate its release by the administrators.

Another sign company called LED Signs took over all Computronics materials that were deemed to be of value.

Once the scoreboard was released by the administrators Council then began to negotiate its installation with LED. Council then also attempted to identify other companies that may have been interested in quoting for the required installation. At this stage with one company having already gone into administration, Council decided it was best to physically take possession of the scoreboard, and negotiated with LED for its transportation to Councils depot where it is currently being stored.

LED has provided a quote to install and commission the scoreboard, however, Council require additional quotes for comparison and to complete the due diligence process. This process is proving quite difficult as companies are not interested in installing another company's equipment. Numerous companies have been contacted and only one agreed to come and have a look with a view to providing a quote.

Once this company investigated the situation they decided they were no longer interested in submitting a quote. However, some weeks later, this company got back in touch to advise that if they could get a copy of the software and a section of the scoreboard, they could investigate further, if they could in fact commission the scoreboard prior to them submitting a quote for any works.

Pratten Park Stage 2 - Projects

Progress

LED have recently been given an order from Council to go through their archives and locate software that will be suitable to use on the new scoreboard. LED have advised that some adjustments to existing LED software may be required to effect a match with the Computronics equipment.

Council are awaiting arrival of this software from the designer, once it arrives arrangements will be made for the section of scoreboard and a copy of the software to be collected, in order to obtain another quote for installation and commissioning of the scoreboard.

Council will then analyse quotes received and determine the best way forward.

Given the issues associated with installation of this scoreboard and the cost, Council are trying to determine whether there may be any interest from other sporting bodies to purchase this scoreboard. Council would then sell off the existing scoreboard and investigate purchase of a down graded version.

Council have been in touch with ten different sporting authorities and stadia, throughout NSW, to see if it would be possible to sell the scoreboard. Only one stadium showed any interest and Council will negotiate further to see if an agreement can be made. If this is the case and Council sell the board arrangements will be put in place for a down graded version of the scoreboard to be acquired and installed.

At this point in the process there is a shortfall of \$87,363.00.

Financial Implications

N.A.

Other Staff Comments

N.A.

Public Consultation

N.A.

Conclusion

Council will proceed with its current course of action with respect to the scoreboard until a suitable outcome has been achieved.

The practice cricket area will be a first class practice area. This will be ready for the start of the new cricket season in early September

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 Pratten Park Scoreboard Estimated Timeline

2 Pages

Pratten Park Stage 2 - Projects

RECOMMENDATION

That this information be received and noted

STEPHEN JOANNIDIS
Director Works and Infrastructure

Pratten Park Scoreboard Estimated Timeline

Task	Action	Who	By when	Outcome
1. Sell & replace scoreboard	1(a) Find interested party & agree selling cost & conditions	Barry	21/10/2010	Sports Trust, Sydney Olympic Authority, Leichhardt Council, Campbelltown Council, Marrickville Council, Ganterbury Council, Warringah Council, Energy Australia Stadium/Hunter Venues, Blue Tongue Stadium, Parramatta Stadium) Parramatta Stadium show some interest but need more
	1(b) Investigate new scoreboard with spec. that will be agreed upon	Barry	May-11	
	1(c) Obtain quotes to supply, install & commission scoreboard	Barry	Jun-11	
	1(d) Analyse quotes	Barry	Jul-11	
	1(e) Select most appropriate contractor	Barry	Jun-11	
	1(f) Prepare scoreboard structure for new board i.e. may involve adjusting existing structure	Barry	Jul-11	
	1(g) Install & commission new board	Barry	Aug-11	
	1(h) Provide any necessary training	Barry	Aug-11	
	1(i) Assess & approve works carried out	Barry	Sep-11	
	If Task 1 is not achievable or successful then:			

Task	Action	Who	By when	Outcome
2. Install & commission existing scoreboard	2(a) Transport scoreboard to councils possession	Barry	Oct-10	Scoreboard has now been delivered to and is in storage at Councils Depot.
	2(b) Electrician to bring 3 phase power to scoreboard structure, plus install new sockets	Barry	May-11	
	2(c) New underground conduit to run from canteen to scoreboard for optic fibre/3 phase power supply	Barry	May-11	
	2(d) Obtain quotes to transport and install scoreboard incl. new computer plus software, plus optic fibre cable	Barry	May-11	One quote for installation has been received. Further companies contacted but uninterested. Called after discussing with contacts to obtain software and section of the board to investigate if they can get the scoreboard running, prior to submitting a quote for the works
	2(e) Analyse quotes	Barry	Jun-11	
	2(f) Appoint contractor	Barry	Jun-11	
	2(g) Install & commission scoreboard	Barry	Jul-11	
	2(h) Provide any necessary training	Barry	Aug-11	
	2(i) Assess & approve works carried out	Barry	Aug-11	

Subject	ASHFIELD ARTIST IN RESIDENCE PROGRAM APRIL 2011 TO MARCH 2012
File Ref	Pratten park Advisory Committee
Prepared by	Anthia Hart - Community Development Worker - Arts, Culture & Recreation
Reasons	Councillor Request
Objective	To advise the Pratten Park Advisory Committee of the Artist in Residence program for April 2011 to March 2012

Overview of Report

The purpose of this report is to update the Committee on matters relating to the Artist in Residence (AIR) program and the Sculpture Garden at Thirning Villa

Background

The Ashfield Artist in Residence program is open to performing, visual and literary artists from regional and remote areas in Australia. Since the beginning of 2008, overseas artists have also been invited to apply. There have been 24 artists (including the current artist, Marianthe Loucataris) from all over Australia and from overseas who have participated in the program since December 2003.

Current residency & proposed future residencies:

1. Marianthe Loucataris

Current AIR, from Keiraville near Wollongong has been working one day a week at the Ashfield Public School since the middle of 2010. This work is through the national arts organisation, 'Song Room' that administers music/theatre/dance projects in schools that would not otherwise have access to specialist arts practitioners. The Principal of the Ashfield Public School, Robyn Hutchinson has stated that the school looks '... forward to building further relationships with Ashfield Council's cultural programs and the Ashfield Primary School community through Marianthe's residency ...'.

Residency: 9 November 2010 to 26 March 2011

Art practice: Multi-instrumentalist composer, performer, recording artist, dancer, media artist, teacher and Community Cultural Development worker.

Program included:

- World drumming, rhythm and drum making workshops designed for children with their parents, children with special needs and their parents/family, young people and adults.
- Half a day a week, from 3 February to 17 March 2011, at the Ashfield Public School to engage children and their parents in preparation for the Carnival of Cultures performance.

Ashfield Artist in Residence Program April 2011 to March 2012

- An ongoing blog <http://artistinresidencashfield.blogspot.com/> to document the various works during the residency
- Outreach to local disability services FRANs and ELLA
- Ongoing forums presented online that engage national and international collaborators with the theme '*Towards a Total Art – Why do we make art and collaborate?*'
- Installation and performance on Thursday 24 March 2010 at Thirning Villa.

At least 95 people have attended the workshops held by Marianthe at Thirning Villa with over 60 of these registering with Council to receive information about future residencies and Council community arts initiatives and projects.

2. Van Badham

has returned to Australia from London to complete the third book in the series of novels that she is writing for Pan Macmillan Australia. Van hails from a multi-arts background, and is an award-winning writer of more than 40 internationally-produced plays for stage, musical theatre and radio. She is currently the co-presenter of the ABC Canberra's 'Classic Book Show'.

Residency: 1 April 2011 to 25 June 2011

Art practice: Writer, theatre-maker, dramaturge, emcee, performer and film-maker.

Program to include:

- Two parallel creative writing courses (one targeted to adults, another to young people) that cover basic skills in creative writing
- Assist participants to select, edit and publish extracts of their writing projects in a short-form publication
- Artist talks and master classes
- Bringing together a group of professional actors to participate in a series of script developments known as *beehives*. This ensemble of actors will be used for various master classes and script workshops with writers in the community. Youth Theatre will be closely involved in this, working toward a production based on stories of local migrants.
- Run a series of creative writing community workshops.
- Go in to one of the local high schools to assist with HSC texts around creative writing and/or creative careers.
- Meanwhile she will be working on her book *White Rain*.

Van is currently in Sydney and was included in the National Play Festival at Parramatta Riverside Theatre where her play *Swamplands* were performed earlier in the month.

3. Christine Wheeler

Christine is from Blackheath in the Blue Mountains, and Vice President of the NSW Folk Federation has had to withdraw her intention to visit from July to September 2011.

Councillor Jeanette Wang is currently liaising with a Chinese artist who is completing an application for this period.

4. Halcyon Macleod

Halcyon is the 2010 winner of the prestigious \$20,000 George Fairfax Memorial Award.



Ashfield Artist in Residence Program April 2011 to March 2012

Since graduating from the Victorian College of the Arts in 2006, Ms Macleod has concentrated her practice with My Darling Patricia - a hybrid arts company (founded in 2003) where performance, puppetry, film, sculpture and installation converge.

As a founding member of the company, Halcyon is responsible for the original concepts behind each of My Darling Patricia's five productions. She wrote the original texts for Politely Savage (2005, 2006, 2007) and Night Garden (2009), and was writer/director for Africa (2009). All of these productions have received national critical acclaim.

Mc Macleod intends to use the George Fairfax Scholarship to help orchestrate the presentation of My Darling Patricia's works to an international audience.

Residency: 1 October 2011 to 21 December 2011

Art practice: Performing artist. Writer, director, theatre-maker, puppeteer.

Program to include:

- Engage the local community to participate in the 'Posts in the Paddock' project
- 'Posts in the Paddock' is a collaborative work between indigenous and non-indigenous artists. It is a creative work that can be seen as a reconciliation project around the common history of non-Indigenous and Indigenous Australian memories and oral tradition. This emerges as a potential partnership between the artist and the Ashfield Aboriginal Consultative Committee.
- A visual art and sound style installation

5. Rochelle Summerfield

Rochelle is from Ocean Shores northern New South Wales, is a part time TAFE teacher and was instrumental in the formation of an artist run initiative, Contemporary Art Space and Education (CASE) that has supported community shows for indigenous youth, mental health, the migrant community and has been successful in receiving NSW Ministry of Arts grants for art projects in the area.

Ms Summerfield specialises in works on paper such as collage, drawings, printmaking and photography. She is interested in ideas on subjectivity as a process, and the grotesque and fable. Transformation, wonder, humour and imagination are explored in her work.

Residency: 1 Jan 2012 to 25 March 2012

Art practice: Visual artist and teacher

Program to include:

- Weekly open studio
- Creative skills workshops at Thirning Villa
- Outreach creative skills workshops to schools and maybe nursing home and a disability service
- Drawing and experimental print workshops
- Collagraph sessions that would introduce people to print making

What next?

The call for Expressions of Interest for the Artist in Residence program for the period April 2012 to March 2013 will open in the first week of July 2011.

Brazilian artist, Luiz Carlos de Farias Franca, was the Council endorsed artist for October 2010 to March 2011. Unfortunately he was unable to secure a visa in time to be in Ashfield for his residency and an offer was accepted by Marianthe Loucataris. Ms Loucataris an applicant in the April 2011 to March 2012 round.

Ashfield Artist in Residence Program April 2011 to March 2012

In many ways her proposal was similar to the proposal that Bab Franca had submitted. As part of her residency program, Marianthe has held drum making and drumming workshops that were to culminate in a community performance at the Carnival of Cultures.

As a result of the visa situation faced by the Brazilian artist, Council Officers are currently investigating the possibility of future overseas artists entering the residency program with a Special Program (Subclass 416) visa that

‘ ... aims to enhance international relations and cultural exchange by allowing people to share cultural and social experiences and knowledge in the Australian community through participation in approved activity specific programs’. Department of Immigration and Citizenship

Sculpture garden

Councillor Officers are working toward installing a plaque that will explain each of the sculptures in this area.

The suggested description is as follows:

This sculpture garden has been created to showcase sculptures that have been donated or gifted to the Ashfield community.



‘Land of Mine’

The ‘Land of Mine’ work was gifted under the Cultural Gifts Program by Ken Hutchinson who was an artist in residence in 2009. ‘Land of Mine’ is a tribute to landmine victims especially women.

The artist describes the work as “...designed to show the strong, proud and strident spirit of those who endure hardship.”

The stone is White Carrara marble.

‘Ashfield’s Rosetta Stone’

Artist Ian Marr donated the magnificent ‘Rosetta Stone’ to Pratten Park at the end of his residency at Thirning Villa in 2005. Placed at the entrance to the park, the inscribed phrase welcomes all visitors to the area.

"No stranger shall go empty from our door for we ourselves have eaten the bread of strangers in other lands" (from the Iliad of Homer),

This phrase (or parts of it) has been translated and hand carved into the stone in Polish, Greek, Turkish, French, Spanish, Arabic, Mandarin, Thai, Italian and English. The stone is Mintaro slate from South Australia.

‘Celebrating Nature’

This sculpture has been created by the Men’s Shed.

Ashfield Artist in Residence Program April 2011 to March 2012

The work consists of three timber posts with windows displaying seeds, sticks and stones collected in the Ashfield Council area.

This sculpture garden has been created to showcase sculptures that have been donated or gifted to the Ashfield community.

Two park benches have been installed in the area, and landscaping and edging around each of the sculptures is complete.

The space is developing in to a pleasant area for people to rest and relax and maybe watch a game of lawn tennis or lawn bowls.

Financial Implications

No financial implications beyond existing budget allocations

Other Staff Comments

N/a

Public Consultation

N/a

Conclusion

This is a very positive program for the period noted. Expressions of interest for the 2012 to 2013 period will open in July. Council can look forward to a dynamic arts program continuing at Thirning Villa.

The overall Pratten Park precinct continues to be a successful shared space between active sports and the arts.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no supporting documents for this report.

RECOMMENDATION

That the information in this report be received and noted

NELLETT KETTLE
Director Corporate & Community Services

Subject	OPTIONS FOR FURTHER INCREASING THE LEVEL OF COMMUNITY AND USER GROUP INVOLVEMENT IN PARK MANAGEMENT
File Ref	Pratten Park Advisory Committee
Prepared by	Nellette Kettle - Director Corporate & Community Services
Objective	To inform the PPAC on work being undertaken by officers to investigate models for further increasing the level of community and user group involvement in park management.

Overview of Report

This report provides an overview of preliminary work by Council officers to investigate models for further increasing the level of community and user group involvement in park management.

Background

Council established the PPAC in late 2006 to engage in collaborative discussion on the future development of Pratten Park. The Committee meets on a quarterly basis and comprises representatives from the following key stakeholder groups:

- Councillors
- Council staff
- Western Suburbs Cricket Club
- Western Suburbs Lawn Tennis Association
- Pratten Park Bowling Club
- Canterbury District Soccer Football Association

No formal terms of reference have been established for the Pratten Park Advisory Committee. To date, the Committee has contributed to:

- plans and specifications for the grandstand restoration
- the Master Plan and Plan of Management
- housekeeping issues such as security and car-parking
- water management and associated grant applications
- future operational needs of each of the stakeholders

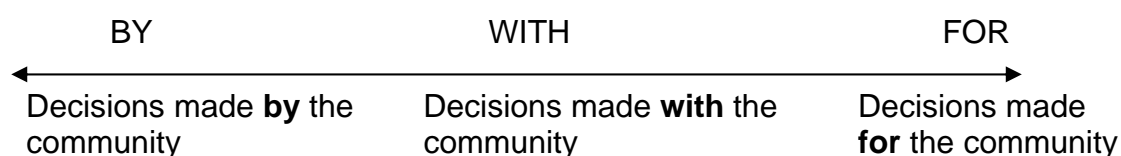
Much has changed since the Pratten Park Advisory Committee was established. There has been a new Plan of Management developed (2008); significant upgrading of the facilities; and changing stakeholder needs. The PPAC has been successful in improving communication between the various stakeholders and in achieving successful outcomes for Pratten Park. It is timely for Council to seek to build on the success to date and to review opportunities for further increasing the level of community and user group involvement in park management.

OPTIONS FOR FURTHER INCREASING THE LEVEL OF COMMUNITY AND USER GROUP INVOLVEMENT IN PARK MANAGEMENT

Report

The concept of community governance is gaining popularity within the public and community sectors. Community governance refers to community participation, engagement and decision-making in public (community) matters and represents community level management and decision making that is undertaken by, with, or on behalf of a community, by a group of community stakeholders.¹

In Western countries such as Australia, America, Canada and the UK there is a trend away from decisions being made ‘for’ the community to decisions being made ‘with’ the community, as represented by the community governance continuum below.²



In reviewing the governance model for Pratten Park, there are a number of models that could be applied.

In determining the most appropriate model for the future, it may be necessary to distinguish between a ‘park’ management model or a ‘place’ management model. The difference being a park management model is concerned with what would be the more traditional park activities/uses such as leisure, sport and recreation (both active and passive, professional and social), whereas a place management model would take into account wider considerations and would look at Pratten Park as a place for leisure, sport, recreation, arts, culture etc.

Models that could be applied to the future management of Pratten Park, across the IAP2 spectrum for public participation³ include:

- ad hoc consultation meetings; (consult and involve)
- regular stakeholder forum; (consult and involve)
- formal Advisory Committee (collaborate);
- Special Committee established under s 355 of the Local Government Act 1993; (empower)
- Other legal structures, such as a trust, association or incorporation (empower)

Ad hoc consultation meetings - issues based ad hoc meetings of relevant stakeholders convened by Council. This model represents the consult and involve phases of the IAP2 spectrum).

¹ Totikidis, Armstrong and Francis, 2005, *The Concept of Community Governance: A Preliminary Review*. Centre for International Corporate Governance Research, Faculty of Business and Law, Victoria University.

² Totikidis, Armstrong and Francis, 2005, *The Concept of Community Governance: A Preliminary Review*. Centre for International Corporate Governance Research, Faculty of Business and Law, Victoria University.

p3

³ International Association for Public Participation Australia, 2004, Public Participation Spectrum

OPTIONS FOR FURTHER INCREASING THE LEVEL OF COMMUNITY AND USER GROUP INVOLVEMENT IN PARK MANAGEMENT

Regular stakeholder forum – e.g. Sports Forum, Recreation Forum, convened annually by Council to discuss particular issues around sporting use and sporting group issues. This model would represent the consult and involve phases on the IAP2 spectrum.

Advisory Committee – a formal committee of Council (comprising Councillor and other representatives) that has an advisory only role to the Council and operates under set Terms of Reference. The existing Pratten Park Advisory Committee would fall within this category and reflects collaboration on the IAP2 spectrum.

Special Committee established under s355 of the Local Government Act – these are formal Committees with delegated authority under the Act to exercise specified functions under the Act. Many councils have these committees in place to manage park issues and involvement. Such a committee would represent the empower model on the IAP2 spectrum.

Other formal legal structures – these could include things such as trusts, associations and incorporations. Further work is needed to determine what structures would be applicable and permissible for Pratten Park, given its uses, stakeholders and ownership (parts of Pratten Park are Council owned land and subject to Local Government Act requirements, while other parts are Crown Land, subject to the Crown Lands Act). Any of these models would represent the empower model on the IAP2 spectrum.

Financial Implications

Nil.

Public Consultation

Not undertaken at this early stage.

Conclusion

It is some time since the Pratten Park Advisory Committee was established and it is timely for Council to review opportunities for further increasing the level of community and user group involvement in the parks management. Council officers have commenced research into possible models as outlined in the report.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 IAP2 Schedule

1 Page

RECOMMENDATION

1/2 That the report be received and noted.

2/2 That Council officers provide a further report to the next meeting.

**OPTIONS FOR FURTHER INCREASING THE LEVEL OF COMMUNITY AND USER
GROUP INVOLVEMENT IN PARK MANAGEMENT**

NELLETTE KETTLE
Director Corporate & Community Services



International Association
for Public Participation
Australia

IAP2 Public Participation Spectrum

Developed by the International Association for Public Participation

INCREASING LEVEL OF PUBLIC IMPACT

	CONSULT	CONSIDER	COLLABORATE	COOPERATE
Public Participation Goal:	Public Participation Goal	Public Participation Goal	Public Participation Goal	Public Participation Goal
To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problems, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions.	To obtain public feedback on choices, alternatives and/or decisions.	To work directly with the public throughout the process to ensure that public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered.	To partner with the public in each aspect of the decision, including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution.	To place final decision-making in the hands of the public.
Promise to the Public:	Promise to the Public:	Promise to the Public:	Promise to the Public:	Promise to the Public:
We will keep You informed.	We will keep you informed, listen to you, acknowledge concerns and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will work with you to ensure that your concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will ask you for your views and input, partner in formulating solutions and incorporate your advice and recommendations into the decision to the maximum extent possible.	We will implement what you decide.
Example Techniques to Consider:	Example Techniques to Consider:	Example Techniques to Consider:	Example Techniques to Consider:	Example Techniques to Consider:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fact sheets • Web sites • Open houses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public comment • Focus groups • Surveys • Public meetings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshops • Deliberate polling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citizen Advisory Committees • Consensus building • Participatory decision-making 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citizen juries • Balot • Delegated decisions

© 2004 International Association for Public Participation