



## DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES REPORT

18<sup>th</sup> July 2006

<b>DSS3</b>	<b>HORSESHOE BAY RESERVE</b>
<b>FILE: 505</b>	<b>KLB {Folio No. *}</b>

### SUMMARY:

Reporting on the progress of the Horseshoe Bay Reserve Draft Plan of Management.



### DESCRIPTION:

At the Ordinary Meeting on 14th February 2006 Council resolved the following:

- *That Council advises the Department of Lands that it would not be economically viable to remove caravan sites from Horseshoe Bay Reserve and that Council does not wish to add additional cabins or to return camping / caravan areas to public use.*
- *That the Department of Lands be requested to review the proposal of a possible timetable for the removal of the caravan park at Horseshoe Bay Reserve as indicated by letter dated 20 May 2004, i.e.:*
  - a. *that part of the park occupied by sites immediately north of Livingstone Street be programmed for removal upon completion of the current management lease in January 2009;*
  - b. *the remainder of the foreshore occupied by the park to be progressively returned to public open space over the following five years.*
- *That it be recommended to the Department of Lands that the function of Horseshoe Bay Reserve subject of a lease as a Caravan Park, be continued for a further ten (10) years from 31 January 2009 with an option of an*

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*additional ten (10) years at the discretion of Council, and be the subject of a new lease arrangement.*

- *That the proceeds received by Council from the lease agreement be allocated to the implementation of the program of works identified within the Plan of Management for overall foreshore precincts.*

The Department of Lands has acknowledged receipt of the letter advising of Council's resolutions. The Department responded as follows: *"In relation to the retention of the existing caravan park design, that the department has had a chance to consider Council's position and is more or less reconciled with the points raised and the reasons behind Council's decisions"*.

The Department has requested that further discussion be undertaken regarding the recommendation concerning the possible extension of the lease.

In a visit to Kempsey on the 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2006, the Minister for Lands, the Hon Tony Kelly, advised that the current arrangement of the caravan parks at Horseshoe Bay in regard to camping and cabins would be retained.

A meeting was held on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> July with Craig Barnes and Richard Dunning representing the Department of Lands. It was agreed that all options for the future management of the Caravan Park be explored including:

- calling for expressions of interest for a new lease arrangement;
- calling for expressions of interest for contract management of the Caravan Park; and
- In-house management of the Caravan Park.

The Department noted that further discussion will be required to ensure that returns to Council and the Department are appropriate.

The Department of Lands recognised the need to provide an operating period that made capital improvements viable. It was agreed that the Plan of Management need not contain information regarding the management of the Caravan Park.

It was noted that it was important to identify any action required to ensure that the Caravan Park was compliant in terms of area and distribution of sites and amenities.

Insite Landscape Design the company engaged to produce the Plan of Management has been approached regarding the extensive revision of the document. A meeting was held with the consultant on 8 June 2006 to discuss options. It is anticipated that a further meeting will take place with the consultant in mid-July 2006 to finalise the amended Plan of Management.

**REPORT IMPLICATIONS:**

- *Environmental*

*Nil*

- *Social*

*The proposed amendments to the Plan of Management result from the public response to the draft Plan of Management.*

- *Economic (Financial)*

*Nil*

- *Policy or Statutory*

*Council is finalising a Plan of Management for Horseshoe Bay Reserve which it is required to prepare under the Local Government act and the Crown Lands Act.*

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the report be noted.

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A P Vermeulen  
DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES