

# minutes

Annual General Meeting  
of Electors



The Annual General Meeting of Electors was held at **6.00pm** on Tuesday **18 December 2018** in the Council Chambers at 99 Shepperton Road, Victoria Park

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

**MR ANTHONY VULETA**  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

21 December 2018

## 1. OPENING

Mayor Trevor Vaughan welcomed all those present, declared the meeting open at 6:02pm and made an Acknowledgement to Country.

### Acknowledgement of Country (by the Mayor)

I acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land on which we are meeting, the Wadjuk people of the Noongar Nation and pay my respects to their past, present and emerging elders and thank them for their continued sharing of knowledge and leadership.

## 2. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Mayor:	Mr T (Trevor) Vaughan
Chief Executive Officer:	Mr A (Anthony) Vuleta
Chief Financial Officer:	Mr N (Nathan) Cain
Chief Operations Officer:	Mr B (Ben) Killigrew
Chief Community Planner:	Ms N (Natalie) Martin Goode
Senior Governance Officer	Ms D (Danielle) Uniza
Minute Secretary:	Mrs A (Alison) Podmore
Electors:	Cr Jennifer Ammons Noble Cr Brian Oliver Cr Claire Anderson Cr Karen Vernon Cr Bronwyn Ife Cr Vicki Potter Cr Julian Jacobs Lee Baston David Burch Tracey Destree Luana Lisandro Sam Zammit Graham Ferstat Lara Wolinski Kylie Dugan Colette Kelly-Smith Peter Smith Bonnie Durham John Gleeson Mick Lanternier Anita Treasure Morag Croft Peter McKenzie Nyaree Jacobson

Adrienne Salias  
Heather Johnstone  
Peter Melrosa

Apologies:

Cr Ronhhda Potter

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THE PROCEDURE OF AN ANNUAL MEETING OF ELECTORS**

Mayor Vaughan provided the following information:

*Before we consider the Presentation of the Annual Report, I, as the Presiding Member, would like to establish the procedures in which this meeting will be run.*

*Presentations will be made as they appear in the order of business. Following the presentations, during the 'General Business', all eligible electors may ask a question, move a motion and vote.*

*First, I will start with the procedures for asking questions before explaining the procedures for putting forward a motion, and voting.*

*When asking a question, I ask that they be directed to myself in the first instance. I will refer the question as I see appropriate. Answers provided are under no circumstances to be debated. If a question presented is complex and requires further research, the question may be taken on notice.*

*Should anyone choose to put a motion before the meeting, we will deal with this in the same manner as the Ordinary Council Meeting. A motion must first be moved and seconded before being open for debate. Once the debate has closed, I will put the motion to a vote. In the same way that electors are entitled to vote, electors are equally entitled to abstain from a vote should one choose to do so. In that same manner, I would like to remind you all that myself and my fellow Councillors are also electors of the Town of Victoria Park and have the same right to vote for, against or abstain from any motion that is put from the floor.*

*Any motion carried from the floor will be considered by Council at its next meeting.*

*Thank you all in advance for your cooperation.*

### **3. PRESENTATION OF THE ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018**

#### **3.1 MAYOR AND CEO'S REPORT**

The Mayor, Trevor Vaughan, referred to the Mayor and CEO's report in the Annual Report and welcomed community members to read them in that report. Mayor Vaughan introduced the Chief Financial Officer, Mr Nathan Cain to present the Financial Statement and Audit report.

### 3.2 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND AUDITORS REPORT

It gives me great pleasure to present the audited financial statements, as included in the Annual Report, for the year ended 30 June 2018.

The financial statements, and supporting notes, contained within the Annual Report are based on proper accounts and records to present fairly the position of the Town of Victoria Park as at 30 June 2018 and are in accordance with the relevant Australian Accounting Standards, the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1995* and associated Regulations.

By way of a brief summary of the Financial Statements, the following observations are made:

- Rate revenue of \$44.3 million was levied across 17,048 rateable assessments, which is up from \$41.6 million from 16,862 rateable assessments last year.
- Rates comprised approximately 71% of the operating revenue of the Town, which compares similarly with last year.
- Approximately 2.5% of rates remained outstanding at the end of the period.
- Capital works and purchases totalling \$9.0 million occurred during the year, considerably down from last year at \$10.8 million.
- Council's property and infrastructure assets have a current carrying value of \$901.5 million, which is a reduction in value from the previous year of \$1.5 million.
- Grants to assist in funding the development of assets and infrastructure totalled \$1.2 million, down from \$1.6 million the previous year.
- The balance of loans outstanding at 30 June reduced from \$8.8 million in 2017 to \$6.2 million in 2018.
- Of concern is the asset sustainability ratio of 0.72. Although improved from last year at 0.61, the ratio indicates that the Town is not replacing capital items as they reach the end of their useful lives, and points to an ageing pool of assets and infrastructure.

Joint ventures with the Mindarie Regional Council, Tamala Park Regional Council and the WALGA Local Government House Trust had a net existing worth of \$9.5 million as at the reporting date. The future value to the Town for these joint ventures, which is not contained within the financial statements, continues to be valued in excess of \$25 million.

In closing, the financial statements, as presented, were audited by Macri Partners, and in their opinion the statements:

- Give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Town as at 30 June 2018 and of the financial performance for the 2017-2018 financial year;
- Fully comply with the Local Government Act 1995 and associated Regulations; and
- Lead them to raise concern towards the asset sustainability ratio values, which remain below the required standard.

Noting this last point, the asset sustainability ratio is projected to meet standard next year, and continue to do so for the life of the Long Term Financial Plan.

### 3.3 PROGRAM AREA OVERVIEW

Mayor Trevor Vaughan advised that there is an overview of each Functional Area in the Annual Report and invited community members to read them in that report. Mayor Vaughan added that this year was the first for delivering and reporting on our Strategic Community Plan outcomes. Our Annual Report is one of the most comprehensive published, with each outcome reported on under the four focus areas of Economic, Environment, Social and Civic Leadership. We have worked hard to make good ground toward these new outcomes and measured our performance toward each.

Having an outcomes based approach is proving to be a better way of working toward our community plan and corporate business plan. It keeps us accountable and clearly shows the community what we've managed to achieve over the financial year, with continuity of reporting year on year.

## 4. GENERAL BUSINESS

Before General Business commenced, Mayor Vaughan read the following media release:

*"In May 2018 the owners of 22 Mint Street contacted the Town claiming reimbursement for the costs associated with clearing blocked drains, caused by a tree on their verge. This has been a persistent issue at the property for several years.*

*The Town is continuing to investigate all options available to mitigate damage to the property whilst trying to retain the tree. The removal of the tree is not approved at this stage and the Town will ensure the local community is informed of the outcome before any action is taken.*

*Persistent root damage can lead to more serious issues such as the undermining of a home's foundations that ultimately may mean a much more significant risk to public safety and private property than simply blocking pipework. These issues have the potential to cause significant property damage, injury or even death if the integrity of the structure is compromised.*

*Mayor Trevor Vaughan said: "Tree removal is always a last resort, and there has been a high level of consideration to saving this tree, including the investigation of engineering treatments with professional arborist advice."*

*"The Town knows it is very important to preserve large trees like this wherever possible, but in some circumstances, where unsuitable species are growing in awkward places, the cost and risk associated with property damage and the safety of residents and the public must also be considered.*

*As part of the investigations the Town requested an arborist's report in August 2018 looking for any and all options available to reduce any further damage caused by the tree's roots.*

*The arborist's report advised that:*

- *The tree's roots extend to the boundary wall of the property.*
- *Severing the roots (in order to prevent them from causing any further damage) has the potential to render the tree structurally unstable and create a high-level of risk of whole-tree failure.*
- *Installing a root barrier is not recommended due to the potential for structural instability (the tree could fall over).*

*While the Town understands the current owners wish for the tree to remain, it must ensure any future owners of the property are informed of the issue prior to purchase. The Town has offered to enter into a written agreement with the owners, for a notification to be put on the title of the property to declare this.*

*Agreement on this has not yet been reached.*

*The Council has recently adopted an Urban Forest Strategy, which aims to contribute to the health and wellbeing of our community and a sustainable liveable city. The strategy aims to retain and increase the level of tree canopy in the Town as well as better manage trees within the Town”.*

### **MOTION 1**

**Moved: Luana Lisandro**

**Seconded: Peter McKenzie**

**To ask the Town of Victoria Park to investigate employment of a sufficiently resourced permanent fulltime Local History Coordinator/librarian to oversee the development and curation of the Town’s local history collection.**

**The Motion was Put and CARRIED**

**FOR 24  
AGAINST 0  
ABSTAIN 2**

### **MOTION 2**

**Moved: Luana Lisandro**

**Seconded: Heather Johnstone**

**For the Town of Victoria Park to investigate the implementation of live-streaming and or video broadcasting of all Ordinary Council Meetings and Elected Members Briefing on all of the Town’s relevant and suitable media and communication platforms, and that all recordings whether visual or audio to be kept indefinitely for the life of the Town and also be made available in alternative formats within 21 working days via the Town’s website and kept at the Town of Victoria Park Library online catalogue. Should the Town of Victoria Park cease to exist as a legal entity, that copies also be sent to the State Records Office as well as the Batty Library of Western Australia.**

**The Motion was Put and CARRIED**

**FOR 23  
AGAINST 0  
ABSTAIN 1**

### **MOTION 3**

**Moved: Luana Lisandro**

**Seconded: Heather Johnstone**

**That the Town of Victoria Park investigate the re-introduction of Moreton Bay Fig Festival.**

**The Motion was Put and CARRIED**

**FOR 20  
AGAINST 0  
ABSTAIN 4**

**MOTION 4****Moved: Luana Lisandro****Seconded: Tracey Destree**

That the Town of Victoria Park investigate the development of a council policy statement related to Special Elector Meetings and Annual General Meeting of Electors to outline the legislative processes, scope, meeting venue, notice and timing of meetings, format of meeting, role of the person presiding, role of electors, consideration of motions moved at electors' meetings and definition and abbreviations with the policy statement, and that the policy statement document be made available on the Town's website and public library. I refer to the City of Fremantle's Council Policy entitled "Annual General Meeting of Electors / Special Meetings of Electors" which can be found: <https://www.fremantle.wa.gov.au/sites/default/files/sharepointdcs/Annual%20General%20Meeting%20of%20Electors-C-000624.pdf>

**The Motion was Put and CARRIED****FOR 24  
AGAINST 0  
ABSTAIN 1****MOTION 5****Moved: Luana Lisandro****Seconded: Heather Johnstone**

That the Town of Victoria Park investigate extending the opening hours of the Town of Victoria Park Library so that it opens on Sundays as well as the possibility of having an afterhours library books return chute.

**The Motion was Put and CARRIED****FOR 19  
AGAINST 0  
ABSTAIN 5****MOTION 6****Moved: Luana Lisandro****Seconded: Peter Melrosa**

That the Town of Victoria Park investigate the employment of a qualified tree officer to oversee education and assist with the implementation of the Urban Forest Strategy.

**The Motion was Put and CARRIED****FOR 18  
AGAINST 3  
ABSTAIN 3**

**The following questions were asked by Sam Zammit:**

Question

We are members of WALGA. What does it cost the council to be a member of WALGA annually?

Response

The Chief Financial Officer, Mr Nathan Cain said it would be approximately \$27,000, but will confirm.

Question

What is the reason that we are associated with WALGA? How does it benefit the Town and the ratepayers?

Response

The Chief Financial Officer, Mr Nathan Cain, said that WALGA provide training, advice, industrial relation services, procurement advice, as well as operating a panel of suppliers for various aspects of local government suppliers.

Question

Is it essential to the running of the Town?

Response

The Chief Financial Officer, Mr Nathan Cain, said that officers could provide that same advice internally. However, in most Local Governments, officers don't have that breadth of knowledge.

Question

If we weren't members of WALGA we could put this figure towards employing a full time lawyer?

Mayor Trevor Vaughan said the Town has looked at the benefits of WALGA previously and weighed them up, and discovered there is a benefit being with WALGA as far as financial positions go and in particular they have groups of tenderers that can be used, that saves the Town money.

Statement/Question

Made a statement about parking and said that over the years, when the architects were hard at work implementing our parking program, I was dead against it and am against paid parking in any town. We have only got to see the results of Subiaco and how that has deteriorated the shopping precinct there and what has happened in Perth. My argument all along is that we've got it over Perth and we've got it over Subi because we don't charge people to park and that's what makes our Town more attractive. That went out the window and we implemented this expensive parking premium that cost us over \$5.0 million. What is the net profit from our parking program, after all costs have been taken into consideration? Why don't we collect our own money?

Response

The Chief Financial Officer, Mr Nathan Cain said he didn't have that information available, however, can provide that response.



**The following statement was made by Peter Smith:**

Mr Smith said he and his wife were the owners of 22 Mint Street, with the contentious tree that everyone is reading about. Mr Smith referred to the media statement Mayor Vaughan read out and said that in his opinion it was hypothetical if not irrelevant. Mr Smith wanted to state the facts and said that the Town has sent he and his wife a deed of settlement for them to settle and felt it was a threatening letter and if it wasn't signed then it would render their house un-buyable in the future and felt it was very unfair. He said it had been passed on to LGIS, the insurance company. Mr Smith said he has spoken with them and that they have recommended to the Town, the removal of the tree. Mr Smith is disappointed that the Town has given them the deed of settlement, which gives he and his wife nowhere to go.

**MOTION 7****Moved: John Gleeson****Seconded: Peter McKenzie**

**That the Town considers changing the colour of the Town flag, to completely blue and change the size tree to three (3) times bigger than it is at the moment, so it can be seen by anyone passing and that the size of the letter of the Town of Victoria Park be increased.**

**The Motion was Put and LOST****FOR 5  
AGAINST 6  
ABSTAIN 7****MOTION 8****Moved: John Gleeson****Seconded: Cr Vicki Potter**

**That the Town add another flag pole.**

**The Motion was Put and CARRIED****FOR 15  
AGAINST 1  
ABSTAIN 2****The following questions were asked by Tracey Destree:**

Prior to asking question, she stated that while she had sent through 10 questions earlier today and while she was not going to be asking all of them tonight, but said she would look forward to a written response to those sometime in the future.

Question

Does the Town of Victoria Park publish its Risk matrix?

Response

The Chief Financial Officer, Mr Nathan Cain advised that the Town has a policy ADM7, Risk Management, although it should be noted that there isn't a risk matrix on there, however, there is one in use that accords with Australia/New Zealand standard 31209, but it is not published at this time.

Statement

Ms Destree said that standard was out of date and has been replaced.

Question

Does the Town of Vic Park council have a risk appetite statement or risk tolerance statement and if so is this published?

Response

The Chief Financial Officer, Mr Nathan Cain said no. At this time the Town doesn't have any risk appetite other than what is stated in the risk management policy, which eludes to an appetite without stating it. However, due to the recent restructure the Town's Risk Management framework is undergoing a whole scale review to assess its maturity level, effectiveness and how embedded this risk management is into the organization's culture. It is safe to say at this point that the Administration has some work ahead of them. However, that said, it is a priority for the Administration and the Council.

Statement

Ms Destree said that we often hear issues, and she understands the challenges that Council and the Administration have in separating the powers and the appropriate governance decisions that take place. However, there are certain issues that the Administration have to deliver in relation to delivering strategies and strategic objectives and I think the Mint Street tree is a good example of that. The responses that we often get when these things blow up or escalate is it's an operational matter and not a matter for council. I defer you and look forward to the outcomes of the Risk process review, because I think you will find that is not correct and not consistent with the Local Government Act, nor ISO 31000:2018.

Question

Does the Council have a process for ensuring that when operational owned risks that relate to strategies or strategic objective, escalating or are changing and in fact before they become real life out in the face out in the community issues, do you have a process for actually bringing those to council rather than waiting for having to react to an issue and causing the angst and anxiety that we have seen in the last 24hours for both Council Administration and the community?

Response

The Chief Financial Officer, Mr Nathan Cain advised that there is currently no formalised process in place. The Administration does report the risk management aspects in the reports to Council for each item. However, there is more rigor to go through as part of the risk process.

Question

With regards to the Local Government Insurance Scheme (LGIS); when will the insurance policy be due for renewal and will the council be considering going to market and looking at what other options there are for the Town going forward, that is not dependent on the Local Government Insurance scheme?

Response

The Chief Financial Officer, Mr Nathan Cain advised that the LGIS of which we are a member and part owner is not on the horizon for a review, however, that is not always the case and will refer aspects as difference policies that exist are looked at. The next review period will be where we collect data and provide it to LGIS is in or around the financial year. It is very difficult aspect, because what the Town gets from LGIS is far greater than purely insurance, they also offer other services that Mr Cain is not aware that other insurance companies offer. A review could be undertaken.

Statement

Ms Destree said she was aware that the LGIS does offer other services and would encourage the Town to examine the effectiveness and value of those services. Ms Destree said she does know that they do provide free service for risk management and in this world you get what you pay for.

Question

Is the Town planning to develop a significant tree registry?

Response

The Chief Operations Officer, Mr Ben Killigrew said that the Town has a significant tree registry already.

Question

Can that be published please?

Response

The Chief Operations Officer, Mr Ben Killigrew said yes.

**MOTION 9**

**Moved: Tracy Destree**

**Seconded: Luana Lisandro**

That following the review of the Town's risk management process, that the risk matrix be bought to council for consideration and when it is approved, be published to allow the public community access to understand the value and the criteria by which its decisions have been taken.

**The Motion was Put and CARRIED**

**FOR 23  
AGAINST 0  
ABSTAIN 1**

**The following questions were asked by Mike Lanternier:**

Question

Could I please have an approximate estimate of the cost over a financial year that the Town pays out for its various insurance policies? Would it be hundreds of thousands?

Response

The Chief Financial Officer, Mr Nathan Cain said he wasn't sure of the exact figure and would take the question on notice.

Question

Would it be hundreds of thousands?

Response

Mayor Vaughan said yes.

Question

Are we insured by one company or multiple companies?

Response

The Chief Financial Officer, Mr Nathan Cain said multiple companies.

Question

Does the Town actively search out for insurance companies that are both ethical and competitively priced for our type of insurance requirements?

Response:

The Chief Financial Officer, Mr Nathan Cain said that part of the arrangement with LGIS is that they do the research for the Town and the scheme purchases the insurance as a sector.

Statement

Or do we simply deal through WALGA and their insurers, therefore paying the premium price, because that has been put out there some months ago that WALGA with their insurers and going through them we are pay big premiums. We need to be out there hunting for good outcome for the ratepayer. There are plenty out there and they would bend over backwards to get the job.

Question

Referring to the property in Mint Street and the ficus tree; did LGIS send the six (6) page document to Council first to look over before it was sent to the owners of the property? Or did they send it straight to the owners, asking them to sign it?

Response

The Chief Operations Officer, Mr Ben Killigrew said no, that was at an officer's level and was through liaising with LGIS, the insurers.

Question

Who would be the tree contractor that has quoted on \$60,000?

Response

The Chief Operations Officer, Mr Ben Killigrew said that was the media report. That would not be a number that the Town supports.

Question

Who would be cutting it down, Beaver Tree Services?

Response

The Chief Operations Officer, Mr Ben Killigrew said the tree removal has not been approved.

Statement

Lest we forget the destruction of 100 trees at Lathlain Park.

**The following statement was made by Morag Croft:**

There is a laneway across Albany Highway from here, with Councils carpark on it, King George Street to Leonard Street and runs parallel with Albany Highway and behind the businesses, it's about 100m long and it hasn't been improved, from what I can see, for about the last 20 years or perhaps even longer than that when it was under the City of Perth and they didn't really care about it and it looks as though nobody cares about it even now. Its proximity to the café strip makes it part of the interest part of visitors to Victoria Park. Half of it is unlit totally, the only thing that is lit by Council is their carpark which occupies about 1/3 at the back. The only lighting in the laneway is the new gym, that has taken up residents there, which is a 24hour gym and they have had to put up their own lights at their backdoor for the night customers. Can the Council consider upgrading the laneway quite soon, with some new tarmac for a start? One of the other thing that is degrading, is the businesses on Albany Highway keep all their bins, and there at least 40 of them, lined up along the laneway, which doesn't look good at all.

**MOTION 10****Moved: Morag Croft****Seconded: Luana Lisandro**

**That an upgrade of the laneway across Albany Highway, from King George Street to Leonard Street, be considered in next year's budget or if not, the following year.**

**The Motion was Put and CARRIED****FOR 25  
AGAINST 0  
ABSTAIN 0**

*Cr Oliver left the meeting at 7:05pm and returned at 7:07pm*

**The following statement was made by Morag Croft:**

The Perth Fashion Festival at Burswood Casino complex over the past two year, Council paid \$57,000 of sponsorship got none and then got the next year free.

**MOTION 11****Moved: Morag Croft****Seconded: Cr Vicki Potter**

That Council consider disassociating itself from that Fashion Festival following receipt of the closure report for this year.

**The Motion was Put and CARRIED****FOR 15  
AGAINST 0  
ABSTAIN 7****The following questions were asked by Morag Croft:**Question

In the library there is a photocopier, which is there for the use of the public, not the staff. I had an occasion last week, where I was there to get something copied and enlarged and was in a queue of four (4) people, all of who intended to use the photocopier. The lady in

front of me had to get a member of the library staff to come and help her do what she required, I was in the same boat because the instructions on the photocopier are really complicated and it took the librarian 10 minutes just to help me and the people behind me also needed help. Meanwhile she's not doing library work. Can Council consider replacing it with a photocopier that people can actually understand without bothering the librarians?

Response

The Chief Community Planner, Ms Natalie Martin Goode said that she was aware of that and have spoken to library staff, who are incredibly frustrated with the new printers that are not user friendly, so will that on board.

The following Public Questions were asked by Anita Treasure:

Question

Last week, the John Mactivation project was passed by council to go to community consultation; what is the timeframe implementation for that project?

Response

The Chief Operations Officer, Mr Ben Killigrew advised that the project has already been to consultation and will be undertaking construction in the first half of 2019.

Question

Is there some sort of priority as how you fund and roll out these projects with regards to community activation areas?

Response

The Chief Operations Officer, Mr Ben Killigrew said that was outlined in the council resolution from the last meeting, but would be happy to send that through, if that will help.

Question

Outlined, in what way?

Response

The Chief Operations Officer, Mr Ben Killigrew said the funding arrangements were outlined in the report.

Question

What report?

Response

Mayor Vaughan said the Mactivation report itself.

Question

I understand that the tendering for the community zone 2 and 2X for Lathlain, which has been over two (2) years in the making, for 2X I think it has been six (6), has only just come out for tender; is that been funded and is it in the budget for this financial year?

Response

The Chief Financial Officer, Mr Nathan Cain said yes, it is in the budget and said he thinks it is split over two (2) years, but it is in the budget.

Question

The tendering or the actual development?

Response

The Chief Financial Officer, Mr Nathan Cain said the project is due for commencement this financial and completion is the next financial year.

Question

And completion by 2020?

Response

The Chief Financial Officer, Mr Nathan Cain said that was his understanding.

The following Public Questions were asked by Luana Lisandro:

Question

Relating to foot traffic in the Town, my understanding is that the Town has measured foot traffic in the past, is that correct?

Response

Mayor Vaughan said yes that is correct.

Question

Will the Town use that same method for the parking, measuring the parking success, when the trial is implemented?

Response

The Chief Financial Officer, Mr Nathan Cain advised that it will be one factor that will come into that aspect. Bay utilization, length of stay, other aspects will be part of the investigation and review.

Question

In relation to Zone 2, the consultation period for that in terms of the design of that project, has that been released to the public.

Response

The Chief Operations Officer, Mr Ben Killigrew said it was his understanding that will be coming out soon. The design is being finalized at the moment and be going out for consultation soon.

**The following Public Questions were asked by Peter Melarosa:**

Question

How does the Town pay for construction of footpaths? Where does it come from, what source, what means, what measures?

Response

The Chief Financial Officer, Mr Nathan Cain said that much of it comes from rates and municipal funds. The Town can also get grants.

Question

Is there a specific approach to fund footpaths from a particular means, percentage of rates set aside, a program of footpath funding through development, or anything like that?

Response

The Chief Financial Officer, Mr Nathan Cain said that certainly the funding of all capital works is based around an asset management methodology, so the money is distributed where it is best required. So for footpaths, there is enough money provided to keep the asset sustainability operating in the appropriate levels.

Question

Given the extent of urban infill covering all streets and suburbs within the Town, when is the Town going to finish installing footpaths on both sides of the street, for all streets in the Town, to ensure consistency as some streets have two (2) footpaths and some only have one (1). Mostly in Carlisle and parts of Lathlain, whereas Vic Park and East Vic Park mostly have two (2). There are some serious deficiencies in footpaths and as we all know, if we build the infrastructure people use them and it makes it difficult with access issues to go down streets that don't have footpaths. Have we got a plan?

Response

The Chief Executive Officer, Mr Anthony Vuleta advised that there isn't a plan of putting two footpaths on both sides of the street, Council has not ever considered that. The Town uses guiding documents, like Livable Neighborhoods, that indicate what sort of street it is and how many footpaths are required on each road. If the Town wants to exceed those standards, they can consider that, but haven't at this point.

Statement

If we use Livable Neighborhoods as a guide, it expects 10% of public open space in a suburb, and we currently have an average of about four (4). Why would we not be living up to the standard, in that regard?

**MOTION 12**

**Moved: Peter Melrosa**

**Seconded: Luana Lisandro**

**That the Town set a goal to complete footpaths in residential areas on both sides of the street, and to ensure they are not built along the side of the road for safety reasons, but along the property line, where possible, to allow for space, for verge and trees, so as to ensure consistency with the majority of the streets in the Town.**

**The Motion was Put and CARRIED**

**FOR 12  
AGAINST 1  
ABSTAIN 1**

**The following questions were asked by Peter Melarosa:**

Question

What are we paying LGIS for insurance each year?

Response

The Chief Financial Officer, Mr Nathan Cain said he wasn't exactly sure, but is the realm hundreds of thousands of dollars for premiums.



Question

How many more ficus trees are currently being investigated for removal and what are their locations?

Response

The Chief Operations Officer, Mr Ben Killigrew said that Mint Street is the only one that has been on his desk recently, but to his knowledge they do come up from time to time.

Question

Given the approximate total of 72 ficus trees now removed in the last eight (8) years; what is the average cost of removing a ficus tree and what would the total cost be to date?

Response

The Chief Operations Officer, Mr Ben Killigrew said that his team has investigated the 72 figure and they do not know where that came from, that maybe 72 trees removed in total, but definitely not 72 ficus removed. The usual amount for a tree removal can range depending on the size of the tree of course, from a few thousand dollars to a few tens of thousands of dollar, but the numbers in the report that are being referred to, are new to the Administration.

Statement

The numbers referred to come from the Town, I asked for that information some time ago. I sat on the information because I didn't have the need to use it, until this came up. I have scanned a few locations on nearmap and can confirm that all the ones that I did scan are all ficus trees and my intention to scan those was to work out the average tree canopy that we have lost as a result of losing those trees. I will get back to you on that one, as I don't expect the Town to investigate.

Question

When was the last time a tree was added to the significant tree register? Can anyone name a significant tree in the Town or how one is determined to be significant?

Response

The Chief Operations Officer, Mr Ben Killigrew said he wasn't sure when the last time a tree was added to the significant tree register. There are several dozen significant trees around, but the some of the ones that Mr Killigrew has been briefed on, in or around Carlisle, the large peppermint trees, as an example. Mr Killigrews assumption would be because of the size, their longevity, the species type and their significance historically to the Town. Mr Killigrew said that he would get some more information and provide that to Mr Melrosa.

**MOTION 13**

**Moved: Peter Melrosa**

**Seconded: Peter McKenzie**

**That the Town reinvigorate its significant tree register with the aim to include significant trees on private and public property.**

**The Motion was Put and CARRIED**

**FOR 21  
AGAINST 0  
ABSTAIN 0**

**MOTION 14****Moved: Peter Melrosa****Seconded: Luana Lisandro**

**That the Town investigates all the available options for financially supporting people who have a significant trees, to ensure we are not limited in the options and the methods in which the Town may be able to look at supporting people that do that.**

**The Motion was Put and CARRIED****FOR 18  
AGAINST 2  
ABSTAIN 1**

**The following Public Statement was made by John Gleeson:**

Statement

There have been two (2) motions been moved tonight, without them declaring an interest. Declaring an interest in the trees in his backyard and he wants to get paid, that is declaring an interest. The young lady wanted something to do with insurance, and she is an insurance person. You must stand up and declare an interest before you start speaking,

**The following Public Question was asked by Mike Lanternier:**

Question

With regards to the annual report, I noticed you have X amount of loans out and paying interest on the loans, but I was under the impression that the Town had something like \$36 million in future funds; why are we borrowing money at higher rates, that what we get at the bank, if there is money in the reserve fund?

Response

The Chief Financial Officer, Mr Nathan Cain said that reserve funds are put aside for a specific purpose. Council choses a combination of loan funding and reserve funding and rates funding, amongst its methods of delivering works and services.

**5. CLOSURE**

There being no further business, Mayor Vaughan declared the meeting closed at 7:30pm.

