

Upper Coastal Sporting Facilities Working Group (UCSFWG)

12 February 2019 Meeting Report

10am to 12pm, Ledge Point Country Club

1. Welcome

1.1 Attendance:

Councillor John Elgin	Shire of Gingin, Council and Presiding Member for UPSPWG
Councillor Jan Court	Shire of Gingin, Council
Councillor Jacqui Lobb	Shire of Gingin, Council
Tom Papadopoulos	Lancelin Community Sporting Club
Norm Skoglund	Lancelin Community Sporting Club
Faye Paull	Ledge Point Country Club
Marie Crane	Ledge Point Community Association and Ledge Point Country Club
Andrea Vis	Ocean Farm Community Association
Christine Freestone	Seaview Park Community Association
Jodie Mortadza	Shire of Gingin, Community Development and Services (Facilitator)
Guest Speaker	Aaron Cook, Chief Executive Officer Shire of Gingin

1.2 Code of Conduct: To ensure that consistent and accurate information is made available to the Upper Coastal community and stakeholders, it is important that the Meeting Report is not only made publically available (via the Shire's website and circulated by working group members to their networks/contacts) but is also the official format for meeting communications. This supports transparency and ensures that the all members have agreed to the information in the report and that have a similar perspective from the discussions.

1.3 Meeting Report 22 January 2019 – Accepted by all as presented.

2. CEO Overview

2.1 Aaron provided an overview to the background information, provided at the first working group meeting in January as well as responding to the group's questions. Key points raised included:

- There are essentially two projects as follows:
 - i. Stage 1 - Upper Coastal Sporting Facilities Master Plan
 - ii. Stage 2 – Upper Coastal Sporting Facilities Upgrade
Stage 2 may consist of several smaller stages that will potentially be implemented over a designated timeframe as determined in the Stage 1 Master Plan. For example (only) stage 2a is Field Upgrade, 2b Courts Relocation etc.
- The original Lancelin Sporting Complex Master Plan was unrealistic and provided a wish list based on the consultation process and the consultant's vision. It did not take into account forward capital works priorities, the Shire's budgetary constraints and other Shire considerations. Hence while some information can be used going forward, the new Master Plan will aim to be realistic, achievable and take into account the Upper Coastal Sub-region as a whole.
- Sustainability is a key factor of the project/s. The outcomes must be financially viable (initial cost is small compared to whole of life and operational costs) and support maximum usage. The working group will need to take into consideration 'Big Picture' thinking and look at how usage of existing facilities etc. in the Upper Coastal area can be have greater usage rather than building

new ones. The reality is not everyone will be happy with the outcomes but it is important that we plan for and deliver a project that is feasible and is a great investment to grant funders to support the likelihood of attaining funding dollars to make it happen.

- While there is an expected increase in population, consideration would be as to how the facilities can grow if and as required, rather than over committing now (e.g. resourcing, financially etc.) based on a forecast or prediction.
- Important that there is clubs and community collaboration across the Upper Coastal sub-region. Need to work out what their priorities are and identify those that are shared to see if there are opportunities to work together. In conjunction with this, clubs/groups need to look at what is viable for them including operating costs, volunteers to operate etc. as this is crucial to sustainability and future viability. Not only will these stakeholders need to consider how they can collectively meet their needs but they will also need to provide a significant contribution towards the project, whether that be cash and/or in-kind contribution. If the clubs are unable to then this may suggest they are not financially viable to maintain additional/improved facilities. It also means there is greater community ownership and investment which in turn supports greater usage.
- Grant funding and grant programs have significantly reduced in recent years and the funder expectations to support grant investment, greater competition for funds and need to prove outcomes has notably increased. For example evidence based data and cost benefit analysis are required to demonstrate to the funder that the proposed project is actual a proven need and that the cost of the project is comparable to the benefits. In addition the Shire must prioritise projects and potential funding sources. The Ledge Point to Lancelin road would be a priority in this case and as such may reduce potential funding sources for Stage 2 projects if applied consecutively (etc.).
- The Shire of Gingin must all consider priority projects and resourcing requirements (e.g. budget allocations/whole of life costs, staffing to deliver on etc.) in addition to this project. This includes projects in the Lower Coastal and Rural Gingin sub-regions as well as other Upper Coastal projects such as the proposed Ledge Point to Lancelin Road. At any time staff are working on several infrastructure projects (often with community members and/or stakeholders who are also passionate about their projects) and as such need to consider how each can be resourced appropriately taking into account the various resourcing constraints. The working group were advised that a 1% increase in rates equates to approx. \$80,000 which then would be split across five towns, several residential towns and numerous rural residential and agricultural communities.

There was a question from a working group member as to whether private investment was an option however there were various important considerations in this model including community support and access and how clubs could continue to make an income. Could be an option but would need significant assessment to determine an appropriate working model for all stakeholders.

Working group members advised that the above information was very relevant to the Upper Coastal community and it was asked whether a presentation could be delivered by Aaron and Councillor John Elgin to better inform.

Update: This presentation is proposed to be held on Wednesday 27 March at the Lancelin Sporting Complex (to be confirmed), from 6pm arrival with refreshments and a 6.30pm start. The meeting will include a question and answer session (questions are to be submitted prior to the meeting) and will finish at 8pm.

A public invitation will be sent to Upper Coastal clubs and community groups and promoted via the Shire's Facebook page and other promotional channels.

With no further working group questions Aaron left this meeting at 11.25am as did Norm Skoglund who had another commitment.

3. Upper Coastal Sporting Facilities Master Plan

3.1 Upper Coastal Sporting Facilities Mater Plan: The following are the initial objectives for the proposed Master Plan,

- i. Capitalise on and maximising usage of what already exists
- ii. Central hub/s for sporting facility
- iii. Financially affordable and sustainable – implementation, operational and whole of life costs
- iv. Engaging community and stakeholders to determine priorities and needs
- v. Master Plan responds to identified (evidence-based) needs versus wants/wish list

Working group members were asked to provide any objectives they also felt were important to include as follows:

- vi. Connectivity between town/s communities
- vii. Multi-purposes facility/ies
- viii. And to include the Ledge Point to Lancelin road within the Master Plan.

It was also discussed that the consultant undertaking the Master Plan, would be required to actively consult/engage with the Upper Coastal clubs, community and stakeholders to ensure that they have the opportunity to provide their input, priorities etc. for consideration in the development of the Master Plan and Stage 2 projects.

A budget request will be put forward to Council for the 2019-20 Municipal budget requesting funds to commence the Master Plan in the upcoming financial year.

3.2 Sporting/Recreation Facilities and Clubs Mapping: The working group was asked to attain research from their respective communities/localities with regards to;

- the identification of sporting and recreation facilities (in addition to that the Shire owned or were responsible for) and
- Information about formal (incorporated) sporting and recreation clubs and informal/social clubs and groups (sample questions provided).

This information would not only be provided to the consultant for their referral when contracted, but would also assist the working group to understand what already exists within the Upper Coastal community.

4. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 12 March at 10am and will be hosted at the Lancelin Sporting Complex. *Update: Meeting Cancelled as Quorum not available to attend.*