MID MURRAY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MID MURRAY COUNCIL OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MAIN STREET, CAMBRAI, ON MONDAY, 26 FEBRUARY, 2018

PRESENT:

Cr Kevin Myers (Chairperson), Mayor Dave Burgess, Cr Adriaan Sakko, Cr Brian Taylor, Cr Steve Wilkinson, Kay Schmid, Shane McGrath, Helen Griffiths and Sharon Jardine

IN ATTENDANCE:

Russell Peate, Chief Executive Officer
Joel Taggart, Acting Director – Development & Environmental Services
Greg Hill, Director – Infrastructure Services
Amy Loechel, Acting Director – Community Services
Jake McVicar, Acting Manager – Development Services
Aimee Linke, Mid Murray Landcare SA Project Manager
Heather Caudle, WHS & Risk Management Coordinator
Eponine Richardson, Development Officer – Planning
Melissa Marschall, Minute Secretary

COMMENCEMENT AND WELCOME: 10.00 AM

The Chairperson welcomed all members.

APOLOGIES:

Cr Mardi Jennings and Rocky Warren

231/1 Cr Taylor moved that the apologies be received.
Seconded Cr Sakko.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Nil.

CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:

(Page 200 – 1/12/2017)

231/2 K Schmid moved that the Minutes of the Mid Murray Council Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting held on 1 December 2017 be taken as read and confirmed.
Seconded S McGrath.

CARRIED.
OPEN SPACE & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT:

See Minute Book pages 235 – 255.

232/1 Cr Sakko moved that the report be received.
Seconded S Jardine.
CARRIED.

Habitat Stepping Stones – Mid Murray Landcare SA

232/2 S McGrath moved that the report titled ‘Habitat Stepping Stones – Mid Murray Landcare SA’ be received and noted.
Seconded S Jardine.
CARRIED.

Mid Murray Landcare SA – Staff Report

232/3 S McGrath moved that the report titled ‘Mid Murray Landcare Staff Reports’ be received and noted.
Seconded Cr Taylor.
CARRIED.

Register of Council Properties and Initiatives on Crown lands

232/4 Mayor Burgess moved that the report titled ‘Register of Council Projects and Initiatives on Crown Lands’ be received and noted
Seconded S Jardine.
CARRIED.

232/5 S McGrath moved that pursuant to Section 91(7) of the Local Government Act 1999, the Working Party orders that the Confidential attachment in relation to Item C Register of Council Projects and Initiatives on Crown Lands – Register remain confidential and not available for public inspection until released by Council and that this order be reviewed in twelve months.
Seconded Cr Sakko.
CARRIED.

Dark Sky Nomination and David Allen Prize Update

232/6 Cr Sakko moved that the report titled ‘Dark Sky Nomination and David Allen Prize Update’ be received and noted.
Seconded S Jardine.
CARRIED.
OPEN SPACE & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT CONT’D:

Update on Proposed Naming of Unnamed Reserve (A11252, L5017) – Ridley Road, Cambrai

233/1 S Jardine moved that it be recommended to Council that

(1) The report titled ‘Proposed Naming of an Unnamed Reserve (A11252, L5017) – Ridley Road, Cambrai’ be received;

(2) Council adopt the name ‘Rhine Villa Reserve’ and apply it to the Unnamed Reserve (A11252, L5017) situated on Ridley Road, Cambrai, with immediate effect (subject to due process); and

(3) Council communicate with Mid Murray Landcare SA on the progress of their request.

Seconded S McGrath.  
CARRIED.

Murray Coorong Trail

233/2 Cr Taylor moved that the report titled ‘Murray Coorong Trail’ be received and noted.
Seconded S McGrath.  
CARRIED.

Open Space, Recreation and Public Realm Plan Implementation Update (Work Plan)

233/3 Cr Wilkinson moved that it be recommended to Council that it note the report regarding the Mid Murray Council’s Open Space, Recreation and Public Realm Plan ‘Work Plan’ and seek that the following projects be added to the Work Plan:

(1) Bowhill Riverfront Master Plan;
(2) Blanchetown Riverfront Master Plan; and
(3) Mannum Waters Riverfront Master Plan.

Seconded S McGrath.  
CARRIED.

Proposal for Care and Control of Portion of Crown Land at Cowirra

233/4 Cr Wilkinson moved that it be recommended to Council that

(1) Council formally request that the State Government dedicate Allotment 1 in DP85985, CR 6085/157 of Crown land to Mid Murray Council’s care and control; and

(2) Council formally request that the State Government provide Council with a licence for Allotment A in RP1942, CR 5539/570 of Crown land to Mid Murray Council.

Seconded Cr Taylor.  
CARRIED.
OTHER BUSINESS:

Dry Stone Walls - Keyneton

Cr Sakko distributed historical information on the dry stone walls in the Keyneton area.

234/1 Cr Sakko moved that the information be received and noted and further discussed at the Strategic Planning & Development Policy Committee as part of the Dry Stone Walls Investigation.

Seconded S Jardine.

CARRIED.

NEXT MEETING:

To be held in the Council Chambers, Main Street, Cambrai on Monday, 28 May 2018, commencing at 10.00am.

CLOSURE:

10.41 AM  The Chairperson declared the meeting closed.

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CHAIRPERSON

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DATE
A. Habitat Stepping Stones – Mid Murray Landcare SA

Reporting Officer: Aimee Linke
Position: Mid Murray Landcare SA Project Manager

Report Purpose
To inform the Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee on the Habitat Stepping Stones Project.

Introduction/Background
Mid Murray Landcare SA is supporting the Habitat Stepping Stones project whose aim is to support and promote biodiversity in backyards.

Discussion
The project has had 15 pledges as of November 2017 with a total of 152 elements being pledged with the ratio of pledges being 10 elements each. The pledgers have been 80% female and 20% male. 20% of pledgers have been attracted to the program by Council newsletters, 13% by leaflet with rates and notices, 27% by Facebook and 20% by a friend. Refer Appendix A.1 for a spreadsheet prepared by Habitat Stepping Stones showing the pledgers.

I have met onsite with members of the Make Morgan Grow group as they have pledged some sites in Morgan, including their proposed project for this year on Council land at South West Terrace. I worked with the group to select local native plants that will work in with the themes they are trying to create to make Morgan more attractive. Refer Appendix A.2 for information provided by the Make Morgan Grow group detailing the various stages of their project.

Refer Appendix A.1.
Refer Appendix A.2.

Conclusion
This project has been a great tool for landholders to consider what they are planting and seek advice on what is local to their area. The project will continue to be promoted throughout the region with the display being moved to Mannum Council offices next. Mid Murray Landcare is preparing for the next stage of planting for out the front of the Landcare office as a living display.
A. **Habitat Stepping Stones – Mid Murray Landcare SA cont’d**

**References**

**Community Plan**

**Theme 1: The Natural & Built Environment**

Facilitate an active partnership between Council and Community to:

Theme 1.1 – Deliver topical and regular environmental education programs. (Such as reuse/recycle campaigns).

Theme 1.2 – Design community led solutions to local problems. (Such as erosion of River banks, carp control, water quality).

Theme 1.3 – Lobby, advocate and promote for improved environmental protection outcomes through implementation of best practice planning policy.

**Budget**

Included in Council’s 2017/18 budget.

**Legislation**


**Recommendation**

Moved __________________ Seconded __________________

that the report titled ‘Habitat Stepping Stones – Mid Murray Landcare SA’ be received and noted.
B. **Mid Murray Landcare SA – Staff Report**

**Reporting Officer**  
Joel Taggart

**Position**  
Acting Director – Development & Environmental Services

**Report Purpose**

To provide the Committee and Council an overview of the work being undertaken by Aimee Linke, the Mid Murray Council Landcare Program Manager.

**Discussion**

Attached are three staff reports from Aimee Linke, who is employed by Mid Murray Landcare to manage their various projects within the Council region.

The reports are provided monthly by Ms Linke to Council staff, and these will now be provided to the Committee and Council on a regular basis for the interest of Elected Members and members of the community. These reports highlight the important work undertaken by Mid Murray Landcare on a month by month basis.

Ms Linke will be present at the Committee meeting to discuss any comments on her report further.

Refer Appendix B.

**References**

**Community Plan**

Theme 1: The Natural & Built Environment  
Facilitate an active partnership between Council and Community to:

Theme 1.6 – Develop and implement an Open Space Strategy that balances the needs of residents and transient population.

Theme 2: Community Wellbeing  
Facilitate an active partnership between Council, key Agencies (regional development, health services and employment and training services) to encourage ‘game changing’ activities:

Theme 2.8 – Strategically prioritise opportunities for community engagement, connection and participation.

**Budget**

There are no budget implications related to this report, given that this project is externally funded, however Council does provide some in kind support to the Mid Murray Landcare.

**Legislation**


**Recommendation**

Moved __________________ Seconded __________________

that the report titled ‘Mid Murray Landcare SA – Staff Report’ be received and noted.
C. **Register of Council Projects and Initiatives on Crown lands**

**Reporting Officer**  
Joel Taggart

**Position**  
Acting Director – Development & Environmental Services

**Report Purpose**

To provide the Committee and Council with a regular overview of the various day to day activities being discussed between Council staff and the Crown Lands Unit of the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources (DEWNR).

**Discussion**

Given the large tract of River Murray contained within the Council area, combined with the numerous recreation and conservation parks, as well as various roadside reserves, Council staff have regular ongoing dealings with DEWNR’s Crown Lands staff. This is due to many development proposals, compliance issues and land tenure issues requiring advice from Crown Lands staff, given they oversee the management of all ‘Crown Lands’ (essentially public land that is not under the operation/care and control of another Government Department or Minister). Of note is the importance that much of the Crown Land plays in protecting the river environment – much of the Crown Land is covered by remnant native vegetation and is largely undeveloped.

A register of the various projects/initiatives that Council and Crown Land staff are working on has been developed. Given the sometimes sensitive nature of this work (e.g. dealing with legal matters and/or leases), the Register is confidential.

Some current projects that Council staff are dealing with include –

1) Discussions around upgrades to Hogwash Bend Reserve, Cadell
2) Potential boundary realignments and improvements to land in and around the Morgan Caravan Park
3) The dedication of Tenbury Hunter Reserve (Swan Reach), Greenways Reserve (Nildottie) and Gass Reserve (Mannum) to Council.

Staff are also more than happy to receive comments on the various listings from both Committee Members and Elected Members. Other projects may also be identified by both groups as well.

The Register can be found in Confidential Appendix C.

Refer Confidential Appendix C.

**References**

Community Plan  
**Theme 1: The Natural & Built Environment**  
Facilitate an active partnership between Council and Community to:

Theme 1.6 – Develop and implement an Open Space Strategy that balances the needs of residents and transient population.

Theme 1.8 – Advocate, protect and enhance the River Murray Corridor.
C. **Register of Council Projects and Initiatives on Crown lands cont’d**

**Budget**  
There are no budget implications related to this report.

**Legislation**  

**Recommendation**

Moved __________________  Seconded __________________
that the report titled ‘Register of Council Projects and Initiatives on Crown Lands’ be received and noted

**Recommendation**

Moved __________________  Seconded __________________
that pursuant to Section 91(7) of the Local Government Act 1999, the Working Party orders that the Confidential attachment in relation to Item C Register of Council Projects and Initiatives on Crown Lands – Register remain confidential and not available for public inspection until released by Council and that this order be reviewed in twelve months.
D. Dark Sky Nomination and David Allen Prize Update

**Reporting Officer**  
Joel Taggart

**Position**  
Acting Director – Development & Environmental Services

**Report Purpose**

To provide the Committee and Council an overview of the further development and progress of the application by Mid Murray Landcare SA to designate a portion of the Mid Murray Council area as a ‘Dark Sky Reserve’, as well as to provide an overview of entry of the Dark Sky Project in the ‘David Allen Prize’.

**Introduction/Background**

It should be noted that this matter was recently reported on to Council. As Elected Members and some Committee members may be aware, Council has resolved to formally endorse a submission for the abovementioned Dark Sky Project to the International Dark Sky Association (IDSA) (http://www.darksky.org). It should also be noted that this nomination for a Dark Sky Reserve would be an Australian first. To date, a range of community promotion and stakeholder engagement has occurred. In addition, Council has assisted the Landcare in nominating this project for the ‘David Allen Prize’ to recognise the contribution of this project in raising community awareness of astronomy.

The David Allen Prize nomination is contained with Appendix D.

Refer Appendix D.

**Discussion**

Given the potential benefits a formal ‘dark sky’ accreditation would have for Mid Murray Council, particularly from a tourism perspective, Council is collaborating with Mid Murray Landcare SA in order to nominate the area of land between Cambrai and Sunnydale as a ‘Dark Sky Reserve’. Meldanda at Cambrai is earmarked to be the ‘hub’ of this project, given that it is already set up as a nature based tourism facility.

**Council’s Role**

Whilst Council has only a minimal role in facilitating this proposal, given Mid Murray Landcare SA is leading this project, Council has provided a small amount of funding to cover the costs associated with a consultant assisting in the nomination process. Given this is an international process, it was considered the best option to engage external professional assistance to prepare the nomination.

Council will be involved in the following ways as the project develops -

- Providing a formal letter of support to Mid Murray Landcare SA from the Chief Executive Officer and Mayor.
- Ensuring that Council policies are consistent with the notion of a “Dark Sky”, including the development of a Council ‘Light Management Plan/Policy’.
- To liaise with other levels of Government, particularly with DPTI who own many street lights in the region, as well as the River Murray ferries.
D. **Dark Sky Nomination and David Allen Prize Update cont’d**

- Potentially undertaking a lighting audit of lights in public spaces within the area.
- Considering any flow on effects of this initiative to Development Plan policies.
- Acting as a conduit for information flow to the community.
- Assisting with the preparation and submission of the nomination for the ‘David Allen Prize’.

**Nomination Process**

Council has worked with Mid Murray Landcare SA on the nomination process. This nomination has now been lodged with the Dark Sky Association directly by the Mid Murray Landcare SA group, however given the importance and likely benefits of this project, Council funded a consultant (Jenny Fleming – professional writer) to assist the Mid Murray Landcare SA group with its submission. Staff in Council’s Development and Environmental Services Department have been assisting in developing the submission, whilst Council’s Tourism Manager, Deb Alexander, has also assisted in obtaining a range of letters of support for the application.

As the application was lodged with the IDSA in late-November 2017, Council has been advised that further advice about the nomination will be forthcoming by the end of February 2018. The Committee and Council will be informed of any further correspondence from the IDSA. Given the unique nature of this proposal and nomination, as well as its remoteness from most of the other Dark Skies (in Europe and North America), it is unknown how this proposal will be considered/assessed.

**David Allen Prize**

The David Allen Prize is an Australia wide competition held every 3 years, and run by the Astronomical Society of Australia. The prize consists of a plaque and a cash award of $5,000, as well as community and industry recognition. The prize is presented to an person, group or activity that

“…actively connects with the public to communicate astronomical themes in an engaging and informative way. The activity should reach a broad range of audiences. It must be highly prominent and interesting, while maintaining a strong level of scientific integrity.”


It is considered that the River Murray Dark Sky Project (RMDSP) is a strong contender for this Prize given its unique attributes, sound scientific elements and its strong community engagement focus. Council has assisted with the preparation of the lodgement of this application. If the RMDSP wins the Prize, the Landcare Group will be able to mount the plaque and use the funds to upgrade facilities at the Meldanda Reserve. It is also anticipated that such a win would further promote and provide publicity to the Dark Sky project.
D. **Dark Sky Nomination and David Allen Prize Update cont’d**

**Conclusion**

Overall it is considered that this is a unique and enterprising initiative that capitalises on a natural asset of the Mid Murray region (the Dark Sky). Mid Murray Council is in a unique position, given its largely flat and dry landscape, proximity to Adelaide, as well as the absence of major towns/developments and the fact that it is sheltered from the lights of Adelaide by the Mt Lofty Ranges. Should the area become a formal ‘Dark Sky Reserve’, there will be many tourism opportunities, which will assist with the further economic development of the area.

**References**

**Community Plan**

**Theme 3: Economic Development & Tourism**

Aggressively grow the tourism industry sector by:

- **Theme 3.6** – Working to cooperatively develop, promote, brand, market and recognise existing tourism infrastructure.

- **Theme 3.7** – Partnering and facilitating operator development of new tourism assets and experiences.

- **Theme 3.8** – Partnering and facilitating operator packaging of tourism products.

- **Theme 3.12** – Link tourism, regional and economic development and attraction efforts through the development of Mid Murray brand/positioning.

**Budget**

There are no budget implications directly related to this report, however Council is providing funds to pay for Jenny Fleming to assist with the nomination process.

**Legislation**


**Recommendation**

Moved __________________ Seconded __________________

that the report titled ‘Dark Sky Nomination and David Allen Prize Update’ be received and noted.
E. Update on Proposed Naming of an Unnamed Reserve (A11252, L5017) – Ridley Road, Cambrai

Reporting Officer: Joel Taggart  
Position: Acting Director – Development & Environmental Services

Report Purpose

To provide Council and the Committee with an update on the public consultation process for the renaming of a public space located adjacent to the bridge over the River Marne, just south of the town of Cambrai.

Introduction/Background

On 6 February 2017, Council staff received a request from Mid Murray Landcare SA to name the Council owned portion of land located south of Cambrai adjacent to the Marne River Bridge (Appendix E.1). The site is currently identified by Council as Assessment Number A11252 and Asset ID number L5017 (Appendix E.2). Mid Murray Landcare has suggested the name Rhine Villa Reserve which considers the European historical significance of the former name of Cambrai (Rhine Villa). The naming of this reserve will have little to no impact on the progress of projects as part of the Open Space Plan implementation, however a decision to name this reserve will assist in identifying a well used and prominent area of public open space.

Following the matter being considered at the Open Space & Recreation Advisory Committee’s meeting on 27 March 2017 (refer Appendix E.3), the following was resolved:

145/3 Cr Wilkinson moved that it be recommended to Council that:

(4) The report titled ‘Proposed Naming of an Unnamed Reserve (A11252, L5017) – Ridley Road, Cambrai’ be received;
(5) Council undertake public consultation on the naming of the subject land;
(6) A future report to Council with naming recommendation is considered for decision after public consultation; and
(7) Council communicate with Mid Murray Landcare SA on the progress of their request.

Seconded Cr Taylor.  

CARRIED

Public consultation has now occurred and no comments were received in relation to this matter.

Refer Appendix E.1.

Refer Appendix E.2.

Refer Appendix E.3.
E. **Update on Proposed Naming of an Unnamed Reserve (A11252, L5017) – Ridley Road, Cambrai cont’d**

**Discussion**

In naming open space (public space), Council must consider its responsibilities under the *Local Government Act 1999*. Specifically Section 219 – *Power to assign a name, or change the name, of a road or public place* relates to the proposal at hand.

Section 219 states the following:

1. A council may assign a name to a public or private road, or to a public place, or change the name of a public or private road, or of a public place.
2a. The council must assign a name to a public road created after the commencement of this subsection by land division.
2. If a council proposes to change the name of a public road that runs into the area of an adjoining council, the council must—
   a. give the adjoining council at least two months notice of the proposed change; and
   b. consider any representations made by the adjoining council in response to the notice.
3. A council—
   a. must immediately notify the Registrar-General, the Surveyor-General and the Valuer-General of the assignment of a name, or the change of a name, under this section; and
   b. must, on request by the Registrar-General, the Surveyor-General or the Valuer-General, provide information about the names of roads and public places in the council’s area.
4. Public notice must be given of the assigning or changing of a name under subsection (1).
5. A council may prepare and adopt a policy relating to the assigning of names under this section.
6. A council may at any time alter its policy, or substitute a new policy.
7. Notice of the adopting or altering of a policy under this section must be published—
   a. in the Gazette; and
   b. in a newspaper circulating within the area of the council; and
   c. on a website determined by the chief executive officer.
8. A reference in this section to land division is a reference to the division of an allotment under the Development Act 1993 or to the dealing with land under the Roads (Opening and Closing) Act 1991 so as to open a road.

Council endorsed the current *Naming of Roads and Public Places Policy (MMC-MP4)* to be effective from 8 September 2015. This policy is weighted towards the creation of new roads and naming/renaming of roads in association with land divisions pursuant to the provisions of the *Development Act 1993*. Council’s policy is somewhat silent with regards to the process to naming other such public places within the Council area. However the intention of the policy is to provide a mechanism for the community to request names be applied to places, which provides Council with a guideline as to how such requests can be processed and how a decision is to be made using community consultation to inform that decision.
E. Update on Proposed Naming of an Unnamed Reserve (A11252, L5017) – Ridley Road, Cambrai cont’d

It can be concluded from the Naming of Roads and Public Places Policy that any naming of places must be undertaken in accordance with Council’s Public Consultation Policy. Therefore the following process was considered appropriate in this case:

1. The Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee to accept and consider the naming request of the subject land (A11252 (L5017)), as made in writing by Mid Murray Landcare SA.
2. Staff to consider the intentions of Council’s Naming of Roads and Public Places Policy and shall assess how the policy informs the naming of the subject land.
3. Council to consult formally with the community in accordance with Council’s Public Consultation Policy (at least 21 days).
4. Staff to present consultation results and report to a future Council meeting to decide upon the name of the subject land.
5. Council to consider all submissions received as part of its decision making process.
6. Council to immediately notify the Registrar-General, the Surveyor-General and the Valuer-General of the assignment of the name.
7. Council to provide public notice in a newspaper circulating generally throughout the State, as required under the Local Government Act 1999. The public notice will include the date that the new name takes effect, and the notice will be published on the Council’s website at www.mid-murray.sa.gov.au

This process is currently up to step 4. As mentioned, no submissions were received by Council from the community in regards to this matter. Therefore it is considered that the proposed name of Rhine Villa Reserve is suitable to be adopted. If the Committee and Council support this proposal, Council staff will progress the process to steps 6 and 7 above.

It should also be noted that a Community Land Management Plan has been identified as being required for this portion of land and will be developed in the future providing greater identification, purpose and direction for the reserve.

References

Community Plan

**Theme 1: The Natural & Built Environment**
Facilitate an active partnership between Council and Community to:
Theme 1.6 – Develop and implement an Open Space Strategy that balances the needs of residents and transient population.

**Theme 2: Community Wellbeing**
Facilitate an active partnership between Council, key Agencies (regional development, health services and employment and training services) to encourage ‘game changing’ activities:
Theme 2.7 – Ensure that our Asset Development Plans encourage the development and maintenance of contemporary multi-purpose leisure and recreation facilities to encourage an active community.
E. **Update on Proposed Naming of an Unnamed Reserve (A11252, L5017) – Ridley Road, Cambrai cont’d**

Theme 2.8 – Strategically prioritise opportunities for community engagement, connection and participation.

**Theme 3: Economic Development & Tourism**

**Aggressively grow the tourism industry sector by:**
Theme 3.7 – Partnering and facilitating operator development of new tourism assets and experiences.

**Budget**
There are no budget implications.

**Legislation**

**Recommendation**

Moved __________________ Seconded __________________

that it be recommended to Council that

(1) The report titled ‘Proposed Naming of an Unnamed Reserve (A11252, L5017) – Ridley Road, Cambrai’ be received;

(2) Council adopt the name ‘Rhine Villa Reserve’ and apply it to the Unnamed Reserve (A11252, L5017) situated on Ridley Road, Cambrai, with immediate effect (subject to due process); and

(3) Council communicate with Mid Murray Landcare SA on the progress of their request.
F. Murray Coorong Trail

Reporting Officer Amy Loechel
Position Acting Director – Community Services

Report Purpose

To update the Open Space & Recreation Advisory Committee on the progress and future directions for the Murray Coorong Trail.

Introduction/Background

Over the previous three month period, significant progress has been made on Stage 1 of the Murray Coorong Trail from Mannum to Kia Marina.

After negotiations with the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources (DEWNR), a partnership was formed with Council and upgrades completed on the Cowirra levee bank.

In December 2017, the base of the levee was compacted with extra fill, clay material and top surfaced with crushed limestone rubble. Other works completed also include fencing, weed spraying and the construction of suitable entry and exit points for walking (including prams), cycling and gophers/wheelchairs. Total cost to Council was $7,150, which has been issued to the Office for Recreation and Sport grant received.

In addition to Council’s request, upgrades have also taken place to the Bolto levee bank.

Native vegetation clearance was approved and issued to allow further construction to take place for the remaining sections of Stage 1, including tree trimming, spreading of rubble, some sections of spray sealant and weed spraying.

A tracker has been installed at the entry point of the levee, on the south end, in order to monitor the usage of the levee. It is anticipated that statistics may assist in attracting further funding in the future.

Key meetings were held with various levels of Government in order to increase interest and attract further funding for the project. Meetings were held with:

- Tony Pasin, Member for Barker
- Adrian Pederick, Member for Hammond
- Rebekah Sharkie, Member for Mayo and Kelly Galdigau, candidate for Hammond
- Jo Podoliak, Chief Executive of Regional Development Australia Murraylands and Riverland to discuss potential support and resourcing to complete an economic analysis, social analysis, and business plan.

Further options are being explored for a stand alone website to include options for mapping and relevant documentation across the three regions of Mid Murray, Murray Bridge and Coorong districts. A domain name has been registered for the project www.murraycoorongtrail.com.au
F. Murray Coorong Trail cont’d

Quotes are currently being sought to complete an economic analysis with the purpose to:

- Develop and model the economic impact (gross regional product and jobs) of the project, demonstrating the link between the funding sought and the estimated impacts of the construction and operational phases of the development on the regional economy.
- Assess the social impacts during and beyond the construction phase. This will demonstrate how the project will affect amenity, community connectedness and inclusion, as well as learning and knowledge creation in the region.
- Undertake a value for money analysis of the trail. While there are potentially several aspects to the assessment of ‘value for money’, the major quantitative component will be a cost benefit analysis. This will demonstrate the return on investment in the project producing the standard cost benefit analysis indicators such as net present value (NPV), benefit cost ratio and internal rate of return (IRR).

Quotes are also being sought to complete a social analysis including:

- Quantitative data: socio economic data
- Qualitative responses: testimonials from community, consumers (visitors) and local businesses.
- Industry research: commentary on social benefits contained in existing trails research
- Letters of support: from local businesses and the community

It is anticipated that Stage 1 from Mannum to Kia Marina will be completed by 30 June 2018.

Conclusion

The Murray Coorong Trail is a large multipurpose recreation trail spanning 450 kilometre from Cadell in the Riverland to Salt Creek in the Coorong.

Stage 1 from Mannum to Kia Marina is currently under construction due to be completed by 30 June 2018.

Once complete, the trail will promote wellbeing, encourage tourism and business expansion, showcase our River and Coorong, and conserve and protect biodiversity.

References

Community Plan

**Theme 1: The Natural & Built Environment**

**Facilitate an active partnership between Council and Community to:**

Theme 1.6 – Develop and implement an Open Space Strategy that balances the needs of residents and transient population.
F. Murray Coorong Trail cont’d

Theme 2: Community Wellbeing
Facilitate an active partnership between Council, key Agencies (regional development, health services and employment and training services) to encourage ‘game changing’ activities:
Theme 2.8 – Strategically prioritise opportunities for community engagement, connection and participation.

Theme 2.9 – Improve access to innovative health service delivery.

Budget
$123,750 State Government Grant funding - Office for Recreation and Sport Community Recreation and Sport Facilities Program.
$41,250 Mid Murray Council – 2017/18 financial year budget.

Legislation

Recommendation
Moved __________________ Seconded __________________
that the report titled ‘Murray Coorong Trail’ be received and noted.
G. **Open Space, Recreation and Public Realm Plan Implementation Update (Work Plan)**

**Reporting Officer**  Joel Taggart  
**Position**  Acting Director – Development & Environmental Services

**Report Purpose**

To provide the Committee and Council with a regular overview of the development of various open space related projects proposed to occur within the Mid Murray Council area in the next 10 years. In the main, most of these projects are linked to the Mid Murray Council Open Space, Recreation and Public Realm Plan (the Plan). This particular report focuses on allowing Elected Members to consider and comment on both the projects and their timing.

**Discussion**

Following adoption of the Mid Murray Council Open Space, Recreation and Public Realm Plan by Council earlier this year, Council staff have developed a Work Plan, which is an internal working document that assists staff in planning the delivery of projects proposed/identified in the Open Space Plan.

**The Work Plan**

The Work Plan itself is an excel spreadsheet which details the various Open Space projects proposed across the Council area over the next 10 years. Various attributes and details for each project are listed in the spreadsheet. The document is intended to be a 'living' document, which will be updated as budgetary constraints allow and also in response to changed needs and desires of the community.

It should be noted that the Work Plan has been previously endorsed by Council, and importantly it is noted that Council is not being held to deliver the specified projects at certain times. Whilst the Work Plan will have linkages to Council’s Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP), costings contained in the LTFP will only be indicative, and subject to further review/confirmation.

The Work Plan can be found in Appendix G.

Refer Appendix G.

**Current Projects**

Current projects that are contained within the Work Plan and that are either already underway, or in the advanced planning stages, include:

- Works on the Stage 1 implementation of the Mary Ann Reserve Master Plan
- Minor upgrades to the Truro Toilet and Parking Bay area
- Implementation of the Morgan Riverfront Master Plan
- Upgrades to Len White Reserve, Swan Reach
- Morgan Caravan Park upgrades.
G. Open Space, Recreation and Public Realm Plan Implementation Update (Work Plan) cont’d

Additional Projects and Funding

Since the original development of the Work Plan, ideas have been submitted for the following additional projects. Staff seek the guidance of the Committee and Council in relation to these (and any other potential projects) –

- Blanchetown Riverfront Masterplan – the development of a Masterplan to develop the Blanchetown Riverfront as a new river destination, particularly capitalising on the large amount of river users who frequent this area, as well as the many travellers on the Sturt Highway. This project could also assist with or be linked into a town beautification project.
- Mannum Waters Riverfront Masterplan – to develop a Masterplan for the various pieces of Crown/Council land in and around Mannum Waters, particularly capitalising on the immediate riverfront land that is currently inaccessible but has much tourism potential.
- Bowhill riverfront pontoons and moorings – to develop a plan/strategy to ensure Bowhill is cemented as a preferred stop along the river for houseboats and to provide additional recreational facilities on the Bowhill riverfront. It is noted that the Bowhill Progress Association have some initiatives in relation to this.

This Work Plan has now been integrated with Council’s Long Term Financial Plan. This is something that will continue to be reviewed as new projects emerge and/or projects are prioritised. This will ensure that all the proposed Open Space projects are adequately factored into Council’s forward budgeting and are programmed in an orderly fashion. Many of the proposed projects are subject to external funding, and thus this will require some flexibility both in terms of the scope and timing of each project.

Promotion of the Plan

As detailed in the last Committee/Council report on this Work Plan, the Mid Murray Council Open Space, Recreation and Public Realm Plan won an Award at the SA Division of the Planning Institute of Australia’s (PIA) Awards late last year. This Award is now in contention to win the national Award for Community Engagement at PIA’s National Congress and awards ceremony in Perth in May 2018. Staff will also present a 20 minute presentation on the Open Space Plan to the Congress attendees. This will provide both the Plan and Council in general with some national exposure.

In addition, Council staff have been invited to present for 20 minutes on the Open Space Plan at the LGA Showcase conference in April 2018. In addition, Council staff will have an exhibit stall over the 2 days of this event, which will promote the Open Space Plan and the Mid Murray Council area.
G. **Open Space, Recreation and Public Realm Plan Implementation Update (Work Plan) cont’d**

**Feedback**

Council staff are happy to consider ongoing Elected Member and community feedback on the proposed projects and their timing. Elected Members are welcome to raise comments in Committee and Council meetings about the Work Plan. Although the Work Plan has now been finalised, it will be a ‘living’ document which will change from year to year (particularly due to funding constraints). During 2018, Council will begin consulting directly with individual communities about the proposed projects and their timing. Given the broad scope of the projects and their future delivery dates, firm costings are not able to be provided at this time.

**References**

**Community Plan**

**Theme 1: The Natural & Built Environment**
Facilitate an active partnership between Council and Community to:
Theme 1.6 – Develop and implement an Open Space Strategy that balances the needs of residents and transient population.

**Theme 2: Community Wellbeing**
Facilitate an active partnership between Council, key Agencies (regional development, health services and employment and training services) to encourage ‘game changing’ activities:
Theme 2.8 – Strategically prioritise opportunities for community engagement, connection and participation.

**Budget**
There are no budget implications related to this report, given that each individual project will be subject to its own budget allocation.

**Legislation**

**Recommendation**
Moved __________________ Seconded __________________
that it be recommended to Council that it note the report regarding the Mid Murray Council’s Open Space, Recreation and Public Realm Plan ‘Work Plan’ and seek that the following projects be added to the Work Plan:

(1) ____________________________

(2) ____________________________

(3) ____________________________

Joel Taggart
**Acting Director - Development & Environmental Services**
H. Proposal for Care and Control of Portion of Crown Land at Cowirra

**Reporting Officer**
Joel Taggart

**Position**
Acting Director – Development and Environmental Services

**Report Purpose**
To seek the guidance of Council and the Committee in respect to existing portions of Crown land at Cowirra that could provide a valuable addition to the Murray Coorong Trail if Council was granted care and control over the land.

**Introduction/Background**
As part of the roll out of the Murray Coorong Trail, as previously reported to Council and the Committee, some portions of land at Cowirra may be available for Council use, being Allotment 1 in DP85985 (CR 6085/157) and Allotment A in RP1942 (CR 5539/570).

A map of the area and subject land is provided below. Further, photos of the site will be provided at the Committee meeting.
H. Proposal for Care and Control of Portion of Crown Land at Cowirra cont’d

Discussion

Currently this land is Crown land and is licenced for use to a neighbouring property owner for grazing purposes. Council staff have been alerted to the fact that this neighbour is selling their property, and as such their licence to use the land for grazing will be returned to the Crown upon sale of the adjoining property. Therefore there is an opportunity for Council to register an interest in taking on care and control of the land known as Allotment 1 and seeking a licence over the land known as Allotment A. The reason for the different tenure proposed between the two allotments is due to the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources (DEWNR) wanting to maintain control of Allotment A, given that it contains equipment they own, as well as its role as a levee bank.

Through implementing the above, this would allow Council to open up the land for community access and importantly would allow improved access and open space for the Murray Coorong Trail. In order to facilitate this land being dedicated to Council’s care and control, Council must lodge an application with Crown lands and pay $832 in fees. It is recommended that Council do this.

Council staff have held discussions with Senior Crown Lands officers, who have advised the following –

- In the event that the land is dedicated to Council for care and control from Crown Lands, some infrastructure that exists on the land will need to be removed (pump, pipeline and jetty) – presuming Council doesn’t want such infrastructure on the land, and
- A houseboat is illegally moored near the pump shed on the land and will need to be moved on.
H. **Proposal for Care and Control of Portion of Crown Land at Cowirra cont’d**

It should also be noted that a Community Land Management Plan has been identified as being required for this portion of land proposed to be dedicated to Council. Such a plan will be developed in the future providing greater identification, purpose and direction for the subject reserve.

**References**

**Community Plan**

**Theme 1: The Natural & Built Environment**
Facilitate an active partnership between Council and Community to:

Theme 1.6 – Develop and implement an Open Space Strategy that balances the needs of residents and transient population.

**Theme 2: Community Wellbeing**
Facilitate an active partnership between Council, key Agencies (regional development, health services and employment and training services) to encourage ‘game changing’ activities:

Theme 2.8 – Strategically prioritise opportunities for community engagement, connection and participation.

**Theme 3: Economic Development & Tourism**
Aggressively grow the tourism industry sector by:

Theme 3.7 – Partnering and facilitating operator development of new tourism assets and experiences.

**Budget**

A fee of $832 is required as part of the administration process with Crown Lands. Ongoing maintenance of the site will occur in conjunction with general maintenance of the Murray Coorong Trail. There will also be a small annual licence fee payable to Crown Lands (approx. $100-$500).

**Legislation**


**Recommendation**

Moved __________________ Seconded __________________

that it be recommended to Council that

(1) Council formally request that the State Government dedicate Allotment 1 in DP85985, CR 6085/157 of Crown land to Mid Murray Council’s care and control, and

(2) Council formally request that the State Government provide Council with a licence for Allotment A in RP1942, CR 5539/570 of Crown land to Mid Murray Council.

Joel Taggart

*Acting Director – Development & Environmental Services*