PRESENT:
Cr David Burgess (Chairperson), Mayor Ian Mann OAM, Cr Mick Morrissey, Cr Kevin Myers, Mr Kelvin Goldstone, Mr Jon Fry and Mr Michael Frost

IN ATTENDANCE:
Ms Aimee Linke – Project Manager, Mid Murray LAP
Ms Karina Rose – Sustainable Recreation Project Officer

COMMENCEMENT AND WELCOME: 10.00 AM
The Chairperson declared the meeting open and welcomed all members.

APOLOGIES:
Nil.

CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:
(Page 36 – 3/12/2007)
45/1 Cr Myers moved that the Minutes of the Mid Murray Council Reserves Management Work Group held on 3 December, 2007, be taken as read and confirmed.
Seconded Mayor Mann.
CARRIED.

RESERVES MANAGEMENT WORK GROUP REPORT: See Minute Book pages 49 – 52.
45/2 Cr Morrissey moved that the report be received.
Seconded Cr Myers.
CARRIED.
RESERVES MANAGEMENT WORK GROUP REPORT CONT’D:

Blanchetown Riverfront Reserve Allotment 118 – Community Land Management Plan

46/1 Cr Morrissey moved that it be recommended to Council that the draft Community Land Management Plan for Blanchetown Riverfront Reserve Allotment 118 be endorsed as being suitable to commence public consultation. Seconded Cr Myers. CARRIED.

Petition – Fencing of Playground at Mary Ann Reserve

In relation to this matter the Environmental Services Manager tabled correspondence from:–

(i) Lions Club of Mannum, offering to provide labour to erect fencing around the playground; and

(ii) David Jaunay, Regional Risk Co-ordinator – LGA Workers Compensation and Liability Schemes, providing a report and recommendation regarding the fencing of the playground.

46/2 Mayor Mann moved that it be recommended to Council, in relation to the playground at the northern end of Mary Ann Reserve:–

(i) Council accept the offer from Lions Club of Mannum to provide labour to erect fencing around the playground;

(ii) Council give consideration to the allocation of $10,000 in the 2008/2009 budget for material costs associated with the fencing of the playground;

(iii) Council staff investigate possible funding opportunities associated with the project.

Seconded Cr Myers. CARRIED.

RESERVES MANAGEMENT WORK GROUP LATE REPORT:

See Minute Book pages 53 – 55.

46/3 J Fry moved that the report be received.
Seconded Cr Morrissey. CARRIED.
RESERVES MANAGEMENT WORK GROUP LATE REPORT CONT’D:

Camping Permit System

47/1 Mayor Mann moved that it be recommended to Council that Council:-

(i) endorse the implementation of a camping permit system, based on a user pay honesty system, initially to apply to the following reserves:-

• Bolto Reserve, Mannum
• Haythorpe Reserve, Mannum
• Hogwash Bend, Cadell
• Tenbury Hunter Reserve, Swan Reach;

(ii) give consideration in the 2008/2009 budget to the employment of an additional officer to assist with the policing of camping on Council reserves in conjunction with other compliance duties on a shared time basis with other work place functions, (possible STEDS maintenance).

Seconded Cr Morrissey.

CARRIED.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Ni.

LATE CORRESPONDENCE:

47/2 Cr Myers moved that the Late Correspondence be received.
Seconded Cr Morrissey.

CARRIED.

R Gligoritsch

Re: Removal of trees on Council Reserve adjacent to Lot 10, Page Drive, Riverbanks Estate, Blanchetown

47/3 Cr Morrissey moved that it be recommended to Council that the trees in question be trimmed or removed as considered necessary by Council’s Works Manager.
Seconded Mayor Mann.

CARRIED.
LATE CORRESPONDENCE CONT’D:

Horse SA

Re: Rockleigh Trailhead

48/1 Cr Myers moved that it be recommended to Council that the Horse SA trailhead project proposed for the Rockleigh School building site be endorsed. Seconded Cr Morrissey.

CARRIED.

NEXT MEETING:

To be held in the Council Chambers, Main Street, Cambrai on Monday, 21 April, 2008 commencing at 10.00 am.

CLOSURE:

10.50 AM The Chairperson declared the meeting closed.

............................
CHAIRPERSON

............................
DATE
A. **Open Space Grant Funding**

*Reporting Officer: Kelvin Goldstone*

An application has been lodged under the heading “Mid Murray Riverfront Reserve Development Project” for funds to compliment Councils budget allocation for the development of Bolto Reserve, Haythorpe Reserve and Hogwash Bend Reserve. The application is seeking $31,450 from the Regional Open Space Fund.

Further information will be provided at the meeting.
B. **Haythorpe Reserve Sustainable Recreation Management Plan**

*Reporting Officer: Kelvin Goldstone*

Karina Rose has completed the attached Management Plan for Haythorpe Reserve, Mannum.

As with Hogwash Bend, and as will occur with Bolto Reserve, the Plan will compliment Councils Community Land Management Plan and the Plan being drafted by Franek Savarton.

For information.
C. Blanchetown Rivefront Reserve Allotment 118 – Community Land Management Plan

Reporting Officer: Kelvin Goldstone

At a recent meeting Council resolved to accept the dedication of a piece of Crown land, riverfront reserve at Blanchetown, as reserve under the care and control of Council.

The attached draft Community Land Management Plan for the land in question has been prepared for endorsement of Council, via the Reserves Working Party, as being suitable to commence public consultation.

Recommendation:
Moved _____________________ Seconded ______________________
that it be recommended to Council that the draft Community Land Management Plan for Blanchetown Riverfront Reserve Allotment 118 be endorsed as being suitable to commence public consultation.
D. **Petition – Fencing of Playground at Mary Ann Reserve**

*Reporting Officer: Kelvin Goldstone*

The attached petition was tabled and received by Council at the meeting held on 11 February 2008.

Council resolved the matter be deferred to the Reserves Working Party for consideration and recommendation to Council.

Additional information including a risk management report will be provided at the meeting.

For consideration.

Kelvin Goldstone,

MANAGER, ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
Late Report for the Meeting of the Mid Murray Council Reserves Management Work Group, to be held in the Council Chambers, Main Street, Cambrai, on Monday, 18 February, 2008

A. **Camping Permit System**

*Reporting Officer: Rocky Warren*

At the last meeting of Council’s Reserves Working Party the following resolution was made:-

> 38/1 Cr Myers moved that it be recommended to Council that Council’s Senior Compliance Officer prepare a report for the next meeting on options available for a camping permit system at Tenbury Hunter Reserve, Bolto Reserve, Haythorpe Reserve and Hogwash Bend. Seconded J Fry.

*CARRIED.*

Investigations undertaken by Council’s Senior Compliance Officer have revealed that a number of rural Councils within South Australia have varied systems of camping permits in their popular camp site areas. Whereas these systems relating to permits vary from honesty systems through to manual collection of fees by Rangers/Council employees, it is clear through the use of the Authorised Persons Association email network, that many of these methods are involved and vary in success.

Systems implemented include:-

- A Council Inspector patrolling the various campsites issuing permits.
- The local business/general store issuing permits.
- Campers obtaining permits at the closest office of Council.
- Honesty system obtaining camping permits at the entrance of a camping area.
- No camping fees, however time limits for camping.

The honesty systems involve secure cash tins where campers obtain camping permits and place their money into the cash tin and tear off permits which are then displayed in the vehicles. This form of permit system was the most popular system adopted, and was far less labour intensive.

In every case where permits were adopted by Councils, the monies returned to Council from camping fees or the fines associated with the non payment of fees, was minimal in comparison to the money spent by Councils implementing the infrastructure. The main reason sighted by Councils for this, is they did not have the staff to follow up or police the process to ensure campers were paying and if not issue the fines.
A. **Camping Permit System cont’d**

The Mid Murray Council recently erected signage at the entrances of Bolto and Haythorpe Reserves, restricting camping to periods of 48 hours only. Whereas some of the signs have already been vandalised, there has been a notable response to the activities involving long time campers in these areas.

It should be noted that provisions within By-laws can not be policed without these advisory signs, and any breaches of these signs (48 hour camping) can be enforced by the issuing of a $100 expiation fee. However, increased inspections by Council Inspectors of the camping areas are needed, to enable the success and education of the restricted time limits.

From initial investigations by Council’s Senior Compliance Officer, without visiting the individual neighbouring Council’s camping sites, the best options available for controlling the problems associated within these high usage camping areas are as follows:-

- implement 48 hours camping in the 6 previously identified camping areas; or
- implement user pay honesty camping systems in the 6 previously identified camping areas.
A. **Camping Permit System cont’d**

In conclusion, the major problem associated with the policing of camping areas within rural Council’s of South Australia, is the availability of manpower to police the areas. Currently, Council’s Compliance staff are struggling to keep up the demands associated with their current everyday duties, and any additional workload placed upon them will result in other duties being neglected. However, an additional General Inspector within the Council to undertake proactive duties on weekends and holiday periods, and the problems experienced by Council with camping in these areas is one of these duties that can be controlled with additional staff.

Clearly, should Council choose to implement camping control systems within the 6 identified camping sites, serious consideration should be given to employing a part time General Inspector to assist with the increased workload, with consideration given to shared time within other areas of Councils workforce.

Kelvin Goldstone,
MANAGER, ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES