

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF ELECTORS
HELD IN FUNCTION AREA
ON WEDNESDAY, 2 JUNE 1993**

ATTENDANCES AND APOLOGIES

| | | |
|--------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Councillors: | G A MAJOR - Mayor | South-West Ward |
| | H M WATERS | North Ward |
| | W H MARWICK | Central Ward |
| | B A COOPER | Central Ward |
| | L A EWEN-CHAPPELL | Central Ward |
| | M J GILMORE | South Ward |
| | F D FREAME | South-West Ward |

Deputy Town Clerk: A ROBSON
 City Building Surveyor: R FISCHER
 City Parks Manager: F GRIFFIN
 Deputy City Engineer: D BLAIR
 Minute Clerk: J CARROLL

An apology for absence was tendered by Cr Dammers.

There were 9 Electors in attendance.

The Mayor declared the meeting open at 7.32pm.

This meeting had been called in accordance with the provisions of Section 171(4) of the Local Government Act, in response to a petition of Electors.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss:

- 1 the siting of the proposed carpark and ablution block to service Lexcen Park;
- 2 and have fully explained by competent Engineering and Planning experts associated problems and possible resolution.

Mr Griffin, City Parks Manager, informed the meeting that Lexcen Park had been under the control of the City for approximately 5 years and developed in the last 2 years. Funds were allocated to reticulate this park and Mirror Park, and it was always the intention to develop this park first.

He stated that Lexcen Park was always meant for active recreation purposes, with a sporting field, toilet block and car parking arrangement. He explained the City's concept plan which has been in place since 1991. Mr Griffin pointed out that funds had been spent on plants and landscaping, but that substantial growth was needed to give good visual aspect, and mentioned that the grass was not growing well due to limestone.

Mr Griffin stated that the concept plan showed a car park and toilet block opposite the high school, and an alternative position on Randell Crescent. He informed the meeting that the Parks Department was open as to where the facilities were placed on the park, but that these facilities would be required on Lexcen Park due to the demand for sporting areas in the vicinity.

Mr Vic Harman, Ocean Reef Residents Association, gave background information regarding residents' problems. He stated that residents' complaints included the high traffic flow in Randell Crescent, traffic speeds, verge parking, graffiti, and the devaluation of residents' land and houses. He mentioned his negotiations with the Council regarding graffiti removal and obtaining Council's reasons for placing the facilities in the park.

Mr Harman felt the problems would be alleviated when Hodges Drive was linked with Ocean Reef Road and requested a time scale when that would likely to occur. Also, he said the fears of the residents could be allayed if they were told that the car park entrance would be off Venturi Drive.

Mr Blair, Deputy City Engineer, stated that the Engineering Department's preferred location for the car park was off Venturi Drive as this was the main traffic carrier, and sporting bodies also usually referred people to main roads. He said that there would be times when verge parking occurred as this was quite common with all sporting facilities. Mr Blair stated there was some flexibility to move the car park but that depended on the siting of toilet block. The Engineering Department did not favour the other location in Randell Crescent as it was on the inside of a curve and opposite residential properties and would give cause to complaints. It would also direct traffic into this residential street.

Mr Fischer, City Building Surveyor, informed the meeting that the Building Department's preferred location for the toilet block was adjacent to Venturi Drive, as this offered access to services, such as sewerage, electricity and water. The siting however could be moved to suit changes made to the car park. He also stated that, from a crime prevention point of view, it was an advantage to place these facilities near to major roads, for reasons such as access and visibility.

Mr Fisher said that it was planned for a verandah to be built on the front facing the sports field.

The electors present raised the following points and concerns:

- when blocks were purchased, residents were told nothing of the plans for the park and were informed by the real estate agents that the park would only have a barbecue area;

- residents felt that the planned 40 bay car park was totally inadequate. On Sunday mornings, in excess of 70 cars have been parked in the area, mainly in Randell Crescent.
- car speeds in Randell Crescent were excessive, even though it was a sloped road with a bend;
- if soccer clubs are expanding, this problem will only worsen;
- existing and future residents should be warned of the expansion likely to be taken place in area;
- there are 9 intersections in the area and another one is going in; the distances between the intersection were unsafe;
- why not develop Mirror Park; this park is twice the size, is not overlooked by houses and is fully fenced;
- speeding will cause accidents, speed humps were needed;
- "No Parking Signs" required on verges;
- complaints of graffiti have not been dealt with.

In response to some specific questions from residents the following responses were given:

The Deputy City Engineer stated that:

- the 40 car bays was based on other facilities of a similar size, but it is never possible to accommodate all vehicles that go to reserves. The sporting clubs should be directed to utilise the Ocean Reef High School car park to assist with parking overflow;
- there were no immediate plans for Hodges Drive; discussions are being held with the developers of the Ocean Reef Road section and may depend on future development of the Ocean Reef Boat Harbour;
- enquiries would be made regarding the installation of chicanes in Randell Crescent;
- funding for the car park and toilet block was listed in the 1993/94 Budget for consideration.

The City Parks Manager stated that:

- Lexcen Park was always intended to be for sporting purposes;
- Mirror Park is expected to be ready at the end of the summer and will then be allocated to a sporting body;

Mr Harman requested that a temporary surface be put on Hodges Drive. However the Deputy City Engineer stated that, whilst this was possible, it was highly unlikely to happen because of responsibility for accidents, maintenance etc.

Regarding traffic speeds, the Deputy Town Clerk stated that if the residents' wished it, an approach could be made to the Police Department to have patrols along Randell Crescent at certain times.

Regarding graffiti, the City Building Surveyor stated that on Council owned facilities graffiti was removed but problems arise when graffiti is on service authorities' facilities. He said discussions are in process with service authorities to address this problem.

There being no further business, the Mayor closed the meeting at 8.20pm.