

# C I T Y   O F   W A N N E R O O

## MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF ELECTORS HELD IN THE FUNCTION AREA, JOONDALUP ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, BOAS AVENUE, JOONDALUP ON MONDAY, 24 OCTOBER 1994

### ATTENDANCES AND APOLOGIES

|              |                          |            |
|--------------|--------------------------|------------|
| Councillors: | H M WATERS, JP, Mayor    | North Ward |
|              | K H WOOD                 | South Ward |
|              | B J MOLONEY from 7.35 pm | South Ward |

|                    |              |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Town Clerk:        | R F COFFEY   |
| Deputy Town Clerk: | R E DYMCK    |
| City Planner:      | O G DRESCHER |
| Land Officer:      | C DRABBLE    |
| Committee Clerk:   | J HARRISON   |

Apologies for absence were tendered by Crs Freame and MacLean.

There were 18 Electors in attendance.

The Mayor declared the meeting open at 7.31 pm.

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 the proposed closure of the pedestrian accessway between Benbullen Boulevard and Gurian Gardens, Kingsley.

The Mayor invited comments from the floor.

Cr Moloney entered the Room at this point, the time being 7.35 pm.

Mr Graham Cameron of 24 Benbullen Boulevard, Kingsley addressed the meeting. He advised he was one of the four property owners adjoining the accessway and stated the following reasons for the requested closure of the accessway:

- anti-social behaviour of users of accessway affecting the lifestyle of residents;
- criminal offences, burglary;
- stones and items of rubbish thrown into gardens and onto property;
- urinating in accessway;
- drinking, and use of offensive language;
- local children afraid to use accessway;
- used contraceptives and syringes;
- removal of and damage to plants.

Mr Cameron believed closure would not affect anyone to a great degree for the following reasons:

- accessway is only slightly used;
- other routes are readily available to access schools and buses;
- currently the walk to the park is approximately 200 metres; closure would increase this distance to 300 metres;
- high school students using the accessway to reach bus stop would only have a slightly increased distance;
- crossing attendant available to assist crossing Moolanda Boulevard.

Mr Cameron stated that local residents were entitled to a good quality of life and believed the application to close the accessway carried merit.

Mr Don Burnitt of 2 Nanda Close, Kingsley addressed the meeting. He advised he was a Neighbourhood Watch Representative and lived across the road from the accessway. He agreed that a good lifestyle was desirable but did not consider the accessway to be a great problem and was in fact an asset to the community.

Mr Burnitt stated that people would be inconvenienced greatly by the closure and presented a 96-signature petition opposing the closure for presentation to Council at its meeting of 26 October 1994.

Mr Burnitt gave the following reasons why closure was not desirable:

- the distance to the park would be doubled without the use of the accessway;
- Neighbourhood Watch has no reports of criminal activities;
- closure will not affect criminal activities;
- some problems are caused by local residents;
- accessway is well used and clean.

Several other residents made comments regarding the closure. The comments in favour of the closure were as follows:

- vandalism on lamp posts;
- fire damage to trees;
- problems with youths in accessway;
- problems are increasing daily and mainly occur at night;
- problems are greater for people living on accessway.

Comments against the closure were as follows:

- accessway is clean and well kept;
- used regularly for access to park, buses, school;
- no incidents of graffiti;
- is an asset to community;
- closure would move the problem elsewhere;
- other solutions should be found to problem.

Mr Oscar Drescher, City Planner, advised of the procedure involved in closure of pedestrian accessways.

The first stage in closure procedure is to approach the Department of Planning and Urban Development and Department of Land Administration for their views regarding the closure. Servicing authorities (Telecom, SECWA and Water Authority of WA) are approached regarding possible costs and relocation of services within the accessway.

The applicants are then advised of the costs involved in closure and asked whether they are prepared to meet these costs.

The matter is then reported to Council for its decision regarding advertising to call for public comments. Following public comment time, Council would make its final decision as to whether or not to close the accessway. Finally, the application is referred to Department of Land Administration to formally close the pedestrian accessway.

The City Planner advised that this particular application was in its early stages and normal steps will be taken, which usually take between 10 and 18 months.

There being no further business, the Mayor declared the meeting closed, the time being 8.15 pm.