



NOTES FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID PLUMRIDGE'S DESK

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THE HIGH PRICE OF BREAD AND CIRCUSES

Taxpayers have paid almost \$600 million dollars to wipe out SACA's debt and build the SACA and the SANFL a new stadium and it is reported that **Port and the Crows are being charged \$200,000 to play in this half a billion dollar taxpayer funded stadium.** And it's worth remembering that the Stadium Management Authority is a sub-lessee of the Minister who is in turn a lessee of the Adelaide City Council. And part of the 'deal' was for Council to be stripped of all its former revenue streams from the Oval – rent and parking fees – and for this commercial operator, the SMA, to not be required to pay one cent in rates to the city to assist with the high costs of maintenance and proper presentation of the surrounds of the Oval and the adjoining Riverbank. Council is happy to shoulder its responsibilities but surely it is reasonable that it should be fairly compensated for its efforts.

It's also worth noting that a recent function **Mr Ian McLachlan** is reported as having said that the first step in achieving the Oval Redevelopment was to deal the Adelaide City Council 'out of the equation'. Whilst there may be a grain of truth in that statement, the reality is that any organisation can bludgeon its way through proper consultation and approval processes and take liberties with due process if it has the support of the government and an all-empowering Act of Parliament behind it.

Mr McLachlan seems to have forgotten that **SACA was given unstinted support by the Council** in its plans for the redevelopment of the Eastern and Western Stands. Council held many special meetings, often 'at the drop of a hat,' to facilitate rapid and supportive approval of SACA's building plans and its numerous re-financing and other whims and wishes. They paid a pittance in rent and no rates while they exclusively occupied a major piece of public Park Land.

SACA may have been a major contributor to the development of the Adelaide Oval over the years but it should not be forgotten that it only achieved what it did with the bountiful support of its landlord, the Adelaide City Council.

THE HIGH COST OF BEING A SOCCER FAN IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Meanwhile, in stark comparison, **Adelaide United will this year pay \$800,000 to the Adelaide Entertainment Centre (AEC)** for the use of Hindmarsh Stadium!! Adelaide United applied for management rights to Hindmarsh but as it turned out AEC was offered the management rights by the State Government (the same one that "donated" half a billion of taxpayer's money to footy and cricket). AEC has been ordered by the Government to recover costs on Hindmarsh so why doesn't the government similarly demand recovery of costs on Adelaide Oval from Footy and cricket?

You may think of this as a minor issue, but I suspect that soccer fans don't, because the reality is that the World Game is being run into the ground while footy and cricket are getting major tax-payer assistance. Enjoy your Oval!

IS THERE NO LIMIT?

Is there no limit to the depths that the Adelaide media will go to in its efforts to denigrate and belittle the Adelaide City Council? If the behaviour of certain journalists in the past few weeks is anything to go by, the answer is definitely NO!

First there was the decision to fell the beautiful old **Moreton Bay Fig tree in Hindmarsh Square**. A difficult decision with which none of us was happy but the tree was in a serious structural condition. **Our hearts may have told us to keep it but our heads told us that in the interest of public safety it had to go.** When faced with all the facts there was no choice but researching the facts is too hard for local journos and media 'experts' and of course facts spoil a good attack on the Council.

Then we have had the adverse reaction to the redevelopment of the Mall – a flagship project for the Council and one that will benefit the whole city. At every step along the way Council has been at pains to explain the proposals and consult on the design but when we start the work every self-styled expert crawls out of the woodwork and finds fault with the design. To install the new underground services the trees just had to go. Again a difficult decision the Council had to make and just for the record, creating open space in the Mall was about retail trends and flood-proofing- never about a view to the Hills!

And then there was all the fuss about Victoria Square Stage 1 regeneration which has turned out to be a great success. It has already hosted TDU and the Fringe and there are other events to come – undoubtedly a signature project for the city.

The latest hoo haa has been about a music festival at Bonython Park. Soundwave knew the conditions of licence regarding acceptable noise levels and whilst no one objects to an occasional breach, the fact is that this event exceeded the limits for up to 70% of the time and action has to be taken by the Council; it doesn't depend on complaints from local residents.

Just a modicum of honesty in the reporting would have shown the issue had nothing to do with the residents and it is grossly unfair to heap scorn on the good people of North Adelaide. To accuse them of some kind of 'snobbery' and to then accuse them – and the Council - of holding back the state is arrant nonsense, never backed up by a shred of evidence. In fact the evidence shows a progressive Council that has delivered on its strategic plan and brought new life to the city.

Yet another trumped up excuse for the media to launch a gratuitous and shallow attack on the City Council.

In my forty years of involvement in Local Government I have never experienced such a relentless and unrelenting attack on a Council. The recent efforts of Penberthy, Clarke and others who dominate the airwaves leave one despairing of there ever being serious, constructive analysis of what the Council is trying to achieve through its Strategic Plans and the projects and programmes it is implementing as part of that plan. Criticism I expect but constant belittling and abuse is beyond the pale.

Council Meeting- 8 April (Next Ordinary Mtg April 22 (6pm) – Group 2 Cées – Tues 15 April (6.00pm)

NB: Group 2 Committees are the City Infrastructure and Public Works Committee and the Corporate Governance and Finance Committee

- 1. The meeting began with an [Acknowledgement of Country](#) in respect of the Kurna People of the Adelaide Plains.
- 2. [Apologies](#) Cllr Wilkinson tendered an n apology for absence from this meeting.
- 3. [Confirmation of Minutes](#) The Minutes of the Council held on **25 March 2014** was taken as read and confirmed.
- 4 [Public Forum](#) Ms **Christine Anthony** briefed the Council on **Festivals Adelaide**, an Alliance of 10 Adelaide Festivals.
- 5. [Report of the City Planning and Development Committee](#) – 1 April (Presented by Chair: Cllr Hamilton)
 - 5.1 Council decided that both **Options A and B for the design of the Frome Street Bikeway North Section** should be used for the purposes of community consultation. It also endorsed the implementation programme for the Frome Street Bikeway between Pirie Street and Margaret Street North Adelaide which is planned for staged overall completion by 2016-2017. The first 2 stages – Glen Osmond Road to Carrington St and Carrington St to Pirie St are under construction and **due for completion by May 2014**.
 - 5.2 Council endorsed the **Statement of Intent** for a **Local Heritage Places in the Park Lands** Development Plan Amendment. It will now go to Minister Rau for approval prior to Council preparing the plan for public consultation.
 - 5.3 Council received late submissions and endorsed the summary of submissions received re the **Residential and Main Street Development Plan Amendment** and agreed to refinements of the plan based on submissions from the public.
 - 5.4 Council agreed to notify the State Government that it gives 'in-principle' support for the establishment of **Building Upgrade Finance** in SA commencing in the City of Adelaide subject to a suitable funding model and appropriate legislation.
 - 5.5 Council endorsed preparation of a **Park Lands Interpretation Plan** noting that implementation will depend on funding.
 - 5.6 Council endorsed the Street Character Typologies and materials for the **Urban Design Framework**. Council also endorsed the Pilot Elements and Historic Elements Processes to trial various elements and seek public feedback.
 - 5.7 Council noted the State Government's commitment to the **ANZAC Centenary Memorial Garden Walk** on Kintore Avenue and request for Council co-funding and resolved that **Renewal SA** be asked to for more detailed concept plans.
 - 5.8 Council agreed to make a submission to the **Expert Panel on Planning Reform** based on 12 areas of concern as identified in the report from the Committee and following the Panel's "What we have Heard" report.
 - 5.9 Council noted that a proposal for a **Park Lands Naming Project** (to name currently un-named Parks) was significant in scale and complexity and resolved to ask the **Park Lands Authority** to assist in preparing a project proposal and scope.

The committee also confirmed its March Minutes, had a workshop on Urban Design Framework, discussed the Main Street Historic Building Façade Improvement Scheme, Creswell and Pennington Gardens and received the Monthly Update.

- 6. [Report of the City Culture and Community Services Committee](#) – 12 April (Presented by Chair, Cllr Hender)
 - 6.1 Council noted that \$100k in funding has been received from the State Government to contribute to the cost of upgrading the **Princess Elizabeth Playspace in Mirnu Wirra (Park 24)** and agreed to execute the Funding Deed.
 - 6.2 Council received and noted community feed-back on community use of the **Minor Works Building at ERGO** in Sturt Street and approved plans for its activation. **Council staff will maintain and operate the facility as a community asset.**

The committee also confirmed its March Minutes, received a presentation and request for funding of the Cricket World Cup which includes 3 matches in Adelaide, referred Gover St Lighting options to Council and received the Monthly Update.

Reports for Council (Chief Executive Officer's Reports)

- 7. Council endorsed a pilot to install ten **4300 Kelvin LED light fittings in Gover Street North Adelaide** with a reduced spillage and appropriate light output to improve pedestrian safety. This will require a budget reconsideration to provide the \$26k required to provide Louis Poulsen fittings. Council will also test lower K options as part of the Urban Design Framework
- 8. **Question on Notice:** There were no Questions on Notice
- 9. **Questions without Notice:** There were no Questions without Notice
- 10. **Motions on Notice:** There were no Motions on Notice
- 11. **Other Business:** The **Lord Mayor** presented a report on official meetings undertaken by him to promote the City of Adelaide and South Australia more broadly on the international stage while in **Taiwan, China and Hong Kong in late 2013**.
- 12/15 [Confidential Items](#) ■ 13.1 Sturt Street Housing Update ■ 14 Waymouth Street Update ■ 15 Confidential Motion on Notice presented by **Deputy Lord Mayor Cllr Malani** – Adelaide Promotional Opportunity

Any views expressed herein are those of Cllr Plumridge AM and do not purport to be those of the Adelaide City Council.