



26 February 2019

COUNCIL UPDATE

DEVONPORT CITY COUNCIL

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MARITIME CENTRE CAFE TO BE REOPENED



The Bass Strait Maritime Centre cafe will soon reopen after Council agreed last night to lease it to a local operator for two years.

Devonfield Enterprises operated the Bass Strait Diner for almost five years from 2013 but the facility has not been operating since they withdrew in January last year.

Council has been seeking an operator since then. However, issues regarding the Centre's waste water facility and the standard of the kitchen equipment were raised by potential operators as the main reasons for not pursuing a lease.

The kitchen is currently fitted with domestic type appliances and the Centre does not have a grease trap preventing an operator from cooking with oils or fats onsite.

Recently Paul and Claire Fielding contacted Council with a proposal to operate a cafe from the Centre which potentially did not require an upgrade to the

infrastructure or equipment.

The proposal detailed the operator's willingness to work within the limitations of the kitchen.

They are aided by their current location and operation.

Council was told that the operator provided details of the proposed menu and information regarding their work practices, which were assessed by Council Officers to be of a high standard.

They can commence at the Centre on a walk in/walkout arrangement with no additional infrastructure or equipment required from Council, apart from a basket arrestor being installed on the kitchen's waste pipe.

A cafe is seen as benefitting the Centre by providing a value-added experience to visitors and encouraging tour operators to include the Centre on itineraries.

COUNCIL TO SUPPORT CLUBROOMS UPGRADE



The Devonport City Council will provide \$40,000 to support the Devonport City Soccer Club's planned \$528,000 upgrade of its Lovett Street clubrooms.

A Commonwealth Government grant of \$385,000 has already been secured.

The upgrade to the facilities will increase the number of male and female senior level changerooms as well as providing more junior changerooms and referee facilities.

The existing facilities have not been upgraded since 1988 and do not meet current facility standard guidelines and do not cater for the current demand.

The upgrades will allow the club more opportunities to host national and international tournaments, NPL games, FFA Cup games and A League fixtures.

The grant will be provided through savings made in the Recreation Development (Grants and Sponsorship) budget in 2018/19.

NEW SITE FOUND FOR GYMNASTICS CENTRE

The new headquarters for the Devonport Gymnastics Club will now be built on the current Spreyton Bowls Club greens, at Maidstone Park, rather than a vacant site next to the greens as was initially envisaged.

The site next to the bowls greens was identified because it was expected that the bowls club would not be in a position to move to the Devonport Country Club, at Woodrising Avenue, until 2020.

Recently the club advised Council that it could relocate from the end of its current season, in March/April, rather than in January next year.

Council was told the size of the bowling green site was sufficient to accommodate the Gymnastic Centre and also allow for improved car parking outcomes.

The club is planning to commence construction in April/May, subject to all building and planning requirements being finalised.

It has received \$750,000 in funding from the State and Federal Governments for the project as well as securing a loan from Council.

WATERFRONT PLANS

Community feedback on the LIVING CITY Waterfront Precinct concept plans was discussed last night.

Thirty written responses were received by Council with feedback also forthcoming at a public forum in November and through regular contact between residents and Council staff.

The most common concerns related to the potential conflict from traffic and pedestrian crossings, the location of a nature-based play area and the design of various structures.

Council was told 24 refinements had been identified as a result of the feedback but these would not require a new development application and could be made as part of the preparation of the tender documentation.

As well as agreeing to proceed with the tender documentation, Council endorsed the investigation into opportunities for a light show as a potential value add to the waterfront park.

The 2014 Hill PDA Report into the economic benefits of the project said the region lacked evening-based activities which attracted overnight visitations and suggested a light/sound show was worthy of consideration.