

minutes

Ordinary Meeting of Council



Please be advised that the Ordinary Meeting of Council commenced at **6.30pm** on **Tuesday 12 August 2014** in the **Council Chambers**, Administration Centre at 99 Shepperton Road, Victoria Park.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A Vuleta".

MR ANTHONY VULETA
A/CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

15 August 2014

13 COMMUNITY LIFE PROGRAM REPORTS

13.1 Recommendation from Culture and Local History Working Group - Commemorative Recognition of Alec Bell

File Reference:	CMR/3/8
Appendices:	No

Date:	24 July 2014
Reporting Officer:	D. Wilson
Responsible Officer:	T. Ackerman
Voting Requirement:	Simple Majority

Executive Summary:
Recommendation – That support for the Application for Commemorative Recognition of Alec Bell be approved by the re-naming of Hampshire Reserve.

- An application has been received for posthumous Commemorative Recognition of Alec Bell, a former resident of the Town of Victoria Park, who died on active service.
- The application was assessed by the Culture and Local History Working Group against the criteria set out in the Town’s Commemorative Recognition Guidelines.
- The Working Group recommends the application for Commemorative Recognition be approved.

TABLED ITEMS:

- Application for Commemorative Recognition - Alec Bell;
- Town of Victoria Park Commemorative Recognition Guidelines; and
- Action Notes – 18 June 2014 - Culture and Local History Working Group Meeting.

BACKGROUND:

An application has been received for posthumous Commemorative Recognition of a former resident of the Town of Victoria Park, who died on active service. The application was assessed by the Culture and Local History Working Group against the criteria set out in the Town’s Commemorative Recognition Guidelines. The Working Group recommended that the application be supported.

DETAILS:

An application has been received for Commemorative Recognition of Alec Bell, a former resident of the Town of Victoria Park, who died on active service during the Vietnam War. Alec Bell grew up in East Victoria Park and was educated at Our Lady Help of Christians and St Francis Xavier (now Ursula Frayne) schools.

Alec Bell served as a conscript in the Australian Army and died on active service in Vietnam on 29 January 1968, aged 21 years. This information has been verified.

(To be confirmed 9 September 2014)

The application was assessed by Culture and Local History Working Group against the criteria set out in the Town's Commemorative Recognition Guidelines. The Working Group recommended that the application be supported on the following basis:

- the nominee grew up and was schooled in the Town before being conscripted to serve in Vietnam;
- letters of support accompanied the nomination; and
- it was deemed the Nominee made a significant contribution through National Service.

The Working Group supported the nature of recognition proposed in the application, which was to re-name Hampshire Reserve in recognition of Alec Bell. It was considered that the level of contribution by Alec Bell, being that he gave his life serving his country, aligned with the naming of a park. Further, Members agreed that Hampshire Reserve was suitable as it was named purely based on its location.

Legal Compliance:

Nil

Policy Implications:

GEN 4 Policy and Procedures Commemorative Recognition

Strategic Plan Implications:

Nil

Financial Implications:

Internal Budget:

Sufficient funds are in the budget to fund the name change, such as a new sign for the park.

Total Asset Management:

Nil

Sustainability Assessment:

External Economic Implications:

Nil

Social Issues:

Nil

Cultural Issues:

The naming of the reserve is a tangible legacy to the memory of former resident Alec Bell, who died in active service in the Vietnam War. The naming of places after residents that have provided a significant contribution locally and through national service shapes the cultural identity of the Town.

Environmental Issues:

Nil

COMMENT:

Alec Bell was born and raised in the Town of Victoria Park, attended local schools and was conscripted into the Australian Army during the Vietnam War. Alec was killed while on active service in Vietnam on 29 January 1968. The application is accompanied by many letters of support including Kate Doust MLC and members of the community. It is considered the successful nomination of Alec Bell is consistent with the Town's Commemorative Recognition Policy.

It is understood that Hampshire Reserve was named purely due to location of being on Hampshire Street, thus is suitable for re-naming to honour a former resident consistent with the Town's Policy.

The proposed name complies with the Geographic Names Committee Policies and Standards for Geographical Naming in Western Australia. In respect to naming of parks under 1 Ha in area, the policy states:

6.2 Naming of parks or reserves under 1ha

Names commemorating or construed to be commemorating living persons shall not be considered for parks or reserves with an area over 1ha.

If a park or reserve is to be named in honour of a person, they should have either had a direct long-term association with the area, or have made a significant contribution to the area of the proposed park or reserve, or the State. Association or contribution can include:-

- *two or more terms of office on a local government council;*
- *twenty or more years association with a local community group or service club;*
- *twenty or more years of association or service with a local or State government agency or organisation;*
- *action by an individual to protect, restore, enhance or maintain an area that produces substantial long-term improvements for the community or area;*
- *service to the community or organisation must have been voluntary; and*
- *given and surname combinations may be acceptable.*

Former ownership of land is not an acceptable reason for proposing a name, unless previous criteria apply.

6.2.1 Evidence of community support

Proposals to name parks or reserves should include evidence of strong community support for the name. This support can be ascertained by some of the following:-

- *advertising proposals in local papers, inviting comments;*
- *advertising proposals in local libraries;*
- *erection of signs on the park or reserve, advising of the proposed name;*
- *advising residents in the area surrounding the park or reserve of the proposed name in writing; and*
- *advising local progress associations of proposed names and inviting their comments.*

(To be confirmed 9 September 2014)

In this instance, evidence has been provided of substantial community support and it is considered that it is not necessary to seek further community support. Preliminary advice has been received from the Geographic Names Committee that the combination of given and surname will be acceptable in this instance. It is considered appropriate that a brass plaque be installed either within the park or in the footpath adjoining the park giving some details about Alec Bell.

CONCLUSION:

The application for the Commemorative Recognition of Alec Bell meets the criteria set out in the Commemorative Recognition Guidelines. Many letters have been received in support of the application.

RECOMMENDATION/S:**Moved: Cr Potter****Seconded: Cr Windram**

1. The application for Commemorative Recognition of Alec Bell be approved by the renaming of Hampshire Reserve, to be called Alec Bell Park.
2. Endorsement from the Geographic Names Committee be requested for the application of the name "Alec Bell Park" to the land formerly known as 'Hampshire Reserve,' being Lot 50 on Diagram 12564, located at the corner of Berwick Street and Hampshire Street, East Victoria Park.

AMENDMENT**Moved: Cr Bissett****Seconded: Cr Oliver**

Reword both conditions and remove the word Park from the recommendations to read:

1. **The application for Commemorative Recognition of Alec Bell be approved by the renaming of Hampshire Reserve, to be called Alec Bell.**
2. **Endorsement from the Geographic Names Committee be requested for the application of the name "Alec Bell" to the land formerly known as 'Hampshire Reserve,' being Lot 50 on Diagram 12564, located at the corner of Berwick Street and Hampshire Street, East Victoria Park**

The Motion was Put and**CARRIED (8-0)**

In favour of the Motion: Mayor Vaughan; Cr Bissett; Cr Hayes; Cr Maxwell; Cr Nairn; Cr Oliver; Cr Potter; and Cr Windram

SUBSTANTIVE MOTION:

1. **The application for Commemorative Recognition of Alec Bell be approved by the renaming of Hampshire Reserve, to be called Alec Bell.**
2. **Endorsement from the Geographic Names Committee be requested for the application of the name "Alec Bell" to the land formerly known as 'Hampshire Reserve,' being Lot 50 on Diagram 12564, located at the corner of Berwick Street and Hampshire Street, East Victoria Park.**

The Motion was Put and

CARRIED (8-0)

In favour of the Motion: Mayor Vaughan; Cr Bissett; Cr Hayes; Cr Maxwell; Cr Nairn; Cr Oliver; Cr Potter; and Cr Windram