

## Conflict of Interest

Councillor Lindop declared a perceived conflict of interest for item 20.2 Synthetic Turf on Verges (Report No: 310/19). The nature of the perceived conflict of interest (pursuant to Section 74 of the *Local Government Act 1999*) is that she had a previous employment relationship with the property owner.

Councillor Lindop dealt with this perceived conflict of interest by making it known to the chamber and remaining as she is acting for the interest of the community.

20.2 Synthetic Turf on Verges (Report No: 310/19)

Motion – Exclusion of the Public – Section 90(3)(h) Order

C130819/1586

- 1. That pursuant to Section 90(2) of the Local Government Act 1999 Council hereby orders that the public be excluded from attendance at this meeting with the exception of the Chief Executive Officer and Staff in attendance at the meeting in order to consider Report No: 310/19 –Synthetic Turf on Verges in confidence.
- That in accordance with Section 90(3) of the Local Government Act 1999 Council is satisfied that it is necessary that the public be excluded to consider the information contained in Report No: 310/19 Synthetic Turf on Verges on the following grounds:

h. pursuant to section 90(3)(h) of the Act, the information to be received, discussed or considered in relation to this Agenda Item is legal advice which has been provided by HWL Ebsworth Lawyers on instructions from Council.

In addition, the disclosure of this information would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest. The public interest in public access to the meeting has been balanced against the public interest in the continued non-disclosure of the information. The benefit to the public at large resulting from withholding the information outweighs the benefit to it of disclosure of the information.

 The Council is satisfied, the principle that the meeting be conducted in a place open to the public, has been outweighed by the need to keep the information or discussion confidential.

Moved Councillor Lindop, Seconded Councillor Snewin

<u>Carried</u>

Administration received a request in May 2019 from the landowner of a new dwelling under construction at 1 Richardson Avenue, Glenelg North for permission under s221 of the Local Government Act to undertake landscaping works on the verges of Margaret St and Richardson Avenue, Glenelg North. The proposal included the installation of new concrete (washed aggregate) footpaths, tree planting, gardens and installation of modern synthetic turf.

Administration undertook an assessment of the proposed landscaping taking account of the Verge Management Policy, previous approvals given under s221 and the fit of the proposed landscaping within the local urban environment.

Approval was subsequently given under delegation for all elements of the landscaping including installation of modern synthetic turf.

At its meeting on 23 July 2019, Council expressed concerns about the use of synthetic turf due to possible environmental issues – principally lack of permeability for water uptake, possible heating of soil around root zones and heat island impact. Concern was also raised about long term maintenance and liabilities to Council if the material deteriorates.

Installation of the synthetic turf has now been completed.

This report addresses those concerns and makes recommendations for tightening of Council current Verge Management Policy to prohibit the future installation of synthetic turf on Council verges.

Motion C130819/1588

 That Council notes the previously issued authorisation under s221 of the Local Government Act for installation of modern synthetic turf on verges at 1 Richardson Avenue, Glenelg North (refer Attachment 4).

- That Administration review the performance of the synthetic turf on verges at 1 Richardson, Avenue Glenelg North after 1 year to assess the impact on newly planted street trees.
- If there is an unreasonable adverse impact on the growth and development of the trees, Council consider whether a breach of condition has occurred which may warrant cancellation of the s221 authorisation.
- That Council endorse a change to the Verge Management Policy to add synthetic turf to the prohibited verge treatments as listed at Clause 2.3.b of the Verge Management Policy.
- That the proposed change in Policy apply to all new applications to install synthetic turf including any proposals to renew existing installations.
- That the cost and ongoing maintenance of any approved synthetic turf installations be met by the property owners.

Moved Councillor Smedley, Seconded Councillor Patton

**Carried** 

RETAIN IN CONFIDENCE - Section 91(7) Order

C130819/1589

7. That having considered Agenda Item: 20.2 – Report No: 310/19 – Synthetic Turf on Verges in confidence under section 90(2) and (3)(h) of the Local Government Act 1999, the Council, pursuant to section 91(7) of that Act orders that the report, discussion, minutes and attachments (excluding Attachment 2 - Verge Management Policy) be retained in confidence for a period of 12 months.

Moved Councillor Lindop, Seconded Councillor Abley

Carried

## Division called

A division was called and the previous decision was set aside.

Those voting for: Councillors Snewin, Clancy, Smedley, Abley, Patton, Chabrel, Lindop and Bradshaw (8) Those voting against: Councillor Bouchee (1)

Her Worship the Mayor declared the motion

Carried

CONFIRMED Tuesday 27 August 2019

**MAYOR** 

