

## CITY OF NEWCASTLE

**Minutes of the Public Voice Committee Meeting held in the Council Chambers, Level 1, City Administration Centre, 12 Stewart Avenue, Newcastle West on Tuesday 16 March 2021 at 6.00pm.**

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### **PRESENT**

The Lord Mayor (Councillor N Nelmes), Councillors M Byrne, J Church, D Clausen, C Duncan, K Elliott (*arrived 6.07pm*), B Luke, J Mackenzie, A Robinson, A Rufo, E White (*arrived 6.08pm*) and P Winney-Baartz.

### **IN ATTENDANCE**

J Bath (Chief Executive Officer), D Clarke (Director Governance), B Smith (Director Strategy and Engagement), F Leatham (Director People and Culture), K Liddell (Director Infrastructure and Property), A Jones (Director City Wide Services), E Kolatchew (Manager Legal), M Bisson (Manager Regulatory, Planning and Assessment), S Moore (Acting Chief Financial Officer), L Duffy (Manager Parks and Recreation), A Abbott (Manager Community Strategy and Innovation), M Murray (Chief of Staff), J Vescio (Executive Officer), K Sullivan (Councillor Services/Minutes), A Knowles (Councillor Services/Meeting Support) and G Axelsson (Information Technology Support).

### **MESSAGE OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The Lord Mayor read the message of acknowledgement to the Awabakal and Worimi peoples.

### **PRAYER**

The Lord Mayor read a prayer and a period of silence was observed in memory of those who served and died so that Council might meet in peace.

### **APOLOGIES**

The Lord Mayor noted that she had received an apology from Councillor Jason Dunn and that Councillor White would be a late arrival at the meeting.

### **DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

#### **Councillor Church**

Councillor Church declared a less than significant non-pecuniary interest in Item 1 - Nomination to list Newcastle Recreation Reserve (King Edward Park) on the State Heritage Register stating that he lived a few blocks away from King Edward Park and as such enjoyed the park every day. He stated that he would remain in the Chamber for discussion of the item.

#### **Councillor Winney-Baartz**

Councillor Winney-Baartz declared a non-significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 1 - Nomination to list Newcastle Recreation Reserve (King Edward Park) on the State Heritage Register stating that she was a member of City of Newcastle's Guraki Committee and along with Rob Russell, Chief Executive Officer, of the Awabakal

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Land Aboriginal Land Council and would manage the interest by remaining in the Chamber.

**Councillor Rufo**

Councillor Rufo declared a non-significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 1 - Nomination to list Newcastle Recreation Reserve (King Edward Park) on the State Heritage Register stating that he was a member of Council's Guraki Committee and along with Rob Russell, Chief Executive Officer, of the Awabakal Land Aboriginal Land Council and would manage the interest by remaining in the Chamber.

**PUBLIC VOICE SESSIONS**

**ITEM-1                      PV 16/03/21 - NOMINATION TO LIST NEWCASTLE  
RECREATION RESERVE (KING EDWARD PARK) ON THE  
STATE HERITAGE REGISTER**

The State Heritage Register nomination excludes the King Edward Headland Reserve (former Newcastle Bowling Club) which is owned by the Awabakal Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC).

Mr Rob Russell, Chief Executive Officer, Awabakal LALC addressed Council in support of the former Bowling Club site being excised from curtilage of the headland site. He invited City of Newcastle to support the LALC's request that the NSW Heritage Council excise 1.6% of 38 hectares of the site from the heritage listing.

Dr Louisa Connors and Mrs Gael Davies, OAM, addressed Council on behalf of the Friends of King Edward Park Inc and highlighted the significance of both Awabakal and Worimi heritage as well as colonial and convict heritage. They spoke in support of including the headland reserve in the curtilage for heritage listing with the view to maintaining the land for public recreation.

**The meeting concluded at 6.33pm.**