

Notice of Motion #3/22

Cr Rainsford

I hereby give notice of my intention to move the following motion at the Ordinary Council Meeting to be held on 13 April 2022

MOTION

That Southern Grampians Shire Council:

1. Establishes a Hamilton Showgrounds Advisory Committee reflecting the intent of the current Hamilton Showgrounds Masterplan and consistent with the function of a Community Asset Advisory Committee as defined in the Local Government Act 2020.
2. Appoints two councillor delegates to the Hamilton Showgrounds Advisory Committee, with the intention of one of the councillors Chairing the Asset Advisory Committee and reporting to Council.
3. Develops a Terms of Reference for the Hamilton Showgrounds Advisory Committee to be adopted by Council within 2 months.
4. Two councillor delegates nominated to represent Southern Grampians Shire Council are Cr.& Cr.....;

Background

The Hamilton Showgrounds is a 12 Hectare of Crown Land “temporarily reserved as a site for Showgrounds, Public Recreation, Camping and Racecourse Purposes” with the Southern Grampians Shire Council duly appointed as the Committee of Management.

The User Groups which at the time of the current 2007 Hamilton Showgrounds Masterplan included Hamilton Gymnastics, Western Districts Umpire Association, Hamilton Kennel Club Hamilton Brass, SES Hamilton Branch, Lions Club of Hamilton and Hamilton & District Darts Club.

Each Use Group has a separate lease with the Council for access to and occupancy of their respective buildings/spaces. The Hamilton Pastoral & Agricultural Society undertakes some day-to- day administration

The 2007 Hamilton Showgrounds Masterplan describes the management structure as “the user groups are each represented on the Hamilton Showgrounds Advisory Board, a committee established by Council to provide “a voice” or all groups in relation to the planning, development and management of the site”

The Recommendation 16 of the Council adopted 2007 Hamilton Showgrounds Masterplan is “the Hamilton Showgrounds Advisory Board continue in its present form as a tenant representative group with which Council is able to utilise as a “sounding board “on matters pertaining to the development and management of the Showgrounds including the implementation of the Masterplan.” Page 19 Final Report. Stratcorp Hamilton Showgrounds Masterplan.

The purpose of this motion is to implement better communication and consultation processes with Council, community and Hamilton Showgrounds User Groups so as to ensure that the site continues to be relevant and responsive to the needs of user groups and the broader community. Many of the 17 improvement projects of the 2007 Masterplan have been implemented, the major investment being the construction of the Hamilton Exhibition Centre complete with commercial kitchen. 15 years on its time to ensure that the Showgrounds provides current and potential user groups, visitors and local residents with a range of facilities and spaces which are easily accessed, relevant and accommodate future needs and trends.

Officers Comments

The Local Government Act 2020 does not allow for a "Community Asset Advisory Committee". The Act provides for a Community Asset Committee under section 65 or Council can choose to establish an Advisory Committee. Previous consultation with the User Groups did not indicate support for a section 65 Committee.

A briefing is scheduled in May which will allow for a discussion on the management of a number of key assets including the Hamilton Show Grounds. Following this briefing a report will be prepared for Council (if required) to formalise the discussion.