



AGENDA

Council Chambers
5 August 2021

The **Sport and Recreation Reference Group** will be held online at 6.00pm on Monday 16 August 2021.
The agenda is as follows.

Ken Gouldthorp
GENERAL MANAGER



North Sydney Council is an Open Government Council. The records of Council are available for public viewing in accordance with this policy, with the only exception being made for certain confidential documents such as legal advice, matters required by legislation not to be divulged, and staff matters.

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1. Confirmation of Minutes

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 15 March 2021, copies of which had been previously circulated, are to be taken as read and confirmed.

2. Disclosures of Interest

3. Committee Reports

3.1. Anderson Park Masterplan Implementation

AUTHOR: David Manson – Parks and Reserves Manager

ENDORSED BY: Rob Emerson, Director Open Space and Environmental Services

ATTACHMENTS: Nil

PURPOSE:

To inform the reference group of information on the Anderson Park Masterplan Implementation.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report presents information on the Anderson Park Masterplan Implementation.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Grant funding of \$782,062.50 has been provided through a successful grant application.

North Sydney Council will provide the additional funding of \$260,687.50 through funding received from the State Government's Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Grant Program

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT the report be received.

LINK TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

The relationship with the Community Strategic Plan is as follows:

1. Our Living Environment

1.4 Public open space and recreation facilities and services meet community needs

BACKGROUND

A combined significant area Plan of Management/Masterplan was prepared for Anderson Park in response to a resolution made at the Council meeting on 18 April 2016. The new PoM/Masterplan for Anderson Park was completed in February 2019.

Initially Council funded \$100,000 in 2019/20 financial year and a further \$100,000 in 2020/21 for the implementation of the Management/Masterplan. The remainder of the funding to implement the plan including the sportsfield improvements was unfunded.

The Plan of Management listed key issues identified in relation to Sport and Recreation. The issues listed below relate specifically to the Stage 2 Sportsfield Relocation and Upgrade and new Fitness Circuit works.

Park Maintenance - The sportsfield is highly susceptible to wear due to its use levels (in winter) and the limitations of its soil, drainage, and water table regime. The PoM/Masterplan looks at strategies to improve soil conditions, to provide subsoil drainage, to upgrade irrigation systems and to investigate whether a different turf type would be most effective.

Park Furniture and Lighting - Both pedestrian and sportsfield lighting were identified as issues to be addressed in future. Better lighting at Park entrances and along the path across the foreshore is needed, and, when the playing field is 'shifted' west, away from the foreshore, the sportsfield lighting may require modification. Consultation identified that the community were keen to see facilities for all age groups in the park, and locations for fitness equipment are considered in the PoM/Masterplan.

Organised Sports - The main issue of concern is the poor condition of the sports field in winter, and proposals in the PoM/Masterplan relate to how this can be rectified by upgrading the subsoil, drainage and irrigation, by investigating more appropriate turf species and by using the field for less than the maximum 32 hours a week. The PoM/Masterplan notes that Council has introduced reduced hours per week of field use in winter in an effort to reduce sportsfield wear and tear.

CONSULTATION REQUIREMENTS

Community engagement will be undertaken in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Protocol.

DETAIL

The sustainability implications were considered and reported on during the initiation phase of this project.

Earlier this year Council submitted an application for grant funding through the Greater Cities Sport Facility Fund 2020/21 (GCSF) for Anderson Park Masterplan Implementation: Stage 2 Sportsfield Relocation and Upgrade and new Fitness Circuit. Council was successful in its application receiving \$782,062.50 of grant funding to go towards this project.

The Anderson Park Masterplan Stage 2- Sportsfield Upgrade and New Fitness Circuit project addressed all three key objectives of the GCSF

1. OBJECTIVE: Increase the number and type of sporting facilities:

- The project will deliver a new outdoor fitness training opportunity with the provision of three fitness equipment nodes around the park. A minimum of 3 pieces of equipment are proposed for each node.
- The new three node fitness equipment circuit can be used to support training activities associated with many sporting activities.
- In addition, this facility is free for community use increasing the activation opportunities around the curtilage of the existing sports ground.

2. OBJECTIVE: Increase the standard of existing sporting facilities

- The project achieves this objective by relocating and upgrading the entire sportsfield and associated lighting of Anderson Park.
- Improvements to the quality of the subsurface as well as installation of more reliable irrigation systems which utilise current technologies to regulate water quantity and distribution are proposed. The installation of a single species turfed surface will increase the standard of the current playing surface.
- Upgrades to the lighting also increase the standard of the sporting facility by improving the night-time/low light quality to meet current standards.

3. OBJECTIVE: Increase participation in sport

The project addresses this criterion in two ways:

- improvements to the quality of the turf playing surface will increase the available hours of use from 25hrs/week to 32hrs/week.
- by including additional training facilities in the form of the outdoor fitness nodes, community members as well as sporting groups can train free of charge. This creates improvements in general fitness and may help overcome individual reluctance to participate in organised sport.

Stage 2 Project Works: Anderson Park Masterplan		
Item	Description	Timeline
	Design& Documentation	
A	survey, design, documentation and Review of Environmental Effects (REF)	July to October 2021
	Project Management (council)	July 2021 to July 2022
B	project management	
	Construction (contractor)	November 2021 to July 2022
C	Field Relocation and Lighting Upgrade	
c1	site preparation	November 2021
c2	earthworks (cultivation, laser grading, final surface prep for turf	
c3	subsoil remediation	
c4	piped surface drainage (including mains, laterals, and collectors)	December 2021
c5	new concrete wicket and synthetic cover	
c6	new LED Sportsfield lighting	
c7	new irrigation	
c8	stormwater connection (Forsyth to Anderson Park)	
c9	new single species turf installation (Couch)	February 2022
c10	turf establishment	February – July 2022
D	Fitness Circuit	
d1	supply/install 3 fitness nodes (approx. 18 stations total)	
d2	safety under surfacing to each fitness hub	
	Project Total - \$1,042,750.00	
	GCSF Grant - \$782,062.50	
	Council Contribution (25%) - \$260,687.50	

3.2. Capital Works Program update

AUTHOR: David Manson – Parks and Reserves Manager

ENDORSED BY: Rob Emerson, Director Open Space and Environmental Services

ATTACHMENTS: Nil

PURPOSE:

To update the Reference Group on capital works projects that were scheduled to be completed within the last financial year 2020/21 as well as planned projects for 2021/22

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report presents an update on capital works projects that were scheduled to be completed within the last financial year 2020/21 as well as planned projects for 2021/22

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Funding for these projects is included in the adopted 2020/21 and 2021/22 capital works budgets.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT the report be received.

LINK TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

The relationship with the Community Strategic Plan is as follows:

1. Our Living Environment

1.4 Public open space and recreation facilities and services meet community needs

BACKGROUND

As part of Councils delivery plan the following Sport and Recreation projects were scheduled to be completed through the 2020/21 financial year

- St Leonard's Park Masterplan – Stage 2 Tunks Way
- Grasmere Reserve Playground Upgrade
- Hodgson Lookout Upgrade
- Kurraba Reserve
- Smoothey Park

As part of Councils delivery plan the following Sport and Recreation projects are scheduled to be undertaken through the 2021/22 financial year

- St Leonard's Park Masterplan
 - Stage 3 Southern Lawn
 - Playground Upgrade
- Coal Loader
 - Irrigation System replacement
 - Pop up Bar
 - Tunnel #2 resurfacing
 - Shade system
- Anderson Park Plan of Management Implementation – Sportsfield and Exercise Equipment projects
- Merret Playground Upgrade
- Hayes Street Wharf Amenities Upgrade
- Small Watercraft storage/Access
 - Primrose Park
 - Playground Upgrade

- Green Park Tennis Court Refurbishment

CONSULTATION REQUIREMENTS

Community engagement will be undertaken in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Protocol.

DETAIL

The sustainability implications are of a minor nature and did not warrant a detailed assessment.

Projects Allocated in the 2020/21 Financial Year

St Leonard's Park Masterplan – Stage 2 – Tunks Way

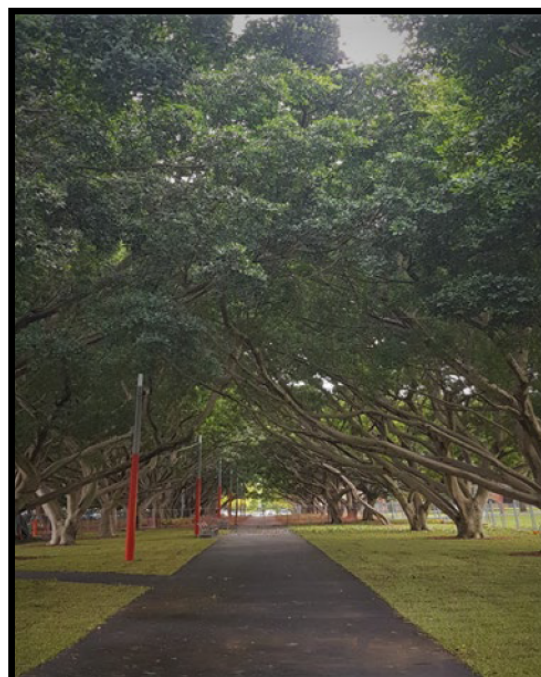
The much-anticipated stage two of St Leonards Park Master Plan Tunks Way footpath through St Leonards Park is now open to the public after numerous improvements, including widening of the walkway to three metres.

New upgraded lighting has been positioned from the middle of the footpath to the side of the pathway, providing better lighting for users of the park, allowing an unobscured view and creating a very grand feel to Tunks Way.

Light pruning of the Fig trees in the northern half of Tunks Way has allowed filtered light for improved grass and plant growth yet still maintaining the sense of tranquillity and protection from the canopy above.

More seating has been provided in many locations along the pathway and new low level gardens have been planted to help soften the appearance of the North Sydney Oval wall.

The field gun will be moved to a more prominent location on the northern end of Tunks Way.



Grasmere Reserve Playground Upgrade -- A budget of \$150,000 has been provided by the Federal Government for this project of which is currently under construction.

Hodgson Lookout Upgrade - A budget of \$250,000 is allocated to this project of which is

project of which is currently under construction.

Kurraba Reserve Entry Road– A budget of \$110,000 was allocated to this project of which has recently been completed. It has provided essential access and landscape upgrade works to Kurraba Reserve which included:

- demolition of existing bitumen road,
- installation of sandstone retaining walls and blocks, and
- construction of new access road.

Following the installation of the hardscape elements, NSC’s gardeners installed suitable planting to complement the project.

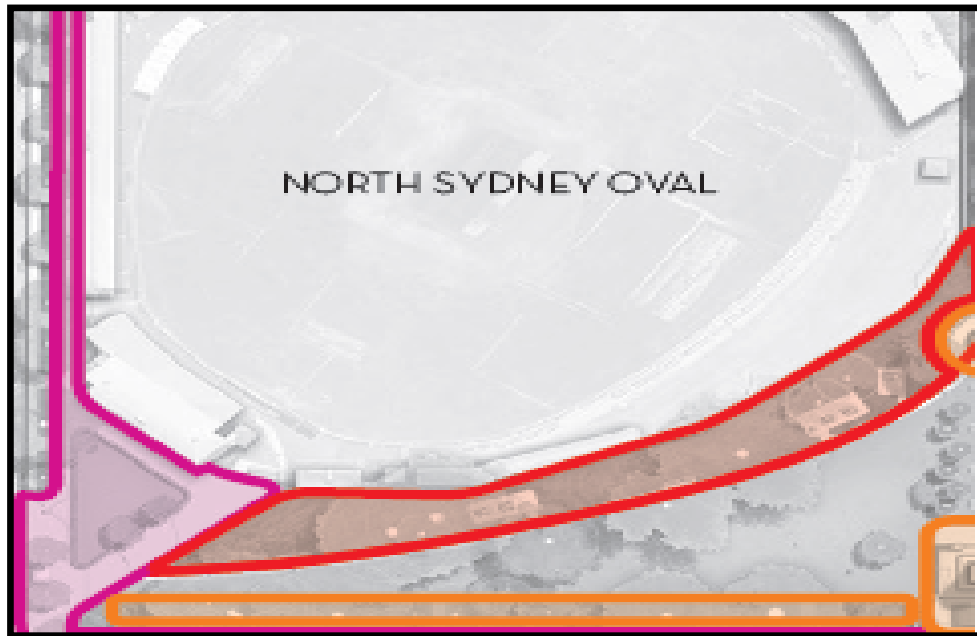


Smoothy Park – A budget of \$300,000 is allocated to this project of which is due to start construction next month. The majority of the works will be centred around Pathway & Access Improvements within the Park. It will also improve the current mismatched furniture, signage, fencing and lighting. Upgrading and consolidating these elements into a single suite that is in keeping with Council’s Public Domain Style Manual and Design Codes.

Projects Allocated in the 2021/22 Financial Year

St Leonard’s Park Masterplan

- **Stage 3 Southern Lawn** - The area of works is located to the South and Southwest of North Sydney Oval. The snippet below gives an indication of the area that the works will occur



Works will include the realignment of the asphalt pathway, new upgraded lighting, more seating and new low level gardens similar to what has been done in stage 2

At present the final design and tender documentation is well underway. Once the tender process has been completed it is expected that construction will commence in early 2022

- **Playground Upgrade** – Council has been awarded \$700,000 of grant funding to undertake an upgrade of the St Leonards Park Playground in line with the Masterplan. Whilst it will not be as elaborate as what was originally proposed it will be the most expensive playground upgrade ever conducted within North Sydney. There is a large amount of preliminary works required for this project including surveys, design and public consultation before construction can begin in May of 2022

Coal Loader

- **Irrigation System replacement** – This work will see the replacement of the existing Drip Irrigation within the turf area and the Western Planter Beds. The turf area will have a pop up sprinkler system installed and the western planters will have an upgraded drip system and renewed planting
- **Pop up Bar Space**- \$290,000.00 has been allocated to this project. Once initial designs are completed, construction is tentatively scheduled to take place in March 22
- **Tunnel #2 resurfacing** – The surface of the main public tunnel will be resurfaced to remove any potential hazards that are currently identified. \$100,000.00 has been allocated to this project
- **Shade system** – \$200,000.00 has been allocated to this project will include erecting shade sail cloth on selected sections of the colonnade to provide shade on the platform

Anderson Park Plan of Management Implementation – Council has been awarded grant funding of \$782,000.00 through the Greater City Sport Facility Fund 2020/21. Further detail will be provided in the separate report.

Merret Playground Upgrade - An allocation of \$260,000.00 has been provided for this project. After competition of a design, public consultation and tendering the installation is expected to start in March 2022

Hayes Street Wharf Amenities Upgrade – Council has negotiated with Transport for NSW to make the toilet facility currently located on Hayes Street (close to the Ferry Wharf) available to the public. Council has allocated \$130,000.00 of funding to upgrade these toilets, so they are suitable for public use. It is expected that construction on this project will commence in early 2022.

Small Watercraft storage/Access - \$130,000.00 has been allocated to the below projects

- **Primrose Park** – There are 2 locations within the bushland area of Primrose Park where improved access and storage will be constructed
- **Cremorne Reserve** - There is the potential for 1 or 2 locations along the water's edge of Cremorne Point where improved access and storage will be constructed

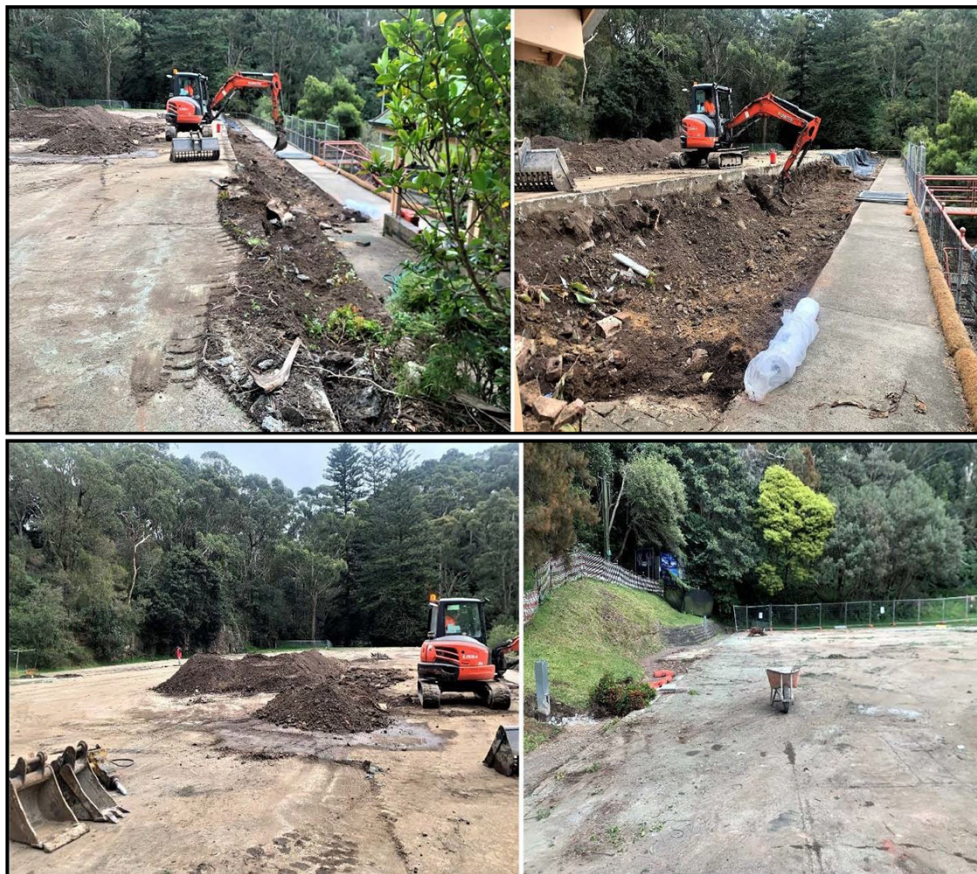
Primrose Park Tennis Court Refurbishment - The Primrose Park Tennis Courts Refurbishment project will primarily be funded through the \$2.1 million Federal Government grant from the Local Road and Community Infrastructure Program. Council will cover any other costs, as necessary.

The project is expected to be complete in six to nine months. Once complete, the upgraded facility will include four new tennis courts with synthetic grass and line markings, new court lighting, a new 'hit-up' practice wall, and new equipment including nets, fencing and seating. There will also be new change facilities, a tennis shop, a new communal BBQ area, and a small children's playground. Artists impression of the completed facility below



The Primrose Park Tennis Court Operator has been granted use of the Green Park tennis courts during the period in which the Primrose Park tennis courts will be refurbished. This temporary use arrangement is to be through a formal lease and has specific operation times. This will enable the general public times to use the courts as well.

Council awarded the tender for the works at Primrose Park Tennis Courts on 26 April 2021 and commenced construction on 21 June 2021. Photos of site construction below



3.3. Tunks Park Cricket Wicket Renewals

AUTHOR: David Manson – Parks and Reserves Manager

ENDORSED BY: Rob Emerson, Director Open Space and Environmental Services

ATTACHMENTS: Nil

PURPOSE:

To update the Reference Group on an upgrade to the Synthetic Cricket Wickets at Tunks Park

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report presents information on an upgrade to the Synthetic Cricket Wickets at Tunks Park

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Grant funding of \$15,000.00 as well as a \$7,500.00 fund raising donation totalling \$22,500.00 has been provided by the North Shore Junior Cricket Association for this project.

North Sydney Council can provide the additional funding of \$4,445.00 through recurrent maintenance budgets

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT the report be received.

LINK TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

The relationship with the Community Strategic Plan is as follows:

1. Our Living Environment

1.4 Public open space and recreation facilities and services meet community needs

BACKGROUND

The North Shore Junior Cricket Association applied for grant funding through the T20 Legacy fund for some Synthetic Cricket Wicket upgrades at Tunks Park. They were successful in securing \$15,000.00 through the grant and have also committed \$7,500.00 from their own fund raising to this project.

CONSULTATION REQUIREMENTS

Community engagement is not required.

DETAIL

The sustainability implications are of a minor nature and did not warrant a detailed assessment.

Tunks Park has 3 Synthetic Cricket wickets located on Fields 2, 3 and 4 that require upgrading. The aerial photo below indicates these pitches.



The planned works are as follows

Pitch 1 -Replace worn synthetic surface of pitch at Tunks Park Installing Gabba Grass Super shield 24m x 2.73 with white crease lines & coloured junior format tabs.

- Cost \$4795.00 + GST

Pitch 2 – This pitch is quite narrow and in current form does not meet the Cricket Australia guidelines. Due to this a full replacement of the concrete base is required as well as installing a new synthetic surface. This will be installed to Cricket Australia guidelines 28m x 2.8m with white crease lines & coloured junior format tabs

- Cost \$16,995.00 + GST

Pitch 3 -Replace worn synthetic surface of pitch at Tunks Park Installing Gabba Grass Super shield 24m x 2.73 with white crease lines & coloured junior format tabs.

- Cost \$4795.00 + GST

Total Cost - \$26,945.00 + GST

Works will be undertaken at the end of the Winter season

3.4. Hybrid Turf Trial Update August 2021

AUTHOR: David Manson – Parks and Reserves Manager

ENDORSED BY: Rob Emerson, Director Open Space and Environmental Services

ATTACHMENTS: Nil

PURPOSE:

To update the Reference Group on the trial of Hybrid Turf.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report provides updated information on the trial of Hybrid Turf.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1. THAT** the report be received.
- 2. THAT** Council continue to monitor the performance of the Hybrid turf over the high impact winter season.

LINK TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

The relationship with the Community Strategic Plan is as follows:

1. Our Living Environment

1.4 Public open space and recreation facilities and services meet community needs

BACKGROUND

At the meeting of the Sport and Recreation Reference Group held on the 20th of November 2020 a report presenting information on the trial of the Hybrid turf in Primrose Park was provided to the group. This report is added as an attachment

The Sport and Recreation Reference Group Resolved to recommend:

- 1. THAT** the Hybrid Turf Trial Update - November 2020 report be received.
- 2. THAT** Council continue to monitor the performance of the Hybrid Turf over the growing season.

CONSULTATION REQUIREMENTS

Community engagement will be undertaken in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Protocol.

DETAIL

The sustainability implications are of a minor nature and did not warrant a detailed assessment.

Council staff have continued to monitor and maintain the Hybrid Turf installation area of Primrose Park. Council staff have been benchmarking the trial area with the goal mouth at the Western end of the field using photographic records and the following methods of measurement

- **Grass Cover** – Measured by visual means and recorded as a % of the area
- **Levelness** – Measured (as a whole area) by visual means and recorded as either Excellent, Good, Acceptable or Poor
- **Hardness**– Measured (as a whole area) by visual means and using a prod to penetrate the area. Recorded as Soft, Normal, Acceptable and Hard

March 2021 – Winter training has resumed

	Mar-21		
	Hybrid Grass Area	Natural Grass Area	Comments
Grass Cover	97%	97%	Winter training has resumed at low hours and starting to see some minor wear and tear
Levelness	Good	Good	A few nicks here and there from studded boots
Hardness	Normal	Normal	

April 2021 – Goal Posts are now up ready for a full Winter season of high impact sport

	Apr-21		
	Hybrid Grass Area	Natural Grass Area	Comments
Grass Cover	95%	95%	We are starting to see some wear in the middle of the goal mouths however minor at present
Levelness	Good	Good	Definitive football boot marks and scuffing
Hardness	Normal	Normal	

May 2021 – Weather has now cooled down significantly, and turf is in dormancy

	May-21		
	Hybrid Grass Area	Natural Grass Area	Comments
Grass Cover	85%	90%	Mainly worn in middle of goal posts as well as significant scuffing and wear throughout the goal mouths. The Hybrid area is actually worn out more than the grass area.
Levelness	Good	Good	Starting to see some minor level changes
Hardness	Normal	Normal	Starting to see it harden up a bit with the high use. Fields are due to be sliced in the next few weeks

June 2021 – 8-10 weeks into the high impact Winter season

	June-21		
	Hybrid Grass Area	Natural Grass Area	Comments
Grass Cover	80%	85%	Main area of wear is directly in the middle under the goal posts. Fibres in the hybrid area are visible under the posts. We have had some wet weather which has enhanced the wear
Levelness	Good	Good	further minor level changes mainly in between the posts
Hardness	Hard	Hard	With the wet weather we have been unable to aerate so is becoming heavily compacted. Starting to see it harden up a bit with the high use. Fields will be aerated ASAP

July 2021 – Covid 19 has returned, and community sport has been halted as per the health order guidelines

	July-21		
	Hybrid Grass Area	Natural Grass Area	Comments
Grass Cover	85%	90%	The turf is actually recovering during this lockdown period with no use. Fields have been aerated and have had good weather
Levelness	Good	Good	Still some minor level changes
Hardness	Normal	Normal	Aeration and no play have helped the hardness of these areas improve

Natural Grass Site April



Hybrid Grass Site April



Natural Grass Site May



Hybrid Grass Site May



Hybrid Grass Site June



Natural Grass Site June



Natural Grass Site July



Natural Grass Site July



Hybrid Grass Site July 2021



Hybrid Grass Site July 2021



Aerial Shot April 2021



4. General Business

4.1. General Business

Cricket Nets in Forsyth Park

At the last meeting these cricket nets were inserted as a standing item.

St Leonards Park

Matt Dawson has requested an update be provided on timing and scope

General Discussion – Touching base on how clubs are coping with the COVID-19 Pandemic

General Business Item requested by Robert Emerson, Director Open Space and Environmental Services.

For Information: Mayoral Minute from 26 July 2021

The Reference Group is to be informed that at the last Council Meeting, there was a unanimous resolution to return fees to sportsclubs for the period of time they are unable to use the sportsfield.

6.2. MM02: Waiving of sportsfield ground hire fees

During the last winter sports season, COVID-19 pandemic restrictions resulted in significant disruptions to the season. At that time the Council waived ground hire fees for not-for-profit community sporting clubs for a two-month period to assist the Clubs financially impacted.

Twelve months on and the current Covid-19 pandemic lock down and restrictions on community movement is again impacting on the winter sports season as local community sport cannot be conducted.

Whilst it is hoped that we can overcome the current infection outbreak and current necessary restrictions on the community will come to an end in the not-too-distant future, our community sports clubs that are very important to the health and social vitality of our community are again suffering financially.

I therefore recommend:

1. THAT all not-for-profit community sporting clubs that have paid for their bookings for the use of Council facilities in advance are provided a refund of ground hire fees for the period that they have been unable to use our sports field facilities.

The Recommendation was moved by The Mayor.

*The Motion was put and **Carried**.*

<i>Voting was as follows:</i>		<i>For/Against 10 / 0</i>
<i>For:</i>	<i>Councillor Gibson, Councillor Beregi, Councillor Keen, Councillor Brodie, Councillor Carr, Councillor Barbour, Councillor Drummond, Councillor Gunning, Councillor Mutton and Councillor Baker</i>	
<i>Against:</i>	<i>nil</i>	
<i>Absent:</i>	<i>nil</i>	

160. RESOLVED:

1. THAT *all not-for-profit community sporting clubs that have paid for their bookings for the use of Council facilities in advance are provided a refund of ground hire fees for the period that they have been unable to use our sports field facilities.*

5. Closure