

## **Disposal of Property – Bremer Bay Youth Camp – 5 Year Lease**

### **Public Submissions**

Submissions received via email have been formatted for public reproduction.

## Mr Matt Atkinson

### Email # 1

I would like to put my support behind the reinstatement of the Youth Camp site to be available for community groups once again.

The buildings should never have been removed as they were built with community raised funds, and have given thousands of people enjoyment for many years.

As a rate payer of BB I sincerely hope you can see the errors of the past and approve this reinstatement.

Regards

Matt Atkinson

Kojonup Ag Supplies

Lot 2 Thornbury Cl

Kojonup

### Email # 2

Thank you for the detailed reply, it is appreciated.

I understand the Sports Club has been suggested as another option.

The BBSC has a great view, playground and oval but that's it.

I have a house on the Point (Black Rocks Rd) it blows it's a\*\* off from the east in summer and south west in the winter.

Even though the Sports Club has a great pathway now & is closer to town than where Point Henry residents live, it is still a car trip to get anywhere; the old Youth Camp location has the fantastic benefit of river, beach & restaurant access easily by foot for all age groups.

Children staying at the BBSC will need to be Olympic Athletes to ride to the beach or go fishing on the river, adults will be driven mad by child requests to be driven to the beach.

All the best with the process

### Email #3

I am not opposed to Megatime having access to the site in conjunction with the broader community as a Youth Camp, but yes I am opposed to the 5 year lease.

While the area is currently a camp site with toilets, the compromise should be both the caravan park and community groups both have access to the area, I can't see why the site can't be utilised on a shared arrangement.

## Mr Nathan McQuoid

### Email #1

I wish to submit comments, in good faith, on the proposal to dispose of by lease the Bremer Bay Youth Camp to the Bremer Bay Caravan Park as follows:

The youth camp was a unique and useful facility set up by the then larger Shire of Gnowangerup to facilitate youth and group camping. It was a famous and much loved facility that was used to great effect by a number of parties for a range of activities in an informal and desirable setting. I believe leasing it to the Caravan Park may bring short-term modest financial gain, although it will not enable broader, necessary and more valuable benefits to be had.

The activities undertaken at the youth and group camp included the Council holding forums with senior and key people from government, agencies and organisations to support the progress and benefit of the Shire. This particular use and great demonstration of leadership is something that would have a considerable appeal and benefit now and into the future, and should be seen as a unique opportunity to reinstate.

A more recent and vital use was the university supported meeting and teaching rooms, which were unfortunately since removed. This research use and the allied use by education groups was an important philosophical, cultural and economic contribution to the area that should be supported again.

Inexpensive and compelling youth and group accommodation, "camping", workshop and meeting facility is a need and great value opportunity for Bremer Bay and the Shire, and it should be reinstated on the site. The site is well known and established in folklore as a desirable, disarming and informal setting; is already cleared, grassed, shaded and sheltered; has a purpose built ablution block and is enjoys perfect proximity to cultural, natural and social features of Bremer Bay.

While it was probably necessary to discontinue and remove the old dilapidated accommodation dongers, it was a shame to lose the kitchen, meeting hall and the university supported rooms. However, this loss and the legacy it leaves provides an opportunity to redesign and replace the old accommodation and meeting infrastructure with appealing buildings. Resources could be sought from partners and supporters, allied groups, and Lotterywest for such a useful and attractive undertaking; it need not be seen as a cost, rather as a wise and valuable investment.

A reinstated quality youth and group camp meets the vision and aspirations of the 2012 – 2025 Community Strategic Plan for Jerramungup Shire. It would be broadly welcomed throughout the region and further afield, add to the significant accommodation and meeting need and opportunities for community and economic support during holiday's seasons, and help counter the apparent stalling of the town centre development progress.

Sincerely,

Nathan McQuoid

Landscape Ecology

2 Short Beach Rd Bremer Bay WA 6338

## Email #2

Thanks for the feedback and discussion.

I support the 5 year lease to Megatime in the short term (5 years) as a sustainable holding strategy, on the proviso that:

- Council seek and plan the reinstatement of the youth camp with community input during the 5 years to realise the opportunities outlined in my submission;
- That the site is not altered except for reasonable maintenance by Megatime or any of its agents during the lease period; and
- No expectations on further or new leases of the site are developed.

Kind regards,

Nathan

## Dr Ian Weir

### Email # 1 in follow up to original letter

I am opposed to the renewal of the 5 year lease of the Youth Camp to Megatime.

This is because I am concerned that it will eliminate the (former) youth camp site from any objective assessments as to where the best shire-owned site might be for dormitory and youth facilities in Bremer Bay.

I note that the survey initiated by the Sports Club only asked whether respondents thought such accommodation is a good idea in Bremer Bay. The survey did not ask whether dormitory accommodation would be a good idea at the Sports Club site itself. I am concerned that the results of that survey are quite easily skewed to make it look like the Sports Club has support for such facilities on 'their' site.

If the Shire and the GSDC are keen to develop dormitory accommodation in Bremer Bay then the Youth Camp site should be investigated along with other potential sites (of course).

### Economic Track Record

The youth camp was the highly patronised, operated with help from volunteers and needed only minor alterations for compliance and was on such an accommodation-friendly and corrosion protected site. If that facility could not be retained for economic reasons then how might an equivalent type of facility on another site now sustain itself – without the benefit of wind protection and pre-existing BCA compliant allusion facilities?

Perhaps posing this question will at least help the Sports Club to develop a more economically sustainable facility. As I expressed in my letter, I am quite concerned that to build such as facility on the Sports Club site is in danger of being a folly – due to wind, maintenance, and the bushfire clearing requirements which only exacerbate these problems for this particular type of facility which relies heavily on the amenity of outdoor areas.

Kind regards,

### Dr Ian Weir

PhD, BArch *UWA*,

BA Industrial Design *CU*

### Research Architect

Landscape Architecture Discipline,

School of Design, Queensland University of Technology