

Minutes

Hearing of Submissions Committee
Tuesday, 12 February 2019

Held in the
Council Chambers
1 Merrijig Drive, Torquay
Commencing at 5.00pm

Council:

Cr Rose Hodge (Mayor)
Cr David Bell
Cr Libby Coker
Cr Martin Duke
Cr Clive Goldsworthy
Cr Carol McGregor
Cr Brian McKiterick
Cr Margot Smith
Cr Heather Wellington (Leave of Absence)

MINUTES FOR THE HEARING OF SUBMISSIONS MEETING OF SURF COAST SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 1 MERRIJIG DRIVE, TORQUAY
ON TUESDAY 12 FEBRUARY 2019 COMMENCING AT 5.00PM

PRESENT:

Cr Rose Hodge (Mayor)
Cr David Bell
Cr Martin Duke
Cr Carol McGregor
Cr Brian McKiterick

In Attendance:

Chief Executive Officer – Keith Baillie
General Manager Environment & Development – Ransce Salan
General Manager Culture and Development – Chris Pike
Manager Planning & Development – Bill Cathcart
Coordinator Statutory Planning – Michelle Watt

15 members of the public

Not In Attendance:

General Manager Governance & Infrastructure – Anne Howard

APOLOGIES:

Committee Resolution

MOVED Cr Brian McKiterick, Seconded Cr Martin Duke

That an apology be received from Cr Libby Coker, Cr Clive Goldsworthy and Cr Margot Smith.

CARRIED 5:0

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Committee Resolution

MOVED Cr Carol McGregor, Seconded Cr David Bell

That the Hearing of Submissions Committee note the minutes of the meeting held on 13 November 2018 as a correct record of the meeting.

CARRIED 5:0

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:

Nil

SUBMITTERS HEARD

1. Helen Day
2. Julie Fitzpatrick
3. Katie O'Neil
4. Dianne and John Lau
5. Gordon McComb (Support)
6. Service Stream (representatives Katie Hill, Andrew Fenby & Vitas Anderson) (For the applicant)

BUSINESS:

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1. PLANNING MATTERS

1.1 2 Quay Boulevard, Torquay - Telecommunication Tower

Author's Title: Senior Statutory Planner

General Manager: Ransce Salan

Department: Planning & Development

File No: 18/0484

Division: Environment & Development

Trim No: IC19/230

Appendix:

1. Order of Speakers - Planning Permit Application 18/0484 - 2 Quay Boulevard Torquay (D19/15549)

Officer Direct or Indirect Conflict of Interest:

Status:

In accordance with Local Government Act 1989 –
Section 80C:

Information classified confidential in accordance with
Local Government Act 1989 – Section 77(2)(c):

Yes

No

Yes

No

Reason: Nil

Reason: Nil

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to hear submissions relating to the Planning Permit application 18/0484 for a telecommunications tower to be located on the Quay Reserve known as 2 Quay Boulevard, Torquay. The proposal, if approved, will swap out an existing sports light tower and replace it with a combined tower for lighting and telecommunications.

Summary

In November 2018 the application was publicly exhibited in accordance with the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

Summary of Submissions

A total number of 160 submissions were received including 36 objections and 124 submissions in support. In general, the supporters of the application are from the Star of the Sea Retirement Village.

The key issues raised are summarised as follows:

Objections

Location of facility

- Located within a public park in the middle of residential area
- Failure to adequately consider suitable alternative locations
- Houses in direct vicinity
- Not needed as current internet connection good
- Disrespectful to land owners living within close proximity.

Impact on health

- Detrimental to health including nearby residents, children using the reserve and children in the nearby school
- Exposure to radiation
- Impact of electromagnetic field on health.

Property values

- Impact of tower on future real estate prices
- Loss of property values
- Devaluation of properties.

Visual impact

- Negative visual impact on the area including skyline and coastal views;
- Visual eyesore
- Aesthetics of the reserve
- Bring down the look of Torquay
- Height and bulk of tower

1.1 2 Quay Boulevard, Torquay - Telecommunication Tower

- Reserve visually blighted by telecommunications infrastructure on community green space land
- Ruin outlook from adjoining properties.

Use of Council reserve

- Loss of important recreation and open space
- Safety of children utilising reserve.

Other

- Not enough consultation
- Misleading visual representation of proposed facility
- Distorted representation of community consultation
- Failure of the planning process at Council, State and Federal levels
- Possibility of tower being modified in future.

In support

- Currently very poor reception, with issues such as phone drop outs and poor internet
- Noticeable increase in drop outs with new houses being built
- No reception inside, need to go outside to make phone calls/send text messages
- Replacing the existing light pole with a multipurpose pole minimises visual impact
- Astonishing that somewhere as developed as Torquay has such poor reception
- Will improve mobile reception and is essential for the area
- Long overdue service upgrade
- Minimum impact on surrounding area/landscape.

The issues raised in the submissions will be considered in detail in a report to be presented to the 26 February 2019 Council meeting.

It is important to note that while the amount of electromagnetic radiation emitted by a telecommunications facility is an issue of community concern, this issue cannot be considered by Council where the Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA) standard is met, as is the case with this application. This position has been established by VCAT case law.

Recommendation

That the Hearing of Submissions Committee receives and notes the submissions relating to Planning Permit 18/0484 and forward to Council for consideration.

Committee Resolution

MOVED Cr Martin Duke, Seconded Cr Brian McKiterick

That the Hearing of Submissions Committee receives and notes the submissions relating to Planning Permit 18/0484 and forward to Council for consideration.

CARRIED 5:0

1.1 2 Quay Boulevard, Torquay - Telecommunication Tower

**APPENDIX 1 ORDER OF SPEAKERS - PLANNING PERMIT APPLICATION 18/0484 - 2 QUAY
BOULEVARD TORQUAY**



**Hearing of Submissions
Tuesday 12 February 2019
5.00 pm
Council Chambers
1 Merrijig Drive, Torquay**

Planning Permit application 18/0484 – Quay Reserve & Pavilion, 2 Quay Boulevard Torquay
Use and Development of a Telecommunications Facility

ORDER OF SPEAKERS

Item	Submitter
1.	Gordon McComb (Support)
2.	Helen Day
3.	Julie Fitzpatrick
4.	Katie O'Neill
5.	Dianne and John Lau
6.	Service Stream (representatives Katie Hill, Andrew Fenby & Vitas Anderson) (For the Applicant)

Close: There being no further items of business the meeting closed at 6.01pm.