



PALMERSTON NORTH CITY COUNCIL

**AGENDA
COUNCIL
LATE ITEMS**

9AM, MONDAY 21 DECEMBER 2020
COUNCIL CHAMBER, FIRST FLOOR, CIVIC ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
32 THE SQUARE, PALMERSTON NORTH



MEMBERSHIP

Grant Smith (Mayor)

Aleisha Rutherford (Deputy Mayor)

Brent Barrett

Patrick Handcock ONZM

Susan Baty

Leonie Hapeta

Rachel Bowen

Lorna Johnson

Zulfiqar Butt

Billy Meehan

Vaughan Dennison

Karen Naylor

Renee Dingwall

Bruno Petrenas

Lew Findlay QSM

Agenda items, if not attached, can be viewed at:

pncc.govt.nz | Civic Administration Building, 32 The Square
City Library | Ashhurst Community Library | Linton Library

Heather Shotter

Chief Executive, Palmerston North City Council

Palmerston North City Council

W pncc.govt.nz | E info@pncc.govt.nz | P 356 8199

Private Bag 11034, 32 The Square, Palmerston North



COUNCIL MEETING

21 December 2020

LATE ITEMS

Pursuant to Sections 46A(7) and 46A(7A) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, the following late item was received:

REPORTS

- 26. Memorial Park - Work to Re-open Swimming Pool** Page 5
Memorandum, presented by Kathy Dever-Tod, Manager - Parks and Reserves.

This item was delayed because information was not received until after the agenda report deadline. It needs to be considered so that construction work can begin during the summer recess.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council

MEETING DATE: 21 December 2020

TITLE: Memorial Park - Work to Re-open Swimming Pool

PRESENTED BY: Kathy Dever-Tod, Manager - Parks and Reserves

APPROVED BY: Sheryl Bryant, Acting Chief Infrastructure Officer

RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL

1. That the Council reopens the Memorial Park swimming pool as soon as possible.
 2. That the Council notes the costs associated with reopening and operating the Memorial Park swimming pool for the summer can be accommodated within existing operating budgets.
 3. That the Council notes the availability of the swimming pool will be publicised through social media and signage located at Memorial Park, including any short-term closures necessary during the swimming season to manage safety issues.
 4. That in the event that the Memorial Park swimming pool has to close due to safety and security risks, the Chief Executive be delegated authority to pursue the options for free swimming at the Freyberg community pool.
-

1. ISSUE

- 1.1 At the extraordinary meeting of Council on the 10th December 2020, Councillors were advised that due to the delays in securing external funding, work on the new splashpad at Memorial Park had not started, which had implications for the opening of the swimming pool.
- 1.2 Councillors were advised if external funding was secured by mid-December, the earliest construction could be completed, enabling the pool to reopen, was towards the end of March 2021.
- 1.3 Officers advised elected members that it was not practical to open the pool whilst the splashpad and playground were under construction. This was due to the safety and logistical issues associated with operating a construction site, including managing the movements of pool users whilst machinery and tools were in use without impeding the progress of contractors, the presence of a large open hole in

the ground close to the pool, and the absence of a large section of pool fencing – necessary to enable the pipework and surfacing between the splash pad and the pool to be completed.

1.4 The Chief Executive advised elected members that officers would investigate all options to provide community access to free-swimming, as alternatives to the Memorial Park pool, and report back to the next meeting of Council.

1.5 Since that meeting council staff have investigated how they could respond to both the public and elected members' desire to see the Memorial Park pool available to the public over the summer period. In doing so, staff have explored all angles to make this happen.

2. REOPENING MEMORIAL PARK POOL

2.1 The Memorial Park pool is a seasonal pool, open for summer swimming from November through to March. The pool is unheated.

2.2 Reopening the pool would involve the construction of new and temporary fencing, water blasting the pool, refilling and treating the water. Assuming there are no underlying issues with the pumps and pipework staff are aiming to have the pool open at the start of January 2021.

2.3 The impacts of the public using the pool, next to a construction site, would need to be mitigated. This includes keeping the vehicle gates to the park locked, and closures of the pool from time to time when concrete is being poured and other hazardous operations are underway.

2.4 The area around the pool available to the public would be reduced. This has implications for the total number of users. There are also potential issues with the public trying to enter the construction site, to access the playground, that would need to be managed. An additional staff member is recommended during busy periods to manage crowding and security at the pool.

2.5 The one-off cost to install temporary fencing is estimated at \$2,000. The cost to operate the pool, including additional staffing, is \$5,700 per month. These costs can be accommodated within the existing operating budget for Memorial Park, due to the delays in opening the pool.

2.6 If it proves too difficult to manage safety and security at the site, the swimming pool would need to close. If this situation eventuates then there are other options available to council to provide free-swimming to the community.

3. OTHER OPTIONS FOR FREE SWIMMING

3.1 Operators of the council pools, Community Leisure Management (CLM), advise that pool usage varies between the three pools, particularly in the summer months. Usage of the Lido is high throughout the day in the summer months when the outdoor facilities are open and holiday programmes are underway. Usage of the Freyberg Pool varies throughout the day, but it is very heavily used in the mornings on weekdays and after 3.30pm (swim school), and on weekends until 1pm.

3.2 Options to extend free swimming at Council pools, beyond the current supervised pre-school programme, needs to be carefully weighed up with the availability of pool space. CLM recommends that any extension to the free-swimming, beyond the current supervised pre-school programme, be limited to the Freyberg Pool. This is the only pool where there are periods of pool space available to accommodate additional swimmers safely without limiting access for existing user groups.

3.3 CLM advise that pool space is available at the Freyberg Pool for a free-swimming initiative at the following times:

- Sunday afternoon 1- 4pm
- Monday – Friday 11am- 2pm

There is no available pool space on a Saturday.

3.4 CLM has offered to partner with Council to cover the costs associated with free 3-hour swimming sessions at the Freyberg Pool during the times indicated above. Under their proposal CLM would on-charge child and adult entries back to Council at \$3 per person (including GST) rather than current admission rates of \$4.20 and \$5.20. At this price CLM would still be able to meet the costs of the additional staff needed to supervise a free entry swimming session and to undertake an additional clean of the changing rooms at the end of the session. The session times proposed would ensure that other revenue generated by CLM, through swimming lessons and lane swimming, would not be adversely affected by the free-swimming sessions.

3.5 CLM has provided council with cost estimates for free swimming, based on the following assumptions.

- A three-hour session
- Maximum capacity of 250
- Clearing and cleaning regime

3.6 The cost to Council of a free-child entry session would be up to \$522. The cost for a free session for all swimmers would be \$652. The final cost to council would be

based on the number of entries. The cost would reduce if less than 250 people attended or if several of the entries were pre-schoolers and their supervisors, as these entries are already covered under the supervised pre-schooler programme. For example, during the month of January 2019, council compensated CLM for 273 pre-schoolers and 323 supervisor entries.

- 3.7 CLM has also offered Council a set price based on six 3-hour sessions a week during the month of January. The basis of the CLM pricing is the loss of income for child and adult entries, using January 2019 entries, and the additional costs associated with increased staffing levels. The prices are \$6,100 for free-child entry and \$8,500 for free-family entry. Both prices exclude GST.

4. NEXT STEPS

- 4.1 Council staff take all steps necessary to reopen the Memorial Park pool as soon as possible
- 4.2 Council advertises its intention to reopen the pool on the council website and through social media

5. Compliance and administration

Does the Council have delegated authority to decide? If Yes quote relevant clause(s) from Delegations Manual <Enter text>	Yes
Are the decisions significant?	No
If they are significant do they affect land or a body of water?	No
Can this decision only be made through a 10 Year Plan?	No
Does this decision require consultation through the Special Consultative procedure?	No
Is there funding in the current Annual Plan for these actions?	Yes
Are the recommendations inconsistent with any of Council's policies or plans?	No
The recommendations contribute to Goal 2: A Creative and Exciting City	
The recommendations contribute to the outcomes of the Creative and Liveable Strategy	
The recommendations contribute to the achievement of action/actions in the Active Community Plan	
The actions are: The city's active 'destinations' or 'activity hubs' offer multiple experiences/	

<p>opportunities in one location with the aim of prolonging visits that encourage activity</p> <p>Agreed plans are in place to deliver quality public spaces through strategic implementation of the Victoria Esplanade and Te Apiti Master Plans, Ahimate and Memorial Park development plans, and the Manawatū River Framework</p> <p>Provide free active opportunities through the Council’s website</p>	
<p>Contribution to strategic direction and to social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being</p>	<p>Completion of the Playground and Splashpad are projects contained within the Memorial Park development plan. They provide a place for communities to gather, interact and recreate.</p> <p>Removing financial barriers to accessing aquatic facilities enables citizens to remain connected and active.</p>

ATTACHMENTS

NIL