



Marino Residents Association

Incorporating Kingston Park

Helping to build a better Community

Further reading Rockford/Robertson Reserve Dec 2017

Local residents held their 2017 Christmas Party and signed a petition

Locals from Shaftesbury Terrace and surrounds held their annual Christmas Party on Robertson Reserve to enjoy its views and shade on a beautiful 10 December evening. At the same time they discussed the state of the reserve and their concerns about its condition. They decided to start a petition to see if they could persuade Council to water the grass again; as after many years of no water, the place was looking unloved, desert like and very dusty. over 60 people have signed the petition which has been presented to council. (see adjacent) The petition was presented to Council on Jan 30. See extract from the minutes:

PETITIONS – Rockford Place Reserve, Marino

Report Reference: GC300118P01

Moved Councillor Gard, Seconded Councillor Hull that Council:

- 1. Notes the petition.*
- 2. Advises the head petitioner that Council has noted the petition.*
- 3. Maintains the current irrigation scoring for Rockford/Robertson Place Marino of a public value of 1 and a total score of 5.(ie does not qualify)*
- 4. Implements the NLG at this site, subject to project funding in 2018/19.*
- 5. Consults with local residents on the plans for the NLG at this site, subject to project funding in 2018/19.see below*

Carried

MRA followed up directly with council on behalf of the locals to see what was planned in the future for the reserve? It is good to know that simultaneously there has been some good news, although not about irrigation.

Robertson Place / Rockford Place Reserve has been identified as a pilot site for the Natural Landscapes Guideline (NLG) (see document). At the last review Council requested further information so that the project could be considered at the next quarterly review. In March 2018.

The redesign of **Robertson Reserve** is proposed to include:

- Non-irrigated amenity plantings•
- Native grass landscaping•
- Revegetation / conservation planting.•

Council also resolved to pilot the NLG at Bandon Reserve with the budget to be considered by Council as part of the already scheduled redesign of the reserve. The redesign of Bandon Tce was proposed to include:

- Mulch under trees•

Further reading Rockford/Robertson Reserve Dec 2017

- Non-irrigated amenity plantings•
- Native grass landscaping•
- improved dry (non-irrigated) turf management.•

This proposal from Council is welcomed however the provision of some safe usable green grass areas for casual recreation should be part of the strategy. If irrigation is not an option then maybe the strategy needs to look at water smart solutions with storm water capture to allow for a small area of “natural” irrigation. At the very least any proposals should include consultation with local residents who could be empowered to help.

It is noted that Bandon Reserve costs council \$40,000 per year to irrigate. I am sure we would all agree that is a great deal of money and would welcome any measures that would significantly reduce that cost and divert savings into the NGL strategy.