

Date	Question Details	Answer
Feb 21, 2021, 10:57 PM	<p>Its clear the community of Merlynston dont want the grass torn up at Hosken, but your dealings with residents thus far show a complete lack of engagement and empathy.</p> <p>How can we trust you to actually listen to us with a tick and flick survey?</p>	<p>Sorry to hear about your concerns of a lack on enagement and empathy. Hopefully the renewed engagement activities will give you confidence that it's not just a 'tick and flick' survey.</p>
Feb 21, 2021, 04:06 PM	<p>Interesting to see the 'consortium' appointed for this project. Apparently we should expect to see the word 'bespoke' become commonly used. But it is very disappointing to see a Brunswick firm appointed for a project to the north of Bell Street. The north does not need the zero-carparking cycle everywhere aspirations and visions of Brunswick. Why isn't it possible for Moreland Council to find a 'master planner' whose office is located north of Bell Street?</p>	<p>Thanks for raising your concerns. The consulting team were assessed as the best option from quotes received, having a balanced approach to sport, community health and wellbeing, urban planning and community engagement.</p>
Feb 21, 2021, 03:06 PM	<p>Lets not forget why we are here. The application for funding was falsified and funding was revoked.</p> <p>Both MCC and PVFC misrepresented the community. Any good will PVFC gained from past deeds has evaporated. Just like the money.</p>	<p>The grant application was made by Council and not the club. We acknowledge that consultation on the Hosken Reserve proposed synthetic pitch has been indirect and is not in line with contemporary practice. Our community's feedback is important to us and we agree that a further clear, direct and robust community engagement process is required which is what we are currently aiming to achieve.</p>

Feb 21, 2021,
02:47 PM

Lets not forgot the fact we are at this point because MCC and PVFC lied to the World Game Facilities Fund to obtain money for this project. The community were never consulted: back in 2009 synthetic turf was never floated as the oval was still being used by a football club and a cricket club. There was never any communication about this, unless you trawled through MCC meeting minutes, most of which are not available online. This is fraud. And its not fair. Cheaters never prosper

The grant application was made by Council and not the club. The Hosken Reserve Redevelopment Plan was launched in 2007 and consultation on the plan concluded in 2009. The plan was received and endorsed by Council in April 2009 containing a list of more than 18 recommended improvements including:

- ☑Upgrade and redevelop the main oval as a full size soccer field;
- ☑Extend the rectangular field. Remove the damaged concrete cricket wicket and convert the grass surface to synthetic. Install training lights and perimeter fence; and
- ☑Convert the cricket net area to a synthetic playing area. Retain the cricket nets and install basketball/netball play facilities and provide appropriate fencing.

A subsequent 'Hybrid Synthetic Sports Surface Needs Analysis' report was tabled and endorsed in April 2018 which recommended that a synthetic pitch be installed at 'Hosken Reserve North' and the existing, fenced southern soccer pitch be converted to hybrid.

It is believed this is where the resulting confusion as to the exact location of the proposed synthetic pitch has originated and been embedded over subsequent years.

We acknowledge that consultation on the Hosken Reserve proposed synthetic pitch has been indirect and is not in line with contemporary practice. Our community's feedback is important to us and we agree that a further clear, direct and robust community engagement process is required which is what we are currently aiming to achieve.

Feb 21, 2021,
02:34 PM

Will Council take responsibility for this fiasco?
The blame lands firmly and squarely on the shoulders of Sport and Recreation, who seem to have forgotten that passive and recreational use of open space is just as important.
Council has created a huge divide between a club and local residents by the way this has been handled, from the fraudulent application for funding, through to the poor choices made inside the council chamber.
This has been mishandled from the start.

Balancing the demands of sport, active recreation and passive leisure activities is a key consideration in the provision of all open spaces across Moreland and we hope to reach a great shared community outcome as part of the Master Plan refresh.

Feb 21, 2021, 12:00 PM	I don't go to the park to buy a coffee or support the soccer club. In fact, I prefer to use the space when the club isn't using it. It seems that somehow a sense of it being a shared multi use space is absolutely lost in the way this has occurred. It's simply a hostile land grab by the club facilitated by council with vested personal and political interests.	Balancing the demands of sport, active recreation and passive leisure activities is a key consideration in the provision of all open spaces across Moreland and we hope to reach a great shared community outcome as part of the Master Plan refresh.
Feb 21, 2021, 11:54 AM	I'm seeing a lot of "why don't you Google the facts" posts by pro club supporters. Actually, as the agent of change, you need to consult with open, transparent and clear factual information prior to planning decisions being made. That never occurred. So stop telling us to research facts. High quality public interest consultation processes are designed to be informative. Again, this never occurred and the community was blindsided. Now you're telling us how wrong we are??? What a joke.	Thanks for your comments. We hope everyone will be able to contribute their concerns, suggestions and ideas during the engagement process over the next few months!
Feb 21, 2021, 08:34 AM	Just googled it. A big accusation for something that does not come close to what you have interrupted. Interesting they way things are interrupted to suit the reader and what they need to express.	Can't find a question in there to respond to, but thanks for getting involed in the engagement.
Feb 21, 2021, 08:24 AM	Google it Angry resident. Athena Babo wrote it. Its in the public domain. And its not about soccer, its about fencing off, restricting access and replacing grass with plastic turf. If it was AFL, baseball or even the Elderly citizens bowling club you would get the same response. The oval can be shared by all, without the need to cover it in astrotuf. It has been for a long time and it can continue to be.	Thanks for raising your concerns, they're a common theme and will be provided to the project team for review and consideration.
Feb 21, 2021, 08:11 AM	Wow! You must show us the brochure. Never seen it before with all this information. Very interesting information. You might want to add that you hate soccer as well.	Can't find a question in there to respond to, but thanks for getting involed in the engagement.
Feb 21, 2021, 07:29 AM	Residents have lived in Merlynston for longer than PVFC have been at Hosken. The club, from their own brochure, states they moved from Richards in 1990. Regardless, residents live next to.open space that is used by a sporting club for a certain number of hours per week. Residents do not want to have 6 metre high fences, led lights, plastic grass and restricted access to the open space. Its not about "you bought there, suck it up" its about keeping what is already there for all to enjoy.	Balancing the demands of sport, active recreation and passive leisure activities is a key consideration in the provision of all open spaces across Moreland and we hope to reach a great shared community outcome as part of the Master Plan refresh.

Feb 21, 2021, 07:24 AM	The PVFC corporate brochure clearly states the club wants to move the seniors from Cb Smith to Hosken to be enjoyed by the "Paco faithful" No need to ask the President, ask Athena Babo instead.	I'm not aware of any current plans to permanently move all senior games to Hosken Reserve but they did play senior games at Hosken Reserve for many years in the past. Building a stadium is definitely not on the cards though!
Feb 21, 2021, 07:13 AM	Will PVFC pick up their rubbish this time? After the soccer 7s the oval and surrounds were littered with rubbish; of which photos were taken and provided to council.	Amenity issues, such as litter, dog poo, graffiti etc. are all important things we want to hear about and work toward rectifying as part of the Master Plan refresh.
Feb 21, 2021, 12:11 AM	Get to know your local club & it's people when PVFC take on Essendon Royals today, Sunday 21st February. Kick-off times include U14 @ 9am U15 @ 10:45 U16 @ 12:30 U17 @ 2:30 The club welcomes everyone and doubly welcomes locals to enjoy the renovated clubrooms & to be entertained by high standard football. But if football is not your thing, come and say hi to Gulapka & the team at the Corner Flag Cafe & let them treat you to some very yummy food that you wouldn't expect to find at a fb club.	Thanks for getting involved and promoting community involvement and sharing of Hosken Reserves facilities.
Feb 20, 2021, 11:52 PM	WOW! This is serious talk here , PVFC seniors not wanting to play at CB Smith and want to go back to Hosken? Where did this information come from? Have you been speaking to the president there? Have you been speaking to council? Never heard of this move before.	I'm not aware of any current plans to permanently move all senior games to Hosken Reserve but they did play senior games at Hosken Reserve for many years in the past. Building a stadium is definitely not on the cards though!
Feb 20, 2021, 10:43 PM	Maybe go and get the stats checked on how many people do play sport. Are you referring to one street in Moreland? If your not your figures don't make sense.	Balancing the demands of sport, active recreation and passive leisure activities is a key consideration in the provision of all open spaces across Moreland.

There are more clubs in Moreland than any other municipality.

Maybe council can accommodate for a much needed basket ball stadium , revamp the current tennis club , put in a gymnasium to cater for the influx. All at Hosken Reseve

It will be great for Merlynston as well , it won't be so isolated and more action

Feb 20, 2021, 10:29 PM	The facility was there and the club has been there for 56 years. What exactly are you seeking in compensation when you brought your property everything was there and nothing has changed. Please let us know so we can claim too? The sporting facility has been there way before 40 years. Enlighten us!	Thanks for getting involved in the conversation.
Feb 20, 2021, 10:27 PM	They bought houses by a reserve- you can find definition here https://sport.vic.gov.au/publications-and-resources/design-everyone-guide/sport-and-recreation-settings/sport-and-recreation . Now this reserve is being given over for what might as well be exclusive use (90 hrs a week incl 8am to 6pm weekends). Contrary to Vic gov definition. And no resident (of just a minority) said yes to floodlights and the noise and plastic grass. Will council research reserve definition?	A stadium isn't in the works, but we do hope to ensure all of our community can continue to share and utilise our many parks and reserves in Moreland.
Feb 20, 2021, 10:10 PM	Unfortunately you brought a house with a sporting facility next to it. You don't like it? There is an option to move. The sporting facilities have been there way before you arrived. Advice : make a better decision when you purchase a home to suit your needs.	A stadium isn't in the works, but we do hope to ensure all of our community can continue to share and utilise our many parks and reserves in Moreland.
Feb 20, 2021, 08:46 PM	You note above that the outcome of this consultation will be presented at a council meeting in May. Please could you outline what will be presented and what happens after that? For instance, will you just report the facts that were discovered so councillors can consider further? Alternatively would you put forward different plan options for councillors to vote on? This process must be undertaken in a way that ensures councillors, who ultimately vote on this, act without conflict of interest.	We will be reporting back to Councillors on what we have heard from the community and proposing options for future action at the May Council meeting. Further details on the process can be seen on the updated engagement page.
Feb 20, 2021, 07:01 PM	The old TAFE site behind Bunnings has been vacant for years, a breeding ground for antisocial behavior and illegal activities. Why not look into revamping that area, turning it into a multi sport space, complete with synthetic turf, led lights and make that into a sporting destination? Easier access, close to transport, better availability for parking, close to Richards reserve and Hosken. Yes it will cost money, but cleaning that area up would only enhance the area, rather than ruin open space	Thanks for the great ideas about reinvigorating the neighbourhood!

Feb 20, 2021, 06:53 PM	<p>PVFC have made it abundantly clear they plan to move their seniors games from Clifton Park to Hosken Reserve.</p> <p>How is this ok for an area with homes and families? None of us want a soccer stadium in our suburb</p>	<p>I'm not aware of any current plans to permanently move all senior games to Hosken Reserve but they did play senior games at Hosken Reserve for many many years in the past. Building a stadium is definitely not on the cards though!</p>
Feb 20, 2021, 06:50 PM	<p>How will the residents whose homes are along Pallett Street and Shorts Road be compensated for their loss of amenity?</p> <p>The led lights that will be shining into their homes, the noise that comes with more people and increased usage, the extra traffic, the heat emanating from the astro turf, the 6 metre high fence at either end creating an eyesaw?</p> <p>Will measures be taken, should the project go ahead, factor in the disturbance to locals, some of who have lived here for 20,30, 40 years.</p>	<p>Environmental and amenity impacts of any future developments will be considered as part of the master plan refresh</p>
Feb 20, 2021, 06:44 PM	<p>With less than 10% of Moreland residents playing organised sport, why is the minority being catered to?</p> <p>Even with the growth that is expected, the majority of Moreland will not play an organized sport.</p> <p>Leave the oval grass, leave the fences down and leave the space alone. Its worked in the past and more members can be catered at the other grounds the PVFC currently use.</p>	<p>Balancing the demands of sport, active recreation and passive leisure activities is a key consideration in the provision of all open spaces across Moreland.</p>
Feb 20, 2021, 04:10 PM	<p>Blah blah I refer to your comment below , the synthetic pitch rates are on the Moreland City Council website look it up under Clifton Park synthetic and Fawkner the prices are there. There no secret! Hosken will be just the same.</p>	<p>Thanks for your comments</p>
Feb 20, 2021, 02:48 PM	<p>Previous post suggested a misunderstanding about the club. I understand they lease the fenced southern pitch for exclusive use but I what I don't understand is why that arrangement now gives them the right to put a synthetic pitch on the open access oval to the north without paying for exclusive use. They seem two very different lease arrangements and I'd like this clarified for everyone during consultation. What is the current lease and how will it change based on the new proposal?</p>	<p>The proposed synthetic pitch on the North Oval was always planned to remain open and accessible to the public so would be under a seasonal licence agreement like the existing pitch on the North Oval is now.</p>

Feb 19, 2021, 07:04 PM	There is some sort of misunderstanding with residences around or near Hosken Reserve. Obviously they don't understand how it all works. We all pay rates for our homes and the sporting clubs pay a substantial amount to councils for the facility. If your going to argue the rate payer with council I think the ones that pay double the money should be given priority if this is what you all go by. Clubs aren't there for free	Thanks for your comments. We hope everyone, rate payers or not, will be able to contribute their suggestions and ideas during the next few months!
Feb 19, 2021, 06:43 PM	Hi, I'm gay and don't have kids. I like using the oval for jogging and dog walking and a space to relax. I avoid the space when soccer is using it. How can both our needs be included in the space? Why is one user group getting their needs catered for at the expense of other user groups? I pay rates like everyone else so I expect Moreland to be inclusive of diversity. Don't say your for inclusion. Put it into practice and show how you do it through your planning decisions.	Thanks. We're glad that the oval space is great for jogging, dog walking and a relaxing space. We know this is important and I think your question about sharing space is valid. Lets see if we can find a great solution for everyone during this process.
Feb 19, 2021, 05:43 PM	Hi All, this is great how we can express our views. Not sure what the issue is with putting a synthetic pitch at Hosken when residence live amongst streets of factories and industrial area. Bernadette can we lobby to have the factories pulled down?	Mmmm John...not sure I can advise how you should lobby but thanks for providing your point of view!
Feb 19, 2021, 03:48 PM	We went past Hosken Reserve last night for a walk as the weather was warm. Haven't been there for a while. Was speaking to some parents there after my eye caught the renovation to the club rooms. They told me the club put in a substantial amount of money to renovate the rooms and new kitchen. Well done. It has state of the art facilities. We need more communities like this in Moreland. Fantastic work Pascoe Vale.	Glad you like the area John. Lets try and find some more great reasons to celebrate the area!
Feb 19, 2021, 12:58 PM	That was obviously green space not Granada space. Within 500 meters I'd the plan - due to paucity of parkland in merlynston community with 800 meters being canvassed by council. Can the silliness stop? This should be an equal access intuitive - not a face saving one by council to retrofit reasons for previous bad decisions.	I'm not entirely sure of your question Em, but again we're hoping you can be actively involved in the next phase of our engagement.

Feb 19, 2021, 12:50 PM	Hi on new fb post mayor waxes lyrical about importance of Grenada space and parks for Moreland community - 6 more announced. Why is merlynston different? I've have a park close to home and it shouldn't be taken away.	Hey Em, Yes you're correct - the new parks are part of our Parks Close to Home initiative, which focuses on establishing new parks in areas where green open space is scarce. Your park wont be taken away - the masterplan seeks to upgrade the reserve precinct and we welcome your ideas as a nearby resident and someone who obviously values the reserve, so please stay involved in the engagement process. Thanks
Feb 19, 2021, 10:56 AM	<p>I like and play soccer, I like and play afl, I like playing on the oval with my kids and friends.</p> <p>Keep the oval inclusive, keep it grass and open to cater for everyone to play. Don't fence it in. Don't hate on the soccer club.</p> <p>Keep usage accessible for everyone, should north east section be excluded from allocations and always available to the public? Should houses butting on the reserve be consulted on extended hours of use? Should clubs make use of their other allocated reserves? Be fair</p>	Thanks for sharing your views. We agree and want to see the best outcomes for all park users to equally have a say in, and needs met in the masterplan refresh. These questions you're posing here will be considered in detail throughout our engagement process.
Feb 19, 2021, 10:53 AM	Lovely to see the great work from Moreland City Council and the government. Been living in Moreland for 49 years and seen the sporting organisations improve every facility they have. We need more sporting facilities in all areas to cater for our children. The hours and dedication these organisations put into sport and the needy is priceless.	Thanks for the feedback and suggestions, Lisa. It's great to hear the increased opportunities for participation in sport is benefitting your community.
Feb 19, 2021, 10:03 AM	Nature and the community. Synthetic turf would be too hot o walk on or picnic on those days when locals can use it (basically when it's too hot to play football given their excessive hours granted bu council). You can't clean residue of dog mess in this only large space to run our dogs off lead in the area off synthetic and it will not support microorganisms and bees. If by some travesty synthetic still got through the soccer club not the ratepayer should pay for its upkeep in full.	Hi and thanks for sharing your concerns and ideas. We know this is a major concern of residents with many different considerations to take into account like you've raised. All pitch surface options will be investigated as part of this project.
Feb 19, 2021, 09:53 AM	I am a resident in the area and I would like to see more activities being built at Hosken Reserve. Maybe a futsal court , a basketball court etc. Children need sporting facilities to thrive and be safe. This will all in return add value to people's homes. Moreland also needs another synthetic pitch to cater for the high influx at Clifton Park. Children are our future and we need to cater for their needs.	There looks like there would be room for these sorts of activities, Joseph, so we'll add your suggestions to the list.

Feb 19, 2021, 07:28 AM

After finishing work around 5pm, I am unable to use Reserve for exercise and just relax on the green natural grass due to extensive usage by PVSC training every single day and games on weekends, the Islamic private school uses it during the day so when can we, the rate payers, when can we have equal time usage of the reserve that has been supposedly for every person of the Moreland community to use and enjoy our natural space of exercising, playing and just enjoying the open space?

Thanks Mary-Ann. We know this is a concern of residents in the area. We'd like to work towards a positive way forward for everyone - balancing formal and active recreation.

Feb 19, 2021, 12:19 AM

Hi Bernadette

I have just read the messages from some people on this forum. I am a mother of a daughter that plays for PVFC. I am very upset with the people's actions on this forum. I have been with PVFC for 6 years and never seen this behaviour. The below message is what they wrote and I am very upset. Nothing in the message was fact.

Women and girls are not allowed to use Hosken Reserve and are relegated to Richards Reserve.

Using this as an argument for synthetic turf is irrelevant

We know this is a really emotive issue, Barbra. This site was set up for genuine questions so that we could provide clarity or add solutions ,ideas and solutions to the long list of what we've heard. We'll be moving to a more active phase very soon.

Feb 19, 2021, 12:05 AM

It's clear from comments this is needed. Then everyone knows where they stand. 90 hours a week is excessive for a private organisation to use no matter how worthy their cause. And it's irrelevant regardless if people think locals use park 'enough'. Merlynston is a growing community and medium density housing (ie with minimal green space) is planned near the reserve. Access to natural parkland a stroll away is not only a moral right - we pay for it with our rates/rent.

Access to green/open space is definitely a priority for Council 'E'.

Feb 18, 2021, 11:49 PM

This Girl Can stop making accusations you don't even know the facts to.

Women and Girls teams are at Hosken!!!

How long has it been since you attended Hosken Reserve. Judging from you comments it looks like never.

Thanks for getting involved in the conversation Elisa.

Feb 18, 2021, 11:17 PM	<p>It's very clear some residents don't go to Hosken Reserve and see what's going on.</p> <p>I have been residing on Shorts Rd for 24 years and nothing has changed as far as times go for 24 years I have been there.</p> <p>This Girl Can it's obvious you don't travel there enough and only read what times are on websites. If you have been going there the last 24 years you would know nothing has changed.</p>	Thanks for your comments Timothy.
Feb 18, 2021, 11:04 PM	<p>Mr. Potter is great to see you work close with Kelly. Love her work she comes out with her mobile phone and her dog takes photos and sends them to you with a lovely message so you can do her dirty work. Great work keep it up! Ask her to pick up the dog poo her dog leaves behind also. Maybe council can review the residents in the area while they are in the process.</p>	Hi Joanne, we'll relay any animal management concerns that you have such as dog poo picking up to the project team for inclusion in the master plan refresh.
Feb 18, 2021, 10:57 PM	<p>This Girl Can??? I would like to see what you have done for the community. This is a disgrace you are intimidating the girls from the club. I am a mother of 3 girls that play for the club and the girls play and train from Hosken Reserve. Get your rights before you make false accusations. And what you are on about with your other accusations is beyond me.</p>	Thanks Lily. We know this is an emotive and passionate issue. We're working towards ensuring this is a respectful engagement process for all.
Feb 18, 2021, 09:31 PM	<p>This has happened frequently. It's extremely annoying to residents. The chub should be packed up with the oval vacated by the time they're meant to leave. Given that they're irresponsible and selfish tenants, can council look at limiting their access rather than expanding it?</p>	Council would expect that there is a reasonable amount of time for the users of the grounds to exit safely. This may mean lights on to ensure people get to their cars safely. We're working towards ensuring our engagement is respectful to all. Thanks Greg.
Feb 18, 2021, 07:58 PM	<p>I see some replies to questions that suggest 'we need our transport team to advise about carparking'. But this transport team already ran a heavily biased transport advisory committee for the past 3 years. When will the Transport Advisory Committee advertise for new community members, and will there be representation for cars, motorbikes and trucks and the NW ward this time around? Or is Council going to wait until the Hosken Reserve refresh project has been finalised?</p>	Hi Marion, the MTAC is next meeting on 16 March and I encourage you to contact the Transport team for more information or to get involved.

Feb 18, 2021, 06:01 PM	<p>Increased hours of use with no consultation</p> <p>Previously and for many years, PVFC hours of use of the Nth Oval were Mon and Tuesday 6-9 Wed 6-8 Thursday and Friday 6-7.30pm.</p> <p>Last March Council increased their hours to 4-9pm Monday to Friday.</p> <p>Council needs to consult and consider the residents of Merlynston who have used this space for many years rather than blindside us AGAIN by locking us out every night from 4pm.</p> <p>This was NEVER an issue previously with the original hours.</p>	<p>Hi there, the soccer club's use changes throughout the season in line with their competition schedule and requirements. This is common practice across all Moreland sportsgrounds and has occurred at Hosken in each of the previous years of use (except for 2020 which was dramatically impacted by the shutdown of sport due to COVID).</p>
Feb 18, 2021, 05:57 PM	<p>The local residents do not want increased lighting shining into their homes until late 5 nights per week.</p> <p>Replacing the current lighting with 100 Lux LEDs will have a detrimental effect on the amenity of the homes that reside along the boundaries of the reserve</p>	<p>Sportsfield lighting nowadays is much more efficient and environmentally friendly. There are certainly ways to ensure these lights are not having a detrimental affect on residents. We can provide more of this information during our next phase of engagement.</p>
Feb 18, 2021, 05:55 PM	<p>Women and girls are not allowed to use Hosken Reserve and are relegated to Richards Reserve.</p> <p>Using this as an argument for synthetic turf is irrelevant.</p> <p>Using the "This Girl Can" campaign is also irrelevant: PVFC has stated girls cant play on grass as they will get muddy.</p>	<p>I haven't heard that argument about girls getting muddy! I'm sure there would be lots of girls who love getting muddy! Moreland is an active campaigner, advocate and partner in the Vichealth "This Girl Can" campaign. Its about inspiring Women and Girls to get active – "however, wherever and whenever they choose, without being judged." Its very relevant across Moreland not just formal sports.</p>
Feb 18, 2021, 03:02 PM	<p>I am disgusted to see the comments on the club using the premises more hours now that everyone has woken up that Hosken Reserve exists. The hours of the club are no different than what they were in the last 55 years it has been there. I have lived off Pallett street for 35 years and nothing has changed. The park is available and hardly anyone on there when the club isn't. Seriously stop this type of behaviour you all have decided that there is a park out there today not the last 55 years. Y</p>	<p>We understand this is a very emotive and passionate issue. We're working towards a positive outcome for everyone.</p>
Feb 18, 2021, 11:17 AM	<p>It's a disgrace that soccer club hours increased during this consultation - their extra hours should not have an effect on independent reviewer and should not be given while decision on reserve use was still being made. It's frankly not the problem of locals if they need more time. It is our problem when we can't use our park in daylight hours. Who's decision was this?</p>	<p>Hi there, the soccer club's use changes throughout the season in line with their competition schedule and requirements. This is common practice across all Moreland sportsgrounds and has occurred at Hosken in each of the previous years of use (except for 2020 which was dramatically impacted by the shutdown of sport due to COVID).</p>

Feb 17, 2021, 08:16 PM	<p>Parking should be adequate but not encroaching and taking up greenspace. Remarking lines in east carpark. Unlocking the chains on pallette Street carpark online day or training nights (alot of times it is left locked). Add some bike parking stations, this may encourage people to ride their bikes to games especially local members of clubs (how ever small that percentage is)</p> <p>Continue the walking path around the oval, it currently covers 3/4.</p>	Active Transport is always favorable, thanks for the reminder about bike stations! We'll make sure your suggestions are included in the discussions.
Feb 17, 2021, 08:14 PM	If locals can't use in daylight hours you might as well rather than pretending we have equal use.	Thanks for the suggestion!
Feb 17, 2021, 08:09 PM	<p>Two weeks ago i pointed out the difference in the May deliverables from the council report and this website. Councils response was</p> <p>"Great pick up Mark. We're committed to delivering on the Council resolution to provide "a report by May 2021 on the outcomes of the Hosken Reserve community engagement with options to determine future action"</p> <p>Why is the website providing incorrect information. What exactly are you delivering? A master plan, or a report on the outcome of community consultation?</p>	Hi Mark, we're delivering a report in May on the outcomes of the community engagement process. We've now updated all information on this page with full details of the process and engagement activities to be undertaken.
Feb 17, 2021, 07:32 PM	Before this "issue" arose, I was pretty neutral about council. Now I will never trust the council and I'll never vote Labor again.	Hopefully we can build back your trust in Council once we've conducted the upcoming engagement process and reported back to Council about what we've heard.
Feb 17, 2021, 07:26 PM	I would like the lease arrangement between PVFC and council included in the consultation documents for reasons of transparency. I'm keen to increase my understanding of whether appropriate adjustment in the lease terms will be made to reflect the sole and single use benefit they will get from a synthetic pitch. Better yet, could the council simply put the park up for sale on the open market so that ratepayers receive a fair price for the public asset?	Interesting idea! I'm not sure selling the park is the right outcome here. I'll pass on your concerns regarding the leasing arrangement to our project team for further discussion.

Feb 17, 2021, 07:07 PM

Further to my last interaction here (500 characters is not enough to say everything): The community doesn't hate soccer; which seems to be the belief of PVSC, but we want to be able to share our local park equally and fairly. I visit Hosken almost every day and PVSC is already abusing their 90 hr access. They regularly are still running drills, yelling and blowing their whistles well after they're meant to be finished. Also, we don't want a plastic park! Council isn't listening to the community.

Thanks Caitlin - a quality local park shared by all of our community is our intended outcome. I'll relay your concerns about the usage beyond booked hours to the Recreation team that manage the grounds and bookings to investigate further.

Feb 17, 2021, 07:03 PM

On my search for alternative places to walk locally now that Hosken has been gifted to the soccer fraternity by councillors with vested family interests in soccer, I am so appalled by the blocked pathway in the so-called "linear park". What a planning joke. When will the council do their job and ensure the linear park walk is a thoroughfare? Not that hard but apparently overlooked because your concerns are pandering to sports clubs wants rather than local needs.

Thanks for the suggestion 'linear park block'. While the focus of this project is Hosken Reserve and a refresh of the master plan, consideration of broader connections to and from other spaces such as the linear park are definitely in the mix. I'll pass your ideas onto the project team for inclusion.

Feb 17, 2021, 06:56 PM

I saw a social media clip of Oscar Yilditz announcing the \$500k grant that was pulled after it was found council submitted fraudulent documentation. Why was Oscar announcing that grant at a football game? Again, not a smoking gun, but absolutely indicating a bias deeply ingrained in council. Stinks to high heaven.

I'm not sure what clip you are referring to but Council did put a media release out when we were first notified that we were successful in our application to the 'World Game Facilities Fund' - Cr Yildiz may have been sharing the news at a football game.

Feb 17, 2021, 06:55 PM

As a resident who lives nearby Hosken, I feel like I don't understand what decisions have been made re Hosken Reserve, replacing the pitch, hours of use by PVSC and whether more fencing to shut out the public is to be built. I understand that having consultation online is safest during Covid but there are so many of us that do not know how to access current information or to ask questions. I feel like PVSC is responding in retaliation to the local community's protest and council supports them.

Important feedback for us to hear, Caitlin - we'll be releasing details of the engagement process shortly which will have a number of options to get involved and ask questions - online, in person and via phone/mail if needed, all within COVID-safe guidelines of course.

Feb 17, 2021, 06:53 PM

I'm still concerned that Annaliva's family is deeply connected to Football Victoria through her father being President of Brunswick Zebras. This indicates a clear bias ingrained within Moreland council. How can anyone trust anything about this consultation? It's clearly a done deal already and this process a farce.

I note your concerns, but nothing is a done deal hence Council requested a new community engagement process and a report back in May with some options. I encourage you to continue getting involved once we release the details of the second phase of our engagement process shortly.

Feb 17, 2021, 06:49 PM	The velodrome is a huge waste of space. Much bigger than Hosken reserve. What is the council's plan to refresh that space? Probably could fit a synthetic soccer pitch in the field next to the velodrome. It's not even a stone's throw from Hosken. Why not shift the soccer to that space? I'm sick of them.	That's a new suggestion! With the required support facilities (pavilion, changerooms etc.) already at Hosken Reserve, moving them from their long term home wouldn't seem practical. We can definitely look at options at the Velodrome site into the future though.
Feb 17, 2021, 06:43 PM	As football use has increased at Hosken, my use has decreased. I have tried to find other places to walk. I found some of the streets in the industrial estate interesting. I didn't know there was a brothel in my local area. Not dissing sex workers at all. But I'm keen to know how local users recreational activities will change with less local access and more football time?	Sorry to hear that 'alternative places'. One of the things we'd like to hear about is how improvements at other nearby sites (such as Sanger Reserve and the linear park for example) can also assist in improving your recreational needs. Whilst it may not be within the scope of this project we know that areas around Hosken will have an impact on how you use or don't use the parks and open space.
Feb 17, 2021, 06:31 PM	This issue is divisive and increases mental health issues for local residents. I used to enjoy using the park but now I avoid it. Unfortunately, there isn't much other space around. I went for a walk in the cemetery and was offered drugs and felt very unsafe there. This is pushing me away from using my local park. I think it stinks. Will council address safety issues in the cemetery if I can't use Hosken reserve anymore?	I'm not sure the cemetery is under Council management in terms of a safety perspective but I'll check in with our Open Space team. As for other space, that's one of the things we'd like to hear about - how improvements at other nearby sites (such as Sanger Reserve and the linear park for example) can also assist in improving your recreational needs. Whilst it may not be within the scope of this project we know that areas around Hosken will have an impact on how you use or don't use the parks and open space.
Feb 17, 2021, 06:26 PM	I'm a local resident. When can I use the oval? Every time I go there, I find it's being used by people from outside my neighbourhood for organised sport. I don't feel like I'm welcome.	I'm sorry that you don't feel welcome. As a designated sportsground Hosken Reserve is booked for formal sport at various times throughout the week, and is open for the wider community to use at all other times. Just like our residents will often use facilities and services outside of Moreland, our sportsgrounds cater for a wide range of users, including those from inside and outside of Moreland. We'd love to hear your idea to make the site more welcoming!
Feb 17, 2021, 06:11 PM	With pvfc having weekend access now from 8am to 6pm at weekends (ie key community use time) it's now more urgent than ever that no more land is fenced off - or they use their existing fenced pitch at those times. Or their hours decrease accordingly so people including those with small children or disabilities can enjoy the space during valuable weekend hours. Please pass this on to your independent reviewer.	Thanks 'Park User'. ALL of these comments, ideas and suggestions are being collated for our engagement specialists.

Feb 17, 2021, 05:57 PM	Residents have noted practice often continues beyond agreed hours, and the cleaning up lasts longer still. I can hear them streets away. Can compliance measures around access be baked into the refresh?	Thanks 'nearby' - I'll definitely relay this feedback to our sport and recreation team that manage the bookings to investigate any usage beyond agreed hours further.
Feb 17, 2021, 05:52 PM	Quite a few recent comments about car park - can the plans try to minimise as much as possible extra traffic? Or at least not encourage it?	Yes, you're right Mary. Lots of comments about parking and traffic flow. Our transport colleagues are ready to provide further advice on all of these suggestions and ideas.
Feb 17, 2021, 05:43 PM	Why has no one from the council or committee engaged with property owners that back onto Hosken Reserve? Your welcome to come to my address to see how much impact the lights and soccer club noise has on my property, I invite any one to come and visit Brendon Mitchell 0427 353 765	Thanks Brendon, engagement with all residents is planned as part of our community engagement activities. Stay tuned on the page and for a letter in your mailbox soon with all of the details.
Feb 17, 2021, 05:36 PM	The reserve is there to serve needs of growing community who live within 800m (Per Moreland consultation). An increasing number in dwellings without gardens. This doesn't mean they must 'use it or lose it' it is a right for us as ratepayers to have this access -at sensible hours and in a safe environment. The environment should be natural and not increase our carbon footprint. Only once this need has been met should provide access to private entities. What this Moreland matrix for this need?	Access to open space is a very important issue 'local'. There's lots of great space nearby like Sanger, Richards, Bain, and Dawson Reserves, in addition to the linear parks throughout the neighbourhood and keeping these sites up to scratch and useable for the whole community now and into the future is our priority.
Feb 17, 2021, 01:52 PM	Is this feedback platform for all or just moreland residents? For example private users such as tennis club, school and soccer club have their own platform for feedback? Are posts here from clubs staff allowed or should they use their own available avenue? Have other local private user groups been considered to provide feedback such as scouts, kinder, primary schools and so on?	This Q and A platform is for anybody and everybody that has an interest in Hosken Reserve. As part of our upcoming engagement process there will be even more ways to get involved and we want to hear from as many different groups as possible. Hope that answers your question 'others'.

Feb 17, 2021, 01:18 PM	<p>Moreland City Council have been doing excellent work on the facilities and they have a great vision to cater for all.</p> <p>I am a resident that lives off Pallett Street for 39 years , have hardly seen the general public use Hosken Reserve except for walking their dogs and someone needing to pick up what they leave behind “dog poo” every day constantly with out fail.</p> <p>There is plenty of room for all.</p> <p>Moreland City Council will only improve what’s there.</p>	<p>Thanks for your comment Trixie. We're definitely intending to improve any facility and open space across Moreland where and when we can!</p>
Feb 17, 2021, 01:18 PM	<p>Understand clubs need sponsor support but can we ensure at Hosken advertising is field facing and not street or public facing? This devalues the look and feel of the reserve. Maybe only allowed up on game day.</p> <p>The path between sth reserve and nth reserve next to playground needs resurfacing or replacing, it becomes a mud pit on wet days</p>	<p>There are definitely rules around sponsorship and signage. I'll seek further advice on this one. Ok...mud pits don't sound great! We can add that to our list for our open space planners to have a look at.</p>
Feb 17, 2021, 01:13 PM	<p>Is the locked south reserve included in the refresh? Considering the nth and sth reserve lease fees are similar and usage allocations the same (actual use varies). Will the sth reserve be unlocked outside allocated hours like similar fence reserves in Moreland?</p> <p>Outside of allocated hours might be good to give the high school use sth, will give them privacy and guarantees them an open field.</p> <p>Why is the fence so high, reduce the size, unlock the gate or revise lease fees to reflect 24/7 usage?</p>	<p>Hi 'exclusive', the 'South' field at Hosken Reserve is currently leased by PVFC and is a designated Class A pitch which means it can accommodate 11-15 hours per week of permitted use for organised sport. We limit this usage in order to maintain the field of play to a high quality in line with the high standard of sport that is played at the site (National Premier League Victoria). To understand more about this, please refer to page 10 of the Sporting Facilities. Grounds and Pavilions User Guide which lists all the grounds in Moreland.</p>
Feb 17, 2021, 10:57 AM	<p>Just to clarify my earlier question, I'm asking whether community consultation will only be happening online? This forum is a good start but many residents won't use it and will rely on information coming via mail as well as it always has in the past.</p>	<p>Yes you're quite right Celia. Online is only one method. We started the Q&A because there were so many questions residents and users of the area wanted answered. We figured we could try and answer as much as we could, and at the same time allow you to add what you want and what you don't want to see.</p>

Feb 17, 2021, 10:53 AM I'd like more clarification on how the community will be engaged on Hosken Reserve? Is it just online? Will plans be mailed? As an example, I live across the road and still haven't received any information on who will be leading this, what is actually being proposed, when it will happen. That's pretty stark contrast to the hosken reserve playground upgrade AND the hosken reserve stormwater project which sent residents detailed plans and ways to raise objections. Why is this so difficult?

Thanks Celia. We outlined above that we would begin stage 1 of our engagement in mid- February. Just waiting for a few more things to cover. Not far off now!

Feb 17, 2021, 09:05 AM I'd like to congratulate the Moreland City Council for this online forum as a valuable way of engaging with the community. It's been great to be able to ask questions, provide feedback and receive rapid responses even while in lockdown in the safety and comfort of our home.

Thank you. We are trying our best. :)

Feb 17, 2021, 06:39 AM Is the Merlynston Tennis Club a public facility? There is a locked, high fence around it closing it off to the public, but no calls for it to be taken down. Of course, anyone watching or playing tennis or football knows the fences are needed to manage errant bls, but if its on public land it's curious that all the vitriol is directed at the football club and the tennis club has been spared.

Hi Mark, indeed the Melynston Tennis Club is a public facility just like our other sports clubs across Moreland.

Feb 16, 2021, 10:10 PM With the storm harvest system irrigating the whole of hosken reserve including the south pitch that community doesn't have access to. We should embrace this by keeping the ovals all grass, girls love playing on grass just as much as the boys and adults.
There was concern about sports participation, per allocated time use (m-f 4-9 and wkends 10-4) I doubt anymore participation can be squeezed in, remember kids have school during the day and most adults have jobs. Bring down the fences on sth oval

Thanks for your suggestions Warran. Under any proposals the stormwater harvesting system is defininitely intended to stay and continue irrigating the reserve.

Feb 16, 2021, 12:16 PM Due to ongoing lockdowns it's not reasonable to conduct face to face consultations at this time or in next few months and expect them to be complete by councils arbitrary and possibly self serving may deadline. People have different comfort levels about the virus and Moreland is a hotspot and has been since 2020. Not extending this shows up the 'consultation' as the box ticking exercise many Suspect it to be.

Yes you're quite right if we face further lock down and/or restrictions then we will need to ensure our timelines match that. We will be delivering all engagement activities within COVID-safe guidelines and have a Plan B just in case! If further lockdowns mean engagement is compromised, we will provide this feedback in the Council report in May on the outcome of the engagement activities.

Feb 16, 2021, 10:41 AM

To provide a safe environment for women there needs to be adequate seating. There is currently very limited seating - one seat near the existing playground, one near the carpark and a BBQ table near the wetland. It is more welcoming for women if there are places to sit down and feel safe. At a large ground like Hoskens inadequate seating areas can make people feel intimidated therefore will sit in their car or leave and pick up later. Seating needs to adequately meet the needs of users.

Extra seating and where they may be placed is a good suggestion to add to the mix.

Feb 16, 2021, 10:31 AM

With increased participation, adequate car parking is required which is currently heavily utilised in the main car park and along Pallet Street from Shorts Road. As per previous suggestion about a walking path around the perimeter, the installation of steps from half way down Pallet Street and around to Bakers Road could provide additional entry points to access the grounds where you could access the path around. Also a formal entrance on Bakers Road adjacent to AIA through to the PVFC Pavillion.

We've had a few car park questions. Our Transport colleagues will be busy! Your added access ideas are interesting.

Feb 16, 2021, 10:29 AM

The timeframe for consultation on Hosken Reserve was extremely ambitious (many would argue unrealistic) when it was announced in Dec 2020. Now we can see that early milestones have already been missed, and it is unclear how this consultation project can be brought into line with planned timeframes, particularly in the context of new COVID restrictions. Will councillors be voting on this matter in May regardless of whether consultation is completed?

Hi Tatiana. Yes you're right timelines were ambitious which we acknowledged earlier in our planning. We still have a few more internal conversations to have before we can formally kickstart the face to face engagement. If there are any more COVID restrictions then we have a Plan B! Just also noting that this Q&A online forum has provided an enormous amount of information, detail and ideas about what you want or don't want which will form the basis of our reporting. As we are in mid-February, I think we're still on track as per the above timelines.

Feb 16, 2021, 10:25 AM

By 2031, it is predicted there will be a 18% increase in females in Moreland (ABS stats) across all age groups. Unstructured sporting needs for women, such as walking, could be met by installing a walking track around the full internal perimeter of the reserve which measures 1km per lap. New playground facilities in the vacant land adjacent to the PVFC club house, tennis club & AIA could be used by all three groups and meet needs of parents wanting to play sport with children.

Thanks Alexandra. We will certainly need to maximise opportunities for active recreation in the area.

Feb 16, 2021, 10:13 AM

Current facilities at Hosken Reserve include Pascoe Vale FC, Merlyston Tennis Club. Both Football Federation Vic and Tennis Vic and Moreland City Council have targets and strategies to increase participation of women/girls in sport - seeking equal male/female participation rates over the next 5 or so years. To facilitate an increase in women in sport, we need increased functionality and usability of spaces and provide a safe environment for women/girls to get involved. Ideas in my next post.

Couldn't agree more about the need for increased functionality, usability and safety - appreciate your comments Alexandra

Feb 15, 2021, 11:13 PM

This carpark is an odd shape (constructed to suite the previous oval) and not linemarked so cars often park in an ad hoc fashion and never enough for the amount of area it takes up. If it was rationalised, you might find that you can park more cars in a smaller footprint and gain more recreation space. It would be great to see another BBQ area along the western side of the park with a covered shelter, like what has been built at Cole Reserve or Gavin Park off Northumberland Road in Pascoe Vale.

We'll add these in to the mix of options to be considered. We'll also need our transport team to provide further advice about the car parking!

Feb 15, 2021, 07:42 PM

The pvfc use agreement needs to decrease. They can't have their cake and eat it. Walling it off for all hours every day means we, the residents, have no access

Hi 'resident', not sure what walls you are referring to but the 'South' field at Hosken Reserve is a designated Class A pitch which means it can accommodate 11-15 hours per week of permitted use for organised sport. We limit this usage in order to maintain the field of play to a high quality in line with the high standard of sport that is played at the site (National Premier League Victoria). To understand more about this, please refer to page 10 of the Sporting Facilities. Grounds and Pavilions User Guide which lists all the grounds in Moreland. As for the 'North' oval - that will remain available to the public as it is now.

Feb 15, 2021, 02:32 PM

What about a public art wall? Lot's of great examples...

1. Northcote Koori Mural on St Georges Road
2. Hosier Lane
3. Brunswick Silo art

Just to name a few...

I'm sure our artists of Moreland would love another project to work on. Perhaps some art work that the community and users of the area could contribute to? I'll ask our Arts and Culture team to provide some advice on this one

Feb 15, 2021, 01:47 PM	<p>Keep Hosken natural is ideal. It is the only accessible natural greenspace within 500m.</p> <p>Pallette street needs a connecting path and crossing to ulm street to connect with linear reserve.</p> <p>Oval to remain grass to be able to cater for multisports and locals general use.</p> <p>Cricket net section to include bball court, seats and outdoor gym.</p> <p>North West section adventure playground suitable for toddlers to teens. More trees for shade and comfort.</p> <p>Tree line the path between north and north east sections</p>	<p>Great suggestions and there have been a number of similar ideas to yours. Thank you!</p>
Feb 15, 2021, 12:42 PM	<p>Did pvsc attain planning permission for the massive street facing advert on the reserve? Did they pay? How is it appropriate the reserve has this up on what is land for the public to be used by and owned by the public (ratepayers and renters)</p>	<p>I'm not familiar with the advert that you mention. Are you able to take a photo and email it to info@moreland.vic.gov.au so that I can refer it to our Planning team? Thanks!</p>
Feb 14, 2021, 11:49 PM	<p>Is there data on the 'new' water harvesting pond capacity vs the irrigation requirements of Hosken Reserve? Does it water all grounds or just the south football pitch? It would also be interesting to know how often mains water is used to supplement the rainwater.</p>	<p>Another good question for our Environment colleagues. I'll need to get further advice on this one!</p>
Feb 14, 2021, 10:54 PM	<p>There is a reserve or easement to the east of the Australian International Academy that is wide enough to create a southern entrance to the Hosken Reserve carpark. It's directly opposite Dawson Street & would be a far more appropriate 'main entry' to the carpark for the school (staff parking, student drop-off/pick-up & after hours events) & more direct access for both sporting clubs. It would also redirect a lot of this traffic from 'residential' Shorts Rd to 'industrial' Bakers Rd.</p>	<p>Our Transport planners will be able to provide further advice on this one. I'll get back to you.</p>
Feb 14, 2021, 09:33 PM	<p>The masterplan refresh should consider upgrading and modernising all fences around the park. Hosken Res. has examples of fences from different eras with remnants of galv post & rail (cricket/AFL), treated pine pole, corrugated iron (tennis) and chainmesh (football). MCC has recently replaced park fencing at Reaburn and Cole Reserve with timber post and pole & Hosken would look so much better with the same.</p> <p>Similarly, the tennis courts fence & main football pitch should be upgraded & modernise</p>	<p>Thanks Mark. I've added your comments to the mix of suggestions.</p>

Feb 14, 2021, 08:46 PM

MCC recently refurbished the public toilets and tidied them up - thank you, but there is still a large step-up from an uneven gravel surface making it difficult for people of mixed ability to use the facilities.

The same can be said about the gravel in front of the clubrooms leading to the toilets. It's loosely compacted and often uneven and difficult to manage if in a chair or unstable on your feet.

Improved hard paving and lighting would be a great addition to the master plan refresh.

Ensuring amenities are accessible to all is important. Our Moreland Disability Working Group will also be able to provide advice on this and other aspects of the refresh.

Feb 14, 2021, 11:53 AM

Top of this page: 'We took on board your concerns about the lack of consultation for our 2009 Masterplan and we're committed to ensuring that planning for the future of this valued local reserve reflects community needs and expectations.' Actually, people are concerned that council deviated from its 2009 Masterplan (which was based on consultation with residents), and instead sought to impose a NEW / different plan for Hosken for a synthetic pitch in a shared open space with NO consultation.

The Hosken Reserve Redevelopment Plan was launched in 2007 and consultation on the plan concluded in 2009. The plan was received and endorsed by Council in April 2009 containing a list of more than 18 recommended improvements including:

- ☑ Upgrade and redevelop the main oval as a full size soccer field;
- ☑ Extend the rectangular field. Remove the damaged concrete cricket wicket and convert the grass surface to synthetic. Install training lights and perimeter fence; and
- ☑ Convert the cricket net area to a synthetic playing area. Retain the cricket nets and install basketball/netball play facilities and provide appropriate fencing.

A subsequent 'Hybrid Synthetic Sports Surface Needs Analysis' report was tabled and endorsed in April 2018 which recommended that a synthetic pitch be installed at 'Hosken Reserve North' and the existing, fenced southern soccer pitch be converted to hybrid.

It is believed this is where the resulting confusion as to the exact location of the proposed synthetic pitch has originated and been embedded over subsequent years.

We acknowledge that consultation on the Hosken Reserve proposed synthetic pitch has been indirect and is not in line with contemporary practice. Our community's feedback is important to us and we agree that a further clear, direct and robust community engagement process is required which is what we are currently aiming to achieve.

Feb 14, 2021, 11:45 AM	<p>Ironically this page is not conducive to 'conversations' / contest of ideas. Restricting feedback to thumbs up or thumbs down means we're unable to show support for one aspect of another's idea or proposal for Hosken, and point out potential problems.</p> <p>Mark Cometti of PVFC has provided lots of ideas for how peripheral spaces at Hosken could be better utilised for recreational purposes (nice) but also suggests they can double as car parking when needed ie) by sporting clubs crowds. Thumbs down.</p>	<p>Hi Jano. This page also includes a voting tool and shows how many views of a particular question. This page is not the only engagement tool. We are just finalising the face to face (if we can!) component and other methods. The questions on this page including the number of emails received are all being collated so we can feed back to you what we've heard and what community and users of the reserve have told us.</p>
Feb 13, 2021, 08:57 PM	<p>The masterplan (2008-2009) undertook community and sporting club consultation and resolved to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - create a full-sized grass soccer pitch at Hosken Reserve's north-west oval. This was never done. PVFC do not use this space for senior games. - Convert the existing full-size southern soccer pitch used by PVFC to synthetic pitch when funds available (this was never done). - Create training-size synthetic pitch east of oval (get \$ contribution from King Khalid private school). This was never done. 	<p>Whilst Council prepares a number of plans and reports on capital works projects, these are only implemented when there is a budget approved. We often need to seek external funding to fully implement projects.</p>
Feb 12, 2021, 05:13 PM	<p>Interestingly, the profile photo for this forum was recently updated because the previous image depicts what greets visitors to Hosken Reserve from Sheppard Street. The image wasn't good enough for this forum & it's not good enough for our park. Visitors are welcomed by an awkwardly located power pole in the middle of the road, chainmesh fence, back of factory bins to north & 50m L x 5m H wall of asbestos cladding to the foundry. Surely we can do better than this. Public art, feature planting...</p>	<p>Yes, I agree. I think we can do better. Any other ideas?</p>
Feb 11, 2021, 10:38 PM	<p>A multi-use space to accommodate & promote social sports & recreation that is also a safe place to meet or "hang-out". Courts-basketball, netball, futsal, cricket, skaters curbs and seating around the existing trees &/or tiered along the embankment to the existing tennis courts. Between the school, tennis & football clubs, an ideal meeting spot for all folk. See here for a similar concept https://worldlandscapearchitect.com/aspect-studios-creates-a-city-shaping-linear-park-in-melbourne</p>	<p>Thanks Mark. I'll pass that on to our planners</p>

Feb 11, 2021, 01:15 PM

The majority of answers to the questions asked by the obviously angry & frustrated residents of the Merlynston area all seem to place an emphasis on “sport”. The description of the consultants specialties chosen start with “sport”. I am EXTREMELY concerned that the consultants have been chosen to give the Council their desired outcome. This would be consistent with their past behaviour on this project. Will you guarantee an open & honest engagement free of predetermined bias & outcomes?

Yes absolutely, the engagement process we are proposing will be an open and honest conversation with the community and we will be providing all of the feedback we receive back to Council for consideration. The consultants we have engaged have a broad mix of skills from sport and recreation, health and wellbeing and urban planning through to landscape architecture and community engagement specialists, meaning we will receive a robust and independent assessment of future options at Hosken Reserve.

Feb 10, 2021, 11:59 AM

There is enormous pressure on local council to increase open greenspace from increased population. Community passive and recreational use of open greenspace has wide-ranging health benefits for individuals and communities. These benefits can extend beyond physical health to include mental health and personal well-being and building social cohesion. For every 10 new resident who would need open space less than 0.1 of a person would be a soccer member. Decrease greenspace will compound the probl

Access to open space is a very important issue. There's lots of great space nearby like Sanger, Richards, Bain, and Dawson Reserves, in addition to the linear parks throughout the neighbourhood and keeping these sites up to scratch and useable for the whole community now and into the future is our priority.

Feb 09, 2021, 09:20 AM

The Pallet St interface with Hosken should be enhanced to address a number of important issues. Antisocial driver behaviour occurs along Pallet Street around the factories. Hosken Reserve 'turns its back' on Pallet Street so the new plan should create a gateway by improving access to the park, playground, sports pavilions (football & tennis) as well as school. New footpaths, running track, inset carparking, seating, landscaping will encourage social activity making it less inviting for hoons.

Anti-social behavior in any area across Moreland is tricky to deal with. Crime prevention through environmental design (CPTED) is one way to address this behaviour. Your other ideas for including or upgrading will be included as well. Thank you!

Feb 07, 2021, 10:14 PM

I would love to see a zebra crossing, speed bump, or some sort of safe road crossing area joining the Hosken Reserve Playground to the pathway that goes along the Ulm st park. There a lot of young kids that access the playground by crossing Pallett St, and with the regular hoons speeding up Pallett street it's just a matter of time before there is an accident.

As part of our refresh plans, a transport study has been flagged. Your suggestion is a good one and will certainly be included.

Feb 07, 2021, 06:55 PM

Hi Leonie. Was there a specific question you had about Fees for sports clubs?

Feb 06, 2021, 11:16 PM	During a heavy or sustained downpour surface water gathers at the north east corner of the football pavilion and runs down the footpath to the school creating a slipping hazard. Would the MCC consider installing a rain garden as part of the masterplan to eliminate or better manage this issue?	I'm sure our expert planners will have a solution for this type of issue. Our sustainable built environment colleagues will have great examples.
Feb 06, 2021, 10:57 PM	Bound by the tennis club, school football club and carpark this space is underutilised and could be turned into a 'street sports' field catering for lovers of cricket, basketball, netball, futsal or skaters. It could also double as a spillover carpark on major events. It would be great to see this in the revised masterplan.	Love the idea of a 'street sports' field! I'm sure we also have examples of this around Moreland. If you have any examples of where you've seen this type of area done well, we'd like to hear about it.
Feb 06, 2021, 10:33 PM	Lighting in the carpark is poor and unsafe for parents and children in the evenings. The carpark is difficult to manoeuvre and often used as a dumping ground by undesirables taking advantage of the dark corners of a haphazard layout. The master plan needs to include improved lighting and security by providing well designed and compliant parking spaces, adequate passing lanes, and an actual turning circle so vehicles aren't reversing 100m.	Thanks Mark. A lighting assessment in and around this area will be included in our project. The car park will also be reviewed so the "dark corners" can be investigated as part of this.
Feb 06, 2021, 08:17 PM	Say you put a big wire fence around the oval like the one already there on the other fenced off area. Even if you leave gate open for public (after all it's as public park) - as a single whomp who works during day I just wouldn't feel safe enough to use space in evening when walking my dog - I would be fenced in with any attacker, with only a small space to escape. Why are you making our spaces less safe? It's not like Moreland has been a safe space for women in public in recent years.	I'd certainly be concerned about that as well, "concerned". Fences, gates and access in general has been heard loud and clear and will certainly form part of any options and discussions. (PS I'm not sure what a "whomp" actually is?! :))
Feb 06, 2021, 12:58 PM	Many residents are not able to participate in organized sport - A policy for them to have unrestricted access to natural parkland to exercise in an unstructured fashion and enjoy nature (itself important for wellness) needs to be baked in to any plan. I was very impressed with Moreland stickers about disabilities not all being visible on the ground around Merlynston shops. Time for some joined up thinking to serve the disadvantaged in Moreland. Can this be included in your plans?	Absolutely "Space for all"! We have a very active Disability working group who I hope will be able to provide some of this advice as well. We'll be actively seeking their advice. If you have more specific areas or ideas for inclusion and accessibility let us know.
Feb 06, 2021, 10:32 AM	While I understand the merits of organised club based sport it is not suitable or desirable for everyone. Have the council considered that the denial of access to hosken will in many cases decrease physical exercise?	Yes you're right Lyn. Organised sport is not for everyone. The refresh will take in to consideration spaces active recreation and social sports . Having a good conversation about what else can happen here and around the area will be important.

Feb 06, 2021,
08:51 AM

A considerable number of posts seem to assume that the community is the near neighbours of the parkland. I think we need to have a workable definition (we can all accept) about who are the community stakeholders being engaged in the community feedback.

Hi Chuck, spot-on comment. We agree that it's imperative we are partnering with communities who are interested and impacted by the masterplan refresh. We know that Hosken Reserve is a place that many people travel to and from, from a wide region and for a variety of reasons. We want to make sure we're capturing all interested and impacted groups in our engagement process this time around. Nearby and adjoining neighbours are certainly important stakeholders but we'll also be making sure we consider the views of other residents, ratepayers, sporting clubs, recreation and informal sporting groups, schools, park users who do and don't live in Moreland and environmental groups.

Feb 05, 2021,
09:52 PM

I would like some information about exactly how the community input will be weighted in the final decision-making. Is council committed to doing what the majority of the community want? I am probably not alone in feeling a bit distrustful of this engagement process, given the past behaviour of council.

Hi Mani, thanks for sharing your concerns about the masterplan refresh. We acknowledge that our past decisions, especially inadequate community engagement, have led to some frustration and distrust among local groups and individuals. This time around through our masterplan refresh engagement plan, we're determined to provide opportunity for genuine participation. This will result in community-led recommendations on future development options for the Hosken Reserve master plan, for presentation at a May Council Meeting. We'll have announcements and details on this soon - exactly what this looks like is currently being finalised by our engagement consultants. A consortium called The Community Collaborative has been appointed to lead the important work on the Hosken Reserve master plan refresh. The Community Collaborative led by Dan Ferguson was assessed as the best option having a balanced approach to sport, community health and wellbeing, urban planning and community engagement. The engagement contingent will be led by Conversations Caravan and the masterplanning will be led by Pollen Studio. Dan Ferguson from The Community Collaborative will also provide the project management component of the project. This will provide a clear and transparent lead person and contact point for the project.

Feb 05, 2021,
08:55 PM

Much to the community's surprise, Moreland Council wants to build a fence around the new proposed soccer pitches. Which makes no sense if you are trying to increase participation. I would like to start a conversation about disassembling the fence around the southern soccer pitch so that residents can use the land. Why is there a 10-meter high fence around a community facility for over 20 years, bring down the fence so all residents can use it not just a select few inside the soccer club!!!!!!

Hi Emily, thanks for your question and interest in the masterplan refresh. Fencing is required around the perimeter of the oval to protect players and spectators. Fence height of 1.1m is needed in line with Football Victoria requirements. However, please keep in mind fencing does not necessarily equate to a 'locked gate'. Our community engagement will also consider in-depth, things like the type of fencing and ways for increased community use and enjoyment outside of formal use agreement. The masterplan refresh intends to enhance the reserve for all, not lock people out, and the community will be leading us on what this looks like.

Feb 05, 2021,
08:39 PM

The only access to Richards Reserve from Merlynston is through Coburg North along Pallet street. You have to walk through an industrial park through a narrow pathway surrounded by cyclone fencing more akin to a goal than a comfortable walk to a park. I would suggest no parent would feel comfortable letting their children walk through this very isolated area.

Hi Jery, thanks for sharing your concerns in relation to Richard Reserve. This page is dedicated to the masterplan refresh of Hosken Reserve, but I will pass on your feedback about Richards Reserve to our Open Space team.

Feb 05, 2021,
02:36 PM

Switching to synthetic will not increase formal sports participation. The reserve as grass is used all available hours outside of work hrs. To increase participation other ovals that are barely used need to be utilised such as hosken sth, richards reserve, parker reserve. The focus should not be on hosken north our only open space

Hi Chere, thanks for your question and interest in the masterplan refresh. Please note that this refresh we are now undertaking includes providing Council with options regarding a range of upgrades including options for the surface of the Northern pitch. These options - grass, synthetic or hybrid - will be carefully considered and a central topic of our engagement program. The engagement process will also consider ways to increase and enhance the use of the reserve more broadly.

Save \$900k from synthetic and use this to fund low income families with sports membership and uniforms (these families are priced out by fee focused clubs in our area)

Feb 05, 2021,
01:31 PM

Can you guarantee no walls around our public reserve - once walls go up, the people with the keys will feel need to use them and we will never be allowed in. Don't ghettoise our public land please.

Hi Emily, thanks for your question and interest in the masterplan refresh. Fencing is required around the perimeter of the oval to protect players and spectators. Fence height of 1.1m is needed. However, please keep in mind fencing does not necessarily equate to a 'locked gate'. Our community engagement will also consider in-depth, things like the type of fencing and ways for increased community use and enjoyment outside of formal use agreement. The masterplan refresh intends to enhance the reserve for all, not lock people out, and the community will be leading us on what this looks like.

Feb 05, 2021, 09:28 AM	There is enormous pressure on local clubs and facilities from increased participation. Community sport has wide-ranging health benefits for individuals and communities. These benefits can extend beyond physical health to include mental health and personal well-being and building social cohesion.	Yes you are quite right, Chuck. Being involved in community sport is not only a great way to increase physical activity but it has significant well being benefits. I'll get our Recreation team to provide more data on the increase in organised sport in Moreland. If I don't provide this data on this page it is certainly an area our Project Manager will include in our ongoing conversations as part of this project.
Feb 05, 2021, 01:36 AM	Will all councillors be compelled to declare their personal biases and involvement in soccer clubs during the investigation? I would certainly like to stack a council to achieve my goals, but believe this is ethically inappropriate given a council is supposed to work in the best interests of its rate payers, rather than family and friends.	As with any projects that Council deliberates on, Councillors are required to declare any conflicts of interest as part of Council governance processes. To my knowledge no Councillors are current club committee members or hold official roles, as no conflicts of interest were noted at the December Council meeting.
Feb 04, 2021, 08:12 PM	<p>in Coburg North, hosken reserve, councillors are ignoring residents to try and replace a healthy grass oval that is watered by a storm harvest project with synthetic turf.</p> <p>It creates carbon emissions, creates heat island effect, ruins animal ecosystems below ground and wildlife from grazing on grass, it has to be replaced every 7 years and isn't recyclable and will fill landfill. Furthur to this its the only open space for locals.</p> <p>Moreland has major issues if synthetic options are considered</p>	Thanks "InTheSun"! We know this is a major concern of residents and there are a number of similar questions on this page. All pitch surfaces will be investigated as part of this project.
Feb 04, 2021, 10:20 AM	Richards Reserve and Hosken Reserve are key outdoor recreation spaces for people living south of Gaffney St. A Pedestrian crossing should be installed on Gaffney St near Roosevelt St and the narrow alley linking Richards Reserve to the north should be drastically improved so it feels safer. This is a key route for children living north of Gaffney St to get to Coburg North Primary School, and residents to the south accessing the off leash dog park, Hosken Reserve and the linear park.	That makes perfect sense, Claire. I'll check to see if this is within the scope of this project but if its not, I'll raise it with the appropriate team at Council and would be happy to provide a further update .
Feb 03, 2021, 09:28 PM	<p>What will the mechanism for community engagement be for local residents who do not have access to the internet, conversations, etc? There are a lot of elderly residents who do not have the access but their voice is just as important. Will there be community meetings or the like?</p> <p>Thanks</p>	Totally agree PeterVB. This online portal Q&A is a way of gathering your questions and ideas for including in our engagement whilst we're finalising the broader plan. There will be a mix of methods. Once the plan has been approved, this site will be updated with more details.

Feb 03, 2021, 08:28 PM

1.How can the council go against its own policy of a greener Moreland? 2.What consideration has been given to traffic management. Game days are a nightmare in Pallet st already. 3.Why are private organisations being shown preference over residents?

Hi Lyn, thanks for your questions and your interest in the masterplan refresh. We work hard to achieve great environmental and recreational outcomes for our communities through strategies like Park Close to Home, Urban Forest Strategy etc. Environmental considerations have been and will continue to be a central topic of the masterplan refresh and the engagement plan and we'll be actively engaging local environmental groups. Please note that the masterplan refresh we are now undertaking includes providing Council with options regarding a range of upgrades including options for the surface of the Northern pitch. The masterplan will also retain the stormwater harvesting infrastructure and could propose increase planting, vegetation and other 'greening". Considerations to traffic management is part of a broader transport assessment. We will undertake a further traffic assessment to determine what traffic management may be required once we've gone through our engagement plan and have our final recommendations for the masterplan refresh. The masterplan refresh engagement plan will provide equal opportunities and representation from all interested and impacted groups.

Feb 03, 2021, 06:39 PM

Will the football clubs requests and reasoning be made publicly available? Will the names of councillors involved with the club or club committee members also be made available? And what about the weighting given to the club vs the ratepayers/residents?

Hi Opaque, thanks for your questions. We'll be inviting equal representation from stakeholder groups through engagement and discussion facilitated by our independent consultants. All opinions will be heard and considered equally, and will be ultimately decided on by a community advisory group. We'll be regularly reporting and feeding back discussion items and minutes in the interest of transparency. Councillors will not be directly involved in this process.

Feb 03, 2021, 06:36 PM

I understand this has been sold - will it be apartments/townhouses? If so even more will need access to the reserve as new builds don't tend to have their own gardens or much outside space. Hopefully the future residents of merlynston are being considered too - no doubt they won't want to hear football practice at all hours (70 hours per week), or have non residents take up valuable parking space either

I'm not sure of the property's status myself, but we'll be consulting with Council's Strategic Planning team about this and any other potential future developments in the area. Analysing the needs and demands of our current and future population as it changes will be a key component of this project as we aim to provide the required community spaces now and into the future.

Feb 03, 2021, 01:50 PM Why does -Vic never use this? It's always locked - shouldn't they use that rather than grab other parts of reserve?

Hosken Reserve South is a designated Class A pitch which means it can accommodate 11-15 hours per week of permitted use for organised sport. We limit this usage in order to maintain the field of play to a high quality in line with the high standard of sport that is played at the site (National Premier League Victoria). To understand more about this, please refer to page 10 of the Sporting Facilities. Grounds and Pavilions User Guide which lists all the grounds in Moreland.

Feb 03, 2021, 12:34 PM The new playground at Hosken was built in 2019 and a footpath leading towards Merlynston Linear Reserve just stops in the middle of nowhere, leaving pedestrian access from the linear reserve path on Ulm St to/from Hosken Reserve impossible. This is a matter of 6 meters of pathway only!

Thanks Jerry. I'll get our Open Space guys to have a look at that and get back to you.

Feb 03, 2021, 11:18 AM In the attached Council Report the timeline stated that by May 2021 the council "Receives a report by May 2021 on the outcomes of the Hosken Reserve community engagement with options to determine future action".

The above timeline for the master plan clearly says that the new Master Plan will be presented to Council in May. This is in direct conflict with the council report. Why is Council seeking to rush community engagement and the refresh of the master plan against councils own advice?

Great pick up Mark. We're committed to delivering on the Council resolution to provide "a report by May 2021 on the outcomes of the Hosken Reserve community engagement with options to determine future action". While the outcome might not be a fully redrafted Master Plan, we are in the process of finalising the community engagement plan to ensure it is as robust and insightful as possible to provide Council with the confidence in the future options provided in the report. Once confirmed, we'll review the wording and terminology in the timeline above to provide clarity on the specific outcomes and deliverables – sorry for any confusion this might have posed!

Feb 03, 2021, 10:54 AM This is a very short timeframe to conduct engagement and redraft the master plan - to have it all completed by May which is now only 4 months away I really feel like the engagement will be token. It's not possible to conduct meaningful engagement in such a short amount of time, even drafting a new plan with the approvals needed that requires several months at least. What is the rush? It seems obvious you intend to push forward with the project despite the obvious discontent in our community.

You're right Emma, it is a tight timeframe but we're confident of delivering on the Council resolution to deliver "a report by May 2021 on the outcomes of the Hosken Reserve community engagement with options to determine future action". While the outcome might not be a fully redrafted Master Plan, we are in the process of finalising the community engagement plan to ensure it is as robust and insightful as possible to provide Council with the confidence in the future options provided in the report. Once confirmed, we'll review the wording and terminology in the timeline above to provide clarity on the specific outcomes and deliverables – sorry for any confusion this might have posed!

Feb 03, 2021, 10:38 AM

Why is MCC prioritising a private club & school over local residents in an area where accessible open green space is critically inadequate? There are ZERO similar multi-use areas in the Merlynston area. The decision of Council conflicts with nearly all of its publicly listed policies (protection of green space, heat island, environment, sustainability, engagement, etc). It is abundantly clear that soccer, PVFC & the International School have unduly & corruptly influenced the proposal! Do better!

Hi Greg, thanks for your question and feedback. Our masterplan refresh aims to balance the needs of all users of the reserve. As you've pointed out, it's a multi-use reserve so we're inviting a broad range of residents, ratepayers, park users, sporting clubs and schools in the area to talk to us about their ideas to help shape the project. Our upcoming engagement will address the issue of the type of pitch at the site. We will discuss this issue in depth, and ensure that community views are fully considered before moving forward. Thank you for raising this question with us.

Feb 02, 2021, 10:00 PM

For the north east section in front of the duck pond. Make this section like a real nature reserve scatter some trees well spaced out. Maybe consider adventure play playground amongst the trees. This will be great for picnics, kids play, dogs to run around. The north oval will still be grass and host sports and other activities. PVFC under utilise richards and reddish reserves so can use up their excess allocation there if required or start using the locked south oval

I love the idea of a real nature reserve, Steve, and an adventure play playground. I'll add this to the ideas mix for our consultants.

Feb 02, 2021, 09:46 PM

Synthetic is a bad choice, something other countries tried 15yearz ago and now trying to get rid of it. Only thing hosken reserve needs is more trees to line the path between north oval and northeast oval, more trees on east of north east oval. Section where the cricket nets are need new cricket nets, half court bball court and netball ring (even add table tennis table). This will be great for residents and stimulate multi sport activities in the community, the school will get use out of it too

All those suggestions are great John. I'll make sure the ideas are added although you'll also get a chance to tell our consultant in person. I'm pretty sure we have some examples of outdoor table tennis tables in Moreland. More trees is also doable.

Feb 02, 2021, 09:40 PM

On Sunday the community held a small gathering with outdoor games. This was about 30 hours after having 50+mm of rain which is a significant amount. It is worth noting that the grass was in excellent condition so do not see the need for synthetic grass. Everyone walked around in normal foot ware and not a speck of mud to be found! It should also be noted that the soccer was cancelled the weekend before because it was too hot.... it would have been even hotter had the pitch been synthetic.

Outdoor games sounded like it would have been fun, PeterVB ! Thanks for the info about the condition after considerable amount of rain.

Feb 02, 2021, 09:40 PM

Moreland should not be narrow focused and pigeon holing themselves into one sports code. Synthetic pitch will greatly reduce sports types and passive activities that could be performed on a grassed oval. Fields should remain grass and be adaptable for other sports in the event that one sport code becomes more popular than another. Please consider this? Who would need to cover costs of replacing synthetic every 7 yrs? Synthetic is dangerous, clifton park site tests had sections hard as concrete

Thanks John. We know this is a key area of concern to the residents. The type of pitch will be considered in the upcoming engagement period so your concern regarding costs and use of synthetic will be included.

Dec 23, 2020, 07:50 PM

The report identified the character of Coburg as threatened due to developmental pressures. When is the next heritage review? Who determines the areas of interest? Where is the consideration for this in the plans?

Thanks for flagging this with us. I've passed your comments on to the Urban Planning team, and will update this response when I find out when the next Heritage Review is planned for. The consulting team will engage with Council planners in this project, so their heritage expertise can be called upon.

Dec 23, 2020, 07:49 PM

as land holding Jika Jika and into the inception of Merlynston this area has always been open land and publicly accessible, recently significant as an example of the Coburg councils program in the 1970s to plant more native trees. Aesthetically a prominent visual landmark, it is the largest open space within Merlynston and is visually distinctive as a classic example of a paddock oval. This space is of gross social importance to the residents as I have mentioned before due to it's size, multipurpose utility, accessibility and other obvious reasons.

Response in Part 3 :)

Dec 23, 2020, 07:49 PM

Hosken reserve was identified as an area of interest, but not significance, in the Timothy Hubbard Heritage Report in 1991; the last heritage review is well over the recommended 5 years for amendment and complete revision at 10 years since the last document is an amended review dated 2008 (heavily Brunswick terrace house centric) – a comprehensive report is overdue. It could be argued that the park now meets the requirements under the Burra Charter to be included. Culturally/historically signifi

Thanks for your comments :) Response is posted in Part 3.

Dec 23, 2020, 06:59 PM

Could you please outline why multiple legal concerns have not been addressed and why there is no transparency surrounding these concerns?
Falsification of documents against the commonwealth is Federal crime(section 83A) under Division 2 of the Crimes Act 1958, but you referred to it lightly as a past mistake?
Voter fraud - How they affect decisions when they may not be a democratically elected rep?
No mention of the conflict of interest/misuse of position has been mention and this is troubling

We completely understand your valid concerns and note your comments and we are listening. We recognise that the local community in the area place a high value on the open space and parkland at Hosken Reserve. In the coming weeks we will have the opportunity to address your concerns during our community engagement process. We are committed to providing an outcome from this process that satisfies the needs of residents and ratepayers.

Dec 23, 2020, 06:40 PM

Will the planning follow guidelines for development? As currently, it undermines the Moreland planning scheme, Moreland open space policy and councillor code of conduct

Hi, Part of the consultants' role will be working with Council officers in areas such as planning, governance and sustainability to ensure that the refreshed Master Plan follows relevant policies and guidelines.

Dec 23, 2020, 06:38 PM

could you please outline what community engagement looks like?
As you keep using the phrase "stay tuned to this page!" are you stating that online is the only forum this will be discussed? If so I would like to call this out as inappropriate, ineffectual, piecemeal and lazy. If the council is effectually going to lock us out of the our green spaces I expect something a little more tangible. Ie. Of the four households of my family which reside in Merlynston I am the only one online and barely at that, how can this be expected to be a representation of the residents?

Online is definately not the only method of engagement. There will be plenty of residents in the same boat as you, including residents where English is not their first language. As we've outlined above in the timeline, we're in the process of appointing some consultants who are able to support this engagement process. We expect that to be a variety of ways. This Q&A page is a great way, but only ONE way, of keeping residents up to date with what's going on.

Dec 23, 2020, 11:06 AM

The plan for the Merlynston Linear Reserve included improving pedestrian access from the linear reserve path on Ulm St to/from Hosken Reserve. Will this plan be honoured in this "refresh"? It is difficult and dangerous to get in/out of Hosken from the linear reserve path with prams/ children/scooters/bikes and for people with disabilities, due to the fence, steep hill and lack of paved path. Pallet St is a busy thoroughfare with many speeding cars and poor visibility, so this is a huge priority

Thanks Liz. Easy access to and from reserves is important. This will be an important point to include in the upcoming conversations. If its not included in this process, Council officers can have a look at this issue anyway.

Dec 23, 2020, 12:21 AM

Why does the council say it has declared climate emergency and is working on protecting our environment & reducing plastic waste and then it proposes to install plastic grass? Artificial turf would create hotter surface temperature that would make the reserve intolerable for residents, their pets & wildlife to enjoy in summer. What a contradiction to all the initiatives the council has on sustainability. \$900,000 proposed for installation of plastic grass sounds like money laundering to me

We acknowledge your concerns and also that we didn't get things right in 2020. Our actions were misaligned with our environmental policy priorities and directions and this was our error. In 2020 we are committed to working with you to address your concerns and to deliver improvements at Hosken Reserve that meet the expectations of the local community.

Dec 22, 2020, 08:40 PM

If it wasn't for local residents, Hosken North oval would continue to be broken onto by hoons in their cars, ripping up the grass and causing thousands of dollars of damage. Passive use by the community has deterred antisocial behaviour. Has MCC and PVFC forgotten about the benefits that working together with locals can have?

That's an awesome outcome NIMBY! We're hoping this partnership of working with residents, sporting clubs and schools continues. Thanks for looking out for the reserve.

Dec 22, 2020, 08:29 PM

10 years ago, MCC removed the existing fencing around the oval to encourage the community to access the area. Now you want to install fencing again, along with 6 metre high barriers a either end. Isn't this a complete contradiction and waste of our money?

In our previous planning and tender process (which has been halted) , the fences either end of the proposed field were to ensure control of wayward soccer balls and safety of spectators. This will be an important point to consider in the new process to commence soon.

Dec 22, 2020, 04:45 PM

PVFC may attempt to conflate their utilisation estimates for Hosken Reserve, particularly given their current efforts to dominate the allocation of usable hours. How will the revised planning process verify estimates/forecasts of utilisation provided by PVFC and affiliate supporters (eg Football Victoria) to minimise risk of misrepresentation - as seen with the WGFF application process?

We note your questions and will discuss this as part of the upcoming community engagement process. Thanks for raising this with us early.

Dec 22, 2020, 04:39 PM

With PVFC currently dominating the allocation of usable hours at Hosken Reserve, how will the revised planning process ascertain estimates/forecasts of unstructured recreation utilisation by local residents?

It will certainly need to be something our third party engagement and planners will need to provide advice on. Its an important question to ask. Thanks

Dec 22, 2020, 03:56 PM Please confirm which sporting organisations other than PVFC, will receive more than \$450K for maintenance costs for their grounds, over a ten-year period. This is the estimated cost of ground care for a synthetic pitch. If none can be identified, please outline those sporting clubs that have received at least \$450K in maintenance funding (opex?) over a 10 year period previously - how many and who are they?

I think this may also be a similar response to below, however as its now after hours a more specific response may need to wait until the new year. We have many teams of experienced and passionate Council staff who provide maintenance and upgrades to all our sporting grounds and open spaces.

Dec 22, 2020, 03:47 PM Please confirm which sporting organisations other than PVFC, will receive a \$900k cash injection for an infrastructure project in FY20/21? If none can be identified, outline those sporting clubs that have received this amount (as a minimum) in previous financial years instead?

Good question. The below link is Councils adopted budget and has been publicly available since around July this year. If you scroll through to around page 40 you'll find a full list of our entire Capital Works Expenditure across Moreland.
<https://www.moreland.vic.gov.au/globalassets/areas/finance/annual-budget-2020-21-adoption-version.pdf>

Dec 22, 2020, 03:35 PM What is the specific policy framework that allows for i) land to be so singularly purposed and ii) rate money to be so generously gifted to a strategic aims of a private organisation?

We recognise your concerns and note your comments. We recognise that the local community in the area place a high value on the open space and parkland at Hosken Reserve. In the coming weeks we will have the opportunity to address your concerns during our community engagement process. We are committed to providing an outcome from this process that satisfies the needs of residents and ratepayers.

Dec 22, 2020, 03:32 PM The Council Report states that the Independent Consultant will conduct a Community and Social Infrastructure assessment of the Precinct (page 16). But seeing as how the Moreland Open Space Strategy has not been reviewed or monitored since it was adopted in 2012, surely it would be cost-effective and prudent to include an assessment of the whole of Moreland, and then that could also be used as a starting point to update the Open Space Strategy? e.g. Planning Practice Note 70 page 6 (Step 7).

Thanks Marion. The Moreland Open Space Strategy is up for renewal in 2022. I'm sure that will be included. For this project, our scope is just the Hosken Reserve which includes some some infrastructure which will need to be considered in the findings.

Dec 22, 2020, 01:33 PM	Don't know how many ways the ratepayers (in which I include renters who pay rates by proxy) have to say it - several councillors post on the social media of the beneficiaries of the decision to privatise public land, one is apparently a blood relation of a club official, one is under police investigation regarding legality of their 'election'. There is no way the council itself can make decision on this and for it to be legally or morally acceptable. No matter how much 'consultation' they have.	We appreciate that there is some mistrust in Council and our processes, in particular as a result of a lack of consultation about changes to Hosken Reserve last year. We are committed to rebuilding this relationship with our community and to addressing outstanding concerns as part of the community engagement.
Dec 22, 2020, 01:33 PM	NPL allows synthetic turf. There is no reason for it to be on the North reserve. Synthetic is not needed by local ratepayers, so we shouldn't be funding it. How wide will other options be considered? Including different options, locations (not at hosken), reclaiming warehouse or rooftops to build synthetic pitch on and so on	Different options that you've provided sound interesting, Warran. These options will be important to consider in the engagement phase.
Dec 22, 2020, 01:28 PM	Will consultations review feasibility for 7 and 10 years which covers life cycle for synthetic, where synthetic is an option? It costs alot of money and doesn't make sense ratepayers need to cover the costs when they will get little use out of it. It will be a terrible financial decision to opt for synthetic. More activities and enjoyment can be had on grass. Poor kids on synthetic getting alot of acl injuries	Great question, Warran. All outcomes for this project will need to be feasible and budgets will be provided for whatever options are considered.
Dec 22, 2020, 01:20 PM	PVFC have stated they cannot allow for the Sth oval to be turned into a synthetic pitch as it will no longer be NPL standard. This is the oval fenced off and locked that no one has access to. Who is running the show....our elected Crs or a fee paying club?	The upcoming consultation period will be an opportunity to discuss options and ideas with the report being presented to Council in May.
Dec 22, 2020, 01:18 PM	What will MCC do about the increased traffic, congestion and illegal parking? PVFC have not been shy in publicly announcing they plan to move their senior games and training to Hosken, increasing the amount of cars using our small residential streets.	We understand parking and traffic is an issue in this area. We will be looking to take proactive steps to ensure the safety of residents and pedestrians visiting the area on game day. We'll also reassess current plans and undertake a further traffic assessment to determine what traffic management may be required.
Dec 22, 2020, 01:16 PM	Plastic grass isnt carbon neutral, needs to be replaced in 8-10 years and in way contributes to MCC carbon neutral standpoint. Why has council ignored so many of its policies and procedures in an effort to ram this project through?	We're looking forward to when this process begins in mid February. All policies and strategies that are relevant will be reviewed in line with any decision or outcome of this project.

Dec 22, 2020, 01:03 PM	<p>Budget is a concern? Scope of works? Why not leave it alone. PVFC have 4 grounds that they use, shouldnt they be looked at capacity wise before you rip up a perfectly good oval that had \$1.5M spent on it 4 years ago. You put money into stormwater reclamation, to rip up the grass it keeps green and the pipes and sprinklers and mechanics that run underneath it to replace it with unenvironmentally plastic.</p> <p>What a waste of our money</p>	<p>Thanks for your comments Nimby. I didn't pick up a question in the above but understand your concerns regarding the environment. There have been a few similar questions below.</p>
Dec 22, 2020, 12:59 PM	<p>Open space were blindsided by this plan as much as the residents were. Sport and Recreation are obviously biased in their perspective, what guarantees does the Community have that the Sport department wont again dominate the conversation?</p> <p>Hosken is for all, not just fee paying members of a sports club</p>	<p>The Open Space, Recreation and Built Environment teams will be working alongside each other every step of this process in the new year. We're all working towards a great outcome for our community and can assure you we work as one team.</p>
Dec 22, 2020, 11:20 AM	<p>You've stated that the refresh will be investigated and researched Can you please outline methods and how evidence and research will be collected will old and therefore invalid information still be used?</p>	<p>Good question. We'll use some of the documents from 2009 but we will expect that these will be reviewed and current data / information will be provided during the process. Our community engagement methods will be developed when we appoint the third party and will also be expecting this to be broad and innovative. All information provided will be current and will be provided publicly throughout this process.</p>
Dec 22, 2020, 10:47 AM	<p>Its clear that there will not be an impartial vote on the plan from our councillors. None of them are listening to the community and have significant ties to local soccer clubs.</p> <p>How can the residents of Merlynston be assured the report will be considered properly, not voted on based upon Crs obvious conflicts of interest?</p>	<p>This might sound like a bot but honestly its not! This question is similar to an earlier one, hence a similar response. Community consultation will be held between February and April 2021, to inform a draft refreshed master plan for Hosken reserve. Once prepared, the draft master plan will be presented to Council for adoption. This means that Councillors will be the final decision makers about the master plan.</p>
Dec 22, 2020, 10:36 AM	<p>How is this multi million \$ project going to be funded now the fraudulent application to the WGFF has been withdrawn? \$900k in the MCC budget wont come close to paying for it.</p> <p>Are the rate payers of Moreland going to have to fork out for a private entity to dominate public land? Dont say we it can be used by all, it will be fenced off and used day and night leaving no access to the residents. Why should we pay for something we wont be able to use?</p>	<p>Budget is of course a concern however the scope of works will depend on the outcomes of the engagement process.</p>

Dec 21, 2020, 07:22 PM I would like to know how is it that the PVFC has such a lot of training hours until 9.00pm every night and on Sunday they are still playing soccer after 7.30pm, where is the time for us, the residents to use the reserve?? Why is MCC deliberately giving PVFC more & more hours of training, is it so that the natural grass will get worn & damaged & then for MCC can then use the excuse that turf grass should then be used!! Where is my right as a resident to be able to use the reserve??!!!!

We acknowledge the importance of balancing the needs of users at the reserve. This is a point that several people have raised with us today and it will be discussed as a priority when we carry out community engagement to develop the master plan between February and April 2021.

Dec 21, 2020, 06:28 PM I've noticed a formula to your responses are you a bot?

Positive affirmation in regards to correspondence received - ie. Thanks or great question
We're looking for an (adjective) engagement group who will answer your question
Sentence about evidence/ fair and equitable
I will add these questions/ great outcome for all users

We are answering the questions as best we can. We assure you we are human :)

Dec 21, 2020, 06:26 PM Can you please explain why we're required to undergo this unnecessary extra step when with better planning we could already be liaising with consultants? You've also stated that you are compiling a list- does this indicate that not all questions are being recorded? Do you have discretionary powers in relation to this?

We wanted to provide an opportunity for early engagement in this project and we intend to continue using this question and answer tool in the new year. All of the questions and answers on this website will remain throughout the lifetime of the project.

Dec 21, 2020, 06:24 PM In regards to the consultants yet to be hired
In light of the World Game Facilities fraud, Moreland council voting fraud, conflict of interest et.al and etc, will the company be named?
The integrity and reputation of the council has been ruined with me

We have every intention of announcing the name of the consultants that will facilitate the community engagement and master planning process for Hosken Reserve in 2021. The consultants will be appointed through a public tender process and will work closely with the community throughout the process.

Dec 21, 2020, 06:23 PM You've stated that the engagement process will cover all areas of concern based on evidence however I'm concerned with how comprehensive and thorough this process will be if you're still looking to contract consultants which including the disruptions of the Christmas and New Years holidays, onboarding of hopefully unaffiliated third party consultants and the commencement of "engagement" the timeline is condensed in a way that gives me and anyone hoping for a legitimate "refresh" anxiety

Timelines do appear tight although we have built in time contingencies. We're confident we'll appoint a team or consortium within our timelines above.

Dec 21, 2020, 05:11 PM	Why are posts being actively removed from the page with relevant questions? i have screenshots confirming that they have been posted and awaiting response and so far 2 of my posts have been removed.	From my knowledge no posts have been removed. There are some questions that are still needing to be answered. We're trying our best to get to all of them.
Dec 21, 2020, 04:47 PM	The original survey was done 10 years ago and plans for additional soccer pitches, fencing and turf. I recall that cricket/football was still played at that time on the oval (before soccer took it over most nights of the week/weekend). This therefore does not make sense why a 'study would clearly be showing that the only option forward for the reserve would be to make 2 additional soccer pitches. Who funded/suggested the initial survey and lied in the proposal?	We are aware that the current Master Plan for Hosken Reserve does not meet community needs or expectations. The current master plan was funded by Council some time ago. We are carrying out a refresh of the master plan in consultation with the community (between February and April 2021) to ensure that future planning and improvements at the park meet community needs.
Dec 21, 2020, 04:40 PM	Is this message board going to be the only community engagement to 'tick a box' to bulldoze this through? The suggested timeline of the proposal for any project of this magnitude suggests that the residents concerns will not be addressed or taken into consideration. Will the consultants appointed to this project be listed/advised? Why is the new master plan being presented in May 2021 but only an exhibition of the draft is presented in stage 2?	This page is purely to start the conversation with some questions we can include in the engagement (if we hadn't already noted them!) . It is also intended to keep you up to date with the process and whats next. It is definitely not the only method. We know timelines might appear to be tight so we're also planning for contingencies.
Dec 21, 2020, 04:24 PM	Can you please outline the engagement process? I feel that it would want to be pretty expansive and involved in light of the council's proposals	Yes you're right, we do want this to be rigorous. We're just waiting to appoint the third party who will provide their plans for engagement. As soon as this is done we'll let you know who it is and what will take place. This page will be the place to keep up to date for that information.
Dec 21, 2020, 04:22 PM	Hi Bernadette, I couldn't respond to your answer so further to my question the engagement will be conducted by " independent consultants" however the people who I consider to be operating in conflict will still have to opportunity to vote on this? Also please refrain from using "site" it is a park	The community engagement for this project will include all users, residents, sporting clubs, schools and potentially others that I'm not immediately aware of. Interestingly our website refers to Hosken Reserve and there ceratinly was a great upgrade of the park as you know.
Dec 21, 2020, 04:17 PM	After you shut don 23 dec - what date do you commit to reopen this q&a feature?	We intend to reopen this tool on Monday 18 January 2021.

Dec 21, 2020, 03:53 PM	Who is leading delivery of the Masterplan refresh within Council? Is it the same officers that misrepresented the engagement undertaken on the grant application, and snuck a tender out 3 days before caretaker period? If so, how can we possibly trust that this engagement will be genuine and meaningful? We need more than a refresh, we need to go back to the drawing board. Why aren't other locations being considered, given the strong opposition amongst the Merlynston community? Richards Reserve??	Thanks for your question.
Dec 21, 2020, 09:12 AM	MCC is failing to address residents concerns with current noise issues, parking issues, access to space, litter and many others. This is at current use not increased use, so it will only get worse with any increase of use. It is a residential zone and is not capable of handling anymore than it currently does. Will this be addressed? A large consensus of residents are not getting responded to with their current issues and concerns	Thanks for your question and for raising concerns about the use and capacity of the site. When we commence the community engagement process in 2021 we will ensure that these matters are given full consideration in the process. Thanks for raising these matters for us to note early.
Dec 21, 2020, 09:01 AM	What more does the MCC need, 3,000 local residents petition, residents contacting MCC, project has been sloppy and fraudulent along the way, certain councilors have vested interest, breaching their own policies and Lga act. Just scrap it? What is MCC real purpose here? Doesn't seem to be the residents who live around Hosken Reserve	Thanks for your question and we acknowledge that there has been some mistrust in our processes for this project due to a lack of community engagement. Our process going forward is to refresh the master plan for Hosken Reserve so that any future improvements to the reserve meet the needs and expectations of local residents, ratepayers and other users of the space. For more information about the background to this project, please refer to the Councillor report of 9 December 2020, which is shown in the document library of this web page.
Dec 21, 2020, 08:50 AM	Will the reports used in review be assessed for independence and fairness? It doesn't seem to be independent to be relying on reports prepared and influenced by Football Victoria and other football affiliated organisations, this is a clear breach and should be a conflict of interest	Any reports prepared in this project will be developed to specifically inform the master plan for Hosken Reserve. To alleviate any concerns about the impartiality or fairness of reporting, all reports in this project will be made available for public viewing and scrutiny.
Dec 21, 2020, 08:46 AM	How can this be fair when council report will be based on same single focused reports previously used? What new independent reports and areas will council address in the report? Open space needs for residents, feasibility, parking, actual needs of residents to the area, fair and realistic hours of use, other additions to the reserve, consideration other reserves in the area....	Thanks for your question. We are still doing early project planning to determine the scope of the master plan and we will have more information soon. At this stage we plan to undertake a much broader assessment of resident needs of the reserve than has been previously considered. We will have more information about the scope of the master plan to share with our community early next year.

Dec 21, 2020, 08:32 AM

Before considering options will hours of use be reviewed. At present training happens each weekday past 9pm, this is not fair and reasonable for a residential zone where people need sleep or be able to relax at home, should be 730pm. Also field use on weekends need reduction so residents can use it at somepoint, one day for sports the other for residents. It needs to be fair. Please be aware other allocated fields sit empty and barely used, that wouldn't disrupt residents

Thanks for your question and comments and you make a valid point about the need to balance the needs of users at the reserve. We will discuss all of this in the engagement process to develop the master plan. Thank you for raising these issues with us early. We want to ensure that we have a full understanding of issues at the reserve and that the needs of our community are balanced fairly.

Dec 20, 2020, 11:06 PM

How can we be assured of impartiality? There is obvious engagement between the Club and the Mayor Annalivia Carli Hannan and Oscar Yildiz on various social media platforms, these were the obvious ones there could be others. Similarly, this concerns me in regards Conflict of interest/misuse of position in the performance of their duties as beyond such obvious relationships I am aware that the Mayors father is the President of the Brunswick Zebras, she herself played for that club and it's obvious

To alleviate any concerns about impartiality or fairness, we will make all information and documents available on our Conversations Moreland website throughout the community engagement process in 2021. The community engagement process will also be facilitated by independent consultants who will ensure that the views and perspectives of residents are fully understood and considered.

Dec 20, 2020, 11:04 PM

How can we be assured of impartiality of those involved as the Moreland City Council is listed as an affiliate on the PVFC website, how close is this affiliation?

To alleviate any concerns about impartiality or fairness, we will make all information and documents available on our Conversations Moreland website throughout the community engagement process in 2021. The community engagement process will also be facilitated by independent consultants who will ensure that the views and perspectives of residents are fully understood and considered.

Dec 20, 2020, 10:26 PM

why is there even now another proposed soccer pitch on the public side vs the existing soccer pitch that is fenced off from the public? As a resident walking/driving through the area, the main 'public' oval at Hoskens Reserve is often used for games/training 3 to 4 day/nights of the week while the 'existing soccer pitch' that is not accessible to the public (fenced and locked) goes underutilized. Given that the whole of Hosken is in fact a public reserve, why are there any fences at all?

Thanks for your question. When we commence the master planning process in 2021 through community engagement we will be able to talk about the site in some depth and

Dec 20, 2020, 09:45 PM

Why is Hosken Reserve shown as an off lead dog park on the MCC website, but the PVFC website states that no dogs are allowed (unless service dogs). Dogs can be no closer than 15 metres to certain areas (council regulations) but if you read the smoking rules (PVFC website) they can be at only 10 metres away...

Our website has some fairly clear guidelines for off lead dog parks which include:"that owners must bring their dog under effective control by using a chain, cord or leash when the dog is within 15 metres of the principal location of an organised sporting or community event or festival".In regards to the smoking and distance, smoking is banned within 10 metres of an outdoor public sporting venue during organised underage sporting events and training sessions. The ban applies to within 10 metres of outdoor spectator seating. This legislation commenced back in 2014.

Dec 20, 2020, 09:30 PM

Why is a public space meant for families/locals catering to the 1% that will be only able to use it during that time and potentially be fenced off/turf changed etc. Lets say that while a soccer game is in play there are 22 players on field, avg 3 extra people per family watching and 5 games on a Sunday. This would see effectively 330 people attending in a day. Take into account fans, coaches etc so lets bump it to 500. In 2016 the census had Coburg North population at 7601. This is only 0.65%.

Thanks for your question. We recognise that the current plans for Hosken Reserve don't meet the needs or expectations of our community. The current Hosken Reserve Master Plan was developed over ten years ago. In 2021 we intend to work closely with our community to refresh the Hosken Reserve Master Plan. This process will pick up and address the issues that you raise in your question. Once developed, the refreshed Hosken Reserve Master Plan will provide an overarching plan for any future improvements at the site. It's important that we carry out master planning in close partnership with our community so that any future improvements at the site meet community needs and expectations. Thank you for raising these concerns early so that we are aware of them as we undertake early project planning.

Dec 20, 2020, 09:18 PM

why is synthetic turf favored over grass, multiple studies show that artificial turf cause more non-contact injuries to players than grass...

In 2021 we intend to work closely with our community to refresh the Hosken Reserve Master Plan. This process will pick up and address the issue of the type of pitch at the site. During community engagement processes we will discuss this issue in depth, and ensure that community views are fully considered before moving forward. Thank you for raising this question with us early.

Dec 20, 2020, 03:44 PM

Impossible to access reserve due to multiple soccer games. When can we talk about fair access for all?

Thanks for your question.

Dec 20, 2020, 09:41 AM	We live on the Southside of Bakers rd, closer to Richardson reserve, which is a industry area, with currently lots of warehouses not being used. Wouldn't it make a lot more sense to develop a better area for a elite soccer club here, where there is place for proper parking and also bring some more use to a not very used area of Moreland	Thanks for your suggestions. in the community engagement process to develop the master plan. We want to ensure that we have a full understanding of issues at the reserve and that the needs of our community are balanced fairly. This is really important. Thank you for raising these issues with us early.
Dec 20, 2020, 09:38 AM	With both sides being used for parking, it is just a traffic hazard, & its only a matter of time for an accident to occur. Residents trying to get through on game days have a very tough time negotiating their way through this street. This street is a main thoroughfare, as it's required to get through to many destinations in the local area.	Thanks for raising these important safety concerns with us. I will pass on your feedback to our Transport Team to investigate. We will definitely address these issues about traffic and movement when we commence the community engagement and master planning process. We want to ensure that we have a full understanding of issues at the reserve and that the needs of our community are balanced fairly. This is really important. Thank you for raising these valid points with us early in our project planning.
Dec 19, 2020, 10:17 PM	Living opposite the park I find Pallett Street congested with cars parked on game days causing bottlenecks in traffic. This also makes it difficult and dangerous to manouevr in and out of my driveway. Will there be considerations in the refresh for parking options along Pallett and Shorts Rd?	Thanks for your question and the important points that you raise about parking and safety. We will definitely tackle these issues when we commence the community engagement process to develop the refreshed master plan. We want to ensure that we have a full understanding of issues at the reserve and that the needs of our community are balanced fairly. This is really important. Thank you for raising these concerns with us early in our project planning.
Dec 19, 2020, 03:47 PM	<p>Is this a real refresh? Looking at areas actual needs such as catering to wider spectrum of residents such installing new cricket nets, bball Court and keeping oval grass for multipurpose use for all</p> <p>Is this just a sell for synthetic? Using synthetic won't sign increase use anymore than currently gets used (unless doing midnight games), not enough hours in the day. Synthetic use is restrictive to grass and unusable in summer</p> <p>Has MCC reviewed vested and conflicts of interest of staff + Crs?</p>	In 2021 we intend to work closely with our community to refresh the Hosken Reserve Master Plan. This process will pick up and address the issue of the type of pitch at the site. During community engagement processes we will discuss this issue in depth, and ensure that community views are fully considered before moving forward. Thank you for raising this issue with us early.

Dec 19, 2020, 03:09 PM Will there be an enquiry about the grant submission process and lack of community consultation from Hosken Reserve that has ultimately been withdrawn by State Government after funds had been allocated? What processes are Moreland Council putting in to ensure that grant applications are completed correctly and in accordance with regulations, not merely a “box ticking exercise” in future?

Thanks for your question. We don't have any plans to carry out any investigation at this time, however we do fully acknowledge the need for further

Dec 19, 2020, 09:01 AM Why is council engaging a third party to undertake this process? Council chose to release the tender just before the election and council submitted the potentially fraudulent grant submission so doesn't the council need to take responsibility for their actions? There is also a current and newly appointed council member being investigated for election fraud. How will residents be assured this process is even legitimate?

Our community told us that they want to see a higher standard of community engagement for this project, and we listened. We are committed to planning the future of Hosken Reserve in close consultation with our community so we are undertaking a full refresh of the master plan for the reserve including two stages of community engagement between February and April 2021. The community engagement and master planning will be carried out by an independent third party consultancy to ensure community members have their views fully understood, considered, and reflected in the master plan to the maximum extent.

Dec 19, 2020, 08:53 AM What will you do with these questions and answers? I am concerned you will say Council has listened to our concerns but I'd actually like a PERSON to come down to the oval and make themselves available to local residents. Again, this already feels tick box. I'm literally writing into a box with limited space but I have a LITANY of concerns about process, fairness, transparency, corruption, conflict of interest, potential fraud, bias, inequitable representation and historical plans and inaccuracy

Any specific and relevant questions on this page will be used in our direct and 1:1 community engagement. We also agree a more personal approach is much better. Once we get our masterplanning / community engagement specialist on board we'll be letting you know when we'll be down at the reserve for these constructive conversations. We'll also be hoping that a refresh also means a refresh of your thinking about our past inadequacies and inadequate community engagement on this reserve.

Dec 19, 2020, 07:32 AM What form will community consultation take and how do we know that what assurance do local residents have that their voices will be heard and valued? This is the busiest time of the year for many families and I wonder if its the best time to commence these conversations about such an important issue-is there an expansion for this please?

Yes we agree Heather. This is not a great time for community engagement which is why we have planned it for late January / early February. We intend for this period of time to be longer than the standard however we are also waiting on expressions of interest from suitably qualified engagement and master planning experts to guide this project. This page is purely to start the conversation and we intend for this page to be updated as we go.

Dec 19, 2020, 07:28 AM

Currently PVFC have been given permission to use the northern oval most nights of the week thus denying access to local residents who want to use their one green space. If this is a shared space why have local residents been denied access for prolonged time periods? Couldn't matches or training on some of these nights be reallocated to Richards Reserve- barely 500metres away?

Thanks for your question and the points you raise about how to balance the needs of different users at the park. We will discuss this issue as a priority in the community engagement process to develop the refreshed Hosken Reserve master plan. We want to ensure that we have a full understanding of issues at the reserve and that the needs of our community are balanced fairly. This is really important. Thank you for raising this issue with us early.

Dec 19, 2020, 07:09 AM

Assuming that people who play soccer are at work or school during the day, I imagine that the reserve will be used after 6 and until 9 weekdays (when working /school age) locals also mostly want to access park) then all day weekends - 15 hours weekdays plus let's say 12 hours apiece sat and sun. That's still 39 hours all up. When exactly can locals use the park? Why has private entity been given that much time? Is this the case for any other Moreland park?

Thanks for your question and comments and you make a valid point about the need to balance the needs of users at the reserve. We will discuss all of this as a priority in the community engagement process to develop the refreshed master plan for Hosken Reserve. We want to ensure that we have a full understanding of issues at the reserve and that the needs of our community are balanced fairly. This is really important. Thank you for raising these issues with us early.

Dec 19, 2020, 02:07 AM

A question on the minds of many within the Merlynston community - 'why should rate payers be forced to fund a multi-million dollar synthetic soccer pitch for use by a PRIVATE (fee-based) club (PVFC) and a PRIVATE school (ie International Academy)? That residents/rate payers are expected to suck this up whilst kissing goodbye access to our open space / parkland demonstrates extraordinary audacity and greed from PVFC & unimaginable contempt for the local community from MCC. How did we get here?

We completely understand your valid concerns and note your comments and we are listening. We recognise that the local community in the area place a high value on the open space and parkland at Hosken Reserve. In the coming weeks we will have the opportunity to address your concerns during our community engagement process. We are committed to providing an outcome from this process that satisfies the needs of residents and ratepayers.

Dec 18, 2020, 10:54 PM	<p>Direct answers please.</p> <p>Why hasn't ground work been done before consultation? Such as field allocations actual use, community use and needs, policies review.</p> <p>Why is council review based on old reports and data that are intertwined ? This is the reports and strategies on your website for masterplan</p> <p>Will full spectrum summary be provided to council and public? Financial impact to ratepayers for each option, actual usage changes all fields, impact locals noise, sound, livability and house value</p>	<p>Thanks Wazza. The important part to all of this is that all reports, budgets, financials, environmental assessments and more WILL be publicly available and provided during this process. Some previous reports may be referred to however they also need to be brought to a 2021 standard. We have acknowledged that we prepared in 2009 may not be relevant in 2021 now hence this refresh.</p>
Dec 18, 2020, 10:39 PM	<p>Hosken reserve is merlynstons only open green space in a residential zone. MCC needs to consider other ovals to meet relevant needs. It is clear there is bias in subjecting this reserve to such changes. The process since inception demonstrates fraud, lies and conflicts in interest. Will other options/loaxations be considered? What does refresh mean? What is MCC agenda? Why is synthetic even an option,NFL and FIFA refuse to use it?</p>	<p>Thanks for your question Wazz. A refresh means we will carry out the future planning of the Hosken Reserve site anew. The planning will include considering the type of pitch at the site. The purpose of the project is to plan the future of the site in a way that will reflect the needs and expectations of the local community, including residents and ratepayers and other users of the site.</p>
Dec 18, 2020, 09:07 PM	<p>Why aren't the facts included in the description? The community who are majority users were never consulted? Plans were materially changed without transparent councilor or community approval? State government funding was fraudulently applied for with false statements on consultation and exaggerated field use pre and post tender plans?</p> <p>Why is the MCC being biased and not including a balanced and factual description?</p>	<p>Thanks for raising these valid points. Based on your feedback, we've just updated this Conversations Moreland webpage with a bit more factual information about everything that has happened with this project to date. so we've just updated the page with a bit more information. This includes the Council report of the 9 December. Our engagement process will start early in the new year so there will be plenty of opportunities for you to seek more clarity around the process and the outcomes.</p>
Dec 18, 2020, 08:55 PM	<p>How can the wants of 180 members (not all locals) out weigh the needs of 3,000 local residents. Moreland has third lowest open greenspace below melbourne cbd, this is merlynstons only open green space, by even suggesting synthetic you are contradicting open space policy, heat island affect, park close to home, carbon effect policy and many others. How has this even got to tender, first step should be reviewing policy first before consulting or tender. Pathetic or biased?</p>	<p>Thank you for your questions and the valid points that you raise. We realise that we needed more community engagement for this project. We look forward to talking with local residents in 2021 to find the best way forward, and an approach that is built on policy and evidence.</p>

Dec 18, 2020, 08:42 PM

How much money does Pascoe vale soccer club pay in annual rent for the exclusive use of the southern pitch and has that rent been increased in line with their increased hours of usage? Will financial arrangement information be publicly available as part of the consultation process so that residents get a clear picture of the council and club relationship?

Council subsidise the costs related to maintenance of sports grounds and pavilions according to their grading level. Fees are calculated to recover a proportion of these expenses. Council considers this fee to be a Maintenance Recovery Level. A schedule of fees and charges has been prepared based on the following principles: Each reserve and pavilion are graded according to the level of maintenance with higher grades reflecting higher maintenance costs. Council only recoups approximately 10% to 20% of total expenditure related to maintenance of sporting reserves and pavilions according to grading levThe Sporting Facilities, Grounds and Pavilions User Guide, "User Guide", forms the terms and conditions on which Moreland City Council's sporting facilities are used.Council subsidise the cost related to maintenance of sports grounds and pavilions according to their grading level. Fees are calculated to recover a proportion of these expenses. Council considers this fee to be a Maintenance Recovery Level.A schedule of fees and charges has been prepared based on the following principles: • Each reserve and pavilion are graded according to the level of maintenance with higher grades reflecting higher maintenance costs. • Council only recoups approximately 10% to 20% of total expenditure related to maintenance of sporting reserves and pavilions according to grading level. Where more than one club shares the use of a sport ground and/or pavilion, each club will be charged a proportion of the fee amount. • Fees and charges will be indexed yearly in accordance with a percentage increase in CPI or any other factors that Council deems appropriate in relating the fee to the cost. • Fee Tables can be found at the end of the user guide. All prices listed are GST exclusive. <https://www.activemoreland.com.au/globalassets/website-active-moreland/documents/recreation/rs---moreland-city-council-sport-ground-user-guide-2020-21.pdf>

Dec 18, 2020, 08:42 PM

Will Moreland City Council be investigating who is responsible for including false and misleading information on their World Game Facilities Fund application? It will be hard for residents to trust a consultation process managed by the same people who are responsible for fraudulently applying for funds for the synthetic pitch at Hosken Reserve.

We acknowledge that mistakes were made in our previous actions at Hosken Reserve, and that this has led to some mistrust in our community. We don't have any plans to launch an investigation into this past matter, but we are committed to carrying out a strong community engagement process in 2021 that will restore trust and help rebuild our relationship with our community going forward.

Dec 18, 2020,
08:30 PM

Thanks for your question. While we recognise that the sporting club provides social and wellbeing opportunities to our local community, we also recognise that residents and ratepayers have rights to enjoy all that Hosken Reserve has to offer. Our community engagement process will be designed to hear from all of the different user groups at Hosken Reserve so that the master plan is developed in a way that meets community expectations. The engagement process will be facilitated by independent consultants. To alleviate any concerns about the fairness of the community engagement process, Council will share all information about the process on this webpage.

Dec 18, 2020,
08:19 PM

Why didn't the council follow their current policies about engagement for significant changes to open space and why did the grant funding application for the pitch suggest that community consultation had occurred? Did you lie to get funding? Isn't that fraud?

We acknowledge that we made mistakes in our previous actions at Hosken Reserve and there was a lack of community consultation about this project. There was some community engagement that was undertaken with the local community many years ago but this was insubstantial. We recognise this and we are fully committed to repairing trust and relationships with our community to take this project forward.

Dec 18, 2020,
08:13 PM

How can we be sure that due process will be followed and that the residential community will be heard and recognised, not just council bias or soccer dollars being key motivators in the project?

I hear your concerns and all I can say is that we're committed to ensuring the engagement process covers all areas of concern and our reports are based on evidence and research. If, during the process, there is a particular area that you are really unsure of then I would be happy to chat to you. We're still looking for the right team to lead our engagement so stay tuned to this page for more of those details.

Dec 18, 2020,
08:12 PM

I'm concerned that there is an ongoing established working relationship with the council and the club through a council liaison officer. How can the community be assured that this consultation process is even worthwhile participating in? It feels like a tick box activity with a predetermined outcome. I want to call that out. How are you assuring this is an open and transparent consultation?

Great questions for a Friday night! All sporting clubs have been asked to provide a designated Council liaison officer so that it makes it easier for our Recreation team to talk to one club person rather than many club members. We're in the process of looking for a dynamic engagement team to who won't just 'tick boxes'...and I hope will be a little innovative and fun!

Dec 18, 2020,
08:03 PM

Thanks Cherry. This is a really important question and one that has been asked a few times. The refresh of the Hosken area means that it will include relooking at what types of surfaces may be suitable - synthetic, hybrid, grass. We'll certainly be providing all the best evidence we have so good decisions can be made for a great outcome for all users of the area.

Dec 18, 2020, 07:38 PM	How will the new master plan incorporate the existing stormwater harvesting project?	Thanks Wren. The stormwater system is an important part of the whole precinct. It will not be removed. It will be an important point to raise when we start the engagement process. We'll be updating this page so stay tuned to this page!
Dec 18, 2020, 07:17 PM	What questions will be asked and answered during the process. Who from council has been involved in framing the scope of the assessment? Is this an acknowledgement that local residents are against the synthetic pitch, but council wish to install one anyway?	Hi Mark! We're looking for the right engagement consultant at the moment. The scope is for a masterplan refresh which includes relooking at all the area. This means that there will be plenty of opportunities for you and your neighbours, along with the sporting clubs suggestions, ideas and concerns to be raised. Stay tuned to this page for more updates.
Dec 18, 2020, 04:54 PM	How much would it cost to maintain synthetic turf and please detail steps you will take to analyse environmental impact.	Great questions Emily! I don't have the costings at hand but this question will be a really important one to raise and be included in the assessment and refresh of the area. Costings and environmental impact assessments will help residents and the sporting club along with Council to ascertain whether a synthetic, hybrid or grass is suitable for the area. I'll make sure I keep this question for when our engagement consultants and their master planning experts start the project. They haven't been engaged yet. Stay tuned to this page for more details.
Dec 18, 2020, 04:51 PM	How will the synthetic turf be able to clean residue of dog mess / food/ etc? It will not be absorbent or regrowing as a natural turf would be.	Oh a tricky question but a good one! The plan is to start a pretty major engagement process early next year to relook at this area which will include conversations about what type of surface would be suitable - synthetic, hybrid, grass. I'll keep that question on the list when there is an assessment of the suitability of the surface!
Dec 18, 2020, 04:30 PM	Hi, will you be providing stakeholders with information about the rise in temperature that would result from replacing grass with plastic? Relevant information would include: 1. How many days of the year the plastic would be too hot to play soccer on, or be used for any form of recreation. 2. Impact on the existing Urban Heat Island Effect in the neighbourhood, and how plans for Hosken Reserve align with Moreland's UHIE strategy.	Thanks for the questions Liz! We're in the process of looking for an innovative engagement group who can make sure all your questions are covered. The intent is to look at a refresh for the Hosken Reserve so questions about surfaces - synthetic, hybrid, grass - will be investigated and researched. I'll make sure I add these questions to the many that relate to the Urban Heat Island and general sustainable environment.

Dec 18, 2020, 04:01 PM Hello my name is Adam Nahal, head of Health PE and Sport at the Australian International Academy rear of Hosken Reserve.

I am also the marketing manager.

On behalf of the school I would like to represent it as a stakeholder.

Can this be arranged please as I would like to be part of the consultation process. I represent the school in the is process.

Hi Adam, it's Bernadette Hetherington from Moreland Council here. We would be really happy to include you as a stakeholder and we'll ensure that you are invited to participate in our upcoming engagement events.

Dec 18, 2020, 04:00 PM MCC approved increased hours/usage for PVFC early this year. How does that impact consultation and data? I am concerned it skews usage data in support of redevelopment plans/synthetic pitch. How will engagement activities take into account my decreased usage due to this change? I perceive a fundamental inequity embedded in this process. How will that be fairly addressed?

All good questions and thanks for asking them! We're looking for an external engagement group who will be expert in ensuring this process is fair and equitable and... hopefully will include some fun elements! We're all looking for a great outcome for all users of this space.
