

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Craig Watts](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Redevelopment of Apex Park, Merredin (including naming)
Date: Wednesday, 10 July 2024 10:47:02 AM
Attachments: [REDACTED]

Hi Craig,

Thank you for your time over the phone yesterday.

As mentioned, the discussion with your former CEO, Lisa Clack around naming rights did not suggest that the 'Lotterywest' name should be included in the renaming of Apex Park. At that time, we understand that an indigenous name was being considered for the overall facility and Lotterywest remains impartial on the renaming decision for the park. Rather, we did discuss consideration for naming for one of the spaces within the park, if appropriate.

However, further to our conversation and following internal discussion with our management team, we'd like to reiterate that Lotterywest's preferred approach is that the 'Lotterywest' name is **not included in renaming of Apex Park, nor naming rights of any space** within the facility. Lotterywest position is to support the community voice and whatever is deemed to be suitable.

We have updated your GAA in respect to Naming Rights (section 2.2) and removed this section for clarity. This 'Final v2' document of GAA has been uploaded into the Lotterywest Portal to access anytime you log into the portal and also attached for ease.

However, we'd appreciate being included in the entry sign/plaque that you mentioned and look forward to receiving the artwork proof for review and approval. Attached is our logo brand guide for reference.

We hope the planning of the Opening is coming along well.

Kind regards,
Lia

Lia Mallozzi
Grants Activation and Partnership Officer
Lotterywest

Ph: [REDACTED]

Em: [REDACTED]



We work flexibly at Lotterywest – so whilst it suits me to email now, I don't expect you to read, respond or action my communications outside your usual work pattern.

OFFICIAL

From: Craig Watts [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 8, 2024 4:39 PM
To: Grants Partnerships [REDACTED]
Subject: Redevelopment of Apex Park, Merredin (including naming)

Good afternoon

The Shire of Merredin is currently liaising with the Ballardong Aboriginal Corporation in relation to the dual naming of the redeveloped Apex Park, and has requested that they work with aboriginal residents within the area to suggest an Aboriginal name which relates to Merredin or the use of the park. I have been made aware that there were previous discussions held between Ballardong Aboriginal Corporation, Lotterywest and the Shire in relation to dual naming which was included within the funding arrangements for the redeveloped park, which is supported by the broader Merredin Community. We hope to be in a position to have the Aboriginal dual name considered at the next Council Meeting, and intend to commence use of the dual name once the park is opened.

I have been advised that there were previous discussions with Lotterywest in relation to the English naming of the park, including the funding arrangements requiring "Lotterywest" to form part of the naming of the park. I have received an e-mail from the previous CEO of the Shire indicating that there were discussions around the naming of the park to potentially remove the name/word Apex (based on Lotterywest verbal feedback), however I have been unable to find any correspondence to that effect directing this change.

The Shire Council received a 120 signature petition from our community at the June Ordinary Council meeting requesting the retention of "Apex" within the park naming, with 12 community members attending the meeting in support of this. Several of those community members also spoke at the meeting, resulting in the Shire Council directing the Administration to consult with the community as to a preferred name.

The Shire is currently engaging with the broader community in relation to potential naming of the park (78 submissions received to date), with the preferred name currently being Lotterywest Apex Park "Noongar Language Naming". This name has significantly more community support than any other names suggested (including Lotterywest Merredin Playspace).

If Lotterywest does not support the word Apex in the naming of the redeveloped park, can

you please provide this advice in writing so that this can be discussed at the next Ordinary Council Meeting, and Councillors can make an informed decision. Lotterywest will be advised of Council's preferred name after the 30 July meeting.

Construction of the park is progressing well with the major play elements installed, including the freestyle skateboarding area, skate bowl, slide tower and flying fox. The greenspace and planting is continuing within the area, with the asphalt road and car bays currently being installed. We expect to have works completed in early August, with invitations to the formal opening being sent shortly. Invitees will include key stakeholders (including Lotterywest), local members of parliament, school children and the broader Merredin community. If there are other groups or attendees that the Shire should invite as per your policy, please let us know.

If you have any queries or wish to discuss this matter further, please call me on 9041 1611.

Kind regards,

Craig Watts
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



Shire of Merredin

PO Box 42 MERREDIN WA 6415

P: (08) 9041 1611 E: [REDACTED]

W: www.merredin.wa.gov.au shireofmerredin