

Question 1

The operation of our Community Centres is part of our Community Living Strategy. A strategy that has 5 key objectives, all of which are addressed in varying ways between our 4 community centres. Many other projects however are funded under this heading.

In an ideal world, it would be great to increase the funding for many or most of our functions. Fiscal responsibility dictates however that Councils must consider each component of a budget and identify and prioritise what we see as our greatest need.

If the community centres, one or all, believe extra funding is desirable they need to put this to Council in the budgetary process for consideration. If any such presentation impacts councillors, then an increase is possible. This certainly has happened recently with extra funding to Clarence Park to assist safe delivery of their men's shed program.

Community Centres are also able to access our Community Grants program for one-off projects or events or multiple-year events.

If a good case can be put forward in the budgetary process, I would certainly look favourably at it.

Question 2

Refer answer provided to question 1.

Question 3

Council's Climate Action plan which I support and was passed in August 2021 already earmarks the provision of solar panels on all buildings currently without. It is an essential part of our zero-carbon goal. We are bound by this policy unless we can be convinced that this is not desirable. This is something I can't see happening.

The plan indeed, from memory, includes a provision for us to partner with community organisations using our buildings.

Question 4

It is my understanding that community notices in Unley Life and the annual community centres program newsletter (which I presume you are referring to) are at no cost. I support such an approach. We want what our community groups are doing to be known to the wider community.

Question 5

Our reconciliation action plan which (once again I support) has identified the naming of significant sites as one of our initiatives moving forward. Work I believe has commenced in what must be a coordinated, careful and respectful process. Again, I struggle to see this initiative being reversed.

Question 6

Similar to my answer to question 1, I will always look favourably at any opportunity that might be put to Council and which can be demonstrated to be of value and benefit to our community.

I am unable to comment further as there (as you know) is an expression of interest process being conducted for the Goodwood Community Centre, other than to repeat what I have said already. The matter is commercial in confidence. Goodwood Community Services can put their case to the new Council, as can any others that might show an interest.

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PS I have another meeting coinciding with your AGM that is scheduled to finish at 6.00pm . At best therefore I will be a late attender. Just in case, please accept my apology.

Have a Great Day!

Don Palmer

Retired Business Owner

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