

Office of the Mayor,
Councillor Jami Klisaris

20 February 2017

Dear Mr Jackman,

I am writing in response to the questions that you submitted in writing for the Council meeting held on 6 February 2017. The responses have been prepared by Council Officers.

In assessing potential properties, the Council has identified *Malvern Valley Golf Course* as needing to "reduce to 9 holes" if selected for the site of the proposed stadium. There appears ample room to house the proposed stadium on the *first hole* of the course, without loss of amenity, by reducing this hole to a par 3 rather than the current par 4 or alternatively, constructing the stadium parallel to Lomond Terrace and moving the 18th green approximately 20 metres north.

With ample parking already existing, an under-utilised clubhouse and no local residents within the vicinity of the first hole, can Council please provide answers to the following questions?

Question 1

Did council staff visit the Malvern Valley Golf Course in person to inspect the land area as part of their assessment and/or overlay the footprint of a stadium onto the existing site map to determine its viability as a potential site?

Response

Yes

Question 2

How did council determine the Malvern Valley Golf Course would be reduced by approximately 60 acres to just 9 holes (as per the councils assessment spreadsheet) if the footprint of a 4 court stadium with stadium seating, change facilities and external clearance only takes up around 1.5 acres of land? (Approximately 50m x 120m)

Response

Much of the golf course including the specific location you refer to is on land subject to inundation.

Question 3

Which specific criteria did the golf course fail to meet which excluded it as a prime candidate for the feasibility study and where is this documented?

Response

Much of the golf course is on land subject to inundation.

Question 4

Are the Councillors aware the operation of this golf course is currently out to tender and opportunity may exist to put in place appropriate terms to ensure construction of a proposed stadium may go ahead under a new agreement and/or include operation of a new stadium within the scope of this tender?

Response

Yes

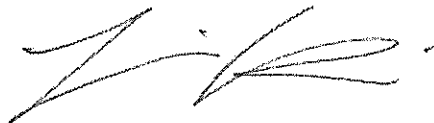
Question 5

The council document identifying 51 potential sites and their characteristics does not indicate *how* sites were assessed against the criteria, nor any form of scoring or results indicating CBC as being the preferred site. As indicated in councils response to questions dated December 22nd, "compromises" were made by Council on the initial selection criteria because all sites failed to meet at least one of the criteria. What "compromises" were made by council and in making these compromises, what was the formal assessment method employed by council and the subsequent results of this assessment which clearly indicated CBC was the appropriate site for a feasibility study? (Presumably a decision to spend \$100,000 was not based on "gut feel" of Councillors and/or a vote based solely on a list of "site characteristics" in a spreadsheet. In other words, please demonstrate due process and probity for spending \$100,000 and the specific 'science' behind the decision to select CBC.)

Response

The previous question to which you refer related to the desire of Council not to displace existing sporting users from any sites to be considered for a new indoor sports stadium. In identifying the current site of the Chadstone Bowls Club for further investigation, the displacement of an existing sporting user group will need to be considered.

Yours sincerely



Cr Jami Klisaris, GAICD
Mayor of the City of Stonnington
Councillor for East Ward