



Brighton Council

22 September 2014

Brighton establishes special purpose zone for school farm

BRIGHTON Council has acted promptly to establish a special zone for its planning scheme to secure the future of the Jordan River Learning Centre school farm.

The move honours the commitment made by Brighton Mayor Tony Foster when the future of the school farm was at risk because of its non-compliance with the planning scheme and council by-laws..

Council last week endorsed the School Farm Particular Purpose Zone and instructed Council staff to request the Minister for Planning to now include it in Brighton's Interim Planning Scheme.

Once that process is completed, the school farm's operations will be able to comply with all Council planning and public health requirements.

This will ensure that the School Farm can continue to operate on the current site in Brighton. The zone ordinance has been tailored to ensure the unique characteristics of the site are properly catered for while potential conflicts with surrounding uses and environmental health issues are minimised and managed.

Mayor Foster said Council had consulted extensively with the Education Department, the Jordan River Learning Centre and the Tasmanian Planning Commission. The Education Department supports the change.

He said the change minimises any future risk of land use conflicts on the site and importantly, will enable the school farm operations to be enhanced.

"This is a great outcome for the school farm and our community, and secures the future of the farm on the current site.

"Following our discussions with Education Minister Jeremy Rockliff, the State Government has now assumed full responsibility for all issues, with the Minister also committing to enhance and add to the school's value and education outcomes.

"Minister Rockliff has also agreed to work with Brighton Council to look at the broader education needs of the Brighton community and that is extremely welcome.

"Brighton Council is a strong supporter of the Jordan River Learning Federation school farm and the benefits it provides for school students and the community. We wanted to ensure it was sustainable, but there were conflicts with local government by-laws and public health considerations.

"By creating a particular purpose zone for the farm and the State Government assuming full responsibility,

these issues will be resolved and we can all be confident that the school farm can operate permanently on its current site," Cr Foster said.

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