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Bid for space at hospital site

COUNCIL WANTS DOG PARK, SPORTS GROUND

Meagan Dillon

The State Government should set aside part of the former Glenside Hospital site for a junior sport oval and an off-leash dog park, Burnside Council says.

The council will write to State Development Minister Tom Koutsantonis requesting he direct Renewal SA to set aside 15,000sq m of the site for a sports ground and a dog park.

Councillor Di Wilkins made the request at last week’s council meeting, saying the need for ovals and dog parks had been highlighted by residents in the Eastern Courier Messenger.

“I think it’s important we nominate an area for open space,” Cr Wilkins said.

She said Glenside’s former oval – at the southwest corner of the site – had been “trashed” during the $300 million redevelopment and could be rejuvenated by the council. “We do need an alternative space for a dog park in this area,” she said.

The dog park in the nearby Conyingham St is surviving one year at a time because the Government refuses to offer Burnside a long-term lease. Mr Koutsantonis’ spokeswoman Lucy Hood told the Eastern Courier Messenger the site was Urban Development Minister John Rau’s responsibility. Mr Rau’s spokeswoman Kate Baldock referred the inquiry to Renewal SA.

Renewal SA spokeswoman Ella Walker said in a statement development approval for the entire site was granted in 2012 on the condition 15,000sq m of land would remain as open space.

She said Renewal SA was considering what to do with the remainder of the site. “The final amount (of open space) will be determined by balancing the financial viability of the project and the best design outcome for the site,” Ms Walker said.