



\$4m expansion

By Billie Harrison

PLANS for the \$4 million expansion of the Lincoln Marine Science Centre were expected to be put to the City Council last night after months of negotiation.

A memorandum of understanding for the expansion of the Lincoln Marine Science Centre into the Kirton Point Caravan Park has been drawn up and

could be signed this morning if passed by the council.

At the time of going press yesterday afternoon the council was unable to provide comment on the proposals but Flinders University and Hassell architects provided the Port Lincoln Times with an artist's impression of the \$4m proposal to be unveiled last night.

Executive director of Primary Industries and Resources SA Aquaculture Ian

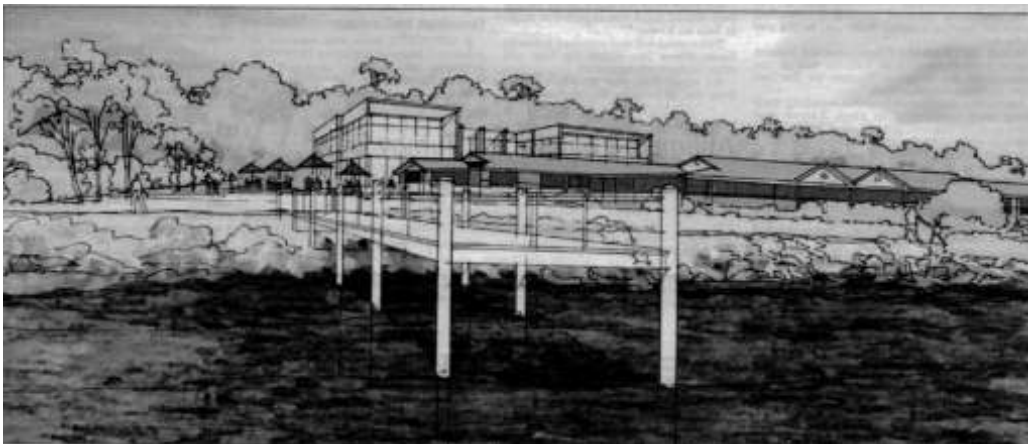
Nightingale was expected to make a presentation on the expansion of the science centre at last night's meeting.

Representatives of Kirton Point Caravan Park, Flinders University and the South Australian Research and Development Institute were also expected to make presentations on the plans for a 15-year development for both the science centre and the caravan park.

Discussions began following interest from Marine Innovation South Australia - a joint initiative between Flinders University and SARDI - to expand the centre.

MISA is looking to invest at least \$4 million in Port Lincoln research facilities to expand the scope of fishery and aquaculture research in South Australia.

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CONCEPT PLAN: This architect's impression of the proposed Lincoln Marine Science Centre expansion, supplied by Hassell Pty Ltd, was expected to be put to the council last night. The new buildings are on the left-hand side with the original building identified by its triangular roof on the right.



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The MISA steering committee said last year the current LMSC site was its first preference for expanding the centre.

However that meant acquiring some of the land currently leased as the Kirton Point Caravan Park.

Discussions between the lessee of the caravan park, the Lincoln Marine Science Centre and the council have led to a memorandum of understanding where the university would pay the council a one-off fee of \$330,000 as compensation for loss of the caravan park land.

Agriculture, Food and Fisheries Minister Rory McEwen, caravan park lessee Eyria Investments Pty Ltd, Flinders University and the City of Port Lincoln were expected to sign off on the memorandum of understanding this morning.

The council will need to change the classification

of the land if the memorandum is signed in able for it to be annexed from the park to the marine science centre and this will require public consultation.

Last night's council meeting was expected to hear the project signalled a significant capital investment in both the science centre and the caravan park.

The memorandum of understanding outcomes included provision for the dedication of a coastal reserve including the undeveloped camping and caravan park land and Parnkalla Trail.

The council would also no longer be responsible for major asset replacement works in the caravan park.

The Kirton Point Caravan Park Committee passed a motion earlier this month to hold a public meeting on Monday July 25 about the caravan park and the Lincoln Marine Science Centre.