



North Sydney Local Government Area
Edward and Union Combined Precinct Committees

Minutes of Meeting Wednesday **7 September** 2022, 7:30pm

Hybrid: McMahons Point Community Centre and Online [Teams]

Chair: KR
Secretaries: JC Edward Precinct
CT Union Precinct
Minutes: JC & CT

1. Welcome / Apologies / August Minutes

- a. There were 11 in-person attendees, 1 on Teams and 4 apologies.
- b. The meeting accepted the minutes from the 3 August meeting without objection
- c. The 3 August Edward/Union precinct meeting minutes are available online:

https://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/Council_Meetings/Community_Engagement/Precincts/Edward_Precinct

- d. The Chair summarised Council's SOA in relation to the 3 August minutes covering the following:
 - In relation to the DA for 16 French St and the subsequent discussion around using that land for a community garden Council advised they wrote to the local State Member, the Minister for Transport, and Transport for NSW with no success. Council is not in a position to purchase, remediate and convert the land.
 - Suggestion for Accessible Parking at the North Sydney Services NSW premises. The meeting heard the suggestion will go to the Traffic Committee
 - The Miller Street Pop Up feedback has been extended to November
 - The MLC Centre. A letter from the Mayor asking for relisting of the building on the State Heritage Register was sent to the Minister for Environment and Heritage.
 - The West Harbour Tunnel and the need to keep the Council website up-to-date
 - Moorish Blue internal demolition concerns. The meeting heard Council has had Compliance Officers visit the site on three occasions with no response or contact made with Council.
 - 80 Union Street. The meeting heard Council is not aware of any plans or applications for this property owned by the Shore School.

The Chair noted responses and feedback from Council to the minutes submitted by the Combined Edward/Union Precincts have been more informative.

2. Development Applications:

The meeting discussed the following DAs:

Edward Precinct

- [DA 195/21/2](#) 150 Pacific Highway North Sydney. Continuation of extended operating hours previously approved. Closed 2 Sept
The meeting noted this application
- [DA 239/22](#) 60 Crows Nest Road, Waverton. New swimming pool. Closes 9 Sept
The meeting noted this application.

Union Precinct

- [DA 252/22](#) 72 Bank St. North Sydney Demolish existing weatherboard cottage and re-construct at street level above two additional lower storeys. Closes, 23 September.
The meeting heard that a heritage consultant has been working on the project to ensure the new build will fit into the existing streetscape and that the existing building is in a dilapidated state.
The meeting discussed the importance of the heritage conservation area and that Council should take care when it allows demolitions to take place in the conservation areas in the LGA. So little remains and what is left should be preserved.
The meeting discussed the rebuild of 72 Bank St and feels that it should be rebuilt as weatherboard.

MOTION:

Edward/Union Precincts would like to ensure the character of the existing weatherboard cottage is retained in the new structure to street level. Unanimous

- [266/2020](#) 26 Euroka St Waverton. Modification of the consent (dated February 2021) to enable an addition to the first floor, new fencing and gate. The meeting discussed the proposed modifications to the terrace and noted it is a listed building.

MOTION:

Edward/Union Precincts would like to ensure there are no changes to the character of the existing terrace located in a heritage conservation area. Unanimous

<https://apptracking.northsydney.nsw.gov.au>

3. Floating Dry Dock at Berrys Bay Update

The meeting discussed the decision by the Land and Environment Court decision to refuse an appeal by Stannards Marine to operate a floating dry dock.

The meeting congratulates all those involved with special note to co-chair of Union and Edward Precincts MC for her efforts for the Precinct[s] and LGA.

The meeting also acknowledges the efforts of Waverton precinct especially BD as well as those involved in the case at Council and the legal team.

The meeting discussed the result:

- as a testament to people power
- the accomplishment is significant and perhaps is unprecedented
- all-in-all there were three Body Corporates, two individuals and two community groups given status as parties to the action
- the outcome would not have been the same if it all took place behind 'closed doors'
- it is noted this decision is only in relation to a 'designated' development.

MOTION

Edward/Union Precincts thank Council for supporting community resisting the development application. Passed without objection.

MOTION

Edward/Union Precincts thank its members for supporting the lengthy application. Community campaign to save Berrys Bay. Passed without objection

4. Council Matters

The members present at the meeting discussed/heard about the following:

- a) **Arts & Cultural Strategy Review** extension; now November 1, 2022
- b) **Precinct System Review and Working Groups:**
 - Three members from Edward/Union Precincts put their names forward for the three **Working Groups** flagged at the most recent CPC; Strategy, Marketing and Office Bearer Training
 - A potential **fourth Working Group** possibly about remote meetings. Chair [KR] to follow up to see if any members of the Edward/Union precinct groups would like to be involved in the remote access advisory group
 - The Edward/Union Precinct online submission will be resubmitted to reflect the **preference for one Zoom licence specifically for use by Edward/Union Precinct**
 - Edward/Union Precinct **do not wish for Council staff to commence or support their zoom sessions**
 - **Zoom is preferable** as many members are already familiar with the interface and accessibility is paramount to foster participation
 - **Voluntary Mergers** were discussed in terms of timeline for decisions. The meeting expressed its desire not to be merged with the North Sydney CBD Precinct due to the unique and specific issues/needs of the CBD which are not simpatico with those of Edward and Union precincts. For now, Union and Edward precincts are comfortable proceeding with their trial merger.
- c) **Proposed Neighbourhood Power Sharing and Community Battery Scheme**

The meeting heard community/feasibility testing is taking place in some social housing buildings in the LGA. The meeting discussed/queried the following:

 - How involved is Council in the power sharing project factoring in the cost of rebates and electricity being a state level service?
 - Charging pods for Electric Vehicles in the LGA (other than community provided pods at Greenwood/Crows Nest/Cammeray)

QUESTION

How many Council EV charging 'pods' are there in the North Sydney LGA?

- d) **Recruitment of Community Education Officer (Planning)**

The meeting heard there is a proposal to employ a 'Community Education Officer-Planning' to inform/educate local residents about planning issues/processes and matters. It was noted Council's Planning department provided this type of service pre-Covid and this will be re-instituted.

Members at the meeting expressed a desire for more transparency related to planning decisions and procedures and support a pro-active education process.
- e) **Streets as Shared Spaces; East Crescent Street Update**

The meeting heard the updated options for the 'Pocket Park' based on the Community Site Visit feedback are available on Council's website prior to Monday 12 September. As Union Precinct is on the cusp of the East Crescent Street location meeting members were interested to know Lavender Bay Precinct's thoughts/position.

The meeting heard:

- Lavender Precinct was not provided with the amended plans or report in time for their meeting which took place the week prior to Monday 12 September.
- Information was circulated by the Acting Secretary for its members to review.
- Parking concerns seem to have been addressed
- Council's request for community and precincts to respond prior to construction has been suggested by the engineering team to occur after a three-month trial.

f) **Miller Street On-Ramp Cycleway**

The meeting heard the cycleway will be closed from 1 Sept 2022 until 2025 due to West Harbour Tunnel works.

g) **North Sydney Demonstration School Works and Modification to DA**

The meeting heard:

- The modification is to a previous modification regarding the height of one particular building and that some modifications such as this one, can bypass Council. The meeting noted the suggestion to remove plants and vegetation from the site and members expressed concern about the removal of more green vegetation in North Sydney.

MOTION

Edward/Union Precincts object to the removal of more trees from this location.

- The meeting also heard from members present about concerns regarding the state of the footpaths in front of the works, along Bay Road, which are covered in concrete; evidence of a lack of adequate water filtration/management which is a breach of EPA regulations. Edward/Union Precincts would like to see a Council compliance Officer attend the site as the works are in this LGA.
- It was also noted that pick up and drop off at the Dem is restricted, possibly due to the number of vehicles parking in the area due to construction activities.

h) **MLC Building: Update**

The meeting heard the reversal of the heritage status of the 1950s MLC office building at 150 Miller Street North Sydney was due to an inadequate report prepared for the Minister's determination. The Mayor should be congratulated for writing to the Minister to seek rectification of this.

The proposed demolition and redevelopment is subject to a Land and Environment Court appeal.

Edward/Union precincts reaffirm opposition to demolition.

5. Proposed Harbour Bridge Cycle Ramp

The meeting discussed the actions by Lavender Bay Precinct members, as they persevere in their opposition to Transport for NSW's (TfNSW) Harbour Bridge cycle ramp design which will see cyclists heading east (30% of all trips) still required to backtrack down Alfred Street South even though most of Bradfield Park North will have been lost to the linear cycle ramp.

The meeting heard the Milsons point community and Lavender Bay Precinct continue to press for the alternative, community-led 'Bradfield Central' option.

Edward/Union precincts strongly support retaining green open space in the LGA for community use and therefore do not support the TfNSW linear cycle ramp.

MOTION

Edward/Union Precincts support Lavender Precinct's request to Council, as the holder of Bradfield Park in trust for the public, to require a development application for the construction of any cycle ramp landing in Bradfield Park. Passed without objection.

6. Combined Precinct Meeting Report

The meeting heard about:

- The Western Harbour Tunnel Presentation given to the Combined Precinct Meeting, including delays to the Beaches Link motorway.
- CPC members discussed the removal of trees at Cammeray Golf Course including trees associated with the delayed Beaches Link.
- A presentation by Acting General Manager about North Sydney Pool
- The Berrys Bay Masterplan status

Members present discussed the pool renovation costings and timeline and would like to know more.

MOTION

Edward/Union precincts would like any available update on the state of the North Sydney Olympic Pool redevelopment.

7. Employment Zone Amendments

Council responded to Precinct's concern about lack of timely consultation in relation to substantial zoning changes within the LGA:

"...the NSW Government is not always good at notifying Council of proposed changes to the planning system which can have potential impacts on the wider community. This burden is often and sometimes unfairly put back on councils."

MOTION

Edward/Union precincts would like to thank North Sydney Council for its response to our concerns about the Employment Zone amendments.

Meeting closed: 9:00pm