



WOLLSTONECRAFT PRECINCT - MINUTES OF MEETING

Wednesday 12 October 2022

- 1. Attendance:** Twentynine (29) members were in attendance. There were also two guests from Milson Precinct, Mayor Zoe Baker and Deputy Mayor Godfrey Santer.
- 2. Apologies:** There were 15 apologies: NB, Cr. William Bourke, JD, DD, RH, JH, IH, DK, GR, Kylea Tink MP Member for North Sydney, SW, Cr. Shannon Welch, PW and SY.
- 3. Vale:** The Chair read a short address recognising the death of our member Richard Young who died on 7 September and offering condolences to his widow Elizabeth and immediate family.
- 4. Guest Speaker:** Mr Robert Emerson, Council's Acting General Manager, spoke at length about the NS Olympic Pool redevelopment, addressing various completed cost assumptions and answered questions. The target is to complete an excellent product of which the community can be proud. The community needs to understand that some features cannot be changed without extensive further delays and substantial extra costs. Completion date is expected to be late in 2023 mainly due to weather and Covid caused delays but also some design features requiring amendment.

Willoughby Road Public Domain Upgrade Stage 2: Burlington Street to Albany Street preliminary design is in progress and urged members to respond to the current public exhibition requesting feedback on two suggested designs. A flyer is being dropped in some letterboxes and is also available on Council's website at: <https://yoursay.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/willoughby-road-upgrade>

Hume Street Park Stages 1 and 2: Completion of Stage 1 of the Hume Street Park expansion was discussed and explained that the natural grass required good sun and therefore trees were not included in the grassed area. Stage 2 design and a development application will also be addressed in the current term of Council. Relocation of Kelly's Place is yet to agreed.

- 5. Minutes of August Meeting:** The minutes which had been circulated previously were taken as read and confirmed as a true record. Moved KT: Seconded TG. Voting was unanimous.
- 6. Matters Arising:**
 - a. Planning Proposal 7/21 – 378-390 Pacific Highway Crows Nest** (opp Crows Nest Station site B): Is currently under assessment by the SNPP. A meeting scheduled for 13 October between the applicant and the Panel was held to review modifications to the design to address issues in relation to

neighbouring properties on the Pacific Highway. The meeting was held in secret from Council and the community.

- b. **Planning Proposal 3/22 – Fiveways “Triangle” Site Crows Nest:** Under assessment without any opportunity for Council or community involvement.
- c. **Planning Proposal 9/21 – 360 Pacific Highway Crows Nest (opp Crows Nest Station):** Under assessment without any opportunity for Council or community involvement
- d. **Public Exhibition PP 1/21 – 270-272 Pacific Highway Crows Nest:** the following Motion was proposed:
Precinct’s draft submission Rev B (as previously circulated and as attached to this notice of meeting) is hereby confirmed and authorised to be submitted to Council as Precinct’s formal submission for the public exhibition on planning Proposal 1/21 for 270-272 Pacific Highway Crows Nest.

Moved: John Hancox Seconded: Barbara DeGraff

For: 29 members; Against: Nil; Abstained: 4 Guests

In addition, eight (8) members who could not attend the meeting and who had received Precinct’s draft submission in relation to the public exhibition of Planning Proposal 1/21 at 270-272 Pacific Highway Crows Nest had sent emails supporting that submission. This means that there are 37 submissions from members of the Precinct when considering weighting of submissions by Precincts. Details of names and addresses are included on the attendance list sent separately to Council.

- e. **Crows Nest Post Office:** The meeting noted that Australia Post is holding firm on its current location (until such time as the site is redeveloped) but is investigating an unmanned facility within the new metro station to send and receive parcels. Not what we campaigned for but at least an admission that something needs to be done to support the community.

Cr Zoë Baker Mayor of North Sydney, noted Precinct’s request for formal support by Council of Precincts campaign and undertook to action that request.

- f. **Weighting of Precinct Submissions:** The meeting noted that Council had resolved at its meeting on 10 October to formally acknowledge counting of submissions from Precincts as being the number of members who supported the submission by voting for a resolution to do so. Conversely it would also count the number of members who didn’t support the resolution. The first occasion to implement this decision of Council was for PP 1/21 (refer item 6.d above).

- 7. **Local Area Traffic Management Plan.** The meeting noted the positive response from Council’s Traffic Operations Officer on 4 October that it would investigate the provision of information requested by Precinct in relation to the Plan as originally submitted vs the current status of the Plan and also to advise projects of the Plan

that are included in the Delivery Program 2022-26.

The Dept will also respond to our request for a presentation on the Plan to our next meeting in December and would consider our request for a solution to Rat-runs through Wollstonecraft emanating from traffic entering Gillies Street from River Road/Shirley Road

- 8. Council's response to Action Items (SOA):** The meeting noted that line markings on Shirley Road were mainly completed. Other items on the SOA should be addressed if Council agrees to a presentation in December or if it answers in the usual manner by issuing an updated SOA.
- 9. General Business: PP 4/22 Prohibition of Residential Flat Buildings in the R3 Medium Density Zones:** The meeting resolved to support the following Motion: That Wollstonecraft Precinct lodges a submission to North Sydney Council by 7 November 2022 supporting Planning Proposal 4/22 incorporating the points below and authorises the Chair to do so:
- a. Precinct strongly supports reinstating the planning rules that existed prior to June 30 2021 when Residential Flat Buildings were not a permissible development within the R3 under the North Sydney Local Environment Plan
 - b. Permitting Residential Flat Buildings in the R3 Zone is not required for the purpose of meeting North Sydney LGA's housing targets
 - c. Reversing the permitting of Residential Flat Buildings in the R3 Zone is in the interests of the community because it will help to protect the character and amenity of our suburbs
 - d. It will also help to preserve our built form heritage that makes our neighbourhoods special
 - e. Preserving the character of our suburbs is in the interests of current and future generations.

Moved: JH, Seconded JC. For: 29 Against: Nil Abstain: 4 Guests

- 10. Other General Business:** PH raised the matter of a proposal he had read about for 286-290 Pacific Highway Crows Nest adjacent to and incorporating the old North Shore Gas Company site. He subsequently sent us the following links which show what is described as a 14-storey mixed use development incorporating a tower of apartment dwellings.

The information has been referred to Council for a response:

<https://www.lfa.com.au/crows-nest-former-north-shore-gas-co-office/>

<https://www.urban.com.au/news/nsw/55-million-crows-nest-apartments-to-target-the-owner-occupier>

- 11. Meeting Close and next meeting:** There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:33 pm. The next meeting will be 14 December.