

Parks Precinct Committee Meeting Minutes 21 September 2022

Meeting was held on Zoom

Meeting Opened at 7.05pm

1. Attendance and Apologies

Attendance as per attendance sheet

Apologies: One

2. Confirmation of Minutes (on NSC website) and matters arising:

Minutes from August meeting were accepted as correct by CT and seconded by BB

Matters arising from the Minutes

Save Cammeray Park signage - Residents and property owner's interested in displaying campaign signage on their property should email precincts@northsydney.nsw.gov.au.

Weighting of Precinct Submissions

Currently if one single resident is opposed to a Council plan then that vote is counted as 'one' vote. However, if x 30 people at a Precinct Meeting oppose a plan then this is also counted as 'one' vote. GD (Meeting Convenor) advised that Brightmore, Willoughby Bay and Wollstonecraft together with Parks Precinct all wish the council to change this voting process to correctly reflect the wishes of the community ie one vote is counted per person (and not per Precinct). **GD advised that a motion will be put forward at the next Combined Precincts Committee Meeting.**

3. Guest Speaker - Cr James Spenceley on:

a. Cammeray Park and the Western Harbour Tunnel

Cr James Spenceley confirmed NSC was doing all it can in the fight to:

- **Build the permanent 'work and operation sheds' underground**

Have the two massive, permanent, 20M high 'workshops' which are proposed to be built aboveground, built underground so that the ground above can provide a 'green corridor' for playing fields etc between Cammeray Park and ANZAC Park. These workshops will house the motors which drive the fans in the expressway. Tim James MP has agreed that 'just frankly', putting these sheds underground 'is the right thing to do'. The workshops are planned to be built within the existing work area on the edge of Ernest Street to the site of what was the lake.

- **Guarantee the planting of replacement mature trees in the ratio of 2:1**

Ensure that the agreed planting of two mature trees to replace each mature tree destroyed for the WHT project be replaced in the Cammeray Park area and not simply planted at Berry's Bay or elsewhere around Sydney.

- **Filter the exhaust stacks**

Ensure that the two 30M high from ground level exhaust stacks planned for this project be air filtered. These air stacks are purportedly to be built on the island in the middle of the freeway.

- **Return the loss of green space**

That the 1.5ha (3.7 acres) of greenspace supposedly acquired on a 'temporary' basis while the Expressway is being built, be confirmed to be returned to Cammeray Park on the completion of the build. A replacement of this 3.7 acres at Berry's Bay is not acceptable to Parks residents and Tim James, Member for Willoughby, has advised that he will see this land be returned in the Cammeray Park area.

- b. Young Street Plaza:** Council has resolved to re-open Young Street to Military Road and to return the govt grant of approx. \$2M despite opposition from many residents. Cr Spenceley advised the meeting that there had been a variety of differing community attitudes to the trial closure but the majority wanted the street to be re-opened. Cr Spenceley's opinion is that the Plaza should be retained as the community need the open space and it has been well utilised during the trial period.

Grosvenor Lane Resident (ES) was very much opposed to the removal of the Plaza and the re-opening of Young Street to Military Road where traffic entering Military Road and turning left must turn into a bus lane. ES advised the meeting that the 'shared' pedestrian/vehicle Grosvenor Street Lane was not working as cars do not abide by the 10K per hour speed limit and nor do they allow pedestrians to have right of way. It was agreed that Grosvenor Lane is very dangerous thoroughfare and the design of which should be reviewed. GD suggested that the Plaza could be re-designed. **Cr James Spenceley advised those who are concerned about either the Plaza and the closure of Young Street attend and/or address the next NSC open council meeting.**

- c. Proposed closure of Ernest Street exit from the Harbour Bridge onto Falcon Street**
MS asked Cr Spenceley to follow up on this matter and to ensure this motion is rescinded to enable efficient exit from the Bridge for local residents.

d. Woolworths Rangers Road Development Proposal

Woolworths have lodged a Planning Proposal with NSC to 'deliver an upgraded store' new plaza and 70 apartments. Cr James Spenceley agrees there should be a balance between the height and public benefit and advised the meeting that NSC would rather work with Woolworths to come to an agreement about the height/bulk of the development rather than have them bypass the community and go to the Local Planning Panel. Mayor Zoe Baker, at the Parks August Precinct meeting advised that if Woolworths does not get support from NSC for this project they will ask for re-zoning in order that their development application can comply and will have to be approved.

It should be noted that Woolworths has delivered a double page A4 flyer to local residents asking the community to give feedback directly to Woolworths. **You can email**

your considerations to Woolworths on: engagement@urbis.com.au or call on (02) 7202 1239.

Mayor Zoe Baker, at the August Parks Precinct Meeting, reminded the meeting that the Military Road Plan for extensive high rise development has been revoked by the new Council and that NSC will continue to oppose and defend its position in relation to the Woolworths development.

4. Special Precinct meetings (WHT/Cammeray Park)

Report on the SOPA Open Meeting with Tim James MP at NSC Chambers on Wednesday, 7 September.

- This meeting was well attended by approx. 130 local residents with a similar number on zoom (however zoom audio was apparently not clear). Tim James MP is the person we must rely on to relay our concerns about the devastation in Cammeray Park and to put our requests for the best outcome of the project for the future ie:
- Build the 20M high 'workshops' underground and cover with a green corridor for playing fields etc
- Re-plant mature trees in the ratio of two trees for every one destroyed on Cammeray Park and local surrounds
- Return of 1.5ha (ie 3.7 acres) of public land
- Open discussions to the community re proposed 30M high ventilation stack and stack to be filtered

Report on the Save Cammeray Park community rally on 10 September in Green Park.

The rally was strongly attended by approx. 300 concerned residents who 'planted' some 800 paper trees representing the loss of so many mature trees on Cammeray Park. Many of the paper trees carried messages of concern for Tim James. Mayor Zoe Baker, Larissa Penn and Paul Walter addressed the meeting. Tim James MP attended and heard the concerns of many members of the community.

Mayor Zoe Baker's message to TfNSW was simple and clear, stop the building of the WHT and Beaches Link whilst the now long outdated plan is reviewed for the value to the community for the cost and necessity.

5. DAs under consideration

No DAs were reported

6. Other Business

The Oaks Hotel – up for sale

Social media is rumouring that the heart of the Neutral Bay community – The Oaks Hotel is up for sale and that thoughts were being given to add apartments above. This information is unconfirmed. This matter was raised by SB asking attendees if anyone had further information on this matter. ES advised there were 'no active buyers' at this stage. Cr Spenceley advised he would look into the 'heritage' aspects of this matter.

Meeting adjourned: 8:06 PM

Next Meeting: 7.00pm on Zoom
Wednesday 19 October, 2022