

**NORTH SYDNEY COUNCIL**  
**KIRRIBILLI SHOPPING AREA STREETScape COMMITTEE**  
**MINUTES OF THE 82nd MEETING**  
**HELD ON TUESDAY, 18 OCTOBER 2022 AT 4.45PM**  
**IN THE ROS CRICHTON PAVILION, COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**Present:** Councillor Santer in the Chair.

Ian Richer, Resident  
Fran Hernon, Resident  
Nicole Oldfield, Resident  
Vilma Bowers, Resident  
Michael Bracka, Resident  
Rob Remnant, Resident  
Hilary Hatfield, Resident  
Thomas Kelly, Resident  
Janelle Berents, Resident  
Kate Evers, Resident  
Patricia Schiller, Resident  
Bernard Smith, Lavender Bay Precinct/Resident  
Estelle Blair, Milson Precinct/Resident  
Debra Blair, Resident  
Cheryl Byrne, Resident  
Bruce Chenoweth, Resident  
Jenny Cavanagh, Resident  
Carol Lee, Resident  
Tony Morgan, Business owner Morgans and San Antonio Bakery/Resident  
Jillian Christie, Milson Precinct/Resident  
Daniel Mahon, Deputy Principal Loretto  
Joe El-Khoury, St Aloysius College

Council staff:

Duncan Mitchell, Director Engineering and Property Services  
Paul Yang, Engineering Project Manager  
Miranda Shoppee, Meeting Administration Co-ordinator  
Peita Rose, Governance Officer (Minute Taker)

**1. Meeting opened** at 4.45pm, with The Councillor Santer in the chair.

**2. Apologies**

Apologies were received from the Mayor, Councillors Beregi, Gibson and Welch and Diana Mejia, Engineering Project Manager

**3. Confirmation of the Minutes of the 81<sup>st</sup> meeting held on 26 July 2022**

Moved by Estelle Blair and seconded by Bernard Smith.

#### **4. Matters Arising from the Minutes**

No matters arising from the minutes.

#### **5. Kirribilli Village Centre Public Domain Master Plan – Projects Update**

Council's Director Engineering and Property Services presented to the Committee the Burton/Bligh Street upgrade and outlined the next steps.

The Master Plan was adopted in March 2020, and it identified a sweep of projects as part of the masterplan, and two of these projects were Burton Street Plaza Permanent Closure and also the Bligh Street Shared zone. These are identified in the Master Plan as two separate projects.

##### **a) Burton Street plaza - permanent closure concept design Options**

The Burton Street site area is 647sqm of road closure and at present there is a pilot trial road closure in place. The pilot closure was undertaken and has been in place since late 2021 when Council received a grant from the "Streets and Shared Spaces Program", a state government program used to do a pilot closure. It was always designed as a temporary closure, and the elements were designed so that they could be, if required, easily removed or changed.

Council is consulting on two options to have a conversation piece with the community as this is carried out with most of our projects. This doesn't mean you have to specifically choose option 1 or option 2, you can choose the elements of option 1 or option 2 that you like or dislike and then what Council will do is put together with consultants a design of preferred options.

##### **b) Bligh Street - Shared Zone concept design Options**

Council also piloted the same grant through the "Street of Shared Spaces Grants" program and the shared zone in Bligh Street. Bligh Street is one way and the traffic enters from Broughton Street, this is designed as a temporary design where Council has to be able to easily reverse it if need be.

Council is out at consultation at present with various options that you can engage with Council and provide feedback. Council is looking at closing the consultation period for feedback on 14 November. There are a number of key consultations coming up, one of them is the design workshop which is being held on the 8 November.

A report on the final design will be brought to Council in November so that we can be in a position to do our tender and construction documentation for that design through November/January 2022, and then start a tender period in early February 2023. Construction is proposed to commence in utilising this year's funding in April 2023.

This work is funded in this year's Capital Works Program and Council has money to do Burton Street and Bligh Street in the current budget. Construction is estimated to take roughly take 8 – 12 weeks depending on the design and how much is retained.

It was requested the online feedback form be modified so that elements from each option can be combined into a 3rd option (not limited to Option 1 & 2)

Council's Director Engineering and Property Services stated that this had been taken on at the online forum and is currently being looked at.

It was mentioned to provide comments related to the Burton Street permanent closure (if you don't have a preferred option you can detail what you like most from either option); and provide comments related to the Bligh Street Shared Zone (if you don't have a preferred option, detail what you like most from either option)

It was asked by a resident where will the drainage flow?

It was stated that the overland flow into pits then into the harbour through pipes. The pits will generally follow the alignment of the kerb and gutter.

Fran Hernon addressed the committee on behalf of a group of Kirribilli residents and stated that they would like to get the design right, pause the project, reflect and redesign an 'Option 3'. Develop a character statement for Kirribilli. 'The village' character is aligned to the Rocks and Harbour Bridge and should reflect the heritage of these. A visitor destination and diplomatic destination featuring Admiralty house and mentioned a streetscape that reflects the historic theme of Kirribilli, she would like to see the character statement drive option 3 (does not like options 1 & 2). Fran also suggested that the master plan be redone.

A Motion was moved by Fran Hernon and seconded by Estelle Blair,

**1. THAT** Council does not proceed with either Option 1 or Option 2 but in consultation with the Kirribilli community, develops Option 3, accompanied by an implementation plan. This would in effect become a revised Kirribilli Master Plan, based on the Character Statement and design principles derived from the understanding of the historic "place" of Kirribilli and its current important role and function in the metropolitan and national context. This will become the vision and the guidelines that will drive the future streetscape and other public domain works.

Jillian Christie advised that it is important to ensure disabled access and prefers option 1 due to the even, accessible grade and that she dislikes option 2 as the terraces force people to use the narrow footpath next to buildings on Burton Street. She also mentioned that there needs to be a pedestrian crossing to St Aloysius junior school and there should be more budget for pedestrian crossing outside flight centre (Broughton St). There needs to be more public seating and less restaurant seating creeping into public space. In Bligh Street the kerb and gutter should be kept and all the works should be done at the same time.

Tony Morgan a business owner in Kirribilli stated he didn't want any further road closures as it took him 25 minutes to get into Kirribilli recently (road congestion). He also mentioned the plaza needs to be kept clean as it is dirty and there are too many rats around.

Council's Director Engineering and Property Services advised that council funds could be rolled over and no time constrained for grant funding.

He also mentioned that Council will increase pest control in the village.

Janelle Berents advised that she doesn't like mouldy off form concrete - totally unsuited to the area. Kirribilli has been aligned with the Rocks and Harbour bridge.

Councillor Santer advised that everyone agrees that the design principles/standard principles and that more work needs to be done.

Thomas Kelly advised Option 2 will impact on disabled access and he would like a well thought through strategy.

Daniel Mahon from Loretto Kirribilli stated they want to re-visit the masterplan. The school's point of view is clarity needed about right of way at crossings for students. Several near misses involving students and vehicles have been reported.

### **c) Masterplan Implementation Public Exhibition details**

Below is the link to the Kirribilli Masterplan

<https://yoursay.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/kirribilli-public-domain>

## **6. General Streetscape**

The following was advised by the committee:

Pressure cleaning of the village required 'looking putrid' - Council to clean

Rats abound - 'pestilence' – Council to increase frequency of pest control.

Holbrook Avenue drain blocked, standing water on road – Council to action

A Zebra crossing was requested on Peel Street @ Carabella for safe pedestrian access to Kirribilli Ferry wharf – Council to investigate

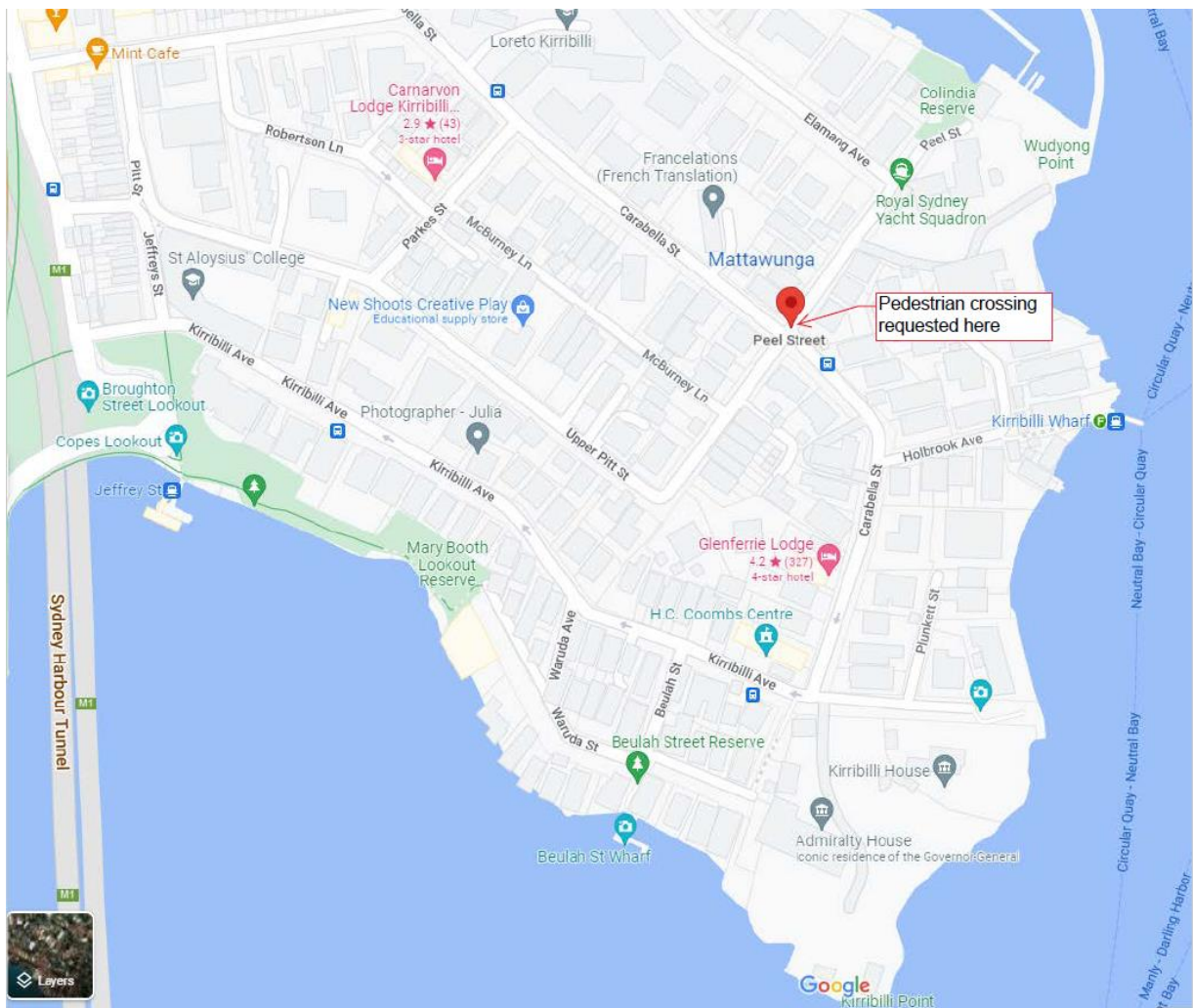


Figure 1 Location of requested pedestrian crossing at intersection of Peel & Carabella Streets

## 7. General Business- raised by the Streetscape committee

### a) Kirribilli Chamber of Commerce

Fran Heron mentioned that the businesses in the area have been sent a survey that has been mainly completed. The small businesses in Kirribilli feel that they are not being listened to at Council and that they don't get a hearing.

It was suggested they consider forming a Chamber of Commerce and the businesses were happy with the general idea, but nobody really had an idea as to how to go about starting one up.

It was suggested that Council's Economic Business Co-ordinator be made aware of this (once the position is filled).

**b) Burton Street Underpass Activation**

Jillian Christie stated that the Masterplan says that Burton Streets parking is going except for a few that are in the open where the gravel is. There are a few open parking spaces for people to be able to get into the train station. All those that are in the tunnel looked to be removed.

If parking is going to be taken away in Burton Street why not have this tunnel as an activated space to bring live things in Kirribilli to make this a useful place. We need to see if this space is workable. Whether or not we can actually fill this space with activities etc 24/7 - 365 days a year, or whether or not it will be useful on weekends or Friday nights because we have the seven bridges run, or a marathon or whatever else we always get in Kirribilli.

The idea was lets trial what activation could be there and see whether or not we can build this up to something that warrants taking away all the parking and using it as only a tunnel space. There are a lot of things that are for and against the space, if we wanted to see if we can get some activities happening in the space to see if it warrants the car parking spaces to make it feasible long term. Something that can be done on weekends. For the markets twice a month it can be closed every weekend or every Saturday.

Councils events team be made aware of this.

**c) Jacaranda Time**

Estelle Blair stated that there is strong support for the road to be closed off to traffic on weekends, traffic arrangement from Precinct Committee and a positive lesson learned from last year.

It was stated that footpath stickers deteriorate quickly and are of limited value.

**8. Next meeting – TBC**

**9. Close of Meeting**

The meeting concluded at 5.50pm.