

EUROKA PRECINCT

Meeting Wednesday 1 November 2023.

Commenced at 7:30pm

- 1. Attendance:** 9 in person, 2 on zoom, as per attendance sheet. Apologies received from JT, LM, KF. Meeting chaired by GM. Minutes KR. Zoom MC.
- 2. Minutes reviewed.** Email received from owner and MD Noakes Group who wanted to correct the reference in the minutes to the ownership of the boatyard facility and the obligation for the construction of the jetty. This was noted by the meeting. No changes were made to the minutes, and the October 23 minutes were accepted by acclamation.
- 3. Standing items & Summary of Actions**

Unsafe U turns Princes St and Blues Point Rd Council's Manager Traffic & Transport Operations has advised that staff have investigated the concerns raised in relation to vehicles turning at this intersection. Traffic movements were observed to be at slow speeds, with drivers giving way to other pedestrian and vehicle movements with adequate visibility on site. There is no recorded record of crashes at this intersection. Council prioritises road infrastructure to improve safety and improve accessibility. Given the investigation concluded that the intersection is a low-risk priority, the installation of new infrastructure to physically prevent vehicle movements is not required. Despite Council's response it was noted that illegal turns were still being allowed, which could affect pedestrians. The meeting asks that some form of advice such as No U Turn signs could be considered either now or as part of the McMahons Point Master Plan.

Draft Foreshore Parks & Reserves Plan of Management (PoM) - We asked that Council consider the installation of toilet facilities in Sawmillers Reserve. Council's Landscape Planner/Architect has advised that this will be addressed when a post-exhibition report with all submissions received on the draft PoM (and Council's response to them) is presented to the Council in Nov/Dec 2023.

Fire Order at Noakes Boatyard. Council's Manager Environment & Building Compliance has advised that it is standard procedure for Council staff to undertake a final inspection to ensure compliance prior to determining the status of the Fire Safety Upgrade Order. It is intended that the subject inspection be undertaken upon receipt of the final fire safety Certificate from an appropriately qualified Building Surveyor - Unrestricted. Staff are now in the process of liaising with Noakes consultants to finalise the matter and the Precinct Committee will be updated in due course.
- 4. Planning approvals.** No new DAs or Planning Proposals were received. Approvals for [DA 231/23](#) 40 Mount St North Sydney and [DA405/22](#) 36 Victoria St McMahons Point were recorded. Although recorded at the last meeting, a formal notification of refusal was received from Council for the [DA 52/23](#) 1 Carr St Waverton for a hardstand car space. It was noted that [DA 178/23](#) 3 Commodore Crescent, McMahons Point was considered by the North Sydney Local Planning Panel on 1 November. (The panel provided partial approval, subject to conditions. The minutes of that meeting are now on the NSLPP site).

5. State Government items

(a) **Submission Report on the modification to West Harbour Tunnel** – Tunnel Boring Machine (TBM) construction methodology is now available on TfNSW site. It was noted in the report that many comments received related to objections to elements of the approved project that would not be changed by the proposed modification. In other words, the opportunities to address problems which will result from the approved project were not taken up.

5. Council Items

(a) **Precinct Mergers:** Proposed merger of Neutral, Hayes and Kurraba Precincts is open for public comment. Three options are available. Feedback is possible on Have-your-say until 19 November.

(b) **Quarantine Depot.** Council has indicated that public access is now available to the grounds. A number of precinct members have walked around and were complementary of the work done. The meeting unanimously complemented Council on making this space available to the community and look forward to be able to access the buildings.

(c) **Temporary shared space site at East Crescent St** and Blues Point Road made permanent. Council meeting agreed, after a 4 month trial, to make this space a permanent fixture. Over 100 locals responded to the trial and “most agreed that the shared space improved pedestrian safety and created a more inviting street.”

(d) **Development Assessment online information session** was held on 24 October. A number of precinct members attended. Council has advised that it will be a few weeks before the recorded Youtube version will be available, but the precinct will be informed when that happens.

6. Community Items

(a) Results of **North Sydney Garden Competition** announced. Two listed awards in Euroka Precinct, one in Euroka Street for Native Gardens and one in Carr Street for Streets Alive.

(b) **North Sydney Art Prize 2024.** Entries close 30 November 2023.

(c) **Liveability Census Results.** Around 387 residents participated in the survey about what matters in their ideal neighbourhood and 467 rated the suburb in which they lived. Overall, in comparison with national and State numbers, North Sydney LGA achieved a ‘place experience’ score better than the national and state averages. Full details available on Council website.

(d) **New Year’s Eve 2023.** Bradfield Park/Mary Booth Reserve, Lavender Bay Parklands and Blues Point Reserve will not be ticketed this year. Security will be present and numbers on sites will be controlled.

(e) **Living Futures Festival** was held 29 October at the Coal Loader Sustainability Centre. Those who attended said it was well attended and was excellent. The meeting voted to complement Council on its efforts for this.

7. General Business

(a) **Streets Alive site, Woolcott St.** The meeting heard that the 3-month trial finished at the end of October and there was concern that a clear decline in maintenance of the garden had occurred during that period. The meeting therefore concluded that the maintenance of the site should revert to the Precinct residents' group which was managing it throughout May, June and July, or be taken back by Council and managed by them as a small park.

(b) **CPC meeting 17 October** – highlights of the meeting were outlined by KH, including the precinct satisfaction survey, Development Assessment information session, precinct amalgamations, AGM and office-bearers elections, street cleaning, WHT, heritage listings. The minutes will be posted on Council's website after acceptance at a Council meeting.

(c) **Waverton Bowling Club.** No new official news is available from Council but an article was discussed at the meeting. It appeared in Mosman Daily (November 2) and quotes the CEO of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (MLALC) as saying the "future uses of the site would be in line with current zoning controls" and he "rejected claims that it could be re-purposed into housing". He suggested "bowling clubs, cafes, pre-schools and events are possible under the current planning controls and it's those uses that are in line with what we will consider". The CEO indicated they are still investigating options for the site and was critical of the condition of the building, blaming Council for its lack of maintenance. He seemed unaware that North Sydney Council had no responsibility for the site as it was under State government control. The article also noted that North Sydney Council is "lobbying the State government to potentially buy the site," and Council would seek to incorporate the site into surrounding parkland to be made available for public use.

(d) **The issue of dogs off-lead in Merrett Playground was raised.** It was stated at the meeting that there are a number of dogs that are allowed by the owners to free range within the park, including within 10 metres of the children's play area. The use of the area by dog owners to exercise their dogs (ball and frisby chasing) was regarded by the meeting as unsafe under the circumstances. The meeting was concerned that dogs off lead in the Merrett Playground area are in conflict with the children's playground and would like the Council to consider how this can be better managed.

(e) **A large two-way crane which is used on the Noakes site** has been recorded as regularly leaving the site via John St, Dumbarton Ave, Union St and Euroka St to be parked overnight and illegally in 'No Stopping' site in Woolcott Ave near the Merrett Playground. The crane is unable to enter Noakes site from John St without entering the park. Council is asked if this can be addressed by Council officers as it is regarded as a significant safety issue.



(f) **Better water access.** North Sydney News (Spring 2023) states that in early 2024 a new staircase will be built from John St to the Berrys Bay foreshore to make it easier for small watercraft users to get to the water. Kayak storage permits will then be available to allow kayak storage at the bottom of the stairs. The precinct meeting thanked Council for this proposed work. The meeting also asked if consideration could be given to a structure (pontoon or similar) at the base of the stairs that would make it easier to launch kayaks from that point.

(g) **Euroka Precinct is due to hold its AGM early in 2024.** The meeting agreed that the date will be either Wednesday 7 February or Wednesday 6 March. As there is no meeting scheduled for January 2024 we will decide on the date at our next (6 December) meeting. In the meantime could you all consider the prospect of volunteering for the precinct committee at the AGM. If this, or indeed any, precinct is to continue there needs to be a regular renewal of office-bearer positions. Please consider if you could help.

Meeting concluded at 8.40pm.

Next Euroka Precinct meeting: Wednesday 6 December. (Xmas drinks and food will be provided at the end of the meeting. Please advise attendance so we can cater accordingly).

Next CPC meeting: 28 November (AGM)

Upcoming Council meetings: 27 November, 11 December.

Upcoming Traffic Committee meeting: 17 November

Current Policies on Exhibition: Visit Council's 'Your Say North Sydney' website at:

<https://yoursay.northsydney.nsw.gov.au> to make comments and see background information about documents and processes.