

WILLOUGHBY BAY PRECINCT
PART OF NORTH SYDNEY COUNCIL'S COMMUNITY PRECINCT
SYSTEM



MINUTES OF MEETING HELD
THURSDAY 11th April 2024
COMMENCING AT 7.30 PM

ATTENDANCE: 14 people attended the meeting
APOLOGIES: 6 were recorded
GUEST SPEAKER: SM – Sydney Water’s Community Relations Representative

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes for the 14th March 2024 meeting were adopted

Motion carried: 10 in favour, 4 abstentions, 0 against

Guest Speaker - Scott McKellar, Sydney Water's Community Relations Representative

History of the Northern Suburbs Ocean Outfall Sewer – NSOOS

Built between 1916 and 1933 – 28km long – as far west as Blacktown.
What goes hand in hand with the NSOOS is the Northside Storage Tunnel, built just prior to the Olympics in the late 1990s. It holds 508 mega litres (508 million litres) of waste water. If work crews were trying to do the work on the NSOOS without the NST they would have to wait for the flows in the NSOOS to come down.

The four main activities of the NSOOS project are:

1. Silt and debris removal
2. Surface preparation – use of hydraulic rock wheel and high pressure washing of the tunnel roof and walls ensure clean and solid surface for repair work
3. Concrete repair – shotcrete sprayed over steel mesh, restores the tunnel roof and walls to its original form; this work can be slow going (five metres per day or less) and depends on the level of repair needed
4. Top layer application – a final layer of coating using calcium aluminate cement is sprayed onto the repaired area, providing a durable and smooth finish

Work crews enter and exit the NSOOS tunnel inside a shed at Quakers Hat Bay, Mosman. They also enter and exit at Brightmore Reserve, Cremorne and The Spit, Mosman. Sydney Water’s access to the NSOOS tunnel during daytime work hours at these locations, is dependent on a system diversion of wastewater flows into the NST at Lane Cove.

There are currently sites at Brightmore Reserve, Cremorne, WH Brothers Memorial Park, Cremorne, Quakers Hat Bay, Mosman, Upper Spit Road, Mosman and The Spit Syphon, Mosman.

The section of NSOOS tunnel between Brightmore Reserve and Quakers Hat Bay is almost 1.4km.

Rehabilitation of Large Wastewater Submains in Mosman

Sydney Water has identified three large wastewater submains requiring rehabilitation and repair. The submains at Balmoral Slopes, Pearl Bay and Spit Road flow into the NSOOS tunnel between Quakers Hat Bay and The Spit Syphon at Mosman. Planning the work has commenced and is in the early concept design phase.

In light of this, Sydney Water has revised its expected completion timing at these sites **to be early 2027**. It also allows for full demobilisation and restoration of the sites at:

- Brightmore Reserve, Cremorne
- Brothers Memorial Park – Fifth Avenue, Cremorne
- Quakers Hat Bay – Bay Street, Mosman
- Upper Spit Road, Mosman

The Spit Syphon site will be demobilised with equipment and left secured for ongoing, operational use by Sydney Water.

Questions from Precinct Members and discussion

Q: What sort of volume per day is flowing through NSOOS?

A: Under the current conditions with the wet weather, North Head plant is processing 820 mega litres per day.

Q: What is the average in dry weather?

A: I don't have the flow rates in dry weather. If we didn't have the diversion, the NSOOS would sit at probably 1.7metres. It goes up to 2.5metres.

Q: What about the danger of flash flooding?

A: There is a lot of monitoring. As soon as those flow levels go up, even by 100 mm, work crews will get out. Gas levels are monitored also.

Q: Is waste water going to be recycled for drinking water?

A: The technology is there for purified recycled water, however there is a perception issue - the country has to be ready for it.

Q: Will Brightmore Reserve eventually return to normal?

A: SM says he can guarantee the site sheds will not be permanent.

Q: Given the large volume of rain water recently, can we be sure that storm water and sewer water are not connected?

A: It is illegal to connect your storm water to your sewer. But a significant amount of stormwater does leak into the sewer system.

Q: Given that we are now facing an extension of the work to 2027 with continued occupation of Brightmore Reserve with an unsightly work site, is there any possibility to improve the visual amenity of the area?

A: We have some thoughts on this, for example we can easily paint the crane green so it isn't bright yellow, but we would also appreciate input from the community.

There was discussion of the possibility of providing landscaping such as shrubbery or other camouflaging elements to give some visual relief. A Precinct member suggested Sydney Water engage a landscape architect to prepare plans for landscaping which would provide relief now and might be either incorporated into legacy landscaping or removed by Sydney Water on demobilisation. SM noted that any work occurring outside the fenced work area would require Council approval. SM advised Sydney Water would prepare a landscape plan

by June 2024 and he is happy to attend further meetings including an on site meeting with residents if they would like to do this.

Precinct requests that a Council officer contact Precinct to discuss whether there is any possibility to carry out enhancements on Council land, noting the responsibility for removal / rehabilitation by Sydney Water or reversion to Council when the Sydney Water site is removed.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Coles DA Update

Chair advised a PDF update had been received from Coles with permission to show it to Precinct on the condition any notes in the minutes are circulated to Coles for review prior to publication. Precinct agreed with this condition and Chair showed the PDF update.

Motion: Precinct asks whether a full account has been taken of the benefits that will be delivered to the community in consultation for the DA height requested.

Motion carried: 13 in favour, 0 abstentions, 0 against

Fox Sighting

A Precinct member asks Council: **Does Council have a program for fox management including baiting?**

Hedges Encroaching on Footpaths

Awaiting response from Council. **A Precinct member suggested the hedge be cut back rather than extending concrete paving.**

Bitumen Corner of Ellalong and Lodge Roads Cremorne

Chair reported that the bitumen has been promptly repaired to a good standard. **Precinct thanks Council for attending to this issue.**

Care of Native Gardens in Fifth Avenue and Brothers Park

Chair reported that RL has advised that Parks and Gardens have not contacted her re the handover of the Fifth Avenue and Brothers Park native gardens. RL has sent an email to follow up.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

1. Council Summary of Actions Arising 2024

- Council's Response to Precinct's March 2024 Minutes

Hedges Encroaching on Footpaths - Allocated to Council's Acting Assets Manager

Bitumen Corner of Ellalong and Lodge Roads Cremorne - Allocated to Council's Acting Assets Manager

Sydney Water Work Site at Brightmore Reserve - Council's Manager Parks and Reserves has advised this wouldn't be something that Council would consider as this is only temporary work and would need to be removed when works are finished.

2. Development Applications

- Nil

3. Traffic Committee Meeting (15/3)

- Young St and Grosvenor St- cycling and walking upgrades - adopted

4. Council Meeting (25/3)

- Item 10.1 — Election of Deputy Mayor
- Item 10.4 — 2024 Elections - Constitutional Referendum & Poll Questions
- Item 10.5 — Planning Proposal 5.23 -121, 123, 125 Holt Avenue Cremorne
- Item 10.7 — Tree Vandalism — North Sydney

5. Council Meeting (8/4)

- Item 9.4 — Traffic Committee Minutes - 15 March 2024
- Item 10.2 — Draft Operational Plan & Budget
- Item 11.1 — Notice of Motion by Cr Gibson

6. CPC Meeting (16/4)

- CPC Next meeting 16/4

7. Council & Other Memos

- 26 Mar— Neutral Bay & Cremorne Progress Assoc - Update on Coles DA & Neutral Bay Village Planning Study
- 28 Mar — Sydney Water Update Work in Cremorne
- 2 Apr — North Sydney Council- Executive organisational Structure - Update
Following her recent marriage and a Council decision made last year, our General Manager Therese Manns will now be known as Chief Executive Officer Therese Cole. **Precinct offered its congratulations.**
- 2 Apr — North Sydney Bike Action Plan

GENERAL BUSINESS

A Precinct member raised the following issues:

Environmental Reference Group of 5 March Report:

\$80,000 of the \$2.6m environment levy in the Rates Notice goes to sustainability rebates to pay for people who apply for reimbursement on roof top solar, EV charges, reverse cycle air cons and induction cook tops.

Library of Things at the Coal Loader where one can borrow items such as tools is proving very popular.

Repair Cafe similar to the Lane Cove one, is to be launched in May.

Very little progress has been made in the campaign to control feral cats.

Soft plastics still an unresolved problem. **If Blue Mts Council can receive soft plastics, why can't NSCROC facility in Artarmon play some role in receiving our soft plastic waste?**

Amcal+ Pharmacy 783 Military Road Mosman will take blister packs for recycling.

NSW Government synthetic turf study submissions by 29 April.

Precinct thanks Council for fixing the clock in the Early Childhood Learning Centre.

Can Council remind residents that ewaste should not be part of household collections.

Precinct asks whether Council would consider nominating 2 pick up dates per year for ewaste collections.

Meeting closed at 9.40pm

Next meeting will be on Thursday 9 May 2024 at 7.30pm

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