

Milson Precinct Meeting Minutes

8th August 2024

Chair: Estelle Blair
Venue: Church By The Bridge
Time: 7:30PM
Attendees: 14 and **Apologies:** 2

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we meet, the Cammeraygal People of the Eora Nation. We pay our respects to Elders past and present, for they hold the memories, the traditions, the culture and hopes of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples across the nation.

Confirmation of Minutes

Motion: The minutes of the meeting dated 1st July 2023 are adopted - Unanimous

GUEST SPEAKER: Cr MaryAnn Beregi addressed the following areas of concern raised by the community:

WHT & WFU

- Submissions close by 28/8/24 – See NSC website for links. All residents in the LGA have been impacted especially those off Miller St. with loss of parking, increased traffic and the impact of the tunnels.
- Meeting attended with Mayor and TfNSW and past RMS / RTA people to discuss the impact of Roselle and who agreed that changes have to be made to the WHT now, otherwise it will be worse on WFU, if the ‘tunnel out’ positions are not moved further north.
- The ‘wrapping’ of the administration buildings and pollution stacks in gold only increases the negative impact on the community, making them more bulking and appearing bigger than needed, as opposed to more ‘recessed’ via a darker colour.
- If there is no longer Beaches Link, it is being asked, why that designated space is not being given back to the community? To be more open green space? As opposed to potentially becoming a bus terminal / layover space for busses to go into the city for peak hour pick up. Which the city cannot cope with either.
- NSC is seeking to look at multiple uses of green open spaces within our communities – will be guided by recent community engagement on the next 10 years.
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NSOP – POOL

- NSC is sending an NSOP Enews letter monthly with updates. The QR Code was to subscribe to the newsletter. You can also subscribe here <https://confirmsubscription.com/h/j/33869AA4BC107EBE>
- Structural Steel has arrived for the Indoor pool – will be installed soon.
- Likely to be handed over to Council to commission the pool within the first few months of 2025. No promises on a date!
- Legal action has been commenced against the architects, on legal advice – which needed to be started by 1.8.24, otherwise it would be ‘out of time’ since dated started with them on the project.
- Variations with ICON are being managed due to Council’s own new team overseeing the project and have reduced.
- Council has had to take out \$30m and \$20m loans as well as redirecting money away from other Council services.
- Resident commented that it is appalling that the restaurateur was part of the steering committee/design process, and we have more food outlets, while no swimming groups were involved
- Community concern was also raised about the restaurateur seemingly ‘gifted’ the food outlets contracts, at no current commercial rate vs a tender process to the broader community.

- Others asked questions concerning the operations of the pool and facilities – business case is still in design, but NSC will be running and managing the swim lessons, gym etc.
- There was no plan for the fit out in the design, nor was that budgeted for in the original costings.

METRO Opening

- Being advised opening soon before end August ... but buses are being sent to the Metro – although not operational yet.
- CBD launch at Miller Street with opening of all the retail shops, food outlets and dining – all under one head contractor

BIKE ramp and Kirribilli Markets

- This will be going ahead as it is a State Govt. initiative
- TfNSW have 'acquired' the land in the park for the building of the ramp
- Preliminary works have started
- Kirribilli Markets will be temporarily relocated.
- They will be removing the turf and taking out the contaminated soil and replacing with synthetic grass for the construction phase, then reinstating grass at the completion.
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HOUSING and TOD

- Low Density housing R2 zones – for duplex type accommodation already applicable
- Medium Density – government has deferred the “One size fits all” approach as we know it doesn't.
- TOD around CrowsNest allowing massive high rises that will impact on three council LGA's with poor solar / Sun to everything to the south, its poor planning and poor connectivity.
- NSC's 2036 Plan has for 6,683 additional residences by 2036
- This being forced to have higher density without the appropriate planning and infrastructure, as well as open space is a Local Government issue to be taken up with the State Government.
- Housing is not the responsibility of the Local government, but the State
- NSC has the greatest deficit of Open Space per head of population
- Infrastructure deficits used to be offset by developer contributions for community assets, libraries, community spaces, pocket parks etc., but now it is not going to the NS community, as the funds collected by the State, can be used anywhere that funds may be needed in the state.
- “Town Centres” are defined by close to transport hubs and a supermarket within 400m
- Should be based around heavy rail vs buses at Cammeray
- Each development should have setbacks, wider footpaths, podiums for light
- Need for schools and health services for this increased population
- Because majority of the existing schools have built from boundary to boundary- there is limited to no recreation spaces on their sites, so they 'overuse' the council parks, green open space and playing fields.
- TOD's submissions by 16.8.24

Homelessness

- NSC staff work with charities and housing networks, and visit those sleeping rough – it is very sad, many with mental health issues or escaping domestic violence.
- Need for the social and affordable housing to be part of the over metro stations for 'in perpetuity' as opposed to a 10 year lease from developer to NSC housing network.
- This was a LOST OPPORTUNITY by the State Government - never to be regained.

Local Government Elections – 14.9.24 – Caretaker mode

- Caretaker mode starts Wednesday 14.8.24, with nominations closing then
- Pre-poll will only be for ONE week, but no idea if at multiple sites or only one.
- The 10 year Community Strategic Plan will be out on exhibition with the new council adopting a 4 year community plan to be implemented, based on the strategic plan objectives.

- The main outcome of the community consultation was that residents want better connection to communities, and better use of resources – open space, roads, car parks etc.
- NS LGA has a very diverse and changing demographic – as 40% of the residents turn over every 4 years.
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Burton Street Plaza

- Bligh and Burton Street plaza, looks great, with good vista down the street, construction was well done, with a good contractor
- Jim's sculpture will be unveiled with the Mayor and members of Jim's family present in the near future.

Social Media policy

- NSC has put out on exhibition a Social Media policy based on the Office of Local Government 2022 Model Code – ie a standard Social Media policy - for review and comment by community for 45 days
- This was the basis of MB letter to councils, that was also distributed to CPC, and supported by same.
- This should ensure transparency with a need to disclose affiliations vs censorship and misleading or deceptive conduct.

Milson Precinct thanked Cr Beregi for coming to our Precinct meeting and informing the community on all these matters. We appreciate being well informed.
We thank NSC for the NS Olympic Pool QR code to be further informed on the progress of the pool.

General Business and Information

- EB advised that she would be standing down as co-chair, from tonight.
- Milson Precinct thanked EB for all her work on the committee and within the community as secretary and then co-chair for the past year and we wish her well with her future endeavours as a mother.
- Complements on the Burton Street plaza finished works. Wondering if there will be a "launch"? Cr Beregi advised that Jim's family will attend the unveiling. Precinct will be advised.
- The new 'street lights' in the Plaza and Bligh street were commented on, for their interesting design features and more befitting the Kirribilli area, as requested by the community over the years of this design process.
- Precinct also appreciates that there are no hiding places for RATs to hide in the area with the finished design. It was noted that there appeared to be less rats in the vicinity.
- Milson Precinct thanks NSC for listening to the community's concerns about the original design and finishes and thus implement a far superior outcome for the area.
- Milson Precinct would like to acknowledge and thank NSC for the engagement strategies offered for the Community Strategic 10 year Plan. Residents appreciated the opportunity to be so engaged with the community consultation processes offered by NSC. It was well done with the discussion panels on all areas, able to view them at home, as well as the pop up spaces, and Have Your Say website.
- It was discussed that meetings on an 'as needed' basis might be appropriate into the future.

Meeting Closed 8:50PM

Next Meeting 3rd October 2024