



**MINUTES – Wednesday 9 September 2020  
7.00pm ROS CRICHTON PAVILLION**

**Acknowledgment of Country and Welcome**

The Chair acknowledged the traditional ownership of the land by the Cammeraygal people and welcomed those present to the meeting.

**Present:** CT, GM (chair), JC, JC, AP

**Apologies:** MC, DH, BH

**At the request of Council, parts of these minutes have been blacked out. The full minutes remain available from Edward Precinct, on request. Please contact [edwardprecinct@iinet.net.au](mailto:edwardprecinct@iinet.net.au)**

**1 Guest Speaker: Councillor Zoe Baker, Wollstonecraft Ward**

Zoe discussed ongoing development issues in North Sydney. The following points include comments by both Zoe and other participants in the meeting.

**Council Management**

[Redacted]

WHT announcement due shortly.

In the Edward Precinct area, the main issue if the WHT proceeds will be the likely increase in traffic density.

[Redacted]

It required two motions to finally bring public participation in council meetings back online.

It is of concern that councillors cannot access many council files.

No-one is asking questions in relation to development apart from three councillors.

Covid19 has complicated decision making in council. E.g., in relation to the recent rate rise.

\$9 million write down re North Sydney Pool

Special rate fund – agreed by IPART, but not spent this year.

[Redacted]

The planned two wards with five councillors in each will make it difficult to elect independent councillors with the capacity to support the views of residents.

## Olympic Pool

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Motion:** Precinct raises concerns about the apparent conflict of interest in relation to the pool, where the council is both the applicant and the determiner of the consent. Passed unanimously

### Other Matters

2 private speaker rule on topics at NSC meetings was unfortunately supported by some precincts.

Willoughby Bay precinct worked hard to analyse rate increases. Rate increase was approved by IPART, but the increase in residential rates was significantly greater than for business. It attracted the biggest level of objection for any rate increase in the last 10 years.

Unfortunately, the media is not interested in local government issues

How to attract more people to precinct meetings?  
Tree numbers and canopy in the North Sydney area are declining. Attempting to establish more trees is a popular issue in North Sydney.  
Maybe precincts could look at tree planting projects – this could maybe attract members.

The chair thanked Zoe for her very interesting contribution and invited her to stay for the remainder of the meeting.

### 2 Minutes of 12 August 2020 meeting

Minutes were circulated to meeting attenders on 15 August and to all email members on 18 August. Copies are available online on Council's website.

Minutes were approved.

### 3 Development Applications

The following relevant DAs are under assessment or determined with closed or closing date:

**Approved or rejected DAs**

- DA 100/19/2 11 Waverton Ave Various modifications to approved DA....Rejected by Design Review Panel
- DA 366/19 ACU 40 Edward St. Council has resolved to grant approval for the alterations and additions to University including reconfigure vehicle service and access area; conversion of three visitor parking spaces to loading area and landscapeworks.

**Closed DAs**

- DA 373/16/3 Substitution of 2 ground floor planter boxes 9 - 11 Doohat Ave 19 Aug
- DA 145/20 60 Crows Nest Road, Waverton. Erection of solar awning and associated battery/inverter, Smart Commercial Solar Pty Ltd. Closed 31 July
- DA 10196 under the Department of Planning in relation to **Lavender Green** has been withdrawn, presumably meaning that Lavender Green will return to public park. Or temporary rides will be retained or re-established. Local residents strongly require that Lavender Green is returned to green space.

**Open DAs**

- DA 378/17/4 Modification to re-design lower levels 160 Pacific Highway 11 September
- DA 130/20 46 Edward Street – modified, 10 new plans added 3 September Meeting raised concerns that plans had not been modified sufficiently to meet local residents' concerns.
- DA 147/20 - MLC Building 105 - 153 Miller Street. Demolition of existing heritage listed building and construction of a 27 storey commercial building. Edward Precinct at its meeting on 12 August unanimously opposed the demolition and planned new construction. The current meeting added that the wind effects of the new building will be negative in relation to the proposed pedestrian mall in Miller St. It was also noted that other high-rise DAs are being prepared for sites in Walker St.

**4 General Business****4.1 Combined Precinct Committee meeting 18 August**

The privacy web page of Council's website has been updated. This page advises that individuals can request removal of any personal information that has been published by Council as part of a submission. More information will be provided to all Precinct Committees in the near future.

Anyone who has made a DA submission since 17 July 2020 can contact [council@northsydney.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@northsydney.nsw.gov.au) and request their personal information to be withheld, if they did not do so at the time of submission.

CPC requested that Council ask RMS why WHT investigation works are taking place when the WHT project has not been approved or put to tender.

**4.2 Noakes and Floating Dry Dock**

The Planning Panel met on 1 September and published its conclusion on 8 September. The Panel determined unanimously to refuse the development application.

<https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/planning-panel/construction-floating-dry-dock>

The Panel meeting was impressive, particularly in relation to the verbal statements by local residents opposing the dock. Only one speaker supported the dock. It is possible that Noakes will appeal.

**4.3 Frequency of precinct meetings**

The meeting agreed to continue with monthly meetings, which improve precinct's ability to respond to DAs.

Starting time was discussed, and several members favoured a 6:30 start, though others were also OK with 7 or 7:30 as used to be the start time until this year. Meeting agreed to trial a 6:30 start in October.

#### **4.4 Extension of precinct meetings to webinar**

Concern was expressed in the meeting in relation to the relatively poor attendance at in-person meetings. It was suggested that extending attendance to on-line could increase participation. This option was publicised twice to our email membership and in the hard copy flyer. Only one positive response was received.

However, the meeting agreed to run a trial for a couple of months, by purchasing a one-month subscription to Zoom Pro at a cost of A\$21. This would cover our October and November meetings.

Since it seems that you can log-in different computers to run zoom meetings, it would be possible in principle for several precincts to use one zoom registration. However, this would only work where meetings do not overlap. Thus, either Edward Precinct or NSC could take out a subscription, and register precincts that seek to use it. GM will raise this at CPC to see if other precincts are interested.

According to NSC, other Precinct Committees which have run zoom meetings are Registry and Willoughby Bay. Willoughby Bay ran one zoom meeting, attended by about 12 members, or less than the number that attend in-person meetings. Registry has been requested to provide information.

It was suggested that consideration is given to publicising precinct activities in the Demonstration School newsletter. A parent with children at the school could perhaps follow this up.

#### **4.5 Speaker for October meeting**

Union precinct's September meeting was cancelled, and the speaker deferred to 7 October. Topic is Sydney Heritage Fleet regarding the proposal for a Museum of Sydney Harbour in Berrys Bay at the old Woodleys site. It is proposed to invite the same speaker to address Edward's 14 October meeting. Alan Edenborough, Relocation Director for the Sydney Heritage Fleet has agreed to present.

#### **4.6 Possible joint precinct meeting with CBD**

Precinct Committee will need to further discuss this proposal with Council's Community Engagement Coordinator. In particular, whether we should include businesses, and if so how to circulate them.

Further discussion is required on whether we should attempt such a meeting in October, or wait until 2021 when COVID-19 restrictions are hopefully reduced. November is not practical as our AGM will held then.

#### **4.7 Possible street party/ies later in the year**

Maybe before/after the AGM on 11 November. This has been discussed with ACU, who can make one of two very fine rooms in their Napier St head office available.

Council's Sustainable Transport Project Coordinator has advised that Edward Precinct can potentially apply for a road closure/event under the upcoming Street Play Program, this will take place in October/November this year. Applications close on 2 October.

See <https://yoursay.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/streetplay>

Don Bank museum park was recommended by the meeting. JC will check this with the museum and Council.

## 5 Correspondence, Notifications and other information from Council

### 5.1 Public forums (pre-Council meetings) resumed

A modified Public Forum recommenced prior to all Ordinary and Extraordinary Council meetings from August.

Individuals can provide a written submission on any agenda item by 4pm on the day of the meeting to [governance@northsydney.nsw.gov.au](mailto:governance@northsydney.nsw.gov.au), However, some councillors are not provided with these submissions.

**Motion:** written submissions should be read out or circulated to all councillors. Approved unanimously

### 5.2 DA submissions – privacy issues

The new policy enables submitters to request by way of a separate cover document that any information they consider to be confidential or privileged including their address or contact details, be withheld from publication.

A cover sheet template has been released - Submission cover sheet at [https://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/Building\\_Development/Current\\_DAs/DA\\_Comments/Applications\\_Have\\_Your\\_Say](https://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/Building_Development/Current_DAs/DA_Comments/Applications_Have_Your_Say)

which can include requests to withhold information from publication (including address or contact details).

The Precinct monthly meeting is your opportunity to provide community advice to Council on matters affecting your local area. For more information or suggestions for agenda items, contact the Edward precinct committee at <[edwardprecinct@iinet.net.au](mailto:edwardprecinct@iinet.net.au)>.

**Next Edward Precinct meeting:** Wednesday 14 October 2020