

Harrison Precinct

Minutes of Meeting

held on Thursday, 4 February 2021 at 5.30pm

at the Cammeray Golf Club

Attendance	<p>16 Attendees – as per Attendance Sheet which included 3 members from Bennett Precinct.</p> <p>Apologies: JMQ, AK, DS, DC, PM</p>
Previous Meeting	<p>Due to the Covid-19 outbreak, our last formal face to face meeting was 5 February 2020.</p>
Precinct System Review Stage 2 - general update	<p>Both Office Bearers have recently attended workshops that were facilitated by an external consultant (Plan Com) and organised by NSC Precinct staff as part of the Precinct System Review. The workshops provided Precinct committee representatives with an opportunity to discuss the feedback/suggestions provided in Stage 1.</p> <p>From these workshops it appears that the issue of most concern to all Precincts are the suggested Precinct area mergers and boundary redistributions. Each Precinct has different viewpoints and preferred option for these changes. The two options presented to the representatives were:</p> <p>Option 1: Merge Precinct areas</p> <p>Option 2: Suburb based Precinct areas</p> <p>Office Bearers would prefer Option 1 which would see most of the existing Harrison Precinct boundary remain intact and incorporate part of Bennett Precinct.</p> <p>A suburb-based Option would result in a much larger Precinct which would require more volunteers to administer and run it.</p>
Bennett and Harrison Precinct amalgamation	<p>Motion: That Harrison Precinct invite Bennett Precinct (which no longer has a Convenor) to temporarily merge with Harrison Precinct until the outcome of the Precinct System Review is announced by Council.</p> <p>Decision: Yes - Unanimous</p>
WHT/Beaches Link Tunnel and Gore Hill Freeway Connection - Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).	<p>Community feedback on the Western Harbour Tunnel/Beaches Link and Gore Hill Freeway Connection Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is open until 1 March 2021.</p> <p><i>“The EIS assesses the potential environmental and social impacts of the Beaches Link and Gore Hill Freeway Connection project, and is a requirement of any major infrastructure build in NSW”.</i></p> <p>CPC Co-Convenor BS, (Secretary of Lavender Bay), provided (via Zoom link) a thorough summary of the Western Harbour Tunnel/Beaches Link and Gore Hill Freeway Connection. Some of the issues identified included impact on air quality as a result of the installation of tunnel ventilation stacks, that savings in travel time would only be applicable during peak hours, that changes in access routes to the Gore Hill Freeway and Harbour Bridge/ED would alter local traffic patterns and result in increases in vehicle movements on</p>

	<p>other local routes, however the EIS has not addressed the issue of displacement traffic at all.</p> <p>In particular there will be specific issues of concern to Cremorne, Neutral Bay and Mosman including changes to the way traffic accesses the Cahill expressway and access to Falcon Street. Public transport routes and access to the Harbour Tunnel would also be impacted.</p> <p>Action: Precinct members were encouraged to examine the various documents on the official project website and “attend” one of the virtual information sessions run by TfNSW.</p> <p>https://caportal.com.au/rms/bl/documents</p> <p>Action: Precinct members are encouraged to make an EIS submission to TfNSW. Feedback closes midnight, Monday 1 March 2021.</p>
<p>New development - loss of local character: Review NSW Planning “Local Character and Place Guideline</p>	<p>General discussion about the NSW Government’s “Local Character and Place Guideline” was undertaken. According to this guide:</p> <p><i>Local character is a key consideration in strategic planning for councils across NSW.</i></p> <p><i>The NSW Government has heard that communities would like local character consideration to be elevated in NSW planning decision making. The NSW Government is actively seeking to encourage neighbourhoods’ people are proud to live in, where the community collaborates with local and state governments to share what they value about their area.</i></p> <p><i>The Local Character and Place Guideline aims to support councils and communities to consider and nurture the unique identity of a place, while at the same time meeting the needs of a changing NSW. This guideline provides tools to help define existing character and set a desired future character that aligns with the strategic direction for an area.</i></p> <p>https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Policy-and-Legislation/Local-character/Local-character-and-place-guideline</p> <p>Meeting attendees examined and reviewed the Area Character Statements for the Murdoch neighbourhood (Section 5.5 of North Sydney DCP 2013, North Cremorne Planning Area).</p> <p>It was noted that there is little or no description of the existing character of the area or recording of significant elements (e.g. heritage features such as The Orpheum Theatre and “Cranbrook Avenue Group” of heritage listed houses.</p> <p>In contrast, the DCP in other neighbourhood areas includes more details including history statement, descriptions of dwellings and specifies characteristic dwellings within the area.</p> <p>Harrison Precinct has a number of dwellings and residential streetscapes that are distinct and fall within the definition of “<i>significant, characteristic buildings</i>” and elements that are currently undocumented or are no longer referenced in the DCP. For example, 125 Holt Avenue previously was listed as an item with local heritage value but this property was removed in NSC’s 2007 Heritage review for unknown reasons. Why?</p>

	<p>Parraween Street: a resident of Parraween Street presented a summary of issues regarding a proposed new development (no current DA) which if allowed to proceed, would have a major impact to the local community within the surrounding area as well as result in major changes to the local character of Parraween Street.</p> <p>It was also noted that some elements described in the DCP are often not features found in new developments. In particular Setbacks described in 5.5.3 Desired Built Form are stated as:</p> <p>5m at front (P4) 10m at rear (P6) and “residential flat building have substantial front, rear and side setbacks” (P7).</p> <p>Action: To invite a representative from Council to explain DCP Local Character Statements at the next Harrison Precinct meeting.</p>
<p>Bennett/Harrison Heritage Sub-Committee Heritage Project</p>	<p>The Bennett/Harrison Heritage Sub-Committee provided an update on streetscape photography and research projects: RW, professional photographer, has completed streetscape photography of Military Road, Holt Avenue and Parraween Street.</p> <p>A slide presentation of the photos taken in Holt Avenue was made.</p>
<p>Meeting concluded</p>	<p>7.15pm</p>
<p>Next Meeting</p>	<p>The next meeting of Harrison Precinct will take place on Thursday, 4 March 2021. Format (and venue, if applicable) to be advised.</p>