

Lavender Bay Precinct Committee

Minutes of Meeting

Thursday, 28 April 2022
Starting at 7pm (via Zoom)



Sketch by renowned local artist Peter Kingston AM

Pop-up Creative Space, Shop 1,
182 Blues Point Road, McMahons Point

Chair: RRS rrs@7thfloor.com.au
Secretary: BPS lavenderbayprecinct@gmail.com

1. Welcome / Apologies / 31 March minutes

The meeting was held in a temporary venue due to the unavailability of the Community Centre and chaired by IC as the Precinct Chair was not available.

There were 12 attendees and 10 apologies. The meeting accepted the minutes of the 31 March meeting.

2. Chair's report

McMahons Point foreshore: The foreshore area near the ferry wharf continues to deteriorate due to vehicles driving on the turfed area (pictured below left). A meeting attendee suggested that Council restrict vehicle access using sandstone blocks similar to those installed recently at Smoothery Park, Wollstonecraft (example below right).



3. State Government items

- (a) **Harbour Bridge lighting:** As part of the Harbour Bridge [90th anniversary celebrations](#), Transport for NSW (TfNSW) promised a light spectacular on both sides of the Bridge. In response to an enquiry from one of our members about the lack of lighting on the western side, TfNSW advised that extreme weather events in the preceding weeks meant that crew members were unable to complete the placement of lights on both sides. LED lights and projections are planned for the western side during Vivid.

(b) Sydney Harbour Bridge cycle ramp: TfNSW and the Minister for Infrastructure, Cities and Active Transport have announced [ASPECT Studios](#) as the winner of the design competition. TfNSW has also [released](#) the design jury report, consultation outcomes report and response to the Bradfield Park Central (BPC) community proposal.

The meeting heard that the design jury report eliminated one of the invited design teams and that TfNSW's response to the BPC proposal was absurd. The meeting discussed concerns about cyclist/pedestrian/vehicle conflict at the end of the ramp.

The meeting also heard that TfNSW has sent a survey to a number of random households seeking participants in a small focus group meeting.

(c) Luna Park noise: Community members have tried unsuccessfully to raise the issue of excessive noise with Luna Park and their local owners. These concerns will now be raised with Luna Park's international owners, highlighting modern Environmental, Social and Governance issues, and the need for Luna Park to meet local social and community obligations.

4. Council items

(a) Traffic Committee meeting [22 April](#): The Blues Point Road Vehicle Noise and Traffic Issues standing item was not included in the agenda for that meeting. Precinct [asks](#) Council to reinstate this standing item.

(b) Council meeting [26 April](#): Our meeting noted the following items:

- Item 8.5: Council resolved to apply for a permanent additional special rate increase from 1 July 2022 of 1.1%, being the difference between the increase modelled in Council's Long-term Financial Plan and IPART's rate peg for North Sydney.
- Item 10.1: Council resolved to reject all tenders for the construction of a permanent plaza and reopen Young Street, Neutral Bay.
- Item 10.3: Council received a confidential update on the Development Control Order issued to Stannards in February. Council resolved to invite Noakes/Stannards to make a monetary contribution towards the construction of a public jetty, rather than Noakes/Stannards constructing the jetty as required by Condition D51 of development consent 1164/90.
- Item 10.4: Council deferred a decision about its response to TfNSW's offer to lease 7854m² of Bradfield Park to construct a cycle ramp.

(c) Draft North Sydney Men's Shed Joint Strategic Plan 2022-24: The [draft plan](#) is a joint planning statement by Council and the Men's Shed. Council invites the community to express their opinions, provide information and suggest alternatives to the proposed management strategies. Submissions close on [Sunday 1 May](#).

(d) Code of Meeting Practice consultation: The Code sets out procedures for meetings of Council and its Committees and is based on the Model Code issued by the Office of Local Government. The main changes in the [draft Code](#) from the existing Code relate to remote attendance. Submissions close on Wednesday 8 June.

(e) Community Strategic Plan consultation: The Community Strategic Plan outlines the community's vision for the LGA for the next 10 years, centred around the themes of Our Living Environment, Our Built Infrastructure, Our Innovative City, Our Social Vitality and Our Civic Leadership. The [draft plan](#) is based on feedback gathered in Stage 1 of the project. Submissions close on Wednesday 8 June.

5. Development applications (click on link, accept terms to continue and click on link again)

(a) 1 Warung Street, McMahons Point (379/21): Partial demolition of existing residential flat building, construction of below-ground basement with reconstructed and new apartment addition above and reconfiguration of remaining apartments. Amended plans were lodged on 5 April. Comments due Friday 6 May.

Precinct resolved last November to oppose the application due to concerns about additional bulk, reduced landscaping, cutting into the heritage wall on Henry Lawson Avenue, as well as the dangerous positioning of the garage entrance on the sweeping curve from Blues Point Road into Henry Lawson Avenue.

The meeting heard that the amended plans are substantially the same as the previous plans. Excavation and underground construction are proposed immediately adjacent to the eastern boundary.

The meeting agreed to reiterate Precinct's earlier objection, and suggested that any approval should be conditional on vehicles being required to turn left (and use the ferry wharf roundabout before heading north) when exiting the car park.

(b) Shop 1, 5 Blue Street, North Sydney (97/22): Internally illuminated signage and trading hours 6am to 10pm, 7 days a week. Comments due Friday 6 May.

The meeting discussed concerns about cumulative noise impacts and anti-social behaviour resulting from 4 or 5 shops in the forecourt area before 7am and after 8pm, particularly from patrons who have visited the Greenwood Hotel. The Statement of Environmental Effects (SEE) does not discuss the need for extended trading hours, the potential amenity impacts on nearby residents nor potential mitigants.

The meeting also heard that the proposed wall sign protrudes more than double the provision in the Development Control Plan. This is also not discussed in the SEE.

(c) Floating dry dock, 6 John Street, McMahons Point (57/19): The Land and Environment Court hearing commences on Monday 2 May. The hearing will be livestreamed from 11.30am at www.youtube.com/watch?v=qCM6GAIxv88

6. Community items

- (a) **Pop-up Creative Space:** The lease has been extended for a further two months. Precinct continues to support this social enterprise and thanks CT for making the space available for this meeting.
- (b) **McMahons Point Community Centre:** It was unclear whether the Centre would be available for the Federal election on 21 May and our AGM on 28 May. Precinct asks Council whether a partial reopening (walkway and upper hall) might be feasible.
- (c) **Wendy's Secret Garden:** The Federal Treasurer and the Federal member for North Sydney recently visited the garden to make an election promise for tax deductibility of donations to the Wendy Whiteley Secret Garden Trust.

The next gardening mornings are Saturdays 2 April and 7 May. Please RSVP to [Ian C](#) by the previous Wednesday.

- (d) **North Sydney Art Prize:** The biennial [exhibition](#) will be held from 10am to 4pm from 14 to 29 May at the Coal Loader Centre for Sustainability. 110 artworks will be on display across the Coal Loader site.

7. General business

- (a) **Precinct Committee AGM:** Our meeting on Thursday 26 May will be the delayed AGM. Existing office-bearers have held their current roles for more than four years and must step down from those roles. Members are requested to think about potential successors and contact existing/recent office-bearers for more information. Council has arranged office-bearer training for 6pm on Tuesday 31 May.

The meeting discussed potential venues in case the McMahons Point Community Centre is unavailable. The meeting agreed that a meeting room at the Kirribilli Club would be suitable. JS agreed to act as returning officer.

- (b) **Councillor attendance:** The Precinct System Policy ([D5-41](#)) states that Councillors, except those who live in the Precinct area, may attend meetings only by invitation. Standing invitations are not permitted.

It was suggested that we invite one or more Councillors to one of our meetings so that they have an opportunity to hear about issues in our area. The meeting agreed to invite our five Ward Councillors to a future meeting.

The meeting closed at 7.59pm.

Next meeting: 7pm, Thursday 26 May (AGM).