

Milson Precinct Minutes of Meeting 5 May 2022
Church by the Bridge - 7.30 pm

Chair

JC

Attendance: JC, EB, DB, SG, SC, PR, TB, MB, GG, DL, PB, WB, RL, FH, CJ, AH, BC, MB, SG, TI, CL, MR, VB, TB, SR, KB, AR, HB, MS & CM (30)

Mayor, Cr SW and Cr MAB (3)

Total: 33

Apologies: JN, RB&AB, RB, AR, FI (6)

Note: Apology for the behavior at last Milson Precinct meeting. Explanation - Milson Precinct often extends an invitation and flyer to others in adjacent precincts currently in recess, including Bradfield, especially when there are topics that we feel will be of interest to them and their area.

Last month was the St. Aloysius school update on program of building demolition and development, all of which will impact Bradfield residents with traffic and parking. Receiving the flyer was misinterpreted by some Bradfield residents that they could nominate and vote in the Milson Precinct AGM. NSC had confirmed to the Chair that residents from other precincts could not vote. Only if precincts had already merged, could they hold office and vote.

We ask that all residents be given respect and allowed to express their concerns within 3 minutes.

I. Minutes

A. Minutes of April 7, 2022 meeting:

Discussion: MS raised an issue with the April minutes. Minutes state that Milson Precinct voted to merge with Bradfield Precinct (defunct), when this did not happen. Many people in the room agreed with MS.

Amendment: Remove 'It was also proposed that there was willingness for the Precincts to merge and Council should proceed with this merger'.

Motion: Milson Precinct adopts the amended minutes of the meeting 7th April 2022. Item 1. Should read as:

I. AGM Scheduling

It was moved from the floor "that the AGM be moved forward to precede the regular monthly meeting". There was some discussion about who would be eligible to vote. In favour 24, Against 8. The AGM was brought forward (see separate minutes).

Moved By: MS

Seconded By: DB

FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN
29	0	1

B. Treasurer Replacement

Discussion: EW was voted in as Treasurer at the Milson Precinct AGM. EW subsequently resigned from the role. James Nettleton has expressed an interest in taking up the role.

MOTION: Milson Precinct extends their gratitude and thanks to T, S, EW & V, for their dedicated work on the precinct matters over the past several years, especially needing to transition to on-line meetings due to Covid.

Motion: Milson Precinct formally appoints J N as Treasurer

Moved By: JC

Seconded By: MS

FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN
30	0	0

Guest Speakers

Mayor Zoë Baker – Acknowledgment of Country

- Zoe although a local, living within the Precinct area, hasn't come to Precinct, unless invited, because she has voice and vote at Council, Councillors should not influence outcomes of precincts, she respects the sanctity of precinct.
- Open and transparent government, integrity, environment, and community-based government.
- Positive new council
- Blues Point land transfer – 1 Henry Lawson Drive, Quarantine Depot Bldg,
- Overdevelopment pressure
- Impacts of major infrastructure project (WHT & BL and WFU) - 1000 trees gone
- 25% decrease in tree canopy over last five years
- Previous Council restricted public participation
- Waste and diversion from landfill- China Sword (freeze on China accepting recyclables) and EPA withdrew Eastern Creek license.
- Council finances- Zoe committed to no new rate increases, SRV was unnecessary. Huge debt of pool. Cap it at \$64 mil.
- Protect solar access in NS CBD- LEP
- Reexamine character and heritage controls in DCP. State government has eroded local controls in local hands.
- R3 zone roll back.
- Council is meeting and exceeding housing targets set by State.

Councillor MaryAnn Beregi

- Real issue is finances, what they are (the information is not readily available to Councillors) and transparency about how Council raises and spends money.
- No rate rise- lazy politics- should have run an efficiency audit.
- Financial sustainability- can't have environmental sustainability without financial sustainability.
- Concerned about pool- \$64mil double what have should been - lost opportunity cost.

- Ad hoc nature of Council decisions, no process, not transparent and lacks integrity.
- Desire to increase open space- not painted roads, like Hume St park & Coal Loader.

Councillor Shannon Welch

- SW ran because she was upset about the state of the Primrose Park tennis courts. Championed and responsible for pushing the redevelopment of them.
- Kitchen scraps, very passionate about this issue.
- Community centres- not adequately funded. SW trying to get funding.
- Council disability inclusion action plan- wants to get involved.

Motion: Milson Precinct thanks Mayor and Crs. Beregi & Welch for their time and sharing of information tonight.

Moved: JC

Seconded: EB

FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN
30	0	0

2. Western Harbour Tunnel and Beaches Link

Discussion: Mayor Baker discussed the impacts of the WHTBL on the environment, and on local traffic.

Motion: Milson Precinct supports NSC in their opposition to the WHTBL. Milson Precinct requests there be no loss of open green space, there be proper filtration on the proposed pollution stacks, and a thorough study on the traffic implications for the North Sydney LGA (with a focus on Berry Street).

Moved By: JC

Seconded By: AR

FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN
30	0	0

3. Proposed Liquorland

Discussion: FH told Milson Precinct about the information session held, and the steps for objecting (write to paralegal, submissions due before April 30th). FH further explained that the community is waiting for application which should contain CIS to go up on the IGLA site, then we will have 30 days to check and make sure they have included all submissions. FH advised that the police, AMA and other organisations are also submitting objections. FH thanked Mayor, MABS, and SW for their help and for advocating for the community on this issue.

MS draws people's attention to the fact that it's worth reading the ILGA guidelines as to which factors have to be included.

Motion: *That Milson Precinct is aware of the application from Coles Liquorland for a liquor license at 27-29 Broughton Street Kirribilli. The precinct notes that several community meetings have been held strongly objecting to this application, with a significant number of issues raised which all told will have a negative impact on the community's health and welfare should the application be approved. A petition circulating in the community objecting to this application has already received more than 300 signatures. Milson Precinct formally recognises and supports the community's objections to this application.*

Moved By: FH
Seconded By: RL

FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN
30	0	0

4. Precinct Review

Discussion: During the Mayor's address, she explained that the previous Council started a review of the precincts, which was essentially an attack on Precincts by previous Council. Mayor's opinion that there's nothing wrong with Precinct System, spare that it is too bureaucratic and underfunded. Review will come back to community after May. Mayor doesn't believe there should be any forced amalgamations and the Precinct's should be able to claim more autonomy.

MABs addressed defunct Precincts and explained that some precincts just don't operate until something comes up.

Note: *Milson Precinct will make a formal submission after further discussion and reviewing of the documents which will be on NSC website and requests that individuals also have their say.*

5. North Sydney Council Meeting Practices

Discussion: JC recalled the 'old way' of doing things, having community speakers present to Councillors directly before they debate and vote on agenda items. There was also discussion about how the previous Council restricted the amount of items that one person could speak on.

Motion: *Milson Precinct encourages NSC to incorporate community representation to the elected representatives as part of the agenda items within the meeting, just prior to discussion and voting, without limiting the number of people to be able to speak on any matter.*

Moved By: JC
Seconded By: EB

FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN
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6. North Sydney Council Community Strategic Plan

Discussion: During the Mayor’s address, she explained the importance of the CSP, every action of council is determined by the CSP, if its not in the CSP, its not in the budget or delivery program. It is now a far more readable high level document of 40 pages. Everyone is encouraged to read the document, and make comments in a personal submission, as well as a precinct submission. Precinct submissions have only been considered as a ‘single’ submission, even if 20-30 people voted.

Note: Milson Precinct encourages all residents to familiarise themselves with the Community Strategic Plan, make personal submission, and come to the next precinct meeting with ideas and suggestions.

See: <https://yoursay.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/nscsp-review1>

7. DA’s

(i) DA 105/22 54 High Street, North Sydney

Discussion: To regularise what has been there for many years, but not complying.

Note: Milson Precinct notes DA 105/2/22 -54 High St.. Non complying works should not be approved.

(ii) DA 88/2022 - 95 Broughton St. Kirribilli

Discussion: PR spoke on her application, considers the proposed development to be minor, enclosing half of deck, adding bathroom to upper level. Doing the renovations so she can live in the home for longer, as she gets older.

Motion: Milson Precinct supports this DA, in its entirety as it is very small with no adverse impacts.

Moved By: JC

Seconded By: MS

FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN
30	0	0

General Business

(i) SHB – Cycleway – Community and Bike User Group (CBUG) – JC 1 of 15 for community consultation to refine & progress the designs, to meet two Saturdays in May. Chosen out of several thousands of mail outs, randomly selected by computer.

Discussion: MR stated how the ramp goes over the rotunda in Bradfield Park – will it be relocated? Mayor advised that 1950’s design, also in Kesterton Park; the one from Alfred St near pool, was relocated to outside the NSC depot in Cammeray.

(ii) RATS – (and we don’t mean tests) in Kirribilli

Discussion: DB raised rats running out of corner of Burton St and Humphrey Place outside school- you see ten or so big ones in one afternoon. DB followed the rats and found they were coming from a flat undercover carpark, electrical cupboard and go into the ice cream laneway. Downstairs, bricked up gardens and there are rat tunnels. Aloysius garden, and pipes, and live in the big blue planters. Live under the timber planters. Running throughout the Burton Street Plaza, and live in and under the furniture there.

Mayor advised that she will request an inspection and Municipal pest eradication of the area.

Motion: Milson Precinct requests NSC to deal with the rat plague in Kirribilli

Moved By: DB

Seconded By: MS

FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN
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(iii) Kirribilli Streetscape Committee- NSC, residents, business owners etc.

Discussion: MR asked when the Kirribilli Streetscape Committee will be formed, ZB said already formed but haven't met yet.

Note: Milson Precinct request more information about the Kirribilli Streetscape Committee, including the meeting dates.

(iv) NSC – Council E-News (not just for Precincts) like Northern Beaches and Bayside Councils- filled with positive information, awards, activities, spending \$\$ projects etc.

Discussion: ZB said there is a council e-news for residents, will communicate with Council about broadcasting this more widely.

(v) Gate at Milson Park at Bridge over the stormwater drain – to deter children leaving the park, and dogs from running after the Brush Turkeys, who reside in Gladys Carey reserve.

Discussion: DL raised installing a gate at Milson Park at the bridge over the stormwater drain, explained that kids run out of the park, dogs run out to chase the turkeys in Gladys Carey reserve, and that the cars come up Bradley's Ave and it is just a matter of time before a child or dog gets injured. DL stressed that since COVID, the park has been far more heavily used by families and locals for outdoor recreation time.

CM asked about disabled access, and said that McDougall St is more dangerous and heavily used than Bradleys Ave.

MS raised a suggestion of a 'speed calming device' for dogs and children exiting the park.

RL stated that we should be slowing cars along both McDougall St and Bradleys Ave.

Whole meeting agreed that disabled access needs to be maintained, if not improved.

JC recalled taking her mother from James Milson Village down to Milson Park and there is no path throughout the park that can be used for wheel-chairs, walkers, or people who aren't overly steady on their feet.

Whole meeting also agreed that the playground should be fenced (raised by GG), and that NSC should investigate fencing around the entire park to keep children and dogs safe.

Motion:

Milson Precinct requests Council investigate a 'safety gate' at the harbour end of Milson Park on the bridge over the stormwater drain, with strong consideration to disabled access. Milson Precinct requests that Council to address the accessibility of paths within Milson Park as well as the footpath between James Milson Village and the park, to enable the 200 aged residents to be able to safely access the park.

Moved By: DL

Seconded By: DB

FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN
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(vi) E-Z Mart (Corner of McDougall Street and Broughton Street)

Discussion: TB raised the opening hours of the E-Z Mart, often open until 1am on weekends. He also raised the sale of nangs, and how the canisters are often found scattered around the streets. Mayor advised that she will speak to the rangers to compliance checks.

(vii) Ennis Road Stairs

Discussion: MB spoke about how the stairs are uneven and collect water. Advised that Council is already aware of this and has sent someone out to inspect them and have programmed the works.

(viii) Electric Vehicle Charging Units

Discussion: MB asked Councillors if there will be any public electric vehicle charging units installed. ZB and MAB explained that Council currently has charging units in every Council owned car park and is looking to expand. ZB and MAB also spoke about how they want to do a deal with GoGet, and trial an electric fleet of vehicles with public charging stations. This was received very well by Milson Precinct.

(ix) Jacaranda Festival

Discussion: MB raised 'Jacaranda Time', and how the previous Council didn't do a great job managing the impact on locals. MB asked for a deeper consideration by Council, and for Council to develop and manage the event more considerately this year. Milson Precinct also requests Council not to install the 'street stickers' this year, as they were useless and actually created more danger. Mayor suggested that the previous JC - Milson Precinct motion with plan for one way traffic management and part road closure during the jacaranda time, be re-submitted to council.

Motion: *Milson Precinct makes the following suggestion again, that Council look at trialling the following traffic changes throughout the time of the Jacaranda Festival for 2022:*

- 1. That McDougall Street going east from Clark & Broughton St be closed from the roundabout to all vehicular traffic, by some temporary barricades across this upper section of McDougall Street, near the EZY Mart shop, for the duration of the jacarandas flowering, while allowing pedestrian traffic.*
- 2. All through traffic goes up Broughton Street then left into Willoughby Road, then left into McDougall Street with the use of detour signs.*
- 3. McDougall St becomes one way traffic from east to west during the jacaranda flowering season, which will improve the pedestrian safety on the roadway.*
- 4. Through traffic can exit VIA turning right at Hipwood, then left into High St., to then use the traffic lights at Clark & High streets to exit the peninsula.*
- 5. The short section of McDougall Street from Hipwood Street to Clark Road, should be half closed on the uphill section, with a barricade and signage stating “Local Residents Only” so as to allow access by residents and property owners to access their off street parking in this short section of McDougall Street while allowing other local residents to park in this area too. This will still allow tourists to use the centre of the road, for elevated photo opportunities with blooms in the background.*
- 6. There would be minimal car movements, in this small closed section of McDougall St and would not require traffic management, only another barricade across the lower southern section of McDougall street at Hipwood.*
- 7. All of these detours and changed traffic movements could be simply put into place with signage and barricades and would not require traffic management staff to supervise and could be in place for the duration of the jacaranda festival.*

Moved By: JC

Seconded By: EB

FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN
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Information

‘Meet the Candidates’ for Federal Election. Organised by Michael Gill at Ron Dyer Centre, St. Mary’s Church, Miller St. at 7:30 pm on Tuesday, 10th May.

Platypus – demolition works of pulverising concrete, to commence June – September, with noise mitigation for residents, traffic management to keep High Street open, and only forward movement of trucks in and out of site.

Next Meeting

Thursday, 2nd June, 2022 and preferred venue is Church by the Bridge

Meeting Closed at 9:20pm