

NEUTRAL PRECINCT MINUTES

Tuesday 8 December 2020, commenced at 7:05pm

1. Attendees were reminded of procedures for holding precinct meetings in the COVID-19 Pandemic Period.
2. All attendees provided contact details for attendance sheet.
3. Apologies: Nil
4. Additional items added to the Agenda at item 11
 - i. Neutral Precinct email address
 - ii. Hayes Street - harbour front landscaping
 - iii. Lower Thrupp Street traffic issues
5. Business from minutes of meeting 8 September 2020
 - i. November 2020 minutes. Following review, moved and seconded as read and correct:
Moved SW; Seconded: EC
 - ii. Barry Lane Upgrade. The November meeting sought advice from the Council on proposed works and expenditure in Barry Lane on the understanding that \$600,000 had been allocated in the *North Sydney Council 40km/h and 10km/h Shared Zone Masterplan and Action Plan*, for this purpose.

Council's Traffic & Transport Engineer has advised that no funding has been allocated to the Shared Zone proposal in Barry Lane at this stage including any design works. The estimated cost of the Barry Lane Shared Zone (\$600,000) is based on a unit rate derived from similar projects completed in the past. The actual cost may vary depending on the site conditions and the amount of construction works involved. A typical Shared Zone requires the reconstruction of road pavement to provide different coloured and textured surface treatments from the surrounding roads. Traffic calming devices may be required to slow down vehicles, existing utilities and services may need to be relocated or modified. It is a complex and costly exercise. An annual review is undertaken to identify and prioritise projects. Should funding become available, a concept plan will be developed and put forward for community consultation.

- iii. Council has noted the Precinct's feedback on proposed Intersection Improvements, Neutral Bay and Cremorne
6. Correspondence sent and received.
 - i. Draft Precinct letter to Federation Harbour Trust: Sub-Base Platypus endorsed
 - ii. Council Memo: Community Consultation Ben Boyd Road Traffic Calming Discussion: The proposal was discussed at length and in detail and the following motion put and carried unanimously.

Motion:

Neutral Precinct objects to the installation of traffic calming devices in Ben Boyd Road for the following reasons:

- a) We do not believe the devices are necessary. We understand there have been only 4 complaints about speeding in the Road since 2018 and spending \$500,000 after 4 complaints is not reasonable.**
- b) We do not believe there are any genuine safety needs for the devices and traffic calming devices placed on curves in the Road could well be dangerous.**
- c) We are concerned the devices would make it difficult for the Route 263 Bus to navigate the Road.**
- d) We have observed the disastrous results following installation of speedhumps and an oversized roundabout in Banner- man Street Cremorne.**
- e) Neutral Bay and Cremorne need secondary roads separate to Military Road. We cannot have traffic calming devices in every secondary road.**

Further, should the traffic calming devices be installed, then they should be temporary for a trial period followed by consultation with all residents in Neutral Bay and Cremorne not just residents of Ben Boyd Road. Ben Boyd Road is used by many residents in Neutral Bay and Cremorne.

iii. Council Memo: Public Consultation - Parking Restrictions in Kurraba Point South - Parking Area 32

Discussion:

The Precinct understands the decision to undertake this survey arose from complaints made by residents experiencing difficulty in parking. The meeting agreed that the Council should first take action to enforce the existing parking restrictions before implementing new arrangements.

7. Military Road Corridor Planning Study Stage 1 - Post-Exhibition Report and Future Directions Report

Discussion:

- It was noted that the Council has deferred consideration of the Report until the February 2021 Council meeting
- The Precinct commended the Council Planners for recommending that Site 4 be removed as a strategic site at this stage, acknowledging the characterful and low-rise housing stock in the area
- The meeting endorsed the recommendation made by the Combined Precincts' Committee that those Precincts impacted by the Future Directions Report meet jointly to prepare advice to Councillors before the February 2021 Council meeting.

8. Precinct E-News items this month:

- i. Draft determination of the names and boundaries of electoral districts: Noted that there are no changes to the boundaries of the North Shore electorate and that submissions close 9 December 2020
- ii. Hodgson Lookout landscape Upgrade: A preference was expressed for Option 2 and it was noted feedback closes 10 December 2020
- iii. North Sydney Start-up Survey: It was noted that feedback closes 20 December 2020
- iv. New rules for Airbnb and short-term leasing. Noted
- v. Stanton Library is once again open 7 days. Noted

9. Combined Precincts' Committee - report from November meeting. Noted the major discussion points at the November meeting were:
- The Mayor and the General Manager attended.
 - The General Manager provided an overview of Council's budget (\$121m) and expenses (\$126m) for 2019/20. The loss was incurred because 50% of income comes from rates and 50% from other sources such as fees. Many fees E.g., cafes footpath rental was waived by Council during COVID. The loss of 4% was considered modest and Council has capital investments to adequately cover this amount.
 - The North Sydney Olympic Pool tender is to be considered by Council in December. Council will take approximately 2 months to de-commission the site before handing over to the successful tenderer. The pool will be closed from 1 January 2021.
10. Development Applications (DAs)
- i. DA234/19/2. 22 Thrupp Street (AKA 8 Raymond Road) Neutral Bay. Request to modify consent No 234/19 with regard to a number of modifications including change in floor levels.
Status: Comments were due by 4 December. Noted
 - ii. DA306/2020 U4 Westleigh Street.
Status: Alterations and additions to Unit 4. Comments due 18 January 2021. Noted
 - iii. DA311/2020 66A Barry Street. .
 - iv. DA299/2020 Shop GO2 41 Grosvenor lane aka 152 Military Road. Fit out and use of a small bar for 65 patrons. Indoor hours 10:00am -11:00pm Monday to Wednesday; 10:00am -12midnight Thursday to Saturday and 10:00am - 10:00pm Sunday. Outdoor hours 10:00am - 10:00pm Monday to Sunday.
Status: Comments due by 18 January 2021. Noted
11. General Business - additional agenda items added at the meeting.
- i. Neutral Precinct email address. An apology was extended to those attendees who were unable to access the Precinct email address in the last few days. Committee officers indicated that the current Yahoo email address has been causing concern for some time. A new email address will be established for 2021 and the Council and Precinct members advised.
 - ii. Hayes Street - harbour front landscaping.
Discussion:
Residents indicated how shambolic the area has become with residents bringing their own furniture to the re-landscaped site at the harbour end of the street. The Precent resolved to once again request:
Motion:
That Council improve the comfort and amenity of the area by installing benches with seatbacks and install some shade, preferably by planting a couple of trees to replace the palms that were removed.

iii. Lower Thrupp Street traffic issues.

Discussion:

Residents expressed concern that Thrupp Street has become a 'rat run' for vehicles wanting to avoid the traffic lights at the Kurraba/Wycombe Roads intersection. It is expected that this situation will only worsen when the Landsdowne Gardens development in Wycombe Road commences. The following motion was unanimously agreed.

Motion:

That Council consider changing Lower Thrupp Street to one-way traffic going south from Aubin Street to Kurraba Road.

iv. Residential development in the LGA.

Motion:

That Council confirm whether North Sydney has achieved the housing supply target for the LGA as required by the State Government Housing Strategy 2020.

12. Upcoming meetings/events

- i. Neutral Precinct meeting, 9 February 2021 at the Neutral Bay Club - noted
- ii. 2021 dates for the following meetings will be advised, Combined Precincts' Committee, Council and Traffic Committee - Noted.

The meeting noted that it was 12 months since the death of June Rowe. June had been a Precinct member for many years and a valuable contributor to the Precinct's work.

Meeting closed at 8:40pm