

NEUTRAL PRECINCT MINUTES

Tuesday 12 October 2021, commenced at 7:00 pm (Meeting conducted via Zoom)

1. Apologies: DM
2. Nil additional items added to the Agenda.
3. Business from minutes of meeting held on 14 September 2021:
 - i. Following review, the minutes were moved by EC and seconded by TM as correct.
 - ii. The following Council responses to Precinct motions at 14 September meeting were noted:

Request for Council to advise residents on proposed Infrastructure reform

In response to the Precinct's request that Council communicate the proposed infrastructure reforms to residents, the meeting noted advice from Council's Manager Strategic planning that the infrastructure charge discussions between councils and the NSW Government has been fast evolving. Council will look at opportunities of including the notification, as resolved by Council, into a planned mail out to residents, to ensure cost economies.

Request for Basketball Hoop to be installed in Ilbery Park

Council's Manager Parks & Gardens advised that at this stage council has no plans or funding for a basketball hoop to be installed in Ilbery Park.

Residents' concern about damage to footpaths by electrical contractors

Council's Corporate Contracts Manager advised that:

- Customers can contact Council's Customer Service Centre/Call Centre to report any outstanding and/or unsafe restorations which while they are a temporary restoration are the responsibility of that contractor or utility company to fix and maintain in a safe and trafficable condition.
- Council will undertake site inspections and follow up with relevant utility authorities, street opening permit holders, and others responsible parties for any outstanding restoration works. For example, Sydney Water undertake their own final restoration as per the signed MOU with Council. That includes good quality temporary restoration by their contractors to readily provide safe pavement surface.
- Damaged and unsafe utility asset such as communication pit and electrical pillar etc. will be reported to relevant utility authorities for action.
- Once a utility company has completed their work and has paid Council the money for the permanent restoration of the pavement, Council is then responsible for undertaking the final pavement restoration. Sometimes it takes many months for the utility authorities or the street opening permit holders to confirm back to Council that the works are complete and also sometimes it takes them months to pay Council so that the permanent restoration works can commence.

4. Outcomes from 23 August Council meeting

- i. Ben Boyd Road re-naming results. Noted the consultation results were 1026 votes to change the name, 1267 not to change the name and 38 unsure. The Council has decided not to change the name of Ben Boyd Road
- ii. No smoking policy for Young Street Plaza. Noted Council has approved the Mayor's proposal to ban smoking in the Plaza.
- iii. Liveability Survey results
 - In summary the results for the NSLGA were that 75% of recipients said we live in a reasonably nice area which is higher than the national average (68/100), every State and Territory (NSW 70/100) and City of Sydney (74/100).
 - The top five strengths were: Things to do in the evenings (bars, restaurants, cinema, live music etc; Evidence of community activity such as volunteering, gardening, art community organised events etc; Local history, historic buildings or features; Sense of personal safety; and access to neighbourhood amenities.
 - The top five weaknesses were: Ease of driving and parking; Range of housing prices buy and rent; Child services such as childcare, after school care, early learning, medical; Physical comfort including noise, smells, temperature etc; and Spaces suitable for play for toddlers to teens.
- iv. Precinct Committees

Council approved a motion by Councillors Keen and Mutton that:

 - I. Precinct Committees may determine, without reference to Council:
 - the matters that are to be discussed at their meetings; and
 - who is to be invited to address their meetings; and
 - II. that during the Regulated Election Period defined in s4 of the Electoral Act 2017 (NSW) for an election of Councillors to North Sydney Council a member of a Precinct Committee who nominates in an election of Councillors:
 - will stand down from the office held until the poll is declared and
 - may during the period of stand down attend meetings of the Precinct Committee and participate in discussions that are held.

The vote was: Yes: Mutton, Keen, Baker, Carr, Beregi and Barbour.
No: Gibson, Brodie, Drummond and Gunning

5. Western Harbour & Beaches Link Tunnels & Warringah Freeway Upgrade

Presentation

- Residents viewed and EC and GC spoke to a slide presentation prepared by Bay Precinct that provided a pictorial/graphic overview of the works areas and the impacts, in particular, on the Cammeray, Neutral Bay and North Sydney.

- The meeting thanked the Bay Precinct for sharing the presentation and for allowing the slides to be emailed to Neutral Precinct members and posted on the Precinct website www.neutralprecinct.com.au

Discussion points

It was agreed the graphic representation reinforced Precinct members issues that have been raised previously in numerous submissions and forums:

- Concerns about the loss of green-space and the visual impact of the permanent industrial buildings and the unvented stack (up to 10 storeys).
- The loss of access for NB residents to the City from the Freeway.
- The impact on the beautiful Flat Rock Road area where drilling will release toxic chemicals from a former industrial site
- The need to consider other traffic/transport solutions such as having the tunnels go under the NS.

Acknowledging the Parliamentary Enquiry is continuing and the recent changes in the State Government, it was agreed this is a good time to pressure the Government to not proceed with the \$20B infrastructure project that still does not have a good business case. The following suggestions were made to continue our opposition to the current plans:

- Write to the Sydney Morning Herald which has a number of journalists showing interest in the project.
- Erect a sign outside The Oaks Hotel where the Traffic failure at the Ben Boyd/Military Road intersection will increase by 327%.
- Write to the new State Ministry: Premier Perrottet, Treasurer & Minister for the Environment Matt Keen, Minister for Transport and Planning Rob Stokes, Gladys Berejiklian MP for Willoughby, Felicity Wilson MP for North Shore.

6. Development Applications

- DA 234/2019/3 22 Thrupp Street (aka 8 Raymond Road) Neutral Bay. Modify consent 234/19 for internal and external modifications to a dwelling, including additional excavation works. Noted – no affected resident attended the meeting.
- DA295/21, 104 Wycombe Road Neutral Bay. Alterations and additions to existing dwelling House and construction of swimming pool. Noted – no affected resident attended the meeting.
- DA 294/21 124 Wycombe Road Neutral Bay. Demolish existing single garage to Barry Lane and erect replacement open carport. Noted – no affected resident attended the meeting.
- DA 287/21. 47 Spruson Street Neutral Bay. Alterations and additions to existing dwelling. Noted – no affected resident attended the meeting.

7. Precinct E-News items this month:

- i. Miller Street Pop-Up
 - Residents encouraged to go and have a look and to provide feedback to Council by 31 March 2022 at: yoursay@northsydney.nsw.gov.au
 - Noted that the Council receives funding from the State Government for projects such trial pop-ups and if positive feedback is received from the Community that the spaces are made permanent
- ii. Review of Permitting Residential Flat Buildings in the R3 Medium Density Zone. Noted
- iii. St Leonards Park Annual Garden in Bloom. Noted
- iv. Coal Loader Artisan Markets – 5 December. Noted
- v. Parking Patrols
 - Residents have noted parking rangers are back in force and the need to be watchful of parking restriction signs
- vi. North Sydney Art prize – entries close 30 November. Noted
- vii. Join the North Sydney Shop Local Facebook page. Residents encouraged to support local businesses emerging from the COVID lockdown
- viii. North Sydney Australia Day Community Awards - Nominations close 30 November. Residents were encouraged to nominate people they know in the community who are doing good works.
- ix. Campaign – Levy change will force rate rises. Noted
- x. Harbour Bridge Cycle Access Ramp – design Competition for linear path. design – Update. Noted.
- xi. Foodbank – Emergency hampers to vulnerable people in lockdown. Noted

8. General Business - Nil

9. Noted the following upcoming meeting dates:

- i. Neutral Precinct meeting – 9 November
- ii. Combined Precincts' Committee meeting – 19 October
- iii. Council meeting – 25 October

Meeting closed at 8:00 pm