

NEUTRAL PRECINCT MINUTES

Tuesday 13 July 2021, commenced at 7:00 pm (Meeting conducted via Zoom)

1. Apologies: Nil
2. Additional items added to the Agenda
 - i. Current COVID restrictions (see Item 10)
3. Business from minutes of meeting held on 8 June 2021.
Following review, the minutes were moved by SW and seconded by LS as correct.
4. Correspondence from Council
Noted the North Sydney Local Environmental Plan 2013 (Amendment 30) came into effect on 30 June 2021.
5. Cycleways
 - Noted that currently there are two issues: A proposals by TfNSW to build a ramp to replace the stairs currently used by cyclists to get onto the Bridge; and The Council has received a grant from TfNSW to create a cycle way from Milsons Point train station through Kirribilli and Neutral Bay to connect with existing cycleways.
 - Noted that Council along with many residents of Kirribilli and Milsons Point do not agree that the stairs currently in use should be replaced with either of the proposed ramp designs offered by TfNSW. Council recommended the community write to TfNSW regarding the ramp. The current design proposals will interfere with the Kirribilli markets and any disruption to the markets will impact the Kirribilli Neighbourhood Centre that relies on income from the markets to continue operating.
 - Noted that Council has received a grant from the State Government to build cycleways through the North Sydney LGA. A proposed pathway from Milsons Point along Broughton Street Kirribilli, Clarke and Kurraba Roads to Wycombe Road at Harriette Street Neutral Bay has been soundly rejected by the residents along the route.
 - Noted the Council meeting 22 June decided to put on hold the proposal and to consider other route options and then to put these options to wider community consultation.

Discussion points

- It is encouraging to see the Council wanting to build cycleways but the initial selection of routes was not good because the identified roads are narrow.
- It makes sense for the Council to encourage people to cycle to and from work and local shops etc. but the geography provides challenges.
- Current cycleways along the ridgeline are well used and it should be possible to incorporate a cycleway within the upgrade to the Warringah Freeway for Cyclists moving through the LGA rather than through the narrow residential streets i.e. Broughton Street, Kurraba and Clark roads.
- A broader safety issue was raised. Many cyclists wear dark clothing and it is extremely difficult for motorists to see them at night. It was suggested signs could be erected along popular cycle routes to alert motorists to cyclists

similar to the signs near schools to alert that children are about. TG to contact Chatswood Local Police Command, where cycle police are located, and/or TfNSW to make this suggestion.

- The proposed cycleway in Young Street was raised with the suggestion that it be delayed until after the anticipated development of the Woolworths Grosvenor St site. It was noted, however, that this development is probably some years away.
- The loss of parking spots from the Young St cycleway was noted but the additional pedestrian crossings was considered to be a plus for residents.
- It was further noted that the Young St cycleway needs to proceed to use the funding allocated by the State Government for this project.
- It was agreed there will be some short-term pain for residents accessing the Young Street area during the project.
- In summary it was agreed the issue in Neutral Bay is the lack of open space to retrofit both cycleways and create green space.

6. Proposed Ben Boyd Road re-naming

Discussion Points

- Noted the historical context of Ben Boyd in the development of Neutral Bay.
- Acknowledgement that it is a good thing that the issue is being discussed and people are learning about an historical figure.
- It is a pity to rewrite history, whether it is good or bad in the context of modern society.
- It is an imposition on all the residents (estimated at several hundred households) to have the Road renamed.
- Generally the meeting acknowledged the practices of Ben Boyd were not acceptable but didn't agree to changing the name of the Road.

MOTION: Neutral Precinct recommends the name Ben Boyd Road is retained.

Vote: For - 7; Against - 1; Abstain - 1

7. Precinct System Review – Progress update

- Noted the Council has deferred consideration of the matter until after the LGA elections on 4 September 2021.

8. Combined Precincts Committee meeting 22 June – report

The key issues were noted as:

- CPC has sought a briefing in relation to local services and Council policies and practices responding to homelessness in the North Sydney LGA.
- CPC has requested Council conduct a review of all Area Character Statements, commencing with areas under threat of significant change from the current significant infrastructure projects i.e. Warringah Freeway and Tunnel projects
- Proposed cycleways in the North Sydney LGA – as already discussed at agenda item 5.

9. Precinct E-News items this month: The meeting noted the following:
- i. North Sydney's MLC Building listed on the State Heritage Register on 4 June
 - ii. IPART'S Draft Report regarding Rating System Review to include population growth - closes 6 August. Feedback: yoursay@northsydney.nsw.gov.au
 - iii. Council Operations under Current Covid Restrictions
 - iv. New online process of making DA/PP submission by a Precinct Committee
 - v. Reminder: How to make a complaint/report and incident regarding Western Harbour Tunnel & Warringah Freeway works. Phone: 1800 931 189
Email: whtbl@transport.nsw.gov.au Mail: Transport for NSW, Locked Bag 928, North Sydney NSW 2059

10. General Business

- i. Current COVID restrictions. Noted the restrictions are set by the State Government and not Local Government Councils. Also noted the current restrictions include the wearing of face masks in the common areas of apartment buildings.

11. Upcoming events.

Noted the Loader Lights event has been postponed.

12. Noted the following meeting dates:

- i. Neutral Precinct meeting – 10 August
- ii. Combined Precincts' Committee meeting – 24 August
- iii. Council meeting – 26 July
- iv. Traffic Committee meeting – 23 July

Meeting closed at 8:00pm