

# UNION PRECINCT



PO Box 7041 McMahons Point NSW 2060

## **Minutes - Wednesday 5 February 2020. Meeting commenced at 7.30pm**

Co-chairs KR, MC. Meeting chaired by KR; minutes by MG.

Present: 15 - as per attendance sheet. Apologies: ID, RM, BM, GM and PM.

### **Minutes of previous meeting**

The Chair reported that Council has requested the redaction of a sentence about the North Sydney Pool in the minutes of the 4 December 2019 meeting. The meeting discussed this matter and agreed to the redaction on the understanding that Cr Baker will be notified as her comments were noted in the minutes and that the full, unredacted version of the minutes will be available from the Precinct. The minutes were accepted after taking account of all the issues involved.

### **DAs**

DA255/2019 – 147, 151 and 153 Kurraba Rd, Kurraba Point - amended plans for demolition of existing buildings and construction of residential flat building, closed 17 January, to be determined by SNPP. Noted, no further comment.

DA380/2019 – 3 Commodore Crescent, McMahons Point - alterations and additions to existing dwelling, closed 17 January. Noted, no further comment.

DA378/2019 – 31 Euroka St, Waverton - Alterations and additions to dwelling, closed 13 January. Although not opposed to the development, some neighbours tabled their concerns about possible adverse impacts caused by proposed southern skylights & roofing glare, new concrete block wall compromising their living room outlook, replacement of common brick courtyard wall by paling fence, further potential loss of mature native trees; and they regretted the lack of consultation by designer. The meeting unanimously supported the concerns raised & the request to Council for mitigation measures. No owner or designer present.

DA 16/2020 – 117 Pacific Highway, North Sydney – Illumination of existing Vodafone sign on western elevation of building, closes 21 February. Noted that this impacts more on CBD, Stanton & Edward Precincts although the sign is visible in parts of the Union Precinct such as Waverton. No further comment.

### **Correspondence and Notifications - Council**

The Chair reported the following DA correspondence from Council:

- Approval for modification of existing consent for DA272/14/2, 45-47 Bank Street, North Sydney.
- Approval of modification to DA 359/14/4, 5 Bank Street, North Sydney, re minor internal changes involving new laundry, cupboard & entrance way.
- Refusal of DA 250/19, 2 Commodore Crescent, McMahons Point, for construction of garage, lift & enclosure of rear balcony.
- Approval by NSLPP of DA 100/19, 11-13 Waverton Avenue, Waverton, involving excavation & construction of multi-dwelling development.
- Approval of DA 284/19, 13 Mitchell Street, McMahons Point, for alterations & additions to heritage building in conservation area.

- Granting of deferred commencement for alterations & additions at 7 Carr Street, Waverton, DA 237/19.

The Chair then updated the meeting on the following:

Precinct System Review. A report to Council in November 2019 indicated a discussion paper will be issued and will include analysis the results of consultation with precincts, the role of non-functioning precincts and measures to re-activate them. As an interim it was indicated that active precincts might incorporate inactive ones. There is no indication of when the Precinct review might be completed.

Status of DA for Proposed Floating Dry Dock. Council has stated informally that additional material is required from the applicant and this material will be re-notified and re-advertised when available. PW, the Noakes representative, said that the submission of the amended DA to Council is imminent. MC/KR reported that all original submissions will remain valid as the amendments will be under the same DA. It will not be a new DA. Council also indicated that the SNPP will be the consent authority. PW indicated that he thinks, regardless of approval or not, the matter will end up the Land & Environment Court.

Change of Ward Boundaries. The Chair reported that the 20 January NS Council meeting considered all submissions about the ward boundary changes and narrowly approved the proposal to change the existing 3 wards to 2 wards, based on a North-South alignment. The vote was tied 5:5 and was passed by the casting vote of the Mayor. The Chair advised that a rescission motion may have been made and, if so, a new Council meeting would consider it. If so members of the public may be able to address Council (in accordance with existing protocols). The meeting unanimously re-affirmed the Union Precinct's position: for 2 wards to be based on an East-West separation, rather a North-South one; it also affirmed its desire for the return to 3 wards with 3 councillors per ward, for the Mayor to be elected by the councillors, and for the necessary referendum in September 2020 to be held to enable this.

New Year's Eve feedback. The Chair noted that at the Lavender Precinct meeting some concerns had been raised about the cordon and ticketing system by shopkeepers (impact on trade) and some residents with cars parked within the cordon (restricted mobility). MC noted that the ticketing system (\$10 levy) helps pay for the improved security and aids crowd control. Submissions closed 31 January.

NS Council Taxi and Ride Sourcing Strategy and Action Plan. The Chair advised that the plan is available on the Council website, at the Council's Customer Service Centre & at Stanton Library, and submissions close 17 February.

Sawmillers Reserve, Small Watercraft Storage Strategy Implementation. MC reported that the Council is providing options for the storage of kayaks and dinghies and for the disposal of abandoned craft. At present only 23 of the 75 craft are registered. MC suggested that residents should spread the word to affected craft owners. Submissions close 18 February.

Safer Driving for Seniors. The Chair advised of a free workshop on 14 February. The North Sydney Seniors Festival is scheduled for 12 to 23 February. Information on Council's web site.

### **General Business**

Sydney metro program update January 2020. MC reported that the main tunnelling work has finished. However, the excavation of cross passages under Mitchell & William Streets and the Highway will continue for 6 weeks from 20 January. The noise of this excavation can be heard by residents in the affected streets.

Combined Precinct Committee meeting scheduled 18 February. KH, the Union Precinct representative on this committee, reported on various topical issues: Berry's Bay proposed facilities, NYE crowd control feedback, building regulations, Seniors' Festival, bushfire response & panel at Union Hotel on 22 February, Clean-up Australia Day – first week of March & inclusion of Sawmillers, North Sydney Pool, pedestrian safety. He recommended subscribing to the Council's Precinct E-news. The meeting recognised some recent local improvements – new paving in Union Street and replacement of wharf planks at Sawmillers.

Independent Review Sydney Harbour Federation Trust – public forum 18 February 6-8pm at Platypus. Interested residents can make submissions.

Australian Government Volunteer Grants available. The Chair tabled a letter from Trent Zimmerman, Federal Member for North Sydney, about the grants of \$1-5,000. Applications close 7 February.

### **Other Business**

The Chair reported on the recent Traffic Committee Meeting which decided that speed cushions will no longer be considered for Union Street because of police concerns about the safety risks, and after a safety auditor confirmed this was not the best solution. The Council will investigate alternative speed controls for Union Street. The Chair suggested that an invitation be put to Council to come and talk to the precinct about various options for this and obtain feedback directly from residents. The April meeting was suggested as a possibility. KR will invite Council representatives.

The Chair reported that the West Harbour Tunnel EIS is now on display and that there will be community information sessions at Hutley Hall, 200 Miller Street on 8 & 13 February. All residents should have received a flyer in their letterboxes. The construction will have impacts on Berry's Bay, the Coal Loader (cofferdam) and traffic in the North Sydney area. Concern was also expressed by attendees that there has been insufficient evaluation of public transport as an alternative and about the economic viability of the project. KR will prepare a draft submission for the Union Precinct for the consideration of the 4 March meeting. KR will also liaise with other Precincts about the matter.

A resident expressed concern about the abolition of the annual e-waste collection. E-waste now must be taken to Community Recycling Centre at Artarmon, and this is difficult for some residents. The Chair will contact Council about any options for residents who are unable to take their waste to the recycle centre.

Suggestions for guest speakers at precinct meetings. MC will ask Cr Mutton to address the March meeting about the Highline. KR will contact Council about Council officers to discuss options for speed control in Union Street.

A resident reported that there will be a Climate Act Now Rally at St Leonards Park on 1 March at 11am about the Climate Change Bill 2020, the private member's bill proposed by Zali Steggall, Federal Member for Warringah, and that more information about the bill can be obtained on Zali Steggall's website.

**Next meeting on Wednesday, 4 March 2020 at 7.30 pm. Meeting concluded at 9.15pm**